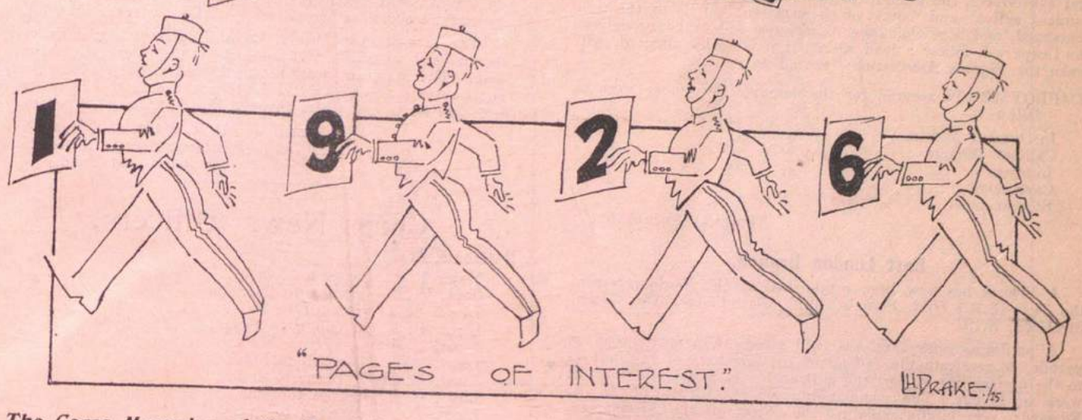
ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE WIRE

January—December, 1926.

THE WIRE.



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VOL. VII.—NO. 71 JANUARY, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to all Readers!

Editorial Notes.

Owing to the unusual amount of "copy" received for publication in this issue, it has been found necessary to hold over certain articles, etc., and to slightly condense a few unit notes. Every endeavour will be made to include the outstanding matter in the February issue.

We welcome the return of "E. S. J. H." of "Anecdote" fame, who has now consented to entertain us with "Musings in Mufti," as suggested in our editorial for November last. This correspondent has undoubtedly found even more scope for his talents in civilian life, and we look forward with pleasurable anticipation to more "Musings."

We have been asked to publish a 1926 Sports Fixture List for the Signal Training Centre at Catterick. This will appear in the February issue under the "Sports Notes" heading.

Referring again to Editorial Notes (paragraphs 6 of November issue and 3 of December) concerning the suggested publication of an up-to-date Corps Promotion Roster (pocket edition) for sale amongst the warrant and non-commissioned officers of the Corps. As previously stated, the Publications Committee are quite prepared to consider this question, but can only contemplate the necessary expense provided a sufficient number of orders are forthcoming. So far, only two units have replied, ordering 100 copies between them. Will other unit representatives, or failing that, individual warrant and n.c.o. readers, please state their requirements *as early as possible*.

The January issue of the Station List of Officers (or Royal Signals Quarterly List) has been prepared, and a copy will be posted to all officer subscribers to THE WIRE at an early date. Other copies can be obtained, if required, on application to this office—price 6d. post free.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Committee extend a very hearty welcome to all members of the newly-formed East London Branch of the Association, in connection with the 54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals at Stratford, and tender their best thanks to those who were primarily responsible for organising and starting the Branch.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from Branches, etc., up to time of going to Press:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

Lieut.-Col. A. Lloyd Owen, O.B.E., M.C.
Majors A. C. Allen, D.S.O., M.C., and J. S. Yule, O.B.E.
Captains R. Elsdale, M.C., G. H. Plummer, M.C., and L. B. Nicholls.
Lieuts. J. Gardner, L. R. Hall, M.C., G. G. Glanville, M.C., V. J. E. Westropp, J. C. Boyd, H. H. C. Burdett, E. F. Maltby, W. D. Weir, T. W. Boileau, R. T. Muspratt Williams, R. H. O. Coryton, D. C. P. Hall, W. D. Horniman, R. H. Copeland, F. R. Booth, J. W. Gordon, H. A. C. Stallon, F. A. Pedlar, C. H. Lyddon, and K. E. Holmes.

Chiswick Branch	£0 9 0
Lieut. W. S. Catleugh	0 10 0
East London Branch	1 13 0
R.Q.M.S. W. Hayward	1 10 0

Information has been received that, commencing with effect from January, 1926, the whole of the personnel of A, B and C Companies of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, have allotted the sum of 9d. per man per month to Association activities, thereby automatically becoming "members of the Association" and "annual subscribers to the Corps magazine." Such sums are to be stopped from the men's accounts and remitted

to this office monthly by the officer commanding each Company —A Company 200, B Company 180, C Company 250—totalling 630.

In extending a very cordial welcome to these new members and subscribers, the Committee express their appreciation of the "united action" and "spirit of co-operation" shown by the men concerned, and hope that other Companies and units throughout the Corps will follow a lead which, if universally adopted, will make the Signals Association "second to none."

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of December were as follows :—

Instrument Makers	1
Cabinet Makers	2
Linemen	2
Caretakers	1
Storekeepers	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

East London Branch.

A Branch has now been established at the headquarters of the 54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, T.A., Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

A preliminary meeting was held after the Armistice church parade, to ascertain the feeling of the members of the unit as to the desirability of forming a Branch. It was found that all were in favour. The commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. E. A. Edwards, very kindly explained the objects of the Association, and an enrolment of members took place immediately after.

The first general meeting was held on December 1st. It was decided to name the Branch the "East London Branch." The following officers and committee were appointed :—President, Lieut.-Col. E. A. Edwards; Vice-President, Capt. J. McConville, M.C.; Hon. Sec., C.S.M. C. J. Sharp; Hon. Treasurer, Capt. J. McConville, M.C.; Committee, C.S.M. W. Hooper, Sergt W. Fleming, Mr. W. S. Morgan, and L/Corpl C. W. Ward.

If these notes catch the eye of any members or ex-members of Royal Signals who live in East London, they can be assured of a hearty welcome here. Our "at homes" are on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, and after church on Sunday mornings.

Manchester District Branch.

Our Branch is getting along at top speed just now, our membership being in the region of 200. On December 4th a whist drive was held in the men's institute, and was well patronised. The refreshments were of the usual variety, but on this occasion there were no broken teeth.

Hong Kong Branch.

On Saturday, October 10th, our C.S.O. called a meeting to discuss the forming of a branch of the Association at Hong Kong. After the objects of the Association had been explained by the C.S.O. all present expressed their willingness to join. As there are only eleven "Signals" out this way we cannot do much. Still, we will do our best. We hope to get a few of the civilians of Hong Kong in our Branch. But more about that anon.

The following officers have been elected for the coming year: President and Treasurer, Capt. Bridgland, D.F.C., Royal Sigs.; Hon. Secretary, Corpl Bowler; Committee, L/Corpls McBride (Hong Kong) and Sigmn Gough (Kowloon).

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

North Ireland Divisional Signals.
B Company, Depot Battalion, S.T.C., Catterick.
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Sergeants' Mess, Training Battalion, S.T.C., Catterick.
Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Divisional Signals.
Mr. E. S. J. Haines.
Mr. J. Greer.

APPEALS dealt with :—

The case of an ex-Signalman of six years' service, in the south-west of England, who (owing to illness and domestic difficulties) applied through The Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association for assistance. £2 was allocated on 2/12/25, and upon receipt of further information from a dependable source, a second grant of £2 was made on 9/12/25.

The case of an ex-Driver, Royal Engineers Signal Service, demobilised in 1919, who applied to the Association for a loan. The applicant was informed that in view of his very short service the Committee could not accede to his request, but sent £1 to assist him through the Christmas festivities.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association
Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

EMBARKATIONS—

Major R. C. Nixon to Cologne.
Capt. T. B. Ferriday to Palestine.
Lieut. R. L. Hansard to Egypt.
Lieut. R. G. L. Giblin to Egypt.
Lieut. C. H. Crouch to India.
Lieut. W. A. Peachell to India.
Lieut. E. McD. Burns to India.
Lieut. C. T. Hughes to India.
Lieut. D. R. Paterson to India.

MOVEMENTS—

Capt. M. F. M. Parkes from Sudan to Catterick.
Lieut. J. E. S. Walford from India to Colchester.
Capt. P. B. D. H. Foot from Bulford to Catterick.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, November 17th, 1925.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—Major George Russell Jeffrey, O.B.E., late South African Signal Service, to be Major, 20/8/25, with seniority 11/9/23.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—Lieut. F. A. W. Braine, late R.A.F., to be 2/Lieut., 18/11/25.

War Office, November 20th, 1925.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Signals—53rd Divl. Signals. Lieut. J. Gardiner, from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Lieut., 7/11/25, with precedence as from 26/4/23 (substituted for notification regarding this officer which appeared in the "Gazette" of 6/11/25.

War Office, November 24th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—

Memoranda—Lieut.-Col. C. H. Prickett, D.S.O., h.p. list, late Royal Signals, to be Colonel, 14/11/25, with seniority 3/6/22.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—Lieut. M. H. Williams, late R.E., to be Lieut., 1/8/25 (substituted for notification in "Gazette" of 3/11/25.

2/Lieut. L. Willment, late R.A.F., to be 2/Lieut., 17/10/25 (substituted for notification in "Gazette" of 30/10/25).

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Signals—53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals. Lieut. W. S. Catleugh, from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Lieut., with precedence as from 26/4/23, next below J. Gardiner, 25/11/25.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals Regimental List—56th (1st London) Divl. Sigs. Lieut. F. Corfield to be Lieut. from Active List, 25/11/25.

War Office, November 27th, 1925.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—The undermentioned having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of O.: Lieut.-Col. W. M. Evans, O.B.E., M.C., 9/11/25.
Capt. H. Shoulder, M.B.E., 13/11/25.

"GREETINGS."—By L. H. Drake.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. The announcement regarding Lieut.-Col. W. E. Dennis, which appeared in the "Gazette" of 27/10/25, is cancelled.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. Lt.-Col. W. E. Dennis, from Active List to be Lieut.-Col., 31/8/25.

War Office, December 1st, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Signals—Lieut. F. S. Thompson is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 1/11/25.

Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson is restored to the Establishment, 1/11/25.

ESTABLISHMENTS—

School of Signals—Lieut. F. S. Thompson, Royal Signals, to be Instructor (Cl. GG) vice Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, Royal Signals, 1/11/25.

York and Lancaster Regt.—Lieut. W. H. Brann retires on retired pay, 29/11/25.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—Lieut. W. H. Brann, retired pay, late York and Lancaster Regt., to be Lieut., 29/11/25, with seniority, 6/8/19.

War Office, December 4th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Signals—2/Lieut. R. H. O. Coryton to be Lieut., 3/12/25.

War Office, December 8th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Signals—Quartermaster and Capt. George Arthur Kent, from R.A.S.C., to be Quartermaster with the rank of Capt., 9/12/25, with seniority 10/3/15.

War Office, December 11th, 1925.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Signals—Capt. E. E. Fenn, O.B.E., late R.E., to be Captain, 12/12/25.

NOTICES.

Signal Pay.

War Office, December 18th, 1925.

It is provided by an amendment to the Army Pay Warrant that officers appointed, seconded or attached for duty to the Royal Corps of Signals, in order to be eligible for Signal pay, must have qualified at the examination held at the conclusion of the Royal Corps of Signals Qualifying Course at the Signal Training Centre. This requirement does not apply to those officers who were appointed, seconded or attached before 1st December, 1925, provided they have qualified in the examination for Associate Member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers; nor does it apply to officers eligible to draw Signal pay under the conditions laid down in Articles 327-329 of the Pay Warrant.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (Post Free):

3 Months, 1/9; 6 Months, 3/6; 12 Months, 7/-

All matters for publication, and any communication on matters *other* than Signals Association business, should be addressed to the Editor, Corps Publications Committee, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

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.

Corps Promotion Roster.

Subsequent Amendments.

APPOINTED A/W.O. Cl. II. (A/C.S.M.)—
2306390 Gibson, H., 16/9/25.

TO BE SERGEANT—
2307242 Kemlo, J., 21/11/24
2311628 Tidmarsh, B., 21/11/24
2307041 Hartley, A., 21/11/24

APPOINTED ACTING SERGEANT—
1850300 Giles, T., 22/5/25
1850302 Pearson, C., 22/5/25
2306440 Dixon, A., 1/8/25
2308849 Wattley, H., 16/9/25
2308519 Newman, R., 21/10/25

APPOINTED LANCE-SERGEANT—
1858869 Carney, A., 28/5/25
2309071 Willis, E., 28/5/25
2309345 Massey, S., 30/7/25
2310307 Ratcliffe, R., 11/8/25
2306205 Weaving, A., 15/9/25
5562278 Honnor, C., 15/9/25
3513819 King, W., 16/9/25

TO BE CORPORAL—
7815798 Slaughter, W., 20/7/23
2310609 Tubb, V., 21/11/24
2309109 Pickering, E., 2/12/24
2305328 Gale, C., 4/1/25
2314524 White, A., 30/1/25
19271 Jones, H., 31/1/25
2314379 Hayden, G., 11/2/25
2314487 Mills, J., 17/2/25
2313875 Tucker, S., 18/2/25
2306485 Hatherly, F., 18/2/25

APPOINTED ACTING CORPORAL—
1857295 Law, J., 2/4/25
2312144 Spearman, R., 15/5/25
1850370 Conway, C., 22/5/25
2314005 Brown, G., 22/5/25
2306763 Dadson, F., 22/5/25
1857015 Grayston, R., 28/5/25
2310939 Crowhurst, H., 28/5/25
2309807 Lane, E., 28/5/25
2312077 Addison, L., 28/5/25
2312555 Fox, T., 28/5/25
2309461 Claydon, V., 28/5/25
2309537 Nelson, C., 28/5/25
2311433 Smith, E., 28/5/25
2309458 Lay, G., 28/5/25
2309775 Bell, H., 28/5/25
1850114 Male, J., 28/5/25
2311077 Harrison, E., 28/5/25
2306519 O'Donnell, J., 28/5/25
2309322 Andrews, E., 20/7/25
2308816 Critchley, R., 1/8/25
2309160 Hickey, G., 4/8/25
2309594 Gilmour, A., 4/8/25
2310420 Gordon, E., 6/8/25
2311362 Udell, L., 5/10/25
2314099 Crabtree, N., 9/10/25
2311588 Chandler, A., 14/10/25
1850178 Harwood, C., 14/10/25
2308167 Murphy, G., 18/10/25
2309517 Balderson, S., 20/10/25
2309826 Macdonnell, D., 26/10/25

Transfers to the Army Reserve, November, 1925.

2308526 Corpl E. Haines, 12/11/25
2309142 Corpl A. Ursell, 24/11/25
2309133 Corpl L. Head, 25/11/25
1857217 A/Corpl G. Woods, 26/11/25
2309432 L/Corpl F. Rutter, 26/11/25
2309828 L/Corpl W. Libby, 30/11/25

Discharges during November, 1925.

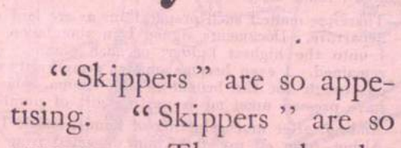
1855026 A/Sergt W. Blundell, 28/11/25

Carry a tin of "SKIPPERS" in your Haversack

"Skippers" are so appetising. "Skippers" are so savoury. They make dry bread enjoyable, and are the tastiest, most delicious, "summat to your tea or supper" that you can find.

Get a tin of "Skippers" at your canteen and slip it in your pocket or haversack; you will be glad of it as a "reserve" and will find "Skippers" very sustaining on a long day. The flat tin is so easy to carry and so easy to open.

Send us a postcard if your canteen does not stock them.



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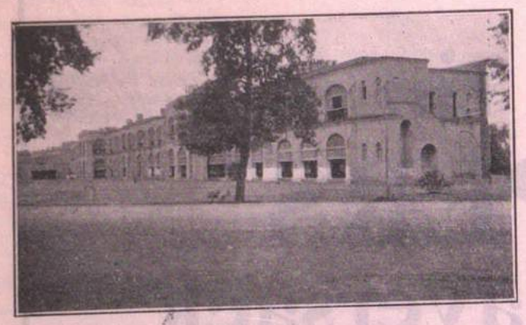


A DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, PESHAWAR.

"Our Bungalow."—Surely a view of our palatial residence will cause increasing numbers of the "spare files" at Catterick to volunteer for the "shiny."

Photo by Sigmn Poole

"Matrimonial Alley" Again!

In close proximity to the leading article of a well-known daily paper there was a short article entitled "Bachelors," in which the author was bewailing their fate. Amongst other things he wrote: "A bachelor is a species of parasite upon the body corporate, and at the same time an outcast on life—a social pariah."

But from what I heard the other day in Catterick camp there are exceptions, as you will realise from an episode which took place the other evening.

Two bachelors were seen walking slowly up Matrimonial Alley, and when they had gone about half-way, the following conversation ensued.

1st: "I say, is it really true that this ghastly row of little dolls' houses is where the married officers and their wives are expected to live?"

2nd: "Yes, I believe so; 'Royal Signals married officers' quarters, and mostly the senior ones for the matter of that."

1st: "Well, all I can say is, 'Thank God we aren't married, old chap! Eh, what?'"

And they moved on with a burst of cheery laughter.

—Overheard by a little "Bird."

Service Sports Diary—A Review.

The 1926 edition of this already very popular publication is now on sale at the moderate price of 1s. 6d. (bound in cloth, without pencil or pocket) or 2s. 6d. (bound in blue leather, with pocket and pencil). Postage extra.

First published in 1922 as the Army Sports Diary, this most informative diary has improved yearly, until now it would be difficult indeed to detect a failing in its composition.

Among many other features is an exhaustive record of the championship winners in all branches of sport in the Services, inter-Services, etc., during the past five years. All Service sporting fixtures for 1926, together with the whole of the first-class county cricket programme and principal race meetings, are given; and the chief Service and civilian events of our crowded English year are shown under their respective dates. Ample notation space has been provided.

The Diary has had a "good press," as it well deserves. "Beautifully got up on excellent paper," is the criticism of one well-known London daily. The Sports Boards of the three fighting Services are responsible for the contents, and N.A.A.F.I. for the printing and binding; and all concerned in its production are to be congratulated on a dainty and extremely useful production. It will be found indispensable by sportsmen whether in or out of the Services.

Obtainable from Messrs. Alfred Hays' Box Offices, 26 Old Bond Street, W.1, and 74 Cornhill, E.C.3. *By members of H.M.Forces* (only), from any N.A.A.F.I., or H.Q. N.A.A.F.I, Imperial Court, Upper Kennington Lane, London, S.E.11.

Musings in Mufti.

No. 1—In which the Scribe casteth off the garb of the warrior and seeketh peace, yet findeth it not.

1—And behold, the time of my engagement was well nigh accomplished, so that certain of they that were in authority said unto me, "Art not thou willing to extend the period of thy engagement?"

2—And I answered them "Nay," yet my reasons told them I not, for have I not whispered them from time to time in the barrack rooms, in the stables, yea, and even in the guard room also.

3—Therefore made I such preparations as are laid down for my departure. Documents signed I in abundance, my kit sold I unto the highest bidder, or such portions of it as yet remained. I even became smitten temporarily with a grievous cough for the benefit of the Emmo, who would fain have pressed upon me a parting gift of number nines.

4—And so, after much shaking of hands, shook I the dust of Alshot from off my feet, and departed from the land of the Firstdivsigs where I had tarried many moons. Yet forgot I not to bequeath unto Biprodux the unexpired portion of my day's rations, for, said I, his need is greater than mine.

5—Then came I unto a certain place where Reveille is thought the name of a horse that raceth, where Jankers are confused with Junkers, where thieves break not in, and where Kewems corrupt not.

6—Here then, in this Utopia, said I, shall I find peace.

7—Yet was this not to be, for scarce had I set myself at ease when there appeared before me a man whose clothes were of sombre hue, whose collar was reversed, and who spake unto me after this manner:

8—"Brother, thou hast but newly come amongst us, yet feel I that thou wouldst desire to join our Band of Hope, or mayhap that thou burnest to help us with a subscription for the provision of ice cream unto the Eskimos."

9—But he departed ere long, for I requested him to submit his application through the usual channels—a remedy safer than all others save that of—passed to you, please.

10—Then cometh an earnest-looking man, from the pockets of whose garments protrudeth all manner of books and leaflets: and he would have insured me against my being afflicted with painter's colic and tennis elbow, and would fain have made provision for others in case of my death. A cheerful and thoughtful fellow, in sooth.

11—Then asked I of him whether he himself was insured in case of death, and when he sayeth it was even so, I told him that I suspected strongly that certain of his relatives were likely to inherit money ere long.

12—And he departeth also.

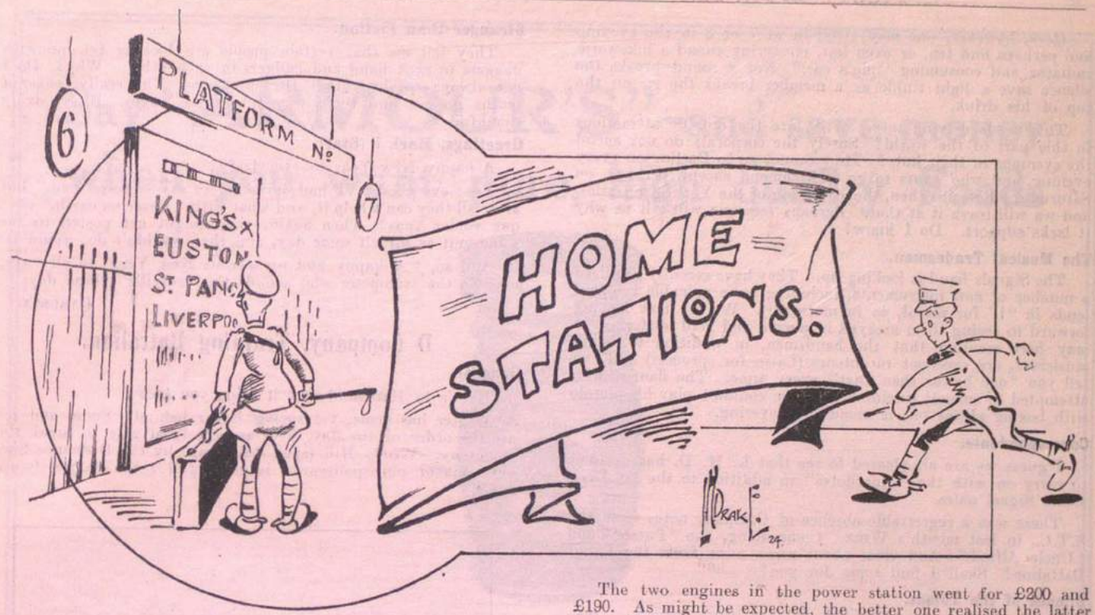
13—Then cometh a succession of vendors of meat and of milk and of bread, each of whom, before all things on earth, desired my custom: yet they too departed, for I desired of them to leave generous free samples.

14—And other trials were mine, for there came unto me, daily, various papers and forms to enable me to draw the "dole," to become a member of the "Pearl" or the "Hearts of Oak," though I had already spread the news abroad that I no longer played football.

15—Then came the final shattering blow to my dreams of peace, for there arriveth a certain form which inviteth me to reveal my income for the purpose of assessing income tax!

E. S. J. H.

We want *every* Reader to become an Annual Subscriber



Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

Headquarters.—"Quelques Mots."

An Interesting Sale.

Fate, and a little military matter with which we are not concerned in these pages, necessitated my attendance at Woolwich during the latter part of November. A drop more fate, and I was also enabled to spend three days at Uckfield. I therefore grasped the opportunity of attending the sale by auction of the mansion in Maresfield Park on the 26th, 27th, and 28th. There are few officers of the Signals who haven't spent some time under the roof of this once imposing edifice. They will probably be interested to hear some of the prices realised. The mansion is to be pulled down and rebuilt on a much smaller scale. The following figures may cause a little surprise, but as I actually witnessed the transactions, the surprise (if any) must stand.

To be brief then. Main staircase (oak), £30; carved oak bookcase (at head of stairs), £10 10s. In billiard room (giving on to courtyard)—large carved overmantel, £10; oak framed mirror, 11 ft. by 5 ft. 3 ins., £3. Bookcase, glass fronted, about 12 ft. long, £5. Door of Major Naylor's old room, £3. Frame and door of strong-room, £8. Oak staircase and carved archway to second floor, £8. Floor of small billiard room on second floor, £1 10s. Firegrate and mantel in same room, 10s. Huge oak and mahogany cupboard in bath-room, £15. Luxurious oak-cased bath, £13 10s.

The huts were fetching fantastic prices. Examples: Main guard room, £24; old F Company office, £75; sentry box, £3; S.A.A. store (opposite) £6. Living huts averaged £45. The stoves from the huts went at about 2s. and 3s. apiece with piping.

Maresfield camp presents a scene of indescribable desolation. Concrete flooring is being blasted and broken up. Here and there a splash of dirty white marks the spot where once stood a cookhouse, now laid open to the sky, and which looks very much as though a shower of H.E. had descended on it.

The mansion stables are to be reconstructed as a residence, and will have a modern electric light and pumping plant installed. The main gate and the lodge have been sold. The gate will have to be removed, and will probably be broken up for road-making. An inglorious end indeed!

The two engines in the power station went for £200 and £190. As might be expected, the better one realised the latter sum. How do these things come about at auction sales?

Public Feeling.

Uckfield is looking as everyone expected it *would* look. They tell me that the inhabitants are applying for the return of the Signals. This, I understand, is to be firmly resisted by a formidable band of Catterites, led by a dashing individual who still owes for an inner tube.

"Warm as Charity."

Whilst at Woolwich, we (I had a companion) were accommodated with No. 12 M.T. Company R.A.S.C. Their kindly reception of two strangers is characteristic of that corps (speaking from experience). We were handsomely treated. There we found a useful friend in R.S.M. Cakebread, who bade us convey his best wishes and congratulations to R.S.M. Anderson, School of Signals, and his salutations to many other senior n.c.o.s at Catterick. I trust that those concerned are reading this, for I am a busy mortal these days.

Corporals v. Comfort.

The Corporals' Mess—now, now, some of you: the Training Battalion Mess—appears to have fallen upon evil days. It is a very deserted place in the evening. The mess at Maresfield was nearly always sure of forty or fifty members, and was usually a very sociable and homely spot in which to spend the evening.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOP

(Opposite the N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines)

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS (INCLUSIVE), 8.30 to 6.30

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Here, however, one may stroll in at 7 or 8 in the evening and perhaps find ten, or even less, clustering round a lukewarm radiator and consuming "pig's ear." Not a sound breaks the silence save a light tinkle as a member breaks the ice on the top of his drink.

This needs delving into. What are the outside attractions in this part of the world? Surely the corporals do not spend the evenings in their huts. They cannot go to Darlington every evening, and who wants to go to Richmond except, perhaps, on Saturday? Remains then, the attraction of the Yorkshire lassies, and we will leave it at that. Perhaps someone will tell us why it lacks support. Do I know?

The Musical Tradesmen.

The Signals band is looking up. They have recently acquired a number of new instruments, including some valuable tympani (ends in "i" for plural, as in macaroni). We are now looking forward to seeing them arrayed in purple and gold uniforms. I may here mention that the bandsmen, in addition to being musicians, are excellent raconteurs (Latin for sprucers) and can tell you "one better than that" every time. The flautist who attempted to commit suicide because he couldn't play his piccolo with boxing gloves on, is steadily recovering.

Correspondents.

I guess we are all pleased to see that L. H. D. has decided to carry on with the "Anecdotes" in addition to the 1st Divisional Signal notes.

There was a regrettable absence of Company notes from the S.T.C. in last month's WIRE. Come along, the "Parson" and "Uncle Alfred." And what about some news from the Depot Battalion? Shall I find some for you? —

Silence of the Tomes.

Since my last notes, I have discovered the library. The librarian was creeping along on all fours in the dark, presumably to open up for a few minutes. As luck would have it, I also was creeping along in the dark, but my object was to find a glow-worm.

The librarian attracted my attention by crashing his nose on my iron-shod heel. He swore me to secrecy, amongst other things.

We slipped quietly in, and I selected a thrilling volume on "Glow-worms—their lighter moments."

Making quite certain that I was not observed, I oozed through the door and melted into the darkness. The librarian, I think, must have climbed out through the chimney.

A Sliding Rule?

It is rather remarkable that the ice-bound roads during the first part of December did not produce a large crop of accidents. Walking was a tedious process, and usually entailed picking oneself out of the ditch every few yards. Voluntary sliding on the roads was prohibited, and if a man was "pinched" at it, he was required to prove that he did not career down a slope backwards, to land on his ear for the last few yards, purely from the joy of living.

The Scientific D.R.

The "mug" who filled his motor-cycle tyres with hot air, in the hope that they would thaw the road as he went along, has been removed to a quiet spot!

A Longer Ride.

The omnibus service now runs right up to No. 3 Y.M.C.A. (T Lines) every hour. Return fare, Richmond, 1s. This is a decided improvement. Did you notice the shadow cast before the event, in last month's WIRE?. The road, of course, is much better—what I mean to say is, you don't smash up your cars and motor-cycles with such monotonous regularity as heretofore.

Another Shadow.

I do hope Bulford won't object, but I am going to inflict myself upon the Signal unit there until such time as I am thrust forth with a topee. Now, there we shall meet Sam Spreadb——, Arthur Kea——, and Tommy Cl——, to (nearly) mention but three; so some startling and profound matter is almost certain to find its way into these pages during 1926. Order your copy early!

Stranger than Fiction.

They tell me that certain people are looking for me with daggers in each hand and cudgels in each other. Why? Do I not always speak truth? Ha! brothers! The really *painful* truths do not find their way into these pages. Be ye truly thankful.

Greetings, Mark I (Star).

A happy New Year to everybody!

Yes: everybody. I had intended to say "except two," but after all they can't help it, and what with "Peace on earth," etc., que voulez vous? Then again, they might get posted to the same unit as myself some day, and that wouldn't do, would it?

And so, "A happy and prosperous New Year" to all; aye, even to the trumpeter who sounds the "reveille" these days.

BARLEUX.

D Company, Training Battalion.

General.

Here's to 1926, and may it bring you luck!

Winter has come, yet spring is far behind. Snow and ice are the order of the day, with an occasional gale to break the monotony. Windy Hill (spelt "Whinny" by the Ordnance Survey, out of pure politeness) is given full scope to justify its name.

The roads are sheeted with ice, and several accidents have occurred. Two signalmen were walking to the Garrison theatre the other night, discoursing the while upon the seasonable weather, when one of them augmented a skid by sitting down most hard and sudden upon the King's highway. His pal gave way to such violent mirth that his feet, too, got out of control, and *he* sat down still harder and more suddenly!

Skating and sliding have been very popular lately, and the "A.V.T.C. pond" has given us plenty of opportunity to show our prowess—or otherwise—as equilibrists. Ice hockey has not yet started, but snowball fights are reported all along the front.

The whole Training Centre paraded on Armistice Day to observe the Great Silence. It was an impressive scene. Not a sound could be heard: just dead stillness—a fitting tribute to those we lost, and a reminder to those who live that there was once a war.

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Heavy south-easterly gales were registered during early November. York was the storm centre, for on two occasions it showered upon us streams of scarlet and gold. The first heralded Gen. Sir Charles Harington, who extended to us the warmest of welcomes on our arrival in the Northern Command. The other was the Adjutant-General.

We had a hair-razing experience last week, and are feeling rather like a set of convicts as a result. There is no truth in the rumour that the new D Company slogan is "Will you have it bobbed or shingled?"

Boys.

The boys have been hampered in their villainies lately by the arctic conditions. However, they seem to take kindly to snowballing. Sergt Taylor nearly caught it on the ear a few days ago. Luckily (for the thrower) he didn't quite!

We hear that one of the boys, on being asked "Who was Lord Kitchener?" wrote, "The famous detective who had a dog called 'Pedro.'"

Departures and Arrivals.

We wish L/Sergt Deasy the best of luck in civvy life, and take this opportunity of thanking him for the good work he did in the Telegraph School. L/Corpl Berry has gone off to join the 2nd Divl. Signals at Aldershot.

We welcome L/Corpl Topp, who has joined the Company from Aldershot.

DON.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

1st Divisional Signals.

Another Christmastide has flowed and ebbed.

Before I continue, I take this opportunity of thanking all those people who write to tell me how clever I am at making puns. Perhaps an apology should take the place of thanks. And so on!

Now, here we are with a brand New Year in front of us, and all our good resolutions already the worse for wear.

Just composed a little rhyme, which may come in handy to those who have not yet mixed themselves up in resolutions. It should be taken three times daily.

"Eene—meeni—mini—mo,
Whether it's rain or whether it's snow,
Whether water or whether fire,
Bang goes saxpence on the WIRE."

We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. and Quartermaster Finmore, who has now settled down to the many responsibilities connected with the stores and equipment of a unit of our numbers.

Departures are as follows: Sergt C. Hope to India; L/Sergt A. Monk and Sigmn Collins to Gibraltar; L/Corpl Corbett and Signalmen Roberts, Hartley, Macklin, Birt, Langley, Muckler, Corkhill, Hobson, Ledger, Holland, Cooper, Brice and Sansom for Egypt. Sigmn Hoskins has left us for Sarafand. Our good wishes for the future are extended to all.

The following are welcomed to the Tribe: Signalmen Allston, Bilsby, Baynes, T. Cleal, J. Cleal, Jones, Dorman, Pendegast, Mullins, Kenchington, and Drivers Best and Nutt—all from the S.T.C.

L/Corpl R. Jewell has been discharged, and Signalmen T. Jolley and E. J. Fisher have been transferred to the Army Reserve. L/Corpl Walker and Driver Everitt have also left us for the Reserve. Good luck to all. The departure of Driver Everitt is a loss to our football team.

I apologize for the brevity of this month's notes, and promise that the February WIRE will contain a longer chat from the Firstdivsigs.

L. H. D.

Elaitchdee's News Bulletin.

At Saldershot Police Court, on Thursday, Joseph Plug was found not guilty of stealing a garden gate, the property of Messrs. Mortar and Brique, builders and decorators. The evidence did not show whether the gate (produced) was a front-door or a back-door one.

* * * *

At Ye Old Manor Fayre, last week, the pea guessing competition was won by Mrs. Iva Notion, who celebrated her 105th birthday a week ago. This wonderful old lady attributes her great age to the fact that she was born in 1820.

* * * *

An umbrella which was left in the waiting room of Saldershot railway station on Tuesday, was later claimed by a plumber of South Mimms, who keeps rabbits.

* * * *

No less than 3688 pairs of Russian boots were sold in Saldershot last week. This "feeture" is regarded as extraordinary, and a manufacturer's legacy, to boot.

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, December 15th.

I know a chap who, some months ago, promised himself and a good many others that notes from this unit would reach the Editor without fail on the 16th of each month, but once more the truth of L. H. D.'s little satire on "Complex's and Kinks" is exemplified.

This chap has a "complex"—no, I don't think he is quite as well off as that, so we will call it a "kink"—and just about the 10th of each month, when he ought to be "pulling his socks up" and getting his notes in order, this kink reaches its culminating point, and he puts off the effort until "to-morrow." This goes on until the afternoon of the 15th, when he suddenly realises that it is now or never. It is then that his second kink makes its appearance—the cheeky kink we must call this one—and he borrows an idea from some one else to fill up a few lines whilst he harks back in memory over the past month to see what has happened.

Please accept my apologies, L. H. D., for this purloining of your brain wave, but I simply had to find an excuse for the brevity of my notes this month, and this was the only way I could do it.

My memory having returned from its harking expedition and brought nothing with it, I could quite easily close and say "Better luck next time." I must, however, explain the reason for this blankness. I am at the moment taking my hard-earned annual furlough, and I understand that it is quite in order for one to have an entirely blank mind when one is so situated.

Our Quartermaster, Lieut. W. M. Marshall, arrived on the 3rd December, and proceeded on leave on the following day. I believe he is hoping that, during his leave, someone in the house property trade will develop a kindly kink in order that he may have a house for himself and family to reside in. At the moment, I believe the situation is quite obscure.

We said farewell to our late R.Q.M.S., now A/R.S.M. M. Hepburn, on December 1st, on his posting to the Training Battalion.

A draft of fourteen proceeded to Egypt on December 5th; L/Corpl Topp to the Training Battalion on November 17th; L/Sergt Curtis and seven others to the Rhine on December 10th, and Sergt R. Newbury, D.C.M., to India on December 14th. We shall miss them all, but wish them the best of luck in their new stations.

L/Cpl Berry arrived from the Training Battalion vice L/Cpl Topp, and numerous others of various trades from the S.T.C. arrived during the month. To all of them we extend a hearty welcome.

Not being quite up to date in sports news—except for last year's corps cricket results, which are included elsewhere—I am leaving it until next month.

Before closing I must wish the editor, his staff, and all readers of THE WIRE (the latter includes all who borrow someone else's copy) a happy and prosperous New Year.

That reminds me, THE WIRE sales in this unit are not, and never have been, quite up to scratch. Now, I've a good idea! I know a lot of funny stories (some are good ones, too), and as soon as I hear from Company representatives that they can guarantee the sale of 100 copies monthly in their units, I will publish one per month.

ENGEE.

Aldershot Command Signal Section.

Aldershot, December 11th.

General.

Being too late in the day to wish all ranks a merry Christmas, we will take it for granted that they had one; but we are not too late to wish a happy New Year for all.

It is, however, such a long time since our last notes appeared that it is thought another introduction to the readers of THE WIRE would not be out of place.

Situated in the Wireless compound on the north side of the canal, we can be easily located by the two 150 ft. wireless masts.

Communication from the War Office to the British Army on the Rhine is maintained by means of the F set, and until recently all civil communication from Cologne to London was passed through this circuit by high-speed wireless.

We also broadcast practice messages nightly at 20.00 hours to Territorial units, and trials are now being carried out with a view to establishing communication with Egypt.

Since the Tank Signal Section arrived from Farnborough our ranks have swelled considerably, but as their advent has eased the strain somewhat with regard to coal fatigues and potato peeling, we will not complain.

A class has been formed with a view to operators obtaining their B.ii rating, but the annual furlough has stepped in, and the number of pupils has been reduced until early in the New Year, when the rattle of sounders will be in evidence once more.

The musketry year closed with C.S.M. Butcher as the crack shot of the unit, with a total of 107 points. Well done, sir!

Our exploits in the sporting world will be found elsewhere, but I would drop a hint that we have some dark horses in the football and "bruising" lines, in spite of the smallness of our numbers.

Congratulatory.

We congratulate A/Q.M.S. F. Colvin, A/C.S.M. E. Butcher, and A/Sergt J. Tracey, on promotion to their respective acting ranks; also L/Corpl A. W. Holt (Tank Signal Section) on his paid appointment and on obtaining his "first." Shall we have cause to congratulate him a third time in the near future? Of course, we know nothing, but why these frequent visits to London, Nobby?

Arrivals.

A hearty welcome to "the wee home beside the canal" is extended to C.S.M. J. T. Wigglesworth (who arrived from Malta for duty with the C.S.O., A.C., on November 21st), and to Corpl S. Rowden, from C Company, Depot Battalion (who takes over the onerous duties of chief clerk of the unit).

Departures.

Q.M.S. F. Colvin left us for the 2nd Divl. Signals on November 9th, and Sigmn H. Geary for civvy street on November 4th. All the best wishes for a successful career, "Sherbert."

With the departure of the "City of Marseilles" on December 5th, Corpl R. C. Bland (better known, perhaps, as the "Bishop of Ash") left for Egypt. Cairo City Police and Messrs. Younger and Co., please note.

Heard with the Tank Signals on Manœuvres.

R/T Operator: "Hallo, A!"

"B answering you!"

"I heard you quite distinctly that time; at least, I think it was you!"

A Corps Signals.

Ewshot Camp, December 14th.

General.

Through the pages of THE WIRE all ranks of A Corps Signals send their best wishes for 1926 to all members of the Corps in all quarters of the Empire.

The last month has been one of changes. Amongst our arrivals we have to welcome Lieut. Wasey (from 2nd Divl. Signals), Corpls A. Malcolm, J. Richardson, L. Wickerts, and W. H. Geere.

We have, on the other hand, lost the able services of Lieuts. Burns and Paterson (both of whom sailed on the "Neuralia" for India), R.Q.M.S. Fry, Sergts Squibb and Jeremy, Corpls Oliver, A. G. Smith and Gunn, and several men who have left us for other units or civil life. Our best wishes go with them, as they do with the seven men who have left us to join the Corps in Egypt. Our loss is another's gain.

Congratulations to A/Corpl Mills on his promotion to Corporal, and to L/Corpl Blower on obtaining a "distinguished" at the Royal Army Veterinary School.

It is with great regret that we report the death of Sigmn Mendoza at the Cambridge Hospital. He only joined the unit shortly before manœuvres, but during the short time he was with us he was esteemed by all who came in contact with him.

Furlough is still the sole topic of conversation, and those who have not yet been among the selected ones are living in hopes of a few days about the 23rd.

Soccer, rugger, hockey and cross-country have been the order of the day on half-holidays.

No. 1 Company.

Things are very quiet at Ewshot now that the second furlough party has left. That Christmas feeling is in the air, and preparations are being made for the entertainment of those left behind, and also for the children's Christmas tree, which this year (for the first time) will be a unit function instead of the usual combined Signal units' entertainment.

The recent cold spell came upon us as a great surprise. The horses had a good rest in consequence, and when the time came for them to turn out they appeared very fresh—or at least so the Pay Corporal thought when the famous "Silver Tail" showed him the way to leave an exercise party standing!

Owing to the depleted Company, due to furlough, the usual dances, whist drives, etc., have been held in abeyance.

No. 3 Company (Crookham).

We have lost quite a lot of n.c.o.s and men on draft to Egypt and India, and a good number of n.c.o.s have been discharged. The Company is progressing fast, both as regards technical work and sport.

THE man who keeps fit can "pull his weight" right through a game, and can run as fast and kick as hard in the last minute as in the first. FRUIT KEEPS YOU FIT. It helps to make your blood pure and keep you right altogether. You feel the benefit in a quick working mind, in glorious energy, and in power to hold on through the hardest game. You feel better for it every minute of your life if you eat plenty of fruit.

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If you are a Regimental Cook send us your name and address and we will put you on our list for the Special Recipe Service. Then each week you will receive **Free of Charge** *three new Fruit Recipes which have all been tested, and proved to be absolutely reliable. Write to-day to:*

THE FRUIT TRADES' FEDERATION, ADVERTISING DEPT. 10-13 NEW BRIDGE ST. LONDON, E.C.4

The winter months have been utilised for training the large number of normal flat rate and Group E men we have in the Company.

Heartiest congratulations are due to Corpl Richardson, who won the feather-weight Corps boxing championship held at Aldershot on December 2nd.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

General.

Our expectation of increased sales, spoken of in last month's issue, has not yet materialised, but we are living in hopes. Owing to a number of the unit being on leave, our notes are necessarily short this month.

Arrivals.

We welcome L/Sergt Pye and family from Cologne, and Corpl C. V. Smith from A Corps Signals, and hope their stay with us will be to their liking.

Departures.

All ranks join in wishing Signalmen Semmence and W. J. Smith good luck in their new station (when they go).

Sport.

We are still in the winning vein, and hope to finish at the top of the soccer league.

An endeavour is being made by the commanding officer to produce some rugger talent in the unit. Lectures have been given, and it is hoped that we shall be able to co-operate with 3rd Divl. Signals to produce a team. Practice will commence as soon as Jack Frost releases his grip on the ground.

Personal.

"Ginger" wishes to be remembered to A. O. K. What about Leverkusen, Jack?

Is it true that the officer who intended going to Switzerland for winter sports has cancelled his arrangements, with a view to supporting home industry, on the advice of friends from Catterick.

Bulford Breezes.

We hope to hear from the manager of the above party the date of their next show, so that we can roll up in our thousands and support what we believe to be a first-class show. Seeing is believing.

SANDY.

No. 2 Medium Artillery Brigade Signal Section.

Larkhill.

The majority of the Section are on leave at present, and we are anxiously looking forward to individual training. Some say we are going for a rest cure; others, who have been before, say something else.

Since our last notes, Lieut. R. C. Woodbridge has left us to join the Egyptian Signals. He has done some valuable work for the Section, and we wish him the best of luck in his new unit.

Sergt Waters has also gone on the big boat for India. Our best wishes go with him and his family.

Sergt Slater now takes over the duties of section sergeant. We hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Arrival.

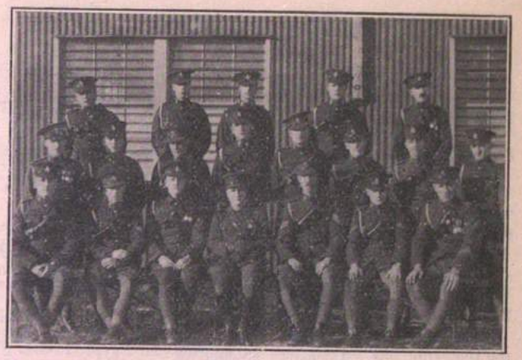
Sigmn Jones from the Depot.

Appointments.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Crabtree on his appointment as A/Corpl, and to Sigmn Harwood on his appointment as L/Corpl on the Corps roster.

Hospital.

Sigmn Cleal has been admitted to the Military Hospital, Tidworth. We all wish him a speedy recovery.



We are enclosing a photo of the happy band isolated here in Larkhill.

J. J. R.

Aldershot Anecdotes.

No. 30—In which Staphbrown cometh to the end of his tether.

1—Now, when the eleventh month was at hand, there came great snows and blizzards, and the whole land was frozen from north to south, and from east to west.

2—And the warriors of the Firstdivsigs shivered beneath the icy blasts of winter, and few there were who dared to change even their minds.

3—Yet was there one who faced the bitter winds without the turning of so much as a hair, for he was nearly bald.

4—And he was known to his comrades as Staphbrown.

5—Now it came to pass that one day Staphbrown goeth unto the stables, as was his custom, there to look upon the shoes that were attached to the feet of the warriors' steeds.

6—And in his going he passeth a yard wherein the housewives had erected many props to bear the weight of the fruits of their labours at the wash-tub.

7—And the blowing of the winds had dislodged one of the props so that it had fallen to the ground, even as the apple which in the fulness of time becometh ripe.

8—And Staphbrown marketh this thing, yet pursueth he his way.

9—Now, when the darkness was descended upon the land and the day's toil was ended, then did Staphbrown put away the implements of his craft and set his steps on the path to his home.

10—And in his going he passeth a yard wherein the housewives had erected many props to bear the weight of their labours at the wash-tub.

11—And lo, the blowing of the winds had dislodged a prop so that it had fallen upon the ground.

12—Then did Staphbrown again mark this thing, and being possessed of great wisdom, sayeth: "Behold, in their anger have the winds laid low this prop; therefore, lest this thing become a source of danger to others, shall I remove it."

13—And he straightway placeth the prop upon his back.

14—But behold, the housewife, being well versed in the ways of Alshot, had affixed the end of a stout rope to the prop, and had tied therein many knots.

15—Yet of this thing was Staphbrown unaware.

16—So that when he paceth the full length of the rope, lo, it becometh taut, and Staphbrown assumeth the prone position upon the ice that covered the face of the earth.

17—And to this day his comrades say unto him: "Tell us how ye towed the line."

18—But Staphbrown maketh answer, saying: "Behold, if I give ye an inch, thou shalt take a mile; yet give thou me but a yard, and I shall take a rod, pole or perch."

L. H. D.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford.

The Corps in Egypt will be interested to know that Q.M.S. Carvell (Jimmy) and Corpl Aness have left us for civilian life. Our good wishes go with them, as also to Corpl Pritcher and Sigmn Bowers.

Promotions.

Congratulations to Major J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., Sergt Tidmarsh, and L/Sergt Massey, on their respective promotions.

Marriages and Births.

Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. McKee on the arrival of a son (Maxwell Patrick James) on November 14th, and to Sigmn W. Roberts on joining the married ranks.

Drafts.

We said good-bye to our first draft on December 4th, when the following left for stations as shown:—To Egypt, C.Q.M.S. Dowie, Signalmen Mayall, A. Bailey, Hollingsworth, T. Mc Donald, J. Chambers, and Oldham. To Sarafand, Sigmn Kendall and Dvr Bowhay. Our good wishes go with them to their new stations.

Our R.S.M. has just returned from a three weeks' P.T. course at Aldershot, and we hope he is feeling the benefit of his strenuous time there, which no doubt he will soon pass on to others.

O.C.A. Entertainment.

Under the arrangements of the Old Comrades Association dance committee, a very enjoyable dance was held in the men's recreation room on the night of November 30th. Novelties of the latest order, carefully selected by the committee, proved very much to everyone's liking.

The orchestra, ably backed up by L/Corpl Chambers with his so-called saxaphone, added very greatly to the easy going of the dancers, and many encores were demanded.

Last, but not least, the rendering of "W(h)eather" between dances by our worthy assistant, Sigmn Shiner, was an admitted success, and spoke very highly of the talent of the unit concert party.

NIKKO.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester.
December 15th.

Arrivals.

The following personnel arrived or are due to arrive during the month: Corpls Gordon and Crockford, Signalmen Savage, Easter, Bailey, Emsley and Bish, and Drivers Metters, Schofield and Wood.

Departures.

Sergt Locke, to Eastern Command Signal Company. Signalmen Calver, Evason and Basey to civil life, where we wish them the best of luck.

A. DAVIS, 200 Piccadilly, W.1
(Opposite Piccadilly Hotel)

Large Variety of
Britannia Metal Flasks

6/6
7/6
8/6
17/6
22/6

The undermentioned have left us for warmer climates: Sergt Pitt, Corpl Solly, L/Corpls Hill and George, Signalmen Batten, Grose, Barzilay, Ward, Rouse, Holmes, A. Ogden and Osborne. To the Rhine: L/Corpl Austin, Signalmen J. Jordan, Woolfall, Williams, Denton, Randall, and C. B. Johnson.

Birth.

To L/Corpl and Mrs. Hansford, a son.

Owing to our sports correspondent being on annual furlough, we are unable to forward the usual summary, but full details will appear in next month's issue.

TAP.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

Everything being quiet in ould Oireland, it was possible to send a good number of the Company on leave for Christmas. We only hope they have as good a time as we are looking forward to here. Having had a meeting of the Company and selected a committee to fix up the necessary arrangements, we will leave it to them.

Education.

Congratulations are offered to Corpl Burns and Sigmn Gower on winning through in the 1st class education stakes. To Sigmn Healey, good luck in the next examination!

Arrival.

To Corpl and Mrs. Gristwood, a son.

Departures.

We have said farewell to L/Corpl Beeton and Signalmen Barton and Taylor, who left for India via Catterick. In L/Corpl Beeton and Sigmn Taylor we have lost two of our hockey team, the former being our mainstay at back. He is now going to the place where he learnt his hockey. Sigmn Taylor took over the job as custodian, and did it well. If he carries on in India, he should be an asset to any hockey team.

We can only say a few words about Sigmn Barton, who has been with the Company quite a long time. Several enquiries have been received for the old cook, and "Nazzi" is still looking for the man in whites with the clogs on.

Sigmn Davis has left us for civvy street, and we wish him the best of luck in the cruel hard world outside.

Personal.

Corpl Gristwood would like to receive that long-promised letter from Sergt P. Thompson, late of this "home from home."

Sigmn J. E. Scott sends his best to Jimmy and Wally of A Corps, but is very much afraid they will have to carry on mourning.

CHIPPY.

Lough Swilly Signal Section.

I am writing these notes under very intense heat (sitting on the top of a stove). Not much in the news line this month, and am training on milk diet for Christmas.

Sigmn Whitaker, having obtained his B.iii. operator W/T, is now studying for his 1st class certificate, and is anxious to know what one does after having passed the Foreman of Signals course (information will be gladly received). Never mind; stick it, Molly!

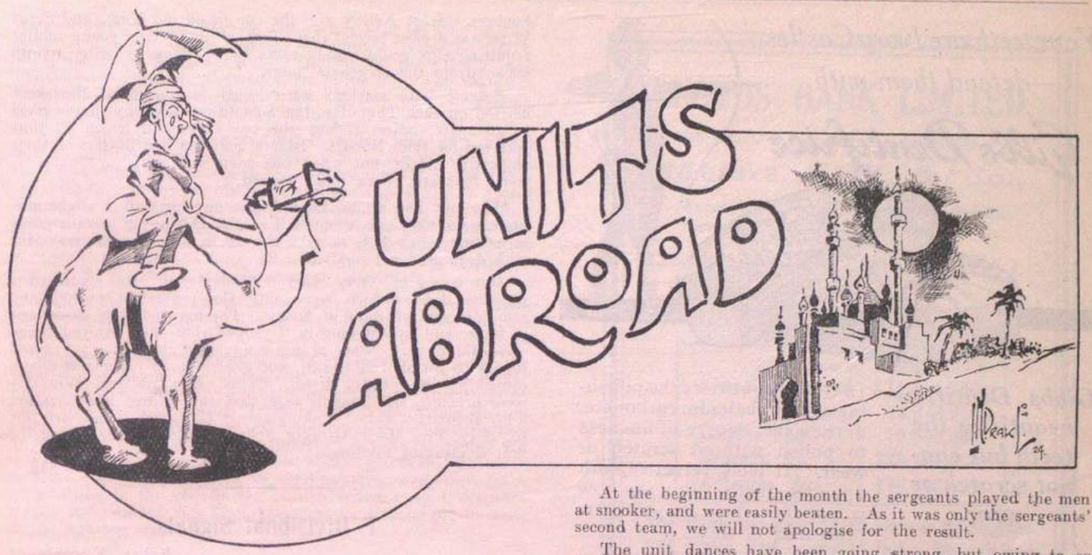
We have a dance on to-night, and everyone is "poshing" up. For myself, it is just a short course of milk diet (ask South Ireland).

Personal.

Taffy Harries wishes to be remembered to Corpl Standley and Sigmn Denby at Spike.

CURT, THE CHIEF OUTLAW.

Become an Annual Subscriber *now*, and have your Magazine forwarded direct by post each month.



A Corps Signals.

Karachi, November 19th.

General.

The unit has been hard at it during the past month, and will be kept so for the next month with schemes, the G.O.C.'s visit, inspections, ceremonial parades, and the C.S.O.'s visit.

Although well under strength, we have, besides our usual sections in the Zhob area, a section attending the Northern Command manœuvres, a section erecting a line in Bannu and district, a half light-motor section at Quetta as a permanent station, and another permanent station in the unit lines, whilst another Pack Section was requisitioned for the Baluchistan District manœuvres last month. The latter section, we are given to understand, covered themselves with glory. We look forward with interest to the report on the work of the Wireless Sections employed on the Northern Command manœuvres.

L/Sergt R. W. Stather this month received a "life sentence," and we congratulate him on having such an excellent jailor. We wish him and Mrs. Stather all happiness in the future. We must also congratulate L/Sergt Newmarch, who took the plunge whilst on leave in the U.K.

Congratulations also to "Taffy" on being presented with another son. He has been christened "Jack," to commemorate his father's previous calling (so we are told).

This month we bade "bon voyage" to our twelve men for transfer to the Army Reserve. We wish them the very best of luck in civvy street.

Owing to the rest camp requiring extra accommodation, we have had to vacate several more bungalows, and are at present on the edge of the Sind Desert—another push, and we shall be *in* it. Still, after surviving the floods, etc., in Gaza lines, nothing (not even tents on the desert) daunts us.

This month we welcomed our "leave-ites" from the U.K. After what they've told us, we are more determined than ever to seek a more salubrious climate than the rest camp next year.

Preparations for Christmas are well in hand, and our usual programme of gaiety for the holidays has been arranged. You may be sure we shall do full justice to the fare provided.

The sergeants' mess played the sergeants of the 16th Hussars at billiards the other evening. As the prestige of the corps was at stake, we turned out our 100 per cent. team, with the usual result. The games were made into a relay, and we finished a very pleasant evening with a comfortable win by 157 points.

At the beginning of the month the sergeants played the men at snooker, and were easily beaten. As it was only the sergeants' second team, we will not apologise for the result.

The unit dances have been going strong, but owing to so many troops being in the rest camp, and our accommodation being limited, we cannot hold them as often as we should like.

The sales of THE WIRE in the unit have not been all that they might during the last few months, and the Signals Association have been saddled with the responsibility of disposing of quite a number of unsold copies. We don't wish to "rub it in," but all ranks should bear in mind that any profits which accrue from the sale of THE WIRE go to the Benevolent Fund —a most worthy cause, which has already helped at least one member of this unit.

Postings, etc.

Signalmen Cousins and J. M. Evans from F Divl. Signals, Kohat. S/Sergt J. Payne to S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore. C.S.M. Saunders to B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

The following embarked this month for the United Kingdom, for transfer to the Army Reserve and discharge: Corporals A. Ennals and W. Arnold, L/Corpls S. Hugget and D. Thompson, Signalmen F. Twidell, L. Heath, G. Skelton, J. Joselyn, C. Dunn, J. Sotherland, J. Burtwell, A. A. Waller, L. Armstrong, J. Rippin, J. Vickers, W. Indge, C. B. Wood, A. J. Jones, C. Gent, W. Everson, W. Duncan, H. Flude, and Pte G. Meyers.

Birth.

To Sergt and Mrs. H. A. Davies, a son (Jack Edward), on October 7th.

Promotions, etc.

To be L/Corporals, Royal Signals: Corpls H. C. Davis, S. Bourne, E. W. J. Collins, and H. Malthouse.

To be A/Corporals, Royal Signals: L/Sergts F. M. C. Dadson and T. J. Fox and Corpl E. Harrison.

To be L/Sergeant: Sergt A. Carney.

To be C.S.M., I.U. List: Sergt E. Saunders.

To be L/Corporals, I.U. List: U/L/Corpls F. Ford, W. E. Jutson, R. C. E. Boak, F. P. Hayes.

To be U/L/Corporals, I.U. List: Signalmen G. Langham and J. Lee.

Extensions of Service.

Corpl D. Fairman and U/L/Corpl H. M. Thomson extended to 12 years with the Colours.

Education.

Awarded 2nd class certificate in October: L/Sergt A. R. Bailey, L/Corpls B. L. R. Cheverton and F. Ford, U/L/Corpl C. W. Buttle, Signalmen A. E. Hazell, E. J. Miles, and E. A. Smith.

MOLLY.

Your teeth are Ivory Castles —defend them with

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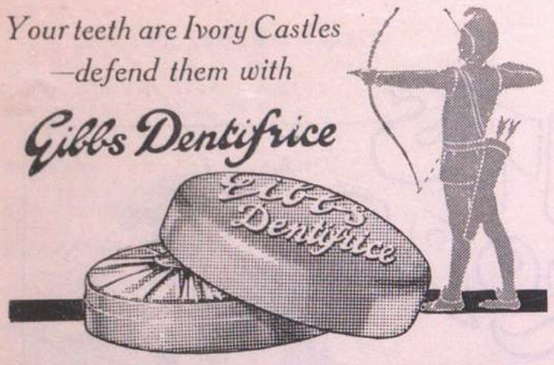

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Use Gibbs Dentifrice twice-a-day. Its fragrant, penetrating foam kills germs, removes impurities, and safeguards every one of the 32 precious teeth.

PRICES:
Large Size, 1/-; De Luxe, 1/6
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E Divisional Signals.

Meerut, November 16th.

Once again E Divl. Signals appear in the literary world, but with rather a small sports section. This is due partly to the lack of men, and also to the rather personal remarks against the players.

At a general meeting of the Association held on November 4th, new officers were elected to take the places of those who were away for various reasons. Sickness accounted for our late worthy president, but his position is now filled by our sports officer (Capt. G. C. Winckley, M.C.), who, as all know, will give us his assistance and advice on all matters concerning the Association and the general welfare of the unit.

Sergt Munn was voted to the vice-president's chair, and the Scribe "clicked" his job through querying the absence of notes from this unit in the current WIRE. It is a hard world that has no turning.

A short time ago great anxiety reigned, and the question passed from lip to lip as to why the junior enceoes were buying and borrowing posh suits of serge. Was it women? Were the lads trying to buy the durzi a new car? No! I will tell you: a photograph was to be taken, one that would stop woman's suffrage, and set all the young female hearts in a whirl. But sad to say, it was spoilt through several enceoes not going sick when requested to do so.

This month we welcome back our C.O. (Major H. N. Brown) and our adjutant (Capt. H. S. Lewis-Barclay) from their sojourn in the land of sweet memories. No doubt their arrival will be a sign to commence stunts preparatory to proceeding to battle at Dinauli. Several sections have already departed. Tim went out with the 2nd Brigade: he is rather renowned on marches, I believe.

We regret the loss of Sergt Barnett to 'Pindi. He will no doubt miss his cable wagon as much as we miss him; 'Pindi certainly gains over the deal.

The sergeants' annual shoot came off on November 5th (who said a fitting date?) There were many aspirants for Bisley honours. Sergt Kelsey won the cup (good old Ted), and Sergt Wish was a close second (hard luck, Willie). Any young soldier requiring tips could obtain same by applying by letter (photo enclosed) to the sergeants' mess.

Several butt markers were heard to enquire if the shoot carried on each Thursday, but I could not say why they wished to go again, unless it was the two chips and lemon (?) they received for their labours. Several markers had flutters on their respective scores, but when one man won with an "outer"—well! thus are "bara tops" earned.

The unit had a Christmas dinner meeting, but a slight misunderstanding arose about T.T.s and D.T.s. A certain enceo is looking for a D.I. to take the ducks out on exercise. Men with dogs need not apply.

Our hopes in 'Arry were not misplaced. He organised a practice dance which went with the proverbial swing, and reminded one of those at home. The married pads turned up in force, and by listening in, I judged that they enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Several lads complained that damp air caused topees to shrink (mine did), but general good order was maintained by our worthy essem. Capts. Edwards and Winckley were present, and rumour says that the former learnt rather a lot about the Navy. Taking things all round, thanks are due to 'Arry, Pip, Mack, Georgie, Johno and Andy, for giving the unit a pleasant evening.

SAB.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat, November.

A sports meeting, organised by Lieut R. Solly and Sergt-Instructor S. Burton, A.E.C., was held on October 21st, after being postponed on account of rain. A fine afternoon was picked upon, and a very enjoyable time was spent. The band of the 2/1st Punjab Regiment gave selections throughout the sports, whilst "Mr. and Mrs. MacHales" mixed freely with all present. At the conclusion, Mrs. J. White (Kohat District headquarters) gave away the prizes to the successful competitors.

"Mr. and Mrs. MacHales" at F Divisional Signals Sports.

At the same time, a very pleasing little ceremony took place in the form of a presentation to Sergt-Instructor S. Burton, A.E.C., who was to leave for the United Kingdom on the 23rd. In asking Mrs. White to hand to Sergt Burton a handsome leather suit case, the Commandant emphasised the splendid work done by the recipient in bringing F Signals to the top of the educational tree in India. Our schoolmaster will be missed, for he has been the organiser of so many entertaining evenings during the three years spent with us. Au revoir and good luck!

The following night, a farewell smoker was held in the sergeants' mess, to bid goodbye to Sergt Burton and Sergt V. Claydon, the latter off to England for an operation, from which, we trust, a complete cure will result. The members of the mess, assisted by Signalmen Robbins and Avins, kept up a lively programme of music. Every member contributed something: those who couldn't sing, told a tale. The hit of the evening was undoubtedly Sergt T. Bennett's rendering of "The Maiden's Prayer—Health and Strength." During the evening, parting gifts were presented to the two n.c.o.s

Early in the month, a successful smoker was held in the A.C.B. Institute, and on November 6th the Dance Club held their first dance this season in the theatre, new McQueen lines. It rained throughout the afternoon and evening—9.30 p.m. found the arrivals bringing a great portion of Kohat adhering to their footgear, and it was impossible to keep it out of the dance room. However, despite this, there was a good attendance, and with F Signals' band in fine form, all went with a swing, thanks to L/Sergt E. W. Smith and his energetic committee.

During the month the unit was inspected by the new Commander-in-Chief in India, during his tour of Kohat and the Frontier.

In the Northern Command, at the moment of writing, the topic of the day is the manœuvres, which are in full swing. From Kohat we have sent our little contribution. One Draught Cable Section under Lieut R. Solly, one Pack Cable Section under Sergt S. A. Stevens, and one Infantry Brigade Section under Capt. B. D. Willoughby, marched out on November 9th to Peshawar, to join A Divl. Signals, stopping at Aimal Chabutra en route. Of the manœuvres, we shall be able to write more later. In addition to the above, two British officers, eight despatch riders, and two B.O.R.s have been sent on attachment to units in the fighting zone.

Arrivals.

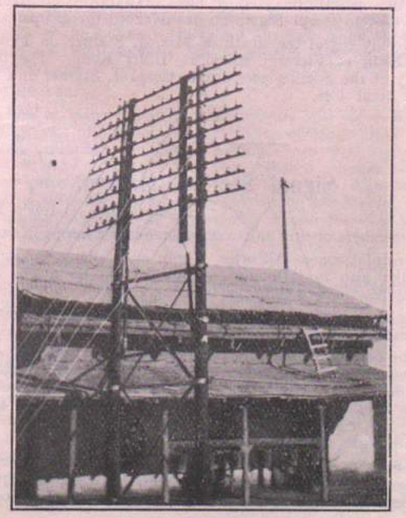
Capt. E. M. Pyster, M.B.E., returned from a visit to Constantinople, Venice, Paris, and U.K., while Sergt I. H. Small arrived back from a holiday in a wee small corner of Devon.

Iraq Signal Section.

A bright and prosperous New Year to all "The Corps" readers.

Sergt Bellew, Corpl Coleman, and Signalmen Locke, Wright and Lewis, proceeded to Baghdad, where they opened and are working two circuits to curtail the pressure of work on the telephones there. A "snap" of the Hinaidi Exchange (by L/Cpl Schofield) is enclosed.

Heartiest congratulations to L/Corpls A. E. Harris and Sorrel on their recent appointments.



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Deposits, &c.	338,371,355
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The Bank has over 1,650 Offices in England and Wales, and several in India, Burmah and Egypt. It also has Correspondents and Agents throughout the British Isles, and a large number of Colonial and Foreign Agents.

The air is full of "Roll on, that boat," and "When is the new draft coming?" Perhaps by the time these notes appear, "the new draft" will have arrived here.

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Bannu, N.W.F.P., November 24th.

General.

We wish all readers of THE WIRE a happy and prosperous New Year.

The past month has rolled quickly by, and left us in our usual mood. Our familiar method of torture, known as musketry, is once more over: everyone snapping, missing, grousing, and yet upkeeping the reputation of "C" (1st class shots, bags of; a few 2nds; 3rd class, none). The duties of musketry instructor have been taken over this year by our new C.S.M., who proved himself one of the best, and roused a great competition amongst all ranks. Our average scores were 86 out of the possible 115. Sergt Butler headed the roll with a magnificent 110, whilst our C.S.M. was a close second.

Great excitement was caused in Bannu a few weeks back when Murray the "famous" escapologist arrived. He displayed many tricks of getting out of handcuffs and a steel trunk, causing the Signals to take up his challenge of getting out of any box the audience chose to place before him.

The Signals said they would place an ice-chest at his disposal, put him in it, bind it round with G.I. wire, and defy him to get out.

He accepted the challenge, and promised the public of Bannu to return within the next seven days to accomplish this feat; but, true to his name, he escaped, not from the ice chest, but from Bannu. Murray may be able to "kid" the public, but not the Signals. (What has "Yank" got to say about it?)

Functions.

One cannot grumble about the lack of amusements in Bannu now, as dances, whist drives, and the pictures are pretty frequent.

Most Healthful, Delicious and Enjoyable

KIA-ORA
LEMON SQUASH

The famous English product, made in London and untouched by hand from beginning to end; really made from fresh Messina lemon juice and white cane sugar. No drink can be more enjoyable nor more wholesome.

Kia-Ora has many uses. Just add cold water and you have a table beverage with an acid sweetness and tang that whet the appetite and promote digestion. Add soda water if a sparkling drink is preferred.

SPORTS.—Tennis players, golfers, polo players, in fact, all sports will find Kia-Ora Lemon Squash unequalled as a thirst quenching and refreshing beverage. An extra glass or two will, instead of being harmful, be beneficial.

ECONOMY.—Kia-Ora is extremely economical. A large bottle will make not less than 24 glasses of Lemonade or Lemon Squash. There is no trouble in preparation. The Squash is hygienically clean, ready for instant use and no waste.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

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Personal.

All ranks wish E. S. J. H. (of the 1st Divl. Signals) the best of luck on entering a new sphere of life in civvy street. We sincerely hope that, although he may have Mr. for his rank, he will still contribute to the columns of THE WIRE.

Will Sigmn T. Chetland (last heard of in A Cavtroop, Risalpur) kindly communicate with Sigmn Beavon (well known as Beaver), No. 2 Company C Divl. Signals, Bannu, Waziristan, India, N.W.F.P., who hopes to see him on bus 76.

Award.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Chitty on being awarded the old soldier's rooty gong after 18 years' undetected crime.

Appointments.

Congratulations to L/Corpls Tyler, Davis and Fields, on being appointed paid L/Corporals, after sweating on the top line for some time.

D-R-ettes.

Q.: How to make an high tension *lead?* A.: Let the rest of the cycle follow it!

Q.: How to make a rim *brake?* A.: Hit it with a hammer!

Q.: How to make a saddle *spring?* A.: Creep up behind it and frighten it!

CCIR.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

November..

A happy New Year to all! May it find "The Corps" still to the fore in sports.

Before these notes appear in print we will have said goodbye to the following: Q.M.S. Ramsay, Sergt Gent, Corpl Stainer, and Signalmen Hole, Smith and Slater, who leave our sunny shores during December. We wish them bon voyage and the best of luck in their new stations, and trust they will cast an eye in THE WIRE for Hong Kong's small notes.

Dame Rumour is again proved a "lying jade," as W. H. B. is *not* going home this "trooper." C.I.D., please note.

Congratulations to L/Corpl McBride on winning the military amateur billiards championship, 1925; to "our kid," Master N. Ramsay, on his fine win in the Garrison Schools boxing championship; and also to Q.M.S. Ramsay and L/Corpl McBride on being worthy members of the R.E. billiard team, winners of the team championship.

A hearty welcome is extended to all the new draft who arrived this month (may they have a happy sojourn in the Colony), and to Corpl Slater on transfer to the Corps.

We deeply regret the death of Mrs. J. Stainer on Thursday, October 29th, at Victoria Hospital, Hong Kong. The deepest sympathy of the Section goes out to Corpl J. Stainer and family in their great loss.

CAN DO.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani, October 29th..

The members of this unit wish all readers a happy New Year.

Congratulations to A/Corpls Horan and Adams on attaining that rank; also to "Dougie" on his joining the ranks of the benedicts (no more will he go a-riding.)

Hong Kongites (lazy blighters) are not the only section to participate in "steamship sports."

On the evening of October 24th, the P. and O. s.s. "Kalyan," after two or three minutes' hunting, found and caught our submarine cables. After some ten minutes' wrestling, she finally tore one from the shore test hut, and badly wrenched t'other. The one she caught she carried almost to the Malaya village on the opposite side of the Straits.

Q.M.S. Floyd and a party spent a most enjoyable Sunday repairing the damage done to the cable that held out, and the whole Section had a splendid day's fishing for the loose end of the other on the Monday. After some four hours' fishing we were lucky enough to catch it, about 300 yards from its rightful position, and to cut off a length of about 100 yards, which was absolutely useless.

The "wirelessops" are seriously considering a complaint to their union, having had to work in an open boat all day. The question of to-day is why they are all looking so red. Sun, indignation, or Youngers, are three most favoured opinions.

We consider "Can Do's" suggestion as to coloured cables is good. What a brainy youth he must be!

We regret the absence of R.F.B.'s old friend in the photograph published recently in THE WIRE. Mention of him under the name of "Knut" may be found in the April 1924 issue, Bob. He evidently did not care for the joys of army life in Malaya, and after sticking it for three months he discarded khaki and fled to civvy life. It may have been that there were no ashes to scatter here that drove him to such a course.

The wireless wallahs are eagerly looking forward to a day's outing at the end of the month. Officially, of course, it is a "stunt" for the benefit of the Straits Settlements Volunteers, but then, we all know how far the friendship of work and wirelessops goes.

Now that the great "move" has taken place, will any local correspondent at the Depot kindly give his views on the following:—

What is it like to see Catterick for the first time?
What is it like, living there?
Do the troops miss the old "hunting" grounds?
How much mud was left at Maresfield?
What the ladies of both districts think of it?
Is it true that the walk to Richmond is worth it?

Personal.

Sigmn W. Easterby would like to hear from Sigmn W. A. Gough, at present dwelling at Kowloon, H.K.

The Rif-Raffs are much obliged to "Willie" for his kind thought, and would like to be remembered to any of the Hong Kong twisters they may know.

Tabi, Tuan Bill, ada pisang ini hari, loo ada sayah tedah moh.

OLIVE.

The Corps in Egypt.

December.

Training.

During the last fortnight, three Signal schemes have been held which, I think, have proved very successful, but apart from these there has been very little done. Of course, it is rather early in the season to have got through much, but I can assure you we shall have a lot to answer for by the time March arrives.

Trooping Season.

News has at last reached us that a draft will leave England on the 5th of the month per H.M.T. "City of Marseilles." This has caused unlimited excitement among those who are due to return to Blighty. For the last few weeks a number of them have been quite desperate, while others have stayed in barracks studying the shipping column in the *News of the World*, in the hope of seeing the name of a troopship bound for E.G.Y.P.T. (Some *are* ignorant, aren't they?)

Salutations.

We are sorry to hear of the departure from our regimental journal of such a notable personage as E. S. J. H., for his articles ("Anecdotes") were really brilliant. We wish him every success and happiness in civvy street.

S.T.C., Catterick.

We were pleased to read in the November issue of THE WIRE that the S.T.C. has completed its move, and is settling down in the "Yorkshire clime." We extend our best wishes, and hope that the stay there will be as pleasant as the one at Maresfield.

Inspection.

The G.O.C. made an inspection of the various mounted sections in November, and was well satisfied with the turn-out.

That extra ounce—

TOWARDS the end of a hard-fought game of Soccer or Rugger, it's the man who can pull out that "extra ounce" who most frequently gets the winning goal or try. The whole crowd cheers, and it's good to be that man.

* * *

Training and practice alone cannot give you that superlative degree of fitness. You need to build up the vital force and stamina which will outlast the hardest game, and nothing can help you do it half as well as Horlick's, the original Malted Milk.

* * *

Horlick's is indeed the Diet of Champions. Use it regularly in your own training, and those cheers so dear to a Footballer's heart may well be for you.

HORLICK'S THE ORIGINAL MALTED MILK
Made in England.

SERVED AT MESSES & CANTEENS

May also be kept for use in Training Quarters.

Ask for and see that you get Horlick's.

We proved to him that Signals could be just as efficient at their work as they are at sport. The following day was observed as a holiday in recognition of the good work.

Education.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Pout on securing his 1st class certificate of education. Well done, Jim! Now what about a special?

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Red Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.

Greetings.

We regret that, owing to "atmospherics," we were unable to get Yuletide greetings through for the Christmas number, so we now send our best wishes to the Corps throughout the Empire for a happy, bright, and prosperous New Year.

General.

The past month has been fully occupied with the usual little "stunts," which predict that in the near future the powers-that-be intend to lose the Red armies against the White ones, and finally land everyone in the "blues." On paper, we have been "astride" this and "resting" on that, but really, we have been getting a move on.

Reliefs.

In a few days, we hope to greet the "1925/30 class," but unfortunately it will mean saying farewell to a good number of the old school. We will discuss this anon when we know who's who.

Promotions.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Newton on receiving the "ackers" for that rank. We also wish to congratulate L/Corpl Bennett of the C.S.O.'s directorate upon attaining paid rank. Young soldiers, please note that in each case these n.c.o.s rose from the ranks.

We also congratulate the following upon their appointment as U/L/Corpls:—Signalmen Chrystie, Brinkley, Solomon, J. W. Moore, and McFrommell.

W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s Mess.

A few changes have taken place, including the move of Corpl Hickey (of Darkest Africa fame) to Alexandria, this causing Sergt Yates to return to the Company and assume the role of caterer-in-chief to the officers' mess. (Your tea grows cold!)

We celebrated Armistice Day with a dinner and dance, it being rather a fitting occasion for our Corps to keep up, as we have no "Minden Day" or "Cambrai Day" to hand down to posterity. The dinner, which was a huge success, was enjoyed by 50, including our friends from Abu Zabul, and we had the band of Mr. Pearce (late bandmaster Artists Rifles) in attendance at the jazz which concluded the evening.

It's True.

Two Scotsmen visited the Mohammed Ali mosque, where one has to pay 2 piastres (5d.) for the hire of a pair of slippers before entering. They were afterwards seen hopping around on one foot! Mr. X.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, December 1st.

The chief items of interest during the past month were a kit inspection and some rain. The kit inspection was successfully negotiated on November 24th, being particularly outstanding for the fact that one member of J Section was the proud possessor of a pair of "right-handed" spurs.

On Wednesday, November 18th, it rained. That doesn't sound very exciting, I know, but as this was the first rain for about two years, and everyone has entered the fact in his diary, it seems worth reporting. It only rained for about twenty minutes, but while it lasted it certainly *did* rain.

About an hour after it had left off, the water that had accumulated in the hills began to flow down the wadis and railway lines to Abbassia. The water poured in at the main entrance to the barracks, and the square began to fill up rapidly, until a miniature dam was improvised that diverted the flood in another direction.

The stable picquet for that night had an unenviable job, and had to be conveyed to the stables in a lorry, as the water was rushing down the railway lines like a torrent, and must have been quite two feet deep. As the water was already flowing into the stables, the picquet decided to adapt themselves to conditions, and paddled about in the mud and water; and all being good swimmers, they reported safely back to barracks the following morning, the water having subsided in the meantime, though there were miniature lakes in plenty and inches in depth of mud. Still, we aren't exactly yearning for another shower just yet; once in two years is quite sufficient to go on with (ask the stable picquet).

By the time these lines are in print, the long-expected draft will have arrived. Well known sporting celebrities are said to be amongst them, and we confidently expect to see some Egyptian Command boxing titles change hands this coming season, if the little bird told us true that a certain middle-weight inter-Services champion, and a feather-weight inter-Services champion, are among them. (No prizes offered for solution.) We can assure them, *should* they arrive, they will never lack for want of supporters.

The inter-Section sports competition for 1925 has now been completed, resulting in a win for J Section, chiefly by virtue of their superiority in numbers, as the two weaker sections—Signal Troop and Headquarters—could hardly raise sufficient numbers for a game of cricket or hockey. In spite of this handicap in numbers, they gave a good account of themselves.

J Section won the hockey, swimming and boxing competitions; H Section won the cricket, tennis and athletic sports; and Headquarters won the football, billiards and cross-country team race. The Signal Troop (old E Section), though not winning any event, acquitted themselves very well in being runners-up in the boxing, swimming and hockey.

The following, though not outstanding in any particular sport, showed their versatility in turning out in practically every event that was decided: L/Corpls Matthews and Clark, Signalmen Holman, Wilson, Ball, Ratledge, Coton, Rose, and Whitworth.

Congratulations to the following on attaining the dizzy height of A/U/L/Corpls: Signalmen F. A. Matthews, S. Parker, H. Sunderland, and J. Collins.

The following have been appointed L/Corpls (paid): Signalmen (A/U/L/Corpls) A. Fleet and F. Joyce.

Sigmn C. Dysart (Long Tom) left here for India (Jubbulpore) on Friday, November 27th, on being transferred to L Signals.

ART.

No. 1 Section No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

We take this opportunity of wishing one and all "A bright and prosperous New Year."

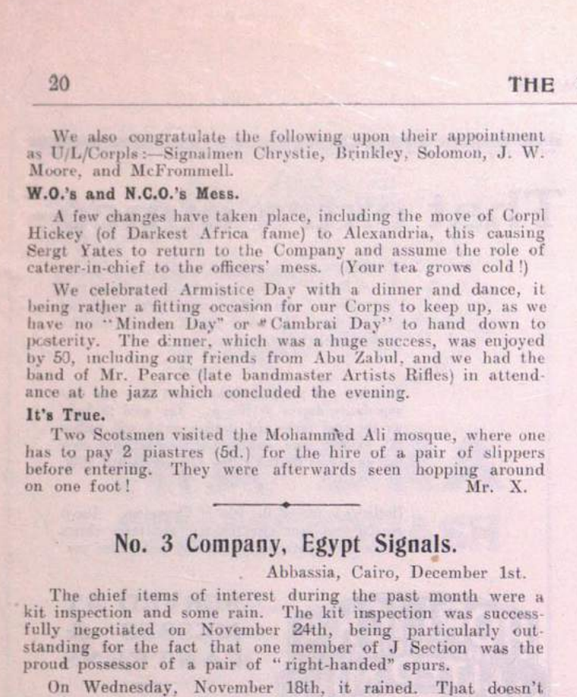
We offer our apologies for the absence of notes in the Dec. WIRE, but there has been nothing of note to need recording. Things in general continue very quiet, though, the weather being decent up till now, there has been plenty of sport.

Obituary.

All ranks tender their deepest sympathy with L/Sergt and Mrs. L. Brett in the death of their little daughter, Mary Joyce, at Sarafand on December 7th, and sincerely hope that the arrival of another daughter, Barbara Eileen, on November 25th, will help to alleviate their sorrow.

Promotions, etc.

Hearty congratulations are extended to the following on their respective promotions and appointments: Sergts T. W. Harrison and N. E. Legg to be W.O.s, Class II.; L/Sergt R. B. Newman to be A/Sergt; L/Corpls E. Newmarsh, J. H. Cutler, and S. C. Balderson to be A/Corpls; Sigmn F. W. Collier to be A/L/Corpl.



Educational.

Congratulations to Sergt F. Bramley on obtaining his 1st class certificate of education.

N.C.O.s Mess.

Some very successful whist drives and dances have been held of late, and we hope in future to hold a regular social evening at least once a month. Our thanks are due to the British Gendarmerie jazz band for obliging us so often.

N.C.O.'s Mess, No. 1 Section No. 2 Wireless Company.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, December 1st.

We sincerely hope that, by the time these notes appear in print, everybody will have recovered from the effects of Christmas and New Year celebrations. At the time of writing we, like the recruit's back pay, "have got it to come"—and have great expectations, too!

On Armistice Day a service, corresponding as far as possible with that held at Whitehall, London, was held at the Cenotaph, Hamilton, a very large crowd being present in addition to the naval and military contingents. This Section was responsible for the time signal being given to the flagship (H.M.S. "Calcutta") and the gunners at H.Q., Prospect, to fire the signal guns at 11 a.m. Everything worked out according to plan, and we received the congratulations of the O. i/c Tels. afterwards.

"Old hands," please note that the good work is still going strong. The new sub-exchange at St. George's is working well, likewise that at H.Q. (Prospect), and we now claim that the military system is the most efficient in the islands.

The big "sideline" on hand is "The Bethlehem Tableaux" (similar to last year's). C.Q.M.S. Simmonds and one trusty henchman in the person of Sigmn Sayers (I.R.) are very busy preparing the stage and orchestra lighting in the garrison gymnasium. Weird noises and mutterings can be heard in the vicinity of the I.R.'s shop; the F. of S. has hung out his "liver signal," too. But these are small items in comparison with the language of the unfortunate T.S.O. on duty in the Exchange, who has perforce to listen for two or three hours to the same Christmas carol or hymn during rehearsals—the Exchange being situated immediately behind the gym.

During leisure hours (oh, no! we don't work *all* the time) gardening reigns supreme. Seeds have been sown, and plants of all sorts, ranging from sweet peas to bananas, have been bedded out. We are optimistic! One horticulturist, sowing some unidentified seeds, has labelled them "Tins of Woodbines." One of the new hands wants to know how many bunches of bananas he can expect from each plant, and when. The answers have so far been very discouraging. We anticipate quite a decent crop of pa-paws from the tree planted by the late T.S.O. staff.

Most of the section (single ones, I mean) are at present taking a "Jew's course," and from what I can gather, at least one or two will finish up with a "distinguished." So careful have they become that, after shaking hands with a stranger, they will count their fingers.

At both football and hockey we steadily continue to lose. Bad luck has certainly had a hand in the game, but one match was simply given away. What about it? We must be suffering from "lurgee."

Overheard.

F. of S. (to I.R.): "Sayers! have you seen that spare Star of Bethlehem about? That's it! Pass it up!"

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

Signal Section, Sierra Leone.

November 24th.

I hope no one will faint on receiving the information that the Signals are still guarding the West Coast at Sierra Plonk. As we have never seen any news in THE WIRE about the bush-rangers, I hope to provide a few notes from us monthly.

At present we are new to this climate, having only arrived on the 22nd inst., after a fine voyage, the only interesting things we saw being sharks, porpoises, and flying fish.

Our draft consisted of Corpl Knox (ex Colchester), Signalmen Mizen and Graves (from Bulford), Gavins (from Germany), and Ramsden (from Blackdown A.A.), not forgetting lofty Sigmn Westley (from the "Shot").

The next time you hear from us we may have more news, but all we know at present is that bananas and oranges are cheap, and monkeys and parrots, too.

Corpl Knox wishes to be remembered to "Fishy," and wants to know when he is going to swim across for a long week-end. It is not very far for a fish—only 4000 miles.

W. Gavins says he misses his brotchen and lieberwurst, and his old pal Lovett's fairy tales. He, also, wishes to be remembered to the friends of old Father Rhine, not forgetting Maurice.

Dolly and Jacky send their kind regards to Nobby and the rest of the Bulford lads.

If Signalmen Probert and Bolten are still in the land of the Shot, will they accept the compliments of the season from Sigmn Ramsden, who hopes Bolty is still wearing that vest (for auld lang syne) which he had from him.

The dry season has just begun, and Dolly and Jack look like cannibals in their little shorts and sun bonnets.

The old concert party gave a farewell and welcome party yesterday (the 23rd). This was a great success, lasting from 8 till 12.30. We wish the old hands all the best of luck when they arrive in England.

I hope the Signals do not have to march from Catterick Bridge to the camp with full kit on, else they will wish they had their boy once more.

WINKLE.

Rhine Signal Units.

Cologne, December 14th.

Again we take advantage of the weather as an opening for our notes. There is some excuse for this, as it plays an important part in our day's work. At the moment of writing, we are enjoying the thaw after about a fortnight's severe frost. We are all rather unsettled at present, owing to the evacuation of Cologne.

The burning question of the day is leave, therefore the lads look upon the evacuation with a rather jaundiced eye as being a probable cause of the unsettling of leave arrangements. There have also been some rather disquieting rumours from those who have preceded us to Wiesbaden. Perhaps those of us who have been left behind are lucky, and perhaps not. We will know later.

There is not much of interest about which we can write this month, for in spite of the evacuation the troops still remain bored, and are only moved to enthusiasm over one or other of the two subjects which seem to be of paramount interest, viz., leave and football. As regards the latter, our enthusiasm is generally diverted into another channel after the perusal of the Sunday morning paper. The flow of oratory in which some of the enthusiasts indulge is surely worthy of a better cause.

During the past month there have been a whist drive and a dance in our canteen. At both of these functions we were pleased to see our old M.C., "Dave," who always manages, entirely in his own time, to arrange a very pleasurable evening for all who are willing to be amused. An extension was arranged until 12.30, and dancing continued up to the last moment.

Though dancing is one of our most popular amusements on the Rhine, there are not many of us who have become proficient in the new French tango. It was therefore quite a surprise, as well as a pleasure, when "Mik" graciously and gracefully obliged with all the intricate and sinuous movements of that dance. Good old Mik! Is it any use trying to "square" you for a few tips?

There was also a farewell "do" given to Ginger Eeles in the canteen. Music was supplied by the K.S.L.I. band, and vocal entertainment by Sigmn E. C. Hill. The evening was a very jolly one, which we hope may be a pleasant memory to Ginger, who is now in civilian life.

On the 5th inst. the sergeants' mess gave a farewell dance in honour of Sergt Littlefield and Corpl Harwood, the former on draft for India, and the latter for the delights of civvie street. The good wishes of all the Company go with you, Charlie!

At present there seems to be an epidemic of marriages in the Company. There are quite a few old friends who have tied the Gordian knot. May the sword of Damocles never be called into requisition! We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Corpl Offord, Signalmen Chapman, Little, and Feltham, and their respective wives.

Owing to the move from Cologne, and the consequent unsettled state of affairs, all football fixtures have been indefinitely postponed. While on this subject, it would not be out of place to express our sorrow at the loss of "Smudger," one of our best men, who has left us for India.

There have been quite a number of departures from the Company this month: some for demobilization and others for draft. We extend our good wishes to all. The departures are as follows:—

For demobilisation: Corpl Harwood and Signalmen Lancaster, Rushmere and Renowden.

On draft: Sergt Littlefield and Signalmen Hatcher, Riando, Cackett, Smith, Draper, Sommers, Collins, E. A. Knight, Renton, Turner and Varley.

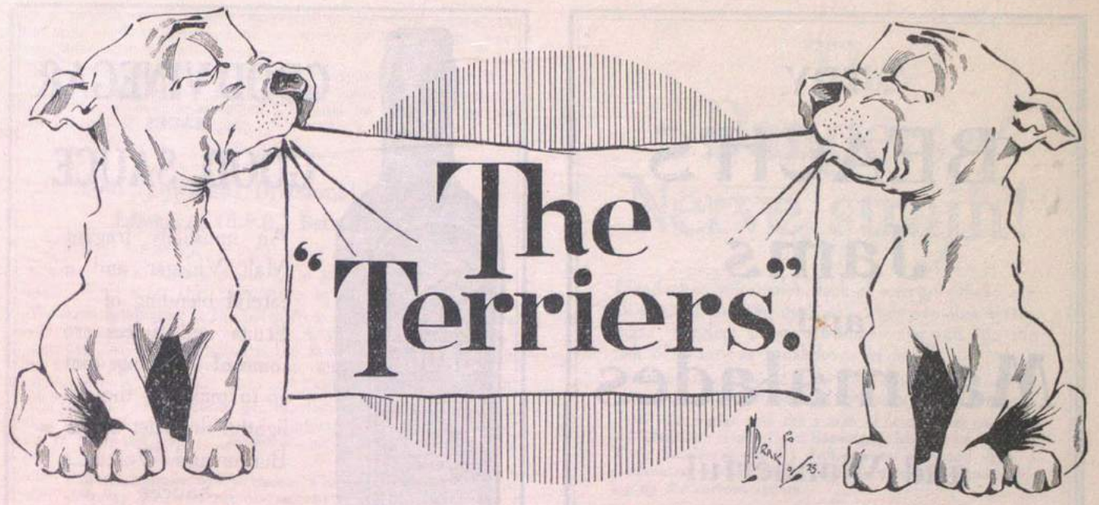
It is meet to dedicate a few lines to our would-be pastor, mentor, and moral corrector, Frère Petit Champ, who has gone farther afield to carry on his work of converting the heathen. We hope he will find them more tractable than the flock which he has left. His loss will surely be felt by all. Our morals are already on the decline since his influence has been removed. We have even heard some of the sergeants swear, hitherto an unknown thing (?)

On Friday, the 11th inst., a large draft arrived from the U.K., and were welcomed by the sergeant-major with open arms and a gleam in his eye which spoke very plainly the one word—"fatigues." We welcome them all, and hope they will enjoy their first Christmas in Rhineland.

There have of late been some rather amusing notices in the English newspapers concerning the Rhine and the Rhine Army. For instance, one paper published the photograph of a colonel "who has been on the Rhine for the last eight years." The photograph happens to be that of a certain captain at present on the Rhine; and while not wishing to be unduly curious, we should be interested to know what the colonel was doing in Rhineland in 1917?

Another paper presented the photograph of a church parade as that of troops leaving Cologne. Well, well! they will have their little jokes, I suppose.

CAPTAIN.



44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

A happy New Year to all members of the Corps!

I hope you all had a good time during the festive season, and that you didn't "break the ice" too suddenly. I have come to the conclusion that it is a good thing that Santa Claus is a mythical personage, otherwise some of us would stand a good chance of answering a charge of libel.

On Saturday, December 19th, the children of the unit are to have a tea and entertainment. The committee elected are doing their best to make it a good show, and I am sure they will succeed. I hope to render a good report in the February issue.

Training at present is almost at a standstill, but I expect things will buck up in the new year.

At the present time the chief attraction is the dances, which are proving very popular. On New Year's Eve we are holding a carnival dance, which we hope will prove another bumper show.

Signals Association.

I hear that new Branches have been formed in East London, Edinburgh and Glasgow. I am sure we all welcome them and wish them success. Don't forget the notes for THE WIRE!

I have been asked to mention that there is no connection between the nursery rhyme about Jack Horner and the Assistant Secretary.

WATT.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Burlington St., Manchester.

We wish everybody "the compliments of the season."

Our trade classes are going along very nicely, and keen competition is expected in the race for the unit trophies.

Sergeants' Mess.

A dance held in the sergeants' mess on Saturday, December 5th, was a success. Unfortunately our celebrated "Cocky" was conspicuous by his absence. We have since heard that he was searching for our "Billy."

Obituary.

All members of the unit tender their deepest sympathy with Corpl and Mrs. Etheridge in their recent bereavement. The loss of Mr. Etheridge, sen., will be felt deeply by all who knew him for his great work on behalf of the children and charities.

Congratulations to Oakes (Rhine Signals). A. O. K.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

The Signalling Course.

Held at Newcastle-on-Tyne from November 11th to 28th, this course was attended by four members of our Company, all of whom, we hope, "read, marked, learned, and inwardly digested" the latest amendments to that —— message form.

The school was under the command of Capt. W. T. Howe, O.B.E. (adjutant 50th Divl. Signals). With him as instructors were R.S.M. G. Burrows, C.S.M. Williams, C.S.M. Chapman, and C.S.M. G. Smith.

Over 100 attended the course, and we heartily congratulate Sergt E. Gilchrist (of the Sunderland detachment, Royal Signals) on being top of the course, and Sergt Senior (of No. 3 Company) on obtaining third place. It was a very good performance on the part of both these n.c.o.s, and we are very pleased to think that one from "our stable" gained a "place."

Lieut.-Col. H. A. B. Salmon, C.S.O. Northern Command, with Lieut.-Col. Hay, D.C.S.O., visited the school and read a letter from Major-Gen. F. A. Dudgeon, C.B., G.O.C. Northumbrian area, congratulating Capt. Howe and his instructors on the very good results obtained by the n.c.o.s and men on the course, and hoping that through their (the instructors') efforts much good would result throughout the whole chain of Signals in the 50th (T) Division.

Many new friends were made on the course; and many old friends were thrown together again—resulting, we venture to say, in keeping up the good feeling of comradeship which exists throughout the whole of the Signals in the Division.

Parades.

These, for the time being, are finished with, although, as a result of the social activities in the Company, everyone is kept in touch with one another.

Company Carnival Dance.

This was held on Saturday, December 12th, and was a huge success; and judging from the number of the Company present with friends, we should have some more in the very near future. Sergt J. Wright ably officiated as M.C., a "job" which we can assure him he will be asked to do again.

It was with very great pleasure we had our popular O.C. Company (Capt. R. E. Petch) and the second in command (Capt. G. Thompson) amongst us.

Congratulations are due to our dance committee for the way in which the dance was arranged and carried out; and their

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efforts, with those of others interested in the social side of the Company, make us believe that the winter of 1925-26 will prove a real success for our Company.

It is the earnest desire of the O.C. Company that all members of the Company should make it their business to attend the different social events arranged. In this he is joined by the other officers of the Company.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Edinburgh (G.P.O.) Detachment.

"A GUID NEW YEAR TAE ANE AN' A'."

Reader, if you have a doubt as to giving "R" to the above message, don't ask "IMI" but apply to the nearest Jock.

We were interested in the notes from Territorial Signals who served in the late manœuvres. We may mention that we sent 25 per cent. of our strength to the said manœuvres, and *that* after a 100 per cent. attendance at camp. Not so bad for a detachment only two years old, and having no permanent staff.

The football team cannot get together to play in Territorial League matches on Saturdays, so unfortunately they have had to retire from the league. However, we hope to enter a strong team for the Territorial cup.

Our dances improve every time. The next will be held on Friday, January 8th, and promises to be one of the best.

A 60-hour course commences in January, mainly to be held on Sundays.

We hope to considerably augment our numbers in the New Year.

Now read again our quotation at the commencement of these notes. It may not need an "interpreter." However, we would be sorry to hear of any Signal station which could not reply to our seasonable greeting: "Message read correctly."

AULD REEKIE.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

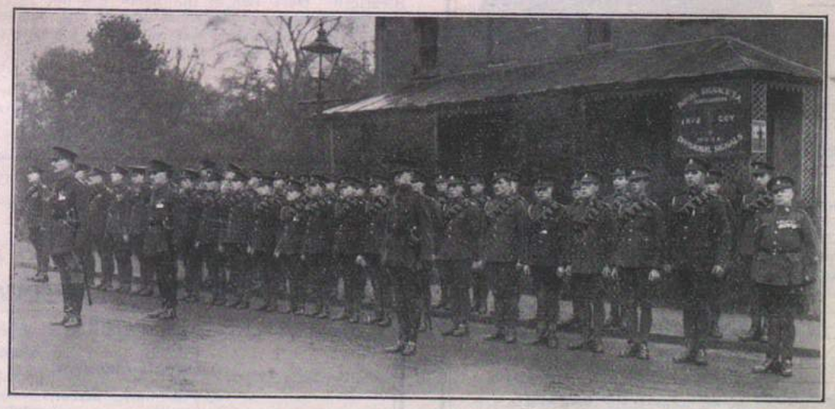
Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

All ranks join in wishing all other members of the Corps, at home and abroad, a very happy New Year.

The unit took part in an Armistice memorial church parade, held on Sunday, November 15th, on the parade ground of these headquarters. The following units were on parade: 337th Field Battery R.A., 232nd Medium Battery R.A., 175th (Essex) Coast Battery R.A., 54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals (less No. 2 Company), 6th Battn. Essex Regiment, 1st Cadet Battery R.A., 1st Cadet Battn. Essex Regiment, 6th Cadet Battn. Essex Regiment, 1st Cadet Battn. C.L.B., with representatives of the Legion of Frontiersmen and V.A.D., and ex-Service men.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. A. Gardner, M.C., T.D., S.C.F. 54th (E.A.) Division. At the conclusion of the service, units marched past, the salute being taken by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Francis Lloyd, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., D.S.O., D.L.

Our hon. colonel, Brig.-Gen. R. B. Colvin, C.B., T.D., D.L., had evidently asked Sir Francis Lloyd to take particular note of the Signals. An extract from a letter to Gen. Colvin from



No. 2 Company 54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals, T.A., Westcliff-on-Sea.
Armistice Sunday, November 15th, 1925.

The Dangers of Nerve strain!

Headaches, depression, lack of energy—these are all signs of strained nerves. They are also warnings. Neglect those warnings—and you run the risk of a serious breakdown in health.

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the inspecting officer reads thus: "The Signals, whom I looked at particularly, in accordance with your wish, were (I should say) 'primus inter pares' among the serving troops." All ranks are now busy turning up Latin phrases. Some say "Sub se hachha hai."

Among others, Sergt E. J. Bailey was presented with the Territorial efficiency medal on the above-mentioned parade. Ted now automatically re-musters as an "owd soger."

On November 19th, an area trade testing board assembled here under the presidency of Col. J. Waley-Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.S.O. Eastern Command and London District, and 32 candidates managed to pass the tests. The successful candidates are as follows: No. 1 Company, 7; No. 2, 11; No. 3, 14. So far, No. 3 Company still holds premier place for the efficiency cup. (Old Bill ought to buy a WIRE this month.)

A whist drive was held on Thursday, November 26th. Thanks are due to C.S.M. Hooper, C.Q.M.S. Smith, and the committee, for a very pleasant evening. It is understood that another will take place shortly before Christmas, the prizes to consist of poultry. Here's a chance for a nice Christmas dinner on the cheap!

We are pleased to report that a Branch of the Signals Association has now been formed here, and we look for strong support from all members of the unit. If you know of any ex-Signalman from any Signal unit whatever, bring him along. It is hoped that No. 2 Company will also make a move in this direction, as there is a fairly good sprinkling of ex-Signals in Westcliff and Southend.

The leather pushers are now in full swing, and are hard at training. We have hopes of meeting other teams in the near future, and we are also entering for the Divisional championships.

C.S.M. Sharp, of the permanent staff, has been granted a further extension of service for one year, under special War Office authority.

Y. E. D.

No. 2 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Our best wishes to one and all for a happy New Year!

During November, No. 2 Company attended two church parades—one on Armistice anniversary Sunday, and the other on Mayor's Sunday. On each occasion the Company mustered about 40 strong, and won the approbation of the press and public generally. Many of the men paraded in khaki for the first time, and without any drill instruction. Their smart appearance in marching—freely commented upon by ex-Service men—did them credit. Shall we say that their reward is to be found in the recruits who have come along in good numbers since?

On November 19th, thirteen n.c.o.s and men of the Company presented themselves before the trade testing board held at Stratford. Only two of the party did not succeed in getting through the ordeal. To those who passed, congratulations! To the unlucky couple, best wishes for success next time. Stick it, J. and L.—"'tis better to have fought and lost, than never to have fought at all."

We all congratulate our new "Quarter-bloke" on his promotion to that rank. (Watch the rations: he's married.)

TWOCOY.

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Monthly Sporting Circular - No. 6.

November, 1925.

FOOTBALL.

Army Challenge Cup.

The second round is now in progress, and some very interesting games are anticipated.

The Army XI.

The eleven so far are having one of their most successful seasons, with the attack showing delightful form. Cambridge University, reported to have a very strong side, were among this month's victims, the game being as close as the score of 1—0 suggests. A very weak side was fielded against the R.M.C., with the result that Sandhurst won by 4 goals to 3.

The Royal Military College.

The R.M.C. are to be congratulated on another excellent performance when they opposed a strong Corinthian eleven. They were somewhat unlucky to lose by 6—4, as ten minutes from time they held the lead at 4—3, consequent on a display that was little short of a revelation. Sandhurst are a stalwart team, with a goal-keeper who must surely be the tallest man in the game. They not only profited from their fitness and undaunted courage, but had a striking abundance of football skill.

Macey.

This well-known Fusilier forward is playing better now than at any other time in his career, and despite his disparity of inches, he contrives to "get there" with clockwork regularity. His splendid form for Middlesex against London was mainly responsible for his side's narrow win of 1—0.

Cup Results.

F.A. Amateur Cup: 3rd Qualifying Round—R.M. (Chatham) 2, R.N. Depot 1; Argylls and Sutherlands 3, R.M. 0; 1st Middlesex 3, Farnham United Breweries 1; R.A.F. (Hanwell) 4, Ruston and Hornsby 10.

F.A. Cup: Divisional Finals—R.M. 1, Salisbury 4.

London Senior Cup—Artillery College 6, Walthamstow Grange 4.

RUGBY.

United Services XV.

Scoring was very heavy against the London Scottish, the Services winning easily by 32 points to 10. Against Leicester, however, the reverse obtained, Leicester winning a gruelling game by 6 points to 0.

Inter-Services Matches.

R.N. v. R.A.F., February 13th; R.N. v. Army, March 6th. Both at Twickenham.

A Great Scrum-Half.

Welsh rugby critics are hailing Guardsman Powell as the greatest discovery since the war and the best scrum-half since Dicky Owen. All of which, of course, points to Powell being an exceptional player, justifying the praise previously bestowed on him in these notes.

HOCKEY.

United Services XI.

The U.S. team have shown consistent improvement since the last week in October. Their attack, which a month ago was all at sixes and sevens, is now settling down into effective combination. The match against Havant aroused much local interest in and around Portsmouth, the Services winning comfortably by 5 goals to 2. Victories were also recorded against Bromley by 7—1 and Old Kingstonians by 2—1, thus avenging last season's defeat.

ATHLETICS.

Army Cross-Country Win.

In the annual 5½ miles cross-country race at Camberley, the Army beat the R.M.C. by 103 points to 107. Lieut. T. H. Ely (Army) was the first man home, his time being 29 mins. 45 secs. C. P. D. Legard (Sandhurst) was second, about 50 yards behind the winner; and L/Sergt Wilson (Army) was third.

Cotterell.

This Royal Signal crack is on a Post Office course at Oxford, and is fortunate enough to be able to get in some very useful training with the University athletes under the guidance of that world-famed veteran, Alfred Shrubb, who is now the 'Varsity athletic trainer.

BOXING.

The Army Boxing Association has recently published a most useful handbook on "Boxing in the Army." The booklet is divided into two parts. Part I. contains the rules of the A.B.A. and details of Army competitions, etc. Part II. contains the rules and regulations of the Imperial Services Boxing Association, and is common to all three Services. Obtainable from the N.A.A.F.I., Imperial Court, Upper Kennington Lane, London, S.E.11. Price 6d. (by post 7½d.)

SWIMMING.

Services Championship.

The Army defeated the R.N. and R.M. by 61 points to 49 in the inter-Services swimming championships at Aldershot. Twelve months ago, when the championship was decided for the first time, the points were even, 35 each.

TREBLIG.

Athletic Doings at the S.T.C., Catterick.

Time draws on apace, and the S.T.C. is beginning to make itself felt in the realm of sport in the north of England, mainly owing to the loyal co-operation of athletes with their various organizers.

Cross-Country Running.

Major Cobb has worked hard on the T.B. and D.B. cross-country teams, and the results have been highly satisfactory. In the second run of the North Yorks and South Durham Harriers League at Haverton Hill, the T.B. were second and the D.B. third, a very bright state of affairs.

Royal Signals, Catterick, saw a trophy called the Clive Cookson cup, which has been held by Heaton Harriers for the last five years. Major Cobb took a rare fancy to the cup, so he despatched Ayres, Richardson, Broadley, Gosling, Beale, Iveson, Chadney and five other stars to North Shields, where *they* saw the cup and also took a great liking to it. Consequently they ran like the King's Cross-Edinburgh express and pipped Heaton Harriers by one point.

I might add that our chief opponents, Heaton, are a fine sporting crowd, and they have a well-balanced team. In fact, their team work was much better than ours. Ayres was our first man home, and he was 3rd; our last counting man was 29th. Their first was 6th, and their last 20th. However, "Joe" was not there to sing his well known ballad, "Fall in, and follow me."

On Saturday, December 5th, the road race for the Heaton memorial cup was run off, and again the stars—but this time plus Cotterell—went to Heaton, Newcastle, where they came, saw, and overcame. Joe was second, but he had "stitch" for the 9 miles course. The team placings were: 2nd, 4th, 7th, 13th, 14th and 15th. Well done, the C.C'ites.

The second inter-Company cross-country run resulted in a win for F Company, with the Drivers a very close second. D were third, the School fourth, and A Fifth. B and E Companies did not finish. This will not do, E Company!—that spirit will not win you the Mackworth. A pleasing feature of this run was the revival of "Charlie" Company, who have a wealth of talent in their ranks, but it needs searching out. They are such a modest crowd of chaps! However, in the near future I think they will be back to their form of two or three years ago, when they were much to be feared.

Rugby.

From sheer hard work, let us turn to the rough stuff, to wit, rugger.

The T.B. and D.B. received the k.o. in the first round of the Army rugby cup. The former visited the East Yorks, who scored 18 points to their five. The D.B. tried to push the Border Regiment at York into Lancashire, but were beaten by 8—0. In fact, they were pushed themselves—almost into Durham.

The Company League has produced some real battles. F Company "furies" only just beat the School "shovers" by 6 points to 5 after a real thrilling match, ably refereed by C.S.M. Fegan. The School beat B Company "beavers" by 19 points to nil, but the "rookies" were far from being disgraced, for the School have a rare team of fighters.

Other rugby matches have been postponed, as the weather has been so severe—the grounds have assumed the consistency of "those cakes just like mother makes."

Football.

Now we come to a real game—soccer. Let us discourse at length! Of course, some people call it a lady's game, but then they don't know any better. As *we* all know, it is a game of rare skill and technique.

The T.B. have been making the welkin ring. The Army F.A. thought they would like a visit to the Midlands, and when the second round of the Army cup was drawn, the 2nd Battn. North Staffs were asked to act as our hosts. This they did in more ways than one, and entertained our team in first-rate style. The game was keenly contested, and the T.B. won by 4—2, after extra time. Jock Welch scored two goals, and Hooper and Ginger Payne one each. Report has it that the team played well, but they admit that they were lucky to win, as the Staffs have a very useful side.

However, they were in the third round, and the Grenadier Guards awaited them. This match was played at York with the following result: T.B. 4, 1st Grenadier Guards 3. It was a rousing game from beginning to end.

The T.B. started with a rare dash and might have scored two goals in the first five minutes. However, the Guards fought back, and for a time great pressure was put on the T.B. defence, with the result that the Guards were two up after 20 minutes. Then the T.B. assumed the offensive, and with Payne and Welch combining well, the Guards' defence went through it. Hooper nodded a good goal from a centre by Payne, and Jock Welch equalised with a rare cross drive. Half-time score: 2—2.

The second half was fought out in clean sporting fashion, and end-to-end play resulted in Welch scoring again. The T.B. supporters were now hilarious. The Guards, not to be denied, put on pressure and finally equalised from a scrimmage in the goal. After this the T.B. assumed the whip hand, and in the last five minutes Welch popped in the *winner*.

It was a fine game, with every man in both teams pulling his weight. The T.B. were represented by Gibbons, Saunders, Wooldridge, Caple, Laing, Morphew, Payne, Lieut. Cole, Welch, Hooper and Wesselby. Now for the fourth round!

Ginger Payne is still playing for the Army in his spare time. He has now featured (as they say in the "fillums") against Aston Villa, a F.A. XI., and Oxford University, and is due for a match v. Corinthians on December 19th at Crystal Palace. He has displayed good form in the three matches. Stick it, Ginger!

Jock Welch was selected as reserve for the match v. F.A. XI. Everything comes to those who wait, Jock.

Of the regular T.B. players, Gibbons is becoming a useful goalie, and Saunders is rapidly improving. Wooldridge is not quite up to his Maresfield form, but shows signs of a "come back." Caple, Laing and Morphew are a keen but not very polished half-back line. Of the forwards not yet dealt with, Mr. Cole is distinctly welcome. He is a good dribbler, and passes with skill, but in sight of goal he develops "wooden legs." He is, notwithstanding, a great asset. Sigmn Hooper plays hard and improves each time out. The outside right position has given T.B. a little worry, as Sergt Squirrell has tried exceedingly hard, but lacks polish. A little ball-control practice would be useful to him, I think.

The team is well balanced, and under C.Q.M.S. Norton's able training a great improvement has been manifest. Sergt Cobb ("The Parson" of E Company) is the writer of the T.B. *sermons*, and is a very good secretary. Last, but not least, they have in Charman a dashing linesman; but why rugby stockings for a soccer linesman, Charman?

"Jock" tops the list of goal scorers, and he has been accused of being greedy. Against Northallerton, however, though the team scored seven goals, Jock didn't get one: he said he wanted to give the others a chance.

Other T.B. matches have resulted as follows: v. Rocket, won 4—2; v. Barnard Castle, won 2—0; v. Romanby, won 2—1; v. Northallerton, won 7—1. The record to date is: Played 6, won 5, drawn 1; goals for 25, against 8.

I am glad to report that D.B. have made a great revival in B Division of the Darlington League. They visited Heighington, who are at the top of the league, and won by 7—3: a very good show indeed. They have also beaten the 59th Field Company by 3—1.

Their team is very good now, although they lack the able services and leadership of Mr. McCormack, who is at present on sick leave after his accident. The team is more or less settled as follows: Manlove, L/Corpl Smith, Dvr Langton, Sigmn Taylor ("the goods" as a "half"—ask Ginger Payne), R.Q.M.S. Anderson (still a fine player), Dvr Joy, L/Corpl Smith, Sigmn X., Sigmn Greaves, Sigmn Hartland (a coming player), and Sergt Wensley.

Now to Companies' matches. E Company have a good senior and junior record, and are tipped for all the soccer trophies this season. The other Companies are much on a par, although D Company "devils" surprised E Company "eagles" by winning by 8—3 in a junior league fixture. It is these surprises which are the spice of life. Wesselby played well for D Company juniors, and scored numerous goals.

A and B Companies have put up fairly good shows when the difficulties of their sports are considered. You are never beaten until the final whistle blows.

Another innovation is the Catterick Garrison knock-out cup. The first round is in the stages of completion. More of this anon.

A "Perennial" Note.

My next note must be the one that is always cropping up in the Service—to welcome newcomers and speed the departed. White and Kiddle, of soccer fame, and Richmond and Wheeler, the boxers, have left for Egypt, and I am sure all sportsmen wish them continued success in their new spheres. We welcome Sergt Carpenter to the fold, and look to him for doughty deeds (I was going to say by land, sea and air) on the soccer, hockey, rugby, cricket, cross-country and athletic fields. Such a versatile athlete is very welcome indeed.

Boxing.

The fistic art is now getting into its stride under Mr. Spencer's leadership. Black eyes and thick ears are very noticeable amongst a certain section of the T.B. and D.B. The Army fixtures are in the offing, so, "ye knights of the fistic art," straight lefts, straight lefts, and still more, will win you your fights. Take a tip from one who stopped a straight left from Dick Smith, and has since retired from the ring after just losing a world's championship by 5 seconds! Carpentier knocked out Beckett in 20 seconds. I took 25 seconds to get it—a very lengthy fight!

Let us back to a serious vein! The S.T.C. championships have been held, and talent still seems to be arriving at the S.T.C.—53 entries for all the weights was a very heavy list, and the fights were well contested. As a first show at Catterick, the attendance was very good; but it's your tanners we want, and a tanner is a very small sum to pay for a show which, if staged at the N.S.C., would cost you at least 3s. 6d. Oh, ye fans, roll up and support the "noble art."

The winners were: Bantam, Sigmn Grainger; feather, Sigmn Powell; light, L/Corpl R. P. Jones (F Company); welter, L/Cpl Dibbs (E Company); middle, Sergt Payne (F Company); light-heavy, Sigmn Rodda (D Company); heavy, L/Corpl Smith (C Company).

The entries of the T.B. were kept apart, and a finalist was obtained at each weight from each Battalion. These finalists then met with the above result. The T.B. provided seven winners, and D.B. one.

Under new arrangements, the Corps championships are to be decided at Aldershot and Catterick alternately. This year was Aldershot's turn, and only the finalists from Catterick went there. Aldershot put up their finalists, as did Colchester and Bulford. This allowed a semi-final round for the championships. The scrapping was good, and honours were fairly well distributed. The winners were: Fly, Sigmn Field (Bufford); bantam, Sigmn Pascoe (Aldershot); feather, Corpl Richardson (Aldershot); light welter, L/Corpl R. P. Jones (Catterick); welter, L/Corpl Langley (Aldershot); middle, Corpl Wheeler (Catterick); light heavy, Dvr Emblem (Aldershot); heavy, L/Cpl Smith (Catterick).

The Army team championships take place as follows: D.B. v. 2nd Black Watch on January 28th, and T.B. v. 1st Border Regiment on the 29th—both at Catterick. More of this anon.

Inter-Company senior boxing has also commenced. B beat A by 20 points to 15: D beat F by 18 points to 16; C beat E by 18 points to 15.

Mr. Spence is keen to train budding "Joe Becketts," and anyone aspiring to boxing honours should report to him at D Company. You will be welcomed with open arms and a pair of boxing gloves, for he wants the King's trophy to remain here this year. Rally round, the "Jimmy" boys!

A fixture has been arranged with the London Fire Brigade on January 6th at the Stadium, High Holborn, and a good team is going down to annihilate (if possible) the L.F.B.

Another innovation is an all-star programme. This is partly a training affair for the members of the T.B. and D.B. teams, and also to finally select a team to meet the Firemen.

Hockey.

The hockey world is not very brisk at the moment, as the ground is frozen hard and covered with a layer of snow. However, two matches have been decided (?). A should have played E, but both decided not to do so. They now await the ruling of the main Sports Committee. C, however, played *A or B*, and won by 6—0.

The T.B. are down to play the 10th Brigade R.A. from Newcastle on December 11th in the Army cup, and the D.B. have a long trek to Lichfield to play the combined North and South Staffs Depots team. Both teams are quite strong, and should do well in the Army cup.

We are having a close season from December 19th to January 19th. A few matches will be decided, but Company fixtures will be na-pooh. This will make us all fresh to burst off in the New Year.

Greetings.

I am too late to wish all readers a merry Christmas, but I hope they will have had a jolly time then, and that the New Year will be for all a successful one—plenty of A. B., etc., Group III., breakfast in bed, no N.F.R.s, no C.B., no detention, no marching orders, no kit inspections or parades, etc., etc.

As there will be no notes from me in the next issue, I bid you "au revoir" until March.

SIGTRAINCEN.

Catterick Cross-Country Notes.

The cross-country team has done very well during the last month, and has greatly impressed the north country people by winning two of the most important road races in the north of England, both of which have been secured for the last five years by the Heaton Harriers. In fact, the Heaton Harriers have swept the board in practically all events in Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland, until this season.

The Clive Cookson 5¼ Miles Road Race.

The race was run at North Shields on November 28th. The road was covered with snow, and rubber shoes were found to grip fairly well. About two miles from home the Heaton Harriers appeared to have the race well in hand, but fine running by Signalmen Ayres, Broadley, Gosling and Turner, well backed up by L/Corpls Richardson and Iveson, enabled the Royal Signals, Catterick, to win by the small margin of one point.

The Heaton Harriers' 9 Miles Road Race.

This was run at Heaton (Newcastle) on December 5th. The weather was bitterly cold, and a very strong north wind was blowing, these arctic conditions affecting a good many of the competitors.

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W240A

The race on the previous Saturday had been rather too close, so we brought up our great guns from Oxford, where Corpl Cotterell is at present on a Post Office course. At half way Cpl Cotterell, Miniken (Wallsend) and Scott (Benwell) were a good 300 yards ahead of L/Corpl Richardson, with Sigmn Broadley another 100 yards behind. The race between the leading three was very exciting, Minikin beating Cotterell by about 15 yards.

Corpl Cotterell got "stitch" after 1½ miles, and finished the race in great pain, which again brought out very forcibly the pluck which enabled him to win the International under similar conditions. It must be realised that Cotterell has not yet commenced serious training. This he will do directly after Christmas, and "The Corps" can rest assured that he will give of his very best—all they require—when the National and International come along in March.

Near the finish it was seen that our first six were well up. Cotterell, Richardson, Broadley, Gosling and Turner were in the first fourteen out of 139 runners, and consequently we beat the Heaton Harriers by 30 points.

Special mention must be made of Sigmn Ayres, who finished 13th. He actually fell twice from "stitch" and exhaustion caused by the cold, but by a magnificent effort struggled to the winning post, where he completely collapsed. His pluck was the talk of all present.

At the prize-giving, afterwards, Mr. Rainbow (president) spoke most enthusiastically about the Corps of Signals, saying that "they had come north with a reputation second to none in the British Army as sportsmen in the true sense of the word, and from what he had seen and heard, he quite understood why they had that reputation." Major F. R. Cobb and Corpl Cotterell made suitable replies.

All cross-country runners are now to be taken out of training for six weeks, so next month the results of Company runs and Company runners will be discussed. There is plenty of promising talent which is being developed, and will be sent to various units.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Football.

There is not very much doing owing to the weather. Still, we found time one day to "have at" E Company juniors to the tune of 8—3.

Congratulations to Sigmn Wesselby on being selected for the T.B. team.

Rugby.

The only game of importance was our league match against F Company, which we lost by 15—5 after a very good hard game. Well played, F!

Cross-Country.

We are at present holding second place in the league, having scored 11 points to F Company's 14. We were second in the first run, and third in the second. We have no performers of outstanding merit, but a fairly well-balanced team, all of whom can be counted on to come in well.

Royal Signals, Aldershot Command.

Cricket Season, 1925.

Matches played, 16; won 5; lost 7; drawn 4.

Batting Averages.

	Innings	Runs	Highest Score	Not Out	Average
L/Corpl McKinley	7	177	51	0	25.28
Sigmn Welch	7	98	23	3	24.50
Lt. Thursby-Pelham ...	12	289	41	0	24.08
Major Walsh	8	160	70	1	22.85
Sigmn Tomlinson	8	124	53	2	20.66
Lieut. Wasey	10	164	41	1	18.22
Major Hitchins	15	224	58	2	17.23
Capt. Sketch	11	155	48	1	15.50
Sigmn Hayes	8	77	25	3	15.40
Lieut. Glover	6	80	36	0	13.33
Sigmn Aldridge	10	70	16	4	11.66
Sigmn Ewers	7	59	31	1	9.83
R.S.M. Cussens	12	104	27	0	8.66
Capt. Straight	10	86	38	0	8.60
Lieut.-Col. Willan	6	40	16	0	6.66
Capt. McDonald	10	64	15	0	6.40
Lieut. Rogers	7	39	24	0	5.28

The following also batted:—Major Parsons, 3 innings, 32 runs; Lieut. A. E. L. Brown, 2—20; Sigmn Verey, 2—5; Sergt Grant, 2—17; Sigmn Vanter, 3—5; Sigmn Healy, 1—9; Sigmn Osborne, 1—8; Sigmn Pinsen, 2—40.

Bowling Averages.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts	Average
Major Walsh	37.4	4	95	13	7.3
Sigmn Tomlinson ...	48.2	2	172	13	13.4
Capt. McDonald ...	28.2	1	108	8	13.5
Sigmn Ewers	84	21	288	21	13.7
Lieut. Glover	48	11	171	12	14.3
Corpl McKinley	77	9	268	15	17.9
R.S.M. Cussens	106.5	14	436	20	22.8
Sigmn Hayes	22	1	120	5	24.0
Lieut.-Col. Willan ...	27	2	122	5	24.4
Capt. Sketch	33	4	117	3	39.0
The following also bowled:—					
Major Hitchins	2	2	0	1	0.0
Capt. Straight	6	1	20	5	4.0
C.Q.M.S. Todd	8	0	36	2	18.0
Sigmn Walsh	9	0	39	2	19.5

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Cross-Country.

We have been unable to inveigle the footballers into coming with us on our runs, and in consequence we have dwindled down to a few who run at their own discretion. Organised runs are abandoned owing to lack of support.

No volunteers were forthcoming, and for this reason we were compelled, with much regret, to cancel our run against the R.A.S.C. on December 2nd.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Football.

In the football world we are amalgamated with D Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, our lack of numbers preventing us from running a separate team. Our sphere of activity is the Aldershot Junior League, in which we are meeting with a fair measure of success. A few friendlies have also been played, so matches have been plentiful. The following are playing members: Corpl Brunton, Signalmen Morley, Weeks, Varley, Wood and Worth.

Hockey.

Although hockey is not quite in full swing, Sigmn Weeks has taken part in a Command trial and an Aldershot Signals trial, Sergt Tracey also playing in the latter game.

Boxing.

Sigmn Staerck is our star boxer, having represented the Corps here on several occasions. Against the Royal Navy, at Chatham, he was awarded his contest after a splendid fight.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Soccer.

Junior League results—A Corps Signals 8, Rifle Brigade Reserves 0. A Corps Signals 2, Cove 3. A Corps Signals 3, R.W. Kent Reserves 2. We are fifth in the league table, with three games in hand.

Aldershot Wednesday League results: A Corps Signals 2, 19th Pack Battery 3. A Corps Signals 4, P Company R.A.S.C. 2. A Corps Signals 5, Farnham 0. A Corps Signals 8, Fleet 1.

The last two games put us into second place in this league.

Rugger.

A Corps Signals 8, 1st Divl. Signals 0. A Corps Signals 9, 2nd Divl. Signals 3.

Hockey.

A few friendly games have been played. We are combining with other Signal units in the Command for the formation of a Royal Signals team in the senior hockey competition, the first match of which will take place on December 17th against the Service Company R.A.S.C.

Cross Country.

No. 3 Company have held several practice runs, being joined by No. 1 Company on a few occasions. We hope to enter a trained team in the Command Company run in February.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

Owing to annual furlough, it is at present rather difficult to turn out three Company teams in the Garrison League, but this is where we find our new talent. There has not been much football since my last notes, owing to the frost.

Our next venture will be the Area cup, and as the furlough season will be finished by then, we shall be able to field a strong team; and we are confident that the 3rd Divl. Signals will give a good account of themselves.

Rugby.

Owing to leave, there is very little doing at the time of writing. With several acquisitions in new arrivals from the S.T.C., we are a greatly improved force. So far we have played five matches, winning four, and only losing to our old friends the Sappers by one point.

Hockey.

We played our match in the first round of the Army hockey cup against the 5th Battn. Royal Tank Corps, at Tidworth, on December 1st, and rather to our disappointment we were beaten by 4—1. We had hoped to do better as we were at full strength, and had not heard any great reports of our opponents. It appears, however, that the calls of other games seldom allow them to turn out a full side in friendly matches, and when they make the effort they *can* do very well indeed. They had several particularly good forwards and halves, and were certainly the better and faster team.

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P.1242

The Tanks won the toss, and elected to play downhill on a ground that was treacherous after a slight thaw on the top of frost and snow. This probably was largely the cause of our undoing, as the turf was particularly slippery at the lower end, and the Tanks ran us off our feet and scored three goals before we had settled down. After this bad beginning play was much more even, and for the last quarter of an hour we had all the best of the game, but the shooting was not good.

Lieut. Woodbridge scored one excellent goal. The forwards and halves on the whole hung on to the ball too long, and when they did pass it was often without looking, with the result that the pass was intercepted. We must try to combine more in the forward line. The halves and backs must hit quicker and harder if we are to get a really good team. Inside forwards must be prepared to go back and help the halves, and any shot at goal must be followed up.

On the whole, however, we have nothing to be despondent about. We were beaten by a better and faster side, and in any case it is better to have played and lost than never to have played at all. The goalkeeping of Sigmn Mundy was excellent once he had found his feet, and Sigmn Curley did well at outside left. We hope to get our revenge in our return friendly match in February.

Cross-Country.

The weather has been against any spins across country during the month. There are a number of runners amongst the new arrivals, and with many of last year's team available, we hope to be able to show a good record at the end of the season.

Boxing.

On December 4th our team met the 2nd Battn. The Loyal Regiment in the second round of the Army inter-unit team championships. As no garrison gymnasium is available at Bulford, the contest was held in the R.A.S.C. ring. The attendance of the rank and file was not good, principally due to leave, but the officers, w.o.s and sergeants turned out in force.

The fighting was particularly fast and clean, and although we only won one fight, the Loyals did not have it all their own way in any round of the contest.

Two special six-round contests were fought as well as the team competitions.

The first (welter-weight), between Corpl Bentley (R.A.S.C.) and Corpl Wood (The Loyal Regiment), resulted in a win for the former. Wood was a fighter, but in very poor training, and he was out-boxed by Bentley.

The second (fly-weight) was between Sergt Haslam (the Loyal Regiment, I.S.B.A. fly-weight champion, 1925) and Sigmn Fields (Royal Signals, fly-weight champion, 1925). Haslam, being an older and more experienced boxer, won on points, Fields putting up a very game fight for the whole six rounds.

The team as a whole acquitted themselves well, and it must be remembered that they were fighting the team that only lost the Army championship by one point last year.

Particular mention must be made of the light-heavy weight contest. Sigmn Panting, who volunteered to fill the weight with very little training, out-fought Pte McNulty and gained a decisive victory by a knock-out in the second round.

The team was as follows: Bantam, Sigmn Fee; light, Sigmn McCarthy; welter, L/Sergt Massey; feather, Signalman Lapper; middle, L/Corpl Chambers; light-heavy, Sigmn Panting; heavy, Sigmn Emery.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Football.

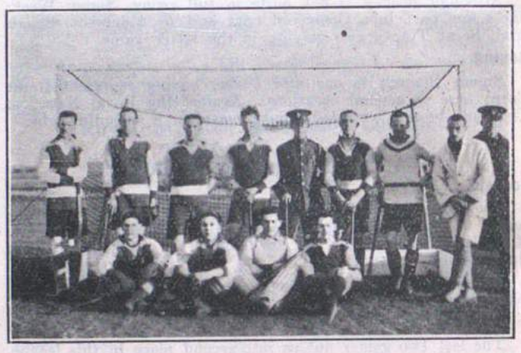
We have only played one match since our last notes. That was against the 1st Battn. The Sherwood Foresters, at Ballykinlar. We started off in great style, and within fifteen minutes we were two goals up, both notched by Sigmn Greening. Our defence then made two blunders, and the Foresters drew level, half-time arriving with the score 2—2.

On resumption, our opponents made headway with an excellent goal, but the Signals kept pegging away, and after many attempts drew level just before time. This performance must be considered very good, considering we have only about forty men to pick from to take on Battalion teams.

Hockey.

North Ireland District Cup.—In the first round of this tournament we were drawn against the 1st Battn. Highland L.I., at Holywood. The Signals started off well and more than held their own. Half-time arrived with a blank score sheet. In the second half we gained the lead per Major Drayson, to which we clung tenaciously until time.

In this match the defence excelled, especially the goalie, Sigmn Taylor, who was inspired.



Northern Ireland Signal Company Hockey Team.

Standing (left to right)—Capt. E. J. Murphy, Sigmn Walsh, L/Corpls J. R. Beeton, W. A. Parker, F. J. Wicks, J. Handford, Corpl H. F. Hall, Major F. G. Drayson, C.S.M. A. R. Manley.

Sitting—Signalmen W. F. Elliott, L. E. Poole, R. B. Taylor, and L/Corpl. R. G. Barnes.

We hoped to play the "replay" on the Cliftonville ground, but that was unfit, so we had to make another journey to Holywood. The Signals again started off at a great pace, and within ten minutes were two up, Corpl Hall obtaining both. The Highland L.I. then made frantic efforts, and time arrived with the score 3 all. During the extra time our opponents scored twice, and thus removed us from the tournament. However, the effort against a battalion side was very praiseworthy, and everyone played very hard indeed.

E Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Football.

We entered for the Meerut Station cup tournament, but are suffering from a run of bad luck, not having won a game so far. We drew with K Battery R.H.A., and it was a game brilliant all through.

A match against 87th Battery R.A. was "a sight for sore eyes," the score being 8—0 against us; but I must say the linesman played up to standard, and the spectators were above form.

In an S.O.B. football match against the 35th Battery R.A. we won by 5—2. Of these, Bunny scored three, Napi and Schooley accounting for the others. "E" are turning out some wonderful men during the cold weather. S'hush!

Hockey.

We did better against K Battery at hockey, beating them by 1—0 after a great game. The goal was scored by the old war horse (good old Charlie).

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Football.

Since the departure of the various detachments to the Northern Command manœuvres, games have necessarily been few. The results of matches played are: versus 60th Squadron R.A.F., won 2—0 (L/Sergt Smith); v. Staff and Departmental Club, won 6—0 (L/Sergt Smith 3, Sigmn Smith 1, Sigmn Andrews 2); v. 60th Squadron R.A.F., lost 2—7 (L/Sergt Smith).

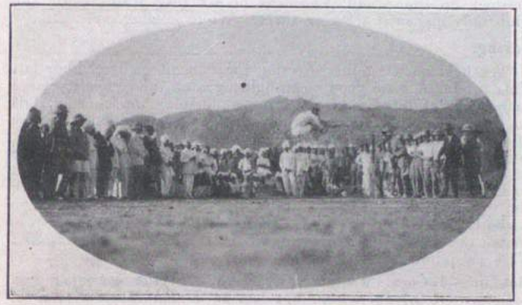
Hockey.

Versus 60th Squadron R.A.F., won 3—0; v. 110th Pack Battery R.A., won 3—0.

Regimental Sports.

Results of British events at the Sports Meeting held on October 21st:—

100 yards—1, Sigmn W. Tilbury; 2, Corpl L. Wallace.
220 yards—1, Sigmn W. Tilbury; 2, Lieut. R. Morgan.
Mile (British and Indian combined)—1, Corpl Wagg; 2, Naik Moman Ram.
High jump—L/Sergt E. W. Smith.



B.O.R.s High Jump—The Winner, L/Sergt E. Smith.

Wrestling on mules—1, Corpl L. Wallace; 2, Sigmn T. Andrews; 3, Sigmn G. Blight.
Musical chairs on mules—Sigmn D. Jones.
Long jump—1, L/Sergt H. Broughton; 2, Corpl L. Wallace.
Relay race—Lieuts. R. Solly and R. Morgan, Corpl L. Wallace, Signalmen G. Blight and W. Tilbury.
Old soldiers' race—1, Sergt A. E. Smith; 2, C.Q.M.S. P. Smithies.
Boot race—Sigmn A. Tracey.
Tug-of-war—B.O.R.s v. I.O.R.s—I.O.R.s under C.Q.M.H. Hari Chand.

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Brigade Sports.

The Bannu Brigade sports, for which we had many competitors, were held in November.

Our hockey team was unchallenged, and so we go, *ipso facto*, direct to the District tournament.

In the tug-of-war we beat the 13th M.T. Company R.A.S.C. after two exciting pulls. The survivors were picked up in an ambulance and taken direct to hospital.

Sigmn D. Watson was second in putting the weight, and in the long jump.

Sigmn Clay-Peters won the 400 yards race. We also congratulate him on winning the mile—a hard race—this being a walk-over for him, as he was the only competitor!

We now await the District tournament, which is to take place at the beginning of next month.

Iraq Signal Section.

Football.

In the local league we have so far played 17 games, won 10, drawn 4, and lost 3. The R.A.F. units against whom we compete are approximately 200 strong, whereas we are not quite 50. This gives a good idea of how we hold our own, and is a bit more for the already good name of the Corps.

Hockey.

Only seven games have been played so far—and all friendlies (won 3, lost 2, drawn 2). Picking out new talent is the order of the day.

Boxing.

Sigmn Denton, bantam-weight champion of Iraq, fought and defeated (on points) the regimental champion of the Beds and Herts Regiment in a 4-round special contest during the R.A.F. open novices' championships. This makes him the winner of the "all Services" belt and four cups within twelve months of his arriving here. How's that, Jimmy, for one of your pupils?

Signal Section, Malaya.

Football.

The Departmentals team had very hard luck in the Singapore cup competition, playing under the name of Military Headquarters. The following extracts from local papers give an idea of the way they played.

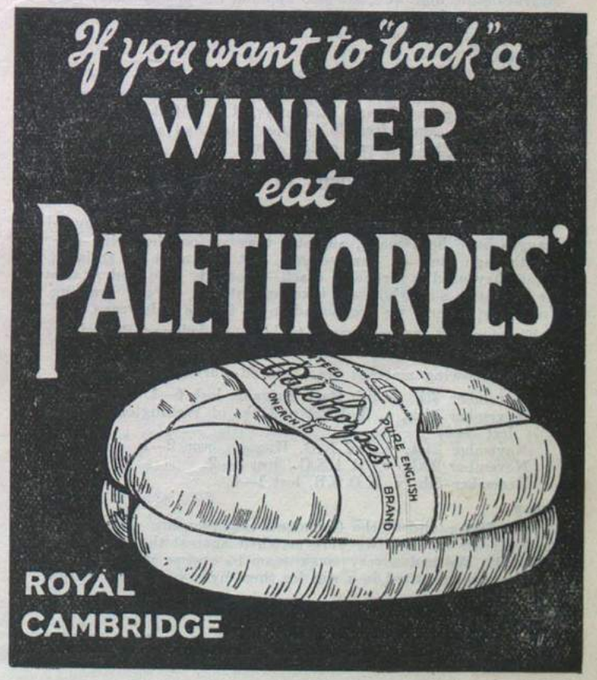
"Military Headquarters, a second division team, surprised everybody by winning against the Royal Artillery in a Singapore cup fixture at the Stadium yesterday, and thus entering the second round of the competition.

"It was a one-nil victory, but the Headquarters were worth it. They played a good game, and were always the more dangerous side. Their forwards adopted open swinging methods, and their defence was sound, whilst Tripp in goal saved well on several occasions. The Gunners' forwards attacked frequently but finished badly, and were none too well supported by their halves."

The team was: Pte. Tripp (R.A.S.C.); Sapper Gilchrist (R.E.) and Sergt Knight (R.A.P.C.); Sigmn Lomax, Pte Adams (R.A.M.C.), and Sigmn Kenneally; Sigmn Anderson, Pte Fitz-William (R.A.O.C.), Crammond (S.T.C.), Ptes McGill and Chittenden (R.A.M.C.).

"Military Headquarters advanced another stage in the cup competition at the Stadium yesterday afternoon, when they defeated the S.C.C. second eleven by two goals to nil.

"The military side were well worth their win. There was little in the play to rouse interest. The Club were losing all the way, and had it not been for Barnes, they would have lost by a large margin.



"Play was a bit dull, and altogether in favour of the soldiers, who managed to infuse a little excitement into the game towards the end by a series of determined attacks, and the S.C.C. defenders were hard put to it to keep their lines cleared."

In the semi-finals we were drawn against the Singapore Chinese, who are unbeaten this season and ultimately defeated the Royal Sussex Regiment by 4—2 in the final.

A four-nil result was not a fair indication of the game put up by H.Q. In the first half the Chinese played splendidly and deserved their two-goal lead, our defence having hard work to hold them. In the second half, however, they fell to pieces, and our team had about twenty minutes' kicking at goal, but the goalie proved too good for them. Then the Chinese had a run-away, and in saving Chittenden kicked the ball at one of the backs, from whom it rebounded into goal. Five minutes later another gift goal was obtained, after which the Chinese did not once penetrate our half.

Cricket.

We are at last in possession of the Garrison cricket cup, having played and won all of ten matches.

To close the season, Pulau Brani played the Rest of the League at Tanglin, and a hard-fought drawn game resulted. Batting first, we realised 157 for seven, and declared at tea-time. With one exception, all our batsmen obtained double figures. After the tea interval, during which the G.O.C. presented the cup, the Rest went in to bat with an hour and a half to play. At the close the board showed eight wickets down for 92 runs; and we think that had there been another 15 minutes' light, we might have won by 50 runs. Ahem!

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Boxing.

The boxing community of Hong Kong were again given a fine evening's programme at the East Surrey's inter-Platoon boxing competition. The fight of the evening was that for the Garrison Schools championship, when "our kid" (Master N. Ramsay) met and defeated Boy Massay. The match went the full six rounds, Ramsay being the aggressor throughout. While congratulating him we must also applaud the plucky loser, who, like Oliver Twist, kept coming up for more. We hope to have another exhibition before "our kid" leaves for home.

Billiards.

L/Corpl McBride is to be congratulated on his fine play throughout the Amateur Championship, as well as his winning performance against Gunner Rowlands, R.A. McBride led from the beginning, and after 75 minutes' play had a lead of 135, which he kept till the end of the game.

The Corps in Egypt.

Football.

Alas! our team seems to be ill-fated this season. Several changes have been made, and still they are on the losing side, not through lack of perseverance, but for want of training. What they need is a reliable coach—somebody who understands the business, and who can take an interest in the training. Until this is done, we are bound to be in the "also rans."

The position in the League table is as follows: Played 11; won 4; lost 7; goals for 33, against 35; 8 points.

The following matches were played during November:—

November 7th, v. 5th Pack Brigade, lost 6—1.
November 14th, v. 2nd Battn. Duke of Wellington's Regt., lost 3—5.
November 21st, v. 3rd K.O. Hussars, won 2—1.
November 28th, v. R.A.S.C., lost 3—2.
December 5th, v. K.O.S.B, lost 1—4.

Rugby.

The first round of the Command championship was decided on December 7th, and we were matched against the 2nd Battn. K.O.S.B. We had a very weak team to oppose the Scotsmen, and the game resulted in a win for them by a very large margin —27 points to nil.

Boxing.

No boxing has taken place since the despatch of last month's notes, but the team is in continual training for the Command boxing which is to take place in January next. We have been officially notified that L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond are joining us on the 16th December ex the "City of Marseilles," and with their help we should give a very good account of ourselves in the tournament.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.

We have played only one game, against the 2nd Battn, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and lost by 6—3.

Hockey.

We met the Heliopolis Sporting Club on their ground, and finished up the proud possessors of six real goals, while the Club only managed to score three. We're coming on!

Boxing.

We held our first inter-Section tournament on December 1st. This produced some good clean fighting, and the competitors are to be congratulated not only on their display in the ring, but on their energy in preparing it during the afternoon. As one of the boxers remarked, "It's like building one's own scaffold, isn't it?" This little incident produced the "spirit," but it seems rather a pity that the task could not have been allotted to half-a-dozen of the spectators who were entertained during the evening. Our O.C. (Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O.) made a short speech, full of good advice to the spectators, and presented the cups at the conclusion of the tournament. The results were as follows:—

Bantams—L/Corpl Moore (Nos. 1 and 2 Sections) beat Sigmn Denny (H.Q.) on points, but lost to Sigmn Marlow (No. 3) on points. He might have gained the verdict in each case had he fought Marlow first.

Feathers—Sigmn Middleton (No. 3 Section) lost to Sigmn Cornelius (No. 3) on points. He put up a plucky fight, but was out-reached and out-boxed.

Light-weight—L/Cpl Solomon (H.Q.) beat Sigmn Thomas (H.Q.) on points. As a real boxing contest, this was as good as any bout during the evening. Solomon in a very sporting spirit allowed the cup to go to Thomas.

Middle-weight—L/Corpl Wales (No. 1 Section) beat Signalmen Andrews (No. 3) and Healey (H.Q.) on points. Both these contests were very pleasing from a spectacular point of view, and some really clever footwork was displayed by L/Corpl Wales.

Heavy-weight—Sigmn Richards (Nos. 1 and 2 Sections) knocked out L/Sergt Minns (H.Q.) in the second round. He appeared to be very fit, and certainly fought with more judgment than during the past season. If he only keeps this up, we should in the near future have the pleasure of hearing those few words, "Wheel 'em out."

Final results: Nos. 1 and 2 Sections, 13 points; No. 3, 8; H.Q. 7

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Boxing.

The Company boxing meeting was held in the new Corps boxing ring at Red Barracks, Abbassia, on Thursday evening, November 5th. The inter-Section boxing competitions were decided in conjunction, and resulted in a win for J Section over the Signal Troop. Headquarters were third, with H Section fourth. In addition to the Company contests, two special three-round fights were decided between two of No. 1 Company's boxers and a representative each from the K.O.S.B.'s and Royal Tank Corps. Complete results of all the fights are given below:

Fly—Sigmn L. Clark received a walk-over, being the only entry.

Bantam—Sigmn Burns (J Section) beat Sigmn Bray (Signal Trp.) on points in the final, after a good even fight.

Feather—In the semi-finals of this competition, Sigmn Matthews (J Section) won on points over Sigmn Coleman (H Section), and Sigmn Holman (H.Q.) beat Sigmn Donnellan (H.Q.) on points. In the final, Sigmn Matthews was by far the superior boxer, and was much too good for Holman, who put up a good fight nevertheless. The referee eventually stopped the fight in the third round to save Holman from further punishment.

Light—There were only three entries, Corpl Coleman receiving a bye to the final, whilst Dvr Cheal and Sigmn Stone met in the ring. Dvr Cheal was too strong for Stone, who pluckily kept on in spite of being sent to the boards several times, and won fairly easily. The final provided the best fight of the evening, characterised by some very hard hitting, both competitors getting "stuck into it" from the first call of "time." The two men tried to knock out each other in the first round, and at the sound of the gong were showing signs of wear. Midway through the second round, Coleman sent Cheal to the boards with a heavy right, and it seemed as though the fight was over, but making a fine recovery Cheal rose just in time to avoid being counted out, and going for Coleman nearly had him down with some very hard punches. The third round was also fought at a furious pace, and the issue was in doubt up to the sound of the gong, when Cheal was awarded the verdict, the referee congratulating the pair on a very good fight.

Welter—There were only two entries, the fight being over in the first half-minute, Sigmn Webb (J Section) causing Sigmn Chaloner (H.Q.) to give up the ghost.

Middle—Sigmn Ball met Sigmn Ford in the semi-final, and knocked him out in the second round, thus qualifying to meet Sigmn Coton in the final. Ball and Coton being "half-sections," it was expected that this would be an uninteresting contest. Quite the reverse was the case, however, and the pair went at it hammer and tongs for a round and a half, when Ball applied a dose of sleeping mixture to Coton and put him out.

Heavy—Sigmn Williams met Sigmn Hewson in the semi-final, and knocked him out midway through the first round, thereby meeting Sigmn Parker (who received a bye) in the final. Williams was much the superior boxer, and won fairly easily on points.

Special three-round contest—L/Corpl Wales (No. 1 Company Egypt Signals) met Pte Dogherty (2nd Battn. K.O.S.B.). Dogherty, an experienced fighter, was expected to win, but a very hard-hitting contest resulted in Wales, by superior boxing, gaining a very close verdict over his strong opponent.

Special three-round contest—L/Corpl Solomon (No. 1 Company Egypt Signals) fought Pte McCrae (3rd Armoured Car Company R.T.C.). During the first round it seemed that Solomon was going to win, as he landed some very hard blows on McCrae. The latter, however, was in much better condition, and eventually won a good fight on points.

At the conclusion, the prizes were presented to the winners and runners-up by Col. H. L. Mackworth, and three hearty cheers were accorded him on the call of Lieut V. C. Holland, who was responsible for the arrangements in connection with the meeting.

On Saturday, November 7th, the 3rd Hussars held their annual boxing tournament at Abbassia, and Sigmn Matthews of this Company was selected to compete in a special four-round contest against Trooper Fletcher (15/19th Hussars). Matthews lost, but he put up the pluckiest fight of the night. Although sent to the boards time and again in the third and last rounds, he struggled up for more, and at the conclusion he received the biggest ovation of the evening.

It may interest old members of the Company to know that on this occasion a special four-round contest was arranged between L/Corpl Allinson (the k.o. king, of the 3rd Hussars) and Corpl Mahoney (Royal Irish Fusiliers), who has left behind a big record in English boxing circles. This resulted in Mahoney knocking out Allinson in the third round.

Sergt Steadman (R.H.A.), the holder of the inter-Services-in-Egypt heavy-weight title, was also knocked out by a comparative novice in Trooper George, of the 16/5th Lancers.

No. 1 Section No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

Football.

Of the fourteen matches played to date, but three have been won and one drawn. We certainly have been dogged by hard luck, for several of our players have been badly crocked, and being the smallest unit in the Command, we have little to fall back on in the way of reserves. However, we are looking forward to the arrival of the new draft, and hope the gods have been kind to us.

Hockey.

The Command League has not yet begun, but three friendly games have been played to date: versus Palestine General Hospital, lost by 5—1 and 9—1; v. Band 9th Q.R. Lancers, won by 3—1.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Football.

On Saturday, Dec. 5th, we were at home to the Y.M.C.A. A team, and played them to a draw of 2 all.

On Saturday, December 12th, our A team played a trial fixture, meeting our B team. The result was a win for A team by 3 goals to nil.

Boxing.

The boxing teams are doing as well as can be expected, and we have a very promising team in training for the future Divisional events. All the same, we are open for a few tips from Viney, Emblem, Collins and company.

Miniature Rifle Club.

A team of the 6/7th Manchester Regiment was entertained by the Club on December 2nd, but owing to the absence of one or two of our cracks, we were not disgraced but fairly and squarely beaten, the scores being: Manchester Regiment 713, E. L. Signals 644.

On December 14th, Nos. 2 and 3 Companies fought out a team event, No. 3 running out winners. The scores were: No. 2, 601; No. 3, 687.

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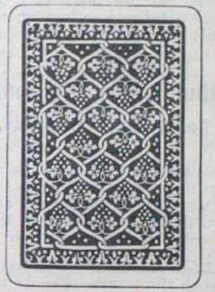

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44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 & 3 Companies, Stamford Brook, W.6.

The unit rifle club has just concluded a miniature competition (handicap), appropriately called the Christmas shoot. The number taking part was rather small (24), which is a matter of surprise considering the number of members eligible to shoot. The first three were: Sergt Forest 94, C.S.M. Jordan and Corpl Johnson, 91.

Sergt J. Dell, who has just taken over the secretaryship of the rifle club, is likely to infuse a certain amount of the Kruschen feeling into the job. Defaulting subscribers, please note!

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Football.

Considering that this is the first year in which we have had a Company team, we are "doing very nicely, thank you!" Some very good league games have been played, and though we have had to play "second fiddle" a time or two, that doesn't mean to say we haven't a second string to our bow.

Drawn against Withernsea United (away), we were naturally not too sanguine as to the result. Thanks to the efforts of our hon. secretary (Sigmn F. Elton), quite a good number of supporters accompanied the team to our opponents' ground twenty miles away, and they were well rewarded by seeing our boys win easily by 3—1.

Forrester, Gill and Shingles were the scorers, and the whole team played in really good style. A good tea was provided after the match (the writer wonders if it was at a certain cafe where he used to "scrounge" whilst stationed there during the war), and the party returned to Hull "with the milk."

Drawn at home in the second round, we played Beverley Amateurs, but lost by four clear goals—a very bitter disappointment to our boys; but considering that our opponents have not lost a match this year, we cannot grumble.

We have entered our team in a competition for a cup kindly presented by the local Territorial Association, open to any T.A. unit in Hull. We hope to go far in this, and if possible to appear in the final tie, to be played (we hope) on the Hull City A.F.C. ground.

Billiards.

The billiard team is also more than holding its own. Last week we were able to defeat last year's cup winners, who before the match were at the top of the league.

In the first game Sergt Bolmeer gave of his very best, and held up one of their best players, only losing by a very narrow margin—a very good performance when we know how good his opponent is.

It was left to Mr. Schofield to put the finishing touch to a very exciting match by winning his game by the narrow margin of 3 points.

Naturally this success caused great jubilation in our camp, and makes us anxious for more fields to conquer. Next week we play the present league leaders, and hope to do the same to them. The venue is on "our muck," so our hopes run high.

Rifle Club.

This part of the Company's winter activities is going great guns, thanks to the hard work put in by Sergt J. Coutts and L/Corpl Richardson. Although the team, up to now, have not "shot any cards to ribbons," they are doing very well in their matches, proving a harder nut to crack than some people thought when they were first formed.

In the last match, against a very strong local team well known for their prowess with the gun, they were only defeated by a very small margin.

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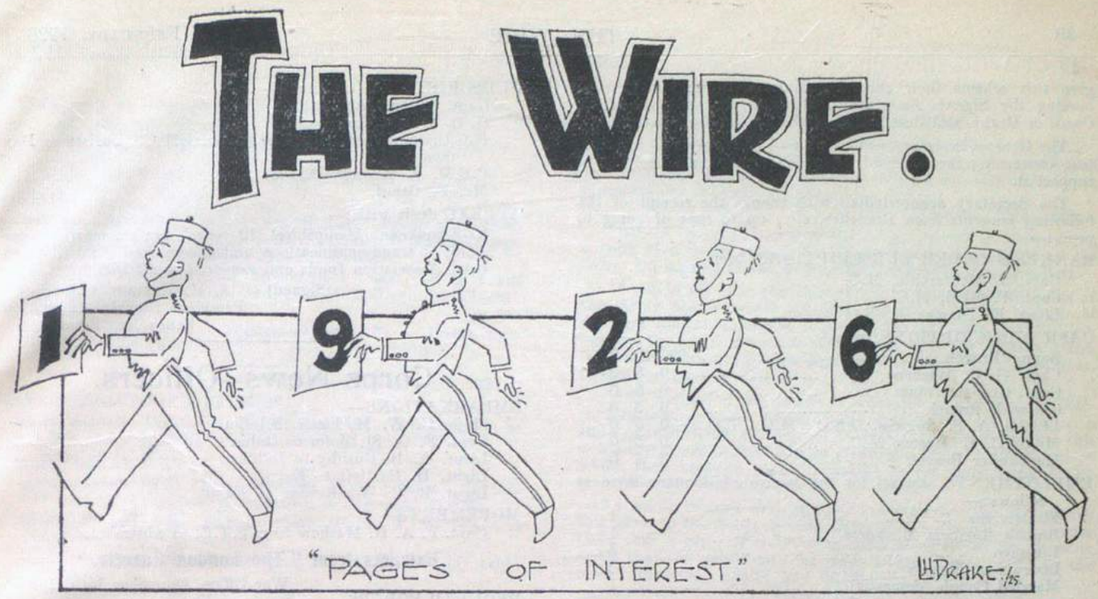

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VOL. VII.—No. 72 FEBRUARY, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

With reference to the suggested publication of a second pocket-size edition of the Corps Promotion Roster. In view of the impending amalgamation of "Indian Signals" with the Royal Signals, and the fact that such amalgamation will necessitate a complete revision of the present roster, it has been decided that no further action should be taken for the time being. An explanatory article, dealing with the whole question in detail, will be published in THE WIRE at an early date.

❀ ❀ ❀

What has happened to B Divisional Signals at Quetta? Numerous enquiries are being received, and we should welcome a reassuring contribution from the "scribe" of that unit in the near future. What about it, "Bee"? (Bees are usually such busy little animals, too!)

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked to advertise for a spare copy of the 1924 bound volume of THE WIRE. If any of our readers has one to spare, will he kindly communicate with Sergt F. C. V. Harris, Royal Signals, Wireless Station, Queen's Avenue, Aldershot?

❀ ❀ ❀

May we once more ask those who are interested in the prosperity of THE WIRE to accord their patronage to those firms whose advertisements appear in our pages? If you want to buy anything, see if you cannot buy it from a firm advertising in the Corps Magazine. When you go to the canteen, ask for the goods advertised in our pages, and *complain if they don't stock them.*

❀ ❀ ❀

Many of our readers will be pleased to know that we have had a very cheery letter from Mr. F. V. March, late sergeant of G Divisional Signals, Kohat, India, and now in Australia wrestling with a "wheat block of 780 acres." Sergt March wishes to be remembered to all his old friends in the Corps through the medium of THE WIRE, and we in turn take an early opportunity of conveying to him our salutations, with best wishes for every success in his new venture.

May we also suggest that a short article describing his preliminary adventures would undoubtedly provide very interesting reading for all of us, if and when he has time to compile it.

THE EDITOR.

❀ ❀ ❀

LATE EDITORIAL.—Since going to press with this issue, we have received unit notes from C Divisional Signals, Dera Ismail Khan, India, which are being held over for the March publication.

Will unit correspondents please note that the closing date for all matter intended for publication is the 16th of each month. —ED.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Committee extend a warm welcome to all members of the newly-formed Baghdad Branch of the Association, and tender their thanks to those who were primarily responsible for organising and starting the Branch.

It gives us very great pleasure to announce that the whole of the Signal Training Centre at Catterick, numbering approximately 1300 other ranks, have adopted the scheme recently put forward whereby, for the payment of 9d. per man per month, every n.c.o. and man automatically becomes a member of the Association and also an annual subscriber to his Corps magazine, THE WIRE. Such sums are to be stopped from each man's accounts (with his permission, of course) and remitted to this office monthly by the officer commanding each Company.

The Committee extend a very cordial welcome to these new members, and appreciate the spirit of co-operation shown by all concerned. As explained in last month's notes, such united action augurs well for the successful advancement of Association activities; and in broadcasting this information, the Committee earnestly hope that other units throughout the Corps will also

give this scheme their careful consideration, with a view to making the Signals Association, although the youngest of all Corps or Regimental Associations, "the Cotterell of them all."

The General Secretary will be pleased to supply full information concerning the scheme in question to any unit desiring to support it.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from Branches, etc., up to time of going to press :—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Capt. J. McConville, M.C.
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Bannu Branch	£27	10	0
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Lt.-Col. A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.	0	5	0
Major C. L. Mason, M.C.	0	5	0
Manchester Branch	2	4	0

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of January were as follows :—

Electricians	1
Branch Business Managers	1
Linemen	3
Instrument Makers	1
Married Couple (domestic)...	1

EMPLOYMENTS WANTED.—A situation is urgently wanted for a married couple. Ex-Signalman, aged 34, married, one child aged 4, requires work (with or without wife) as caretaker or handy man (wife as cook). Recommended by officers of last unit. For further details refer to Secretary, Signals Association, quoting E.M.P./208.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Manchester District Branch.

The Branch are having a social and hot-pot supper on Friday, February 5th, at the Exchange Hotel, Fennel Street, Manchester, and we are looking forward to a jovial evening. There being no further notes for this issue, we will say au revoir.

Bannu Branch.

Readers who thought they had heard the last of us are doomed to disappointment, 'cos we're here again, still smiling. I believe our last notes were sent in August, 1924, and now we are at the end of 1925. Still, we wish all members of the Signals Association, both at home and abroad, a very happy and prosperous New Year.

We regret to announce the departure for U.K. of our late president, Lieut. J. W. Palmer, R.A., late O.C. Wireless, Waziristan. We all join in thanking him for the way in which he helped us as president.

We are sorry to say that we have had several drawbacks, but still we keep progressing. Our main difficulty is getting a president who can remain with us for some time: we have had three within the past twelve months.

We have had to elect a new committee, owing to the repatriations. This at present comprises: President (officiating), C.S.M. Chitty, D.C.M.; vice-president, Sergt A. Szarkowski; hon. secretary, Sigmn F. Cole; hon. treasurer, Corpl J. T. Parsons. L/Corpl Orford and Signalmen Gill and Fowler, the remainder, deal with the entertainments and functionary business.

Since the formation of this Branch in May, 1924, we have succeeded in getting 72 life and annual members, and we hope to get more in the future.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Capt. J. McConville, M.C.
Capt. A. G. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
A Company, S.T.C., Catterick
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot
B Company, S.T.C., Catterick

SUBSCRIPTIONS continued—
Capt. Graham Adam
G. O. Woods, Esq.
N.C.O.s and men, Depot Battalion, S.T.C. (Christmas Day donation)
C.S.M. J. Wassell, D.C.M.
Mr. E. Grant.

APPEAL dealt with :—
Ex-Signalman (Hampshire), 10 years' service, married, one child, no trade qualifications, and unemployed. £3 allocated from Association funds and remitted on 21/1/26.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association
Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

EMBARKATIONS—
Major C. W. M. Firth to India.
Capt. F. O. St. John to India.
Lieut. A. B. Bushby to India.
Lieut. H. Bartlett to Egypt.
Lieut. R. C. Woodbridge to Egypt.

MOVEMENTS—
Capt. F. A. H. Mathew from S.T.C. to Aldershot.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, December 15th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—
R.A.S.C.—The undermentioned 2/Lieuts. Royal Signals to be 2/Lieuts. (on prob.), 22/11/25 :—J. C. Betts and A. G. Penna.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Lieut.-Col. (Bt.-Col.) J. W. Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., Deputy C.S.O. Eastern Command, to be Colonel, 3/12/25 (with pay and allowances of Lieut.-Col.) with precedence as from 3/5/23.

Royal Signals—49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals. Major (Prov.) G. Bray, M.C., T.D., is confirmed in his rank, 26/4/25.
Capt. (Prov.) C. W. Halliday, M.B.E., is confirmed in his rank, 1/10/24.

51st (Highland) Divl. Signals—Capt. (Bt.-Major) and Adjutant F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., Royal Signals, is granted the temporary rank of Lieut.-Colonel in the T.A. (p. and a. of his substantive rank) whilst in command of the unit, 16/12/25.

War Office, December 18th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Quartermaster and Capt. G. A. Kent, from R.A.S.C. to be Quartermaster with rank of Capt., 9/12/25, with seniority as a Quartermaster 10/3/15 (substituted for the notification which appeared in the "Gazette" of 8/12/25).

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals. Wilfred Jackson Wardle to be 2/Lieut., 10/12/25.

56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Officer-Cadet Henry Thomas Mander, from Cambridge University Contgt. Sen. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 9/11/25.
Lieut. C. G. Sykes, from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Lieut., 22/7/25 (substituted for the announcement regarding this officer which appeared in the "Gazette" of 11/9/25).

War Office, December 22nd, 1925.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies. Capt. (Prov.) G. J. M. Peel is confirmed in his rank, 26/5/23.

War Office, December 29th, 1925.

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—The undermentioned Lieuts. to be Lieuts., 30/12/25, retaining their present seniority :—
F. K. Wilson, from Gloster Regiment.
M. S. Wheatley, from Dorset Regiment.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—
Lieut. G. L. Lilburn, late R.E., to be Lieut., 30/12/25.
Lieut. H. Y. Starkey, late Royal Signals (T.A.), to be Lieut, 30/12/25.

Lieut. T. G. Halsall, from R.A. Res. of Officers, to be 2/Lt., 30/12/25, and relinquishes the rank of Lieut.
Sergt. Ralph Jackson, Royal Signals (T.A.), to be 2/Lieut., 30/12/25.
Albert James Child to be 2/Lieut., 30/12/25.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals. Frederic Leathley Goodall (late Cadet Corporal, Leeds Grammar School Contgt. Jun. Div., O.T.C.), to be 2/Lieut., 16/12/25.
William Leslie Skelton Moxon (late Cadet C.S.M. Leeds Grammar School Contgt. Jun. Div., O.T.C.), to be 2/Lieut., 18/12/25.
47th (2nd London) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut. F. L. James, from 53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals, to be 2/Lieut., 30/12/25.

War Office, January 1st, 1926.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut.-Col. W. Hudson, M.C., late R.E., to be Lieut.-Col., 22/11/25, with seniority 21/1/25.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. Captain (Prov.) G. Thompson is confirmed in his rank, 11/2/25.
52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals—Capt. (Prov.) T. M. Niven is confirmed in his rank, 1/1/25.
Capt. (Prov.) H. J. Snodgrass is confirmed in his rank, 2/7/25.

T.A. RESERVE—GENERAL LIST—
Royal Signals—Lieut. W. R. Westhead, from 44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals, to be Lieut., 2/1/26.

War Office, January 8th, 1926.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Capt. H. E. C. Lewis, M.C., from T.A. Res., to be Captain, 9/1/26.

War Office, January 12th, 1926.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—George Ethelbert Bottomley to be 2/Lt., 13/1/26

NOTICES.

Royal Corps of Signals—Mechanical Science Course at Cambridge University.

War Office, December 21st, 1925.

An Army Council Instruction announces that a two-year course at Cambridge University for selected officers of the Royal Signals will commence each year in October. The course is intended for officers who have a fair knowledge of mathematics and wireless. Officers attending the course will take up the Mechanical Science Tripos, and will include Electric Signalling as one of the voluntary subjects for the Tripos.

As an alternative to the Mechanical Science Tripos, an officer selected for the course would be permitted to take up the Physics and Mathematics Tripos with special sanction from the War Office, if his qualifications are such that it would be to the benefit of the Service that he should take up this alternative. Officers selected will be expected to pass the qualifying examination in mathematics on joining the University, in order that they may be in a position to devote their time at the University uninterruptedly in working for the Tripos.

They will attend the Long Vacation term at the end of their first and second years at the University, and will not be detailed for duty for manœuvres or training during the period of this term.

Officers selected for these courses will be required to sign an undertaking that they will continue to serve for at least three years after the end of the course.

The names of officers desirous of, and recommended for, attending the course in October, 1925, should be forwarded so as to reach the War Office not later than March 1st, 1926, in order that selection from the names may be made in sufficient time to enable those selected to work up for the qualifying examination.

Communists and the Army.

War Office, December 29th, 1925.

The following letter has been issued by the Army Council to all General Officers Commanding-in-Chief and General Officers Commanding at home and abroad :—

"December 23rd, 1925.

"Sir,—I am commanded by the Army Council to forward you a copy of a leaflet which has recently been distributed to the troops throughout Great Britain by Communist propagandists.

"I am to say that the Council are satisfied that all ranks of the Army deeply resent not only the efforts of the authors of this and similar leaflets to beguile them into acts of disloyalty, but also the insult thrown at them in the indecent remarks which the authors, in their ignorance of a soldier's true character, imagine will prove attractive.

"The welfare of the troops is a matter of complete indifference to these persons, whose object is to reduce the Army to a state of inefficiency and untrustworthiness, in the hope that this will assist them in their aim of creating a state of affairs out of which they hope to profit, although it can only bring in its train disorder, loss and suffering to others.

"I am to request that you will communicate the contents of this letter to the troops serving under your command, and inform them that a copy of it is being communicated to the Press in order that the public may be made aware of this insult to the moral character, loyalty and intelligence of the Army.

"I am, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"H. J. CREEDY."

Soldiers and the Pensions Act.

War Office, January 4th, 1926.

Under the Widows, Orphans, and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, the normal contribution payable in respect of a serving soldier will be at the ordinary rate of 9d. a week, and the soldier, like a civilian, will be required to pay half this sum. This payment will be recovered from the soldier as a stoppage from pay at a monthly rate of 1s. 7½d.

Men of the Army Reserve, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army will, during training, be dealt with for the purposes of this Act in the same way as for health insurance, except that the contribution under the Health Insurance Act and that payable under the Contributory Pensions Act will be paid as one combined contribution.

Army Rations.

War Office, January 4th, 1926.

The rate of allowance in lieu of rations for officers and other ranks serving at home, during the first quarter of the current year, has been fixed at 1s. 8d. a day.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Poppy Day, 1925.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Sir,—May I beg space in your columns to tender very belated thanks to all ladies who answered so magnificently to my call for sellers on Poppy Day last November?

I was informed by the local Branch of the British Legion, when I was asked to organise the event, that all ladies would receive a letter of thanks, stating the amount collected individually as well as collectively, and therefore I took no steps to thank the ladies personally. I find this has *not* been done, and I cannot let another month pass without thanking one and all, through THE WIRE, for working so hard and giving me such whole-hearted support.

The total amount sent in by Catterick Camp was £56 14s. 2d. Of this, S.T.C. ladies collected £28 12s. 6½d., which shows how hard every one must have worked, when one remembers what terrible weather conditions prevailed.

Yours faithfully,
K. LEE WRIGHT,
O Lines, Catterick Camp.

Corps Promotion Roster.

Subsequent Amendments.

TO BE W.O. CLASS I. (R.S.M.)—
2306050 Cussens, J., 21/11/24
2306117 Anderson, E., 16/9/25
1850356 Hepburn, M., 16/9/25
2306176 Lawrance, F., 16/9/25

TO BE W.O. CLASS I. (SUPT. CLERK)—
2306171 Harding, P., 16/9/25

APPOINTED Q.M.-SERGEANT—
2306125 Colvin, F., 16/9/25
1857158 Watson, G., 16/9/25
1850265 Craig, F., 16/9/25
2306769 Forward, R., 7/12/25

TO BE W.O. CLASS II. (C.S.M.)—
2306899 Johnson, W., 21/11/24
1858978 Cains, E., 21/11/24
2306207 Horner, W., 8/4/25
2306358 Harrison, T., 16/9/25
2306872 Bayliss, G., 16/9/25
2306390 Gibson, H., 16/9/25
2306649 Legg, N., 16/9/25
2306282 Butcher, E., 1/11/25

APPOINTED ACTING W.O. CLASS II. (A/C.S.M.)—
2306151 Eldridge, J., 2/9/25

TO BE COMPANY Q.M. SERGEANT—
2308347 Watts, G., 2/11/23

TO BE SERGEANT—
2306322 Terrell, W., 20/7/23
2306323 Harrington, F., 21/11/24
2306214 Conner, F., 21/11/24
1850271 Bew, G., 21/11/24
2307680 Cowley, J., 21/11/24
2306007 Stevenson, W., 4/1/25
2306287 Inman, F., 23/1/25
2307371 Taylor, M., 26/1/25
2306592 Nutt, J., 27/1/25
2306264 Kirby, H., 18/2/25
2306474 Battersby, W., 2/3/25
2306756 Young, C., 3/3/25
1853012 Hobby, W., 15/3/25
1858971 Curtis, W., 22/5/25
2306517 Archbold, H., 28/5/25
2306737 Spreadborough, S., 28/5/25
2308817 Young, E., 30/5/25
2307980 Patrick, C., 3/6/25
2309489 Rankcom, F., 6/6/25
2306826 Thompson, P., 15/6/25
2307163 Millross, H., 13/7/25
2308114 Dowie, F., 14/7/25
2308695 Wilcox, S., 30/7/25
2306486 Stone, G., 4/8/25
2306739 Nicks, W., 4/8/25
2309685 Tracey, J., 11/8/25
2306531 Cox, A., 16/9/25
2305807 Field, C., 16/9/25

TO BE SERGEANT (FARRIER-SERGEANT)—
2307026 Harris, G., 18/7/25

APPOINTED ACTING-SERGEANT—
2306239 Foot, C., 1/8/25
2308703 Smith, S., 2/11/25
2307491 Pennicott, A., 20/11/25
2306706 Hall, P., 29/11/25

APPOINTED LANCE-SERGEANT—
2306416 Ellerbeck, A., 30/7/25
2306453 Fegan, C., 2/11/25
2307303 Nicolson, N., 20/11/25
2306746 Murray, G., 29/11/25

TO BE CORPORAL—
2306639 Perryman, J., 20/7/23
2311062 Todd, G., 20/7/23
2311602 Moss, P., 21/11/24
2313959 Gunnell, A., 21/11/24
2314360 Wilmot, H., 21/11/24
1850143 Dilworth, W., 21/11/24
2313643 Bowler, W., 12/12/24
2313067 Winteringham, R., 19/12/24
2307416 Percy, A., 30/12/24
2313059 Stainer, J., 26/1/25
2306476 Fawl, F., 31/1/25
1857406 Trayner, V., 6/2/25
1857887 Goddard, J., 17/2/25
7734091 Peachey, R., 19/2/25
2306752 Dodds, W., 2/3/25
739952 Deamon, V., 3/3/25
2313967 Morphew, R., 15/3/25
2314244 Low, G., 17/3/25
2313906 Wren, C., 2/4/25
2312052 Chisnall, A., 2/4/25
1400985 Reid, W., 13/5/25
2312401 With, H., 15/5/25
2310140 Searle, H., 16/5/25
1041873 Whybrow, A., 22/5/25
3437561 Cogswell, W., 22/5/25
2311258 Baines, A., 28/5/25
2309300 Brooke, G., 28/5/25
2310408 Nicholson, G., 28/5/25
2313948 Tinsley, E., 28/5/25
2312799 Marchant, E., 28/5/25
1406518 Ryan, R., 28/5/25
2309520 Gristwood, G., 28/5/25
2308130 Jarvis, E., 28/5/25
2307921 James, W., 28/5/25
2309807 Lane, E., 28/5/25
2309461 Claydon, V., 28/5/25
5987312 Colgan, H., 28/5/25
2557106 Lambke, E., 28/5/25
2314210 Curtis, E., 2/6/25
2314273 McGowan, W., 3/6/25
2309558 Bridge, W., 3/6/25
2306781 Beckley, A., 3/6/25
2306705 O'Leary, A., 3/6/25
1850157 Richardson, J., 3/6/25
2308700 Rogers, J., 6/6/25
2312911 Packman, W., 14/6/25
2311403 Handley, F., 15/6/25
2308429 Russell, J., 11/7/25
2306854 Ellis, J., 13/7/25
1858688 Brewer, A., 20/7/25
2314121 Mackie, A., 24/7/25
2314606 Hollis, F., 28/7/25
2309311 Newmarsh, E., 30/7/25

TO BE CORPORAL (FARRIER-CORPORAL)—
4178093 Jones, F., 26/2/25
2314352 Hughes, J., 18/7/25

APPOINTED ACTING-CORPORAL—
2311254 Reene, S., 28/5/25
1857217 Woods, G., 30/7/25
2310123 Geer, R., 7/10/25
2309353 Schofield, J., 14/10/25
2306645 Turner, A., 20/10/25
5485787 Effland, R., 20/11/25

Transfers to the Army Reserve, December, 1925.

2309031 Corpl A. Smith, 7/12/25
2308769 Corpl J. Pritcher, 8/12/25
2311740 Corpl A. Aness, 8/12/25
2308775 Corpl C. Gunn, 9/12/25
1857887 Corpl J. Goddard, 17/12/25
1857039 Corpl W. Arnold, 19/12/25
1850340 L/Sergt A. Ennals, 21/12/25

Discharges during December, 1925.

2306367 Q.M.S. W. Carvell, 6/12/25
2306089 C.Q.M.S. D. Gorringe, 13/12/25
2306055 Q.M.S. W. Hayward, 15/12/25
2307896 L/Sergt Z. Baker, 29/12/25
3519393 L/Sergt A. Baldock, 31/12/25

Tea for two

—or for the whole mess. It doesn't matter how many there are or what time it is—when you have Sailor Savouries at hand. Anywhere, at any time they will provide tasty, satisfying meals. Spread on your bread or made into sandwiches they are delicious and such a welcome change from jam.

Sailor Savouries are made in spotless kitchens by skilled chefs from choice turkeys, chicken, salmon, lobster, and many other rich foods, and are put up in convenient form in hermetically sealed glass jars.

They are just the thing to supplement your rations when on the march, and take up scarcely any room in your haversack. Write and tell us if you can't get them at your canteen.

Don't blame us if accepted "just-as-good" substitutes disappoint.

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SAILOR SAVOURIES
IN SUN-PROOF CARTONS

PLEASE PATRONISE "THE WIRE" ADVERTISERS.

Musings in Mufti.

No. 2—In which the Scribe speaketh of a diversity of subjects.

1—Now, certain there may be amongst ye that have seen, in the course of thy travels, ancient stalls upon which books as ancient as thee are exposed for sale. Mayhap, also, thou hast seen amongst those volumes some that promise thee the secret of "Becoming a convincing speaker," and others that promise to edify and uplift so that thou wilt at all times be able to speak upon any subject, so that they who hear thee will say, "What a charming fellow is this," or, maybe, "What an insufferable prig."

2—Nevertheless, my brother, when thou goest forth into the world where kolarstudz are a necessity, and where thou no longer answerest to a number, there, I say, wilt thou find that subjects that held thee and thy comrades enthralled in the barrack-room hold but little attraction for them with whom thou wilt converse.

3—It will avail thee not to speak of fatigues, the iniquity of stoppages for barrack damages, the insatiable rapacity of Kewems, positions on the roster, or the alleged cannibalistic tendencies of females who dispense draughts of alcoholic liquors.

4—Therefore will I be thy guide so that thy tongue slippeth not, and so that thy speech shall be as a jewel that amazeth by its brilliance.

5—For there be numberless things upon which they that are not clad in khaki discourse when they meet the one with the other, yet is it the unfailing custom to first remark on (not swear at) the weather; then cometh a phrase that will rise easily to the lips of the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs, and that phrase is, "How're your people?"

6—Then speak they of a diversity of subjects, and with these must thou make thyself acquainted, even unto the forsaking of thy study of French—in "La Vie."

7—From the daily sheets of news must thou read of the Kole Kommishun—how the miner and the transport worker obtain higher wages for their labours, how the mine owners and the railways therefore increase their rates, and the retailer doeth likewise. Then demandeth the miner and the transport worker another rise, for the cost of coal has increased, and so complete a circle that frequently repeateth its motion.

8—And the Kole Kommishun seeketh to solve the geometrical impossibility of finding the end of the circle.

9—Thou must also learn of the great Rubbaboom: how men of the land of Eng risked fortunes and lives in the tropics planting rubba: how the demand, and therefore the price, increased: and also how poor Amerika liketh not the increase.

10—Verily, I say, it is a true saying that an experience, though it be bought, giveth not always pleasure unto the buyer.

11—Thou shouldst also be able to speak with knowledge of the Howsingkwestion: how the workers complain of the shortage of suitable habitations: how the briklayers lay briks as often as a hen layeth eggs: and how, in Skotland, they refuse to build houses of steel lest, when they lose their latch keys, they have to purchase tin openers.

12—At all times must thou speak disparagingly of them who sit at St. Stephen's to make thy country's laws, reviling more particularly the Controller of the Exchecker; and above all, cease not to bewail the high rate of inkumtax, though the strings of thy purse be not loosened thereby by reason of its emptiness.

13—Thou shouldst also mark well the notices about new plays and books, for it is not inconceivable that thou wilt upon occasion hold converse with sundry of the fair and fickle sex, and it is upon such weighty matters that they will judge thee. Thou must at the same time forget such rough sports as sokker and rugger, and speak not of Bukan and goals but of Longlon and sets.

14—If thou speakest with one whose knowledge surpasseth thine own, venture not thine opinion lest thou be deemed an ignorant fellow, but rather content thyself with such words as these: "Quite," "absolutely," "splendid," "exactly," "Oh, rather"—then betrayest thou not thy lack of knowledge.

15—Then he who hears thee will commend thee, saying within himself, "What a sensible fellow this is" (for hast thou not agreed with all that he has said?). "Maggie, we must ask him to dinner on Sunday."

E. S. J. H.

National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen.

119 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen was founded in 1885 on a voluntary and civilian basis, on the occasion of a special meeting of "persons interested in the question of employing reserve soldiers in civil life," with Field-Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala in the chair. The general policy, objects and principles, as drawn up by its first committee, were as follow. They still govern the actions of the Association, but now apply to sailors and airmen as well as to soldiers.

1—The civilian element should always be regarded as an important factor in its management, i.e., the work of the Association should be national.

2—The Association to be a free labour agency to assist reserve and discharged soldiers of "good" character in obtaining employment, and a medium through which employers might seek for men of high training and discipline. No fees to be charged to employers or employees.

3—It should keep itself aloof from giving monetary help of any kind, so that men of the highest character and qualifications could utilise the services of the Association without loss of self-respect.

4—It charges itself with the duty of urging on the public and on the Government, the right of the soldier to civil employment after good service with the colours, and of bringing to the notice of Parliament the duty of the State in its several departments with regard to this matter.

With the approval and support of the Secretary of State for War and Lords-Lieutenants of counties, branches were established at the chief commercial and industrial centres throughout the United Kingdom, with agencies at smaller places. During 1922, with the approval of the Admiralty and Air Ministry, the Association's operations were extended to include sailors and airmen.

The Association is distinct from all other bodies and organisations that have more or less similar objects, in the fact that it only registers the names of men of the Regular Forces, who must have had at least three years' service and whose service characters and records are at least "good." The exceptional position in which it has been placed by the Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry, enables it to verify each man's records, and to recommend to employers only those men who can be guaranteed so far as service antecedents, character and subsequent references are concerned. This constitutes a valuable safeguard to employers, and is very largely responsible for the success which has attended the Association's efforts to obtain employment (over 226,000 having been placed in permanent positions). The reputation for efficiency and character of the men registered on its books lead to a repetition of applications for men from those employers who make use of the Association.

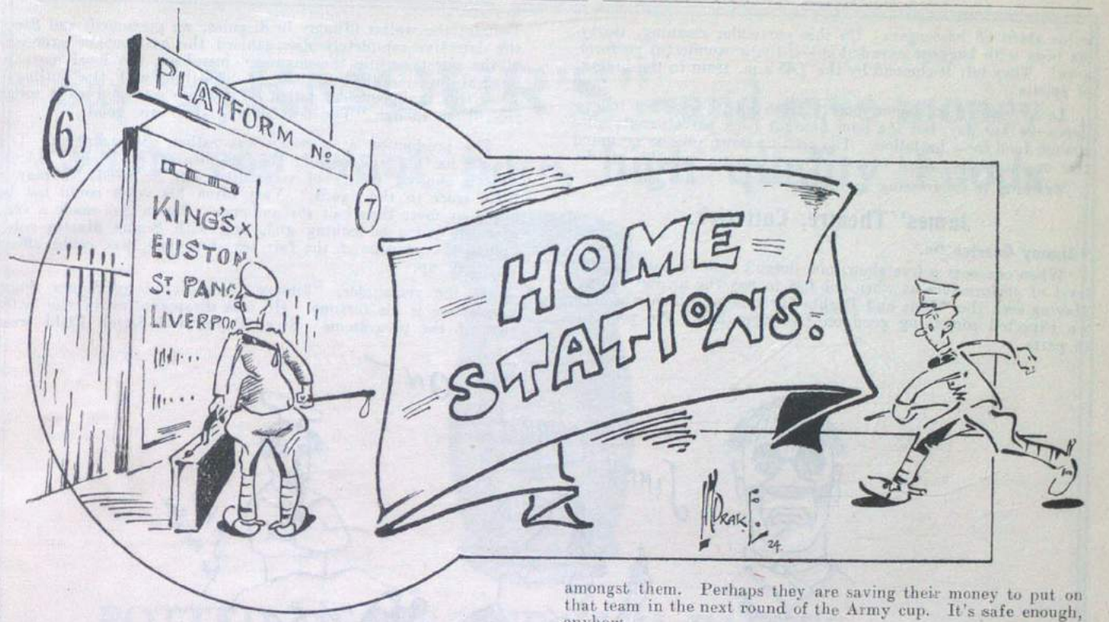
As already stated, the Association takes no fees from either employers or men, relying for its income on:—

(1) Grants from the Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry.
(2) Subscriptions and donations from the public.
(3) Subscriptions and donations from Service units.

As may be gathered from the principles and policy under which the Association was formed—as above described—the Association acts as a link between the civilian population and His Majesty's Forces, and relies upon an equal support from both. Recognising the value of the Association's work to the nation, the three Service Departments have in the past helped towards necessary expenses, but their grants are entirely voluntary and cannot be regarded as a Government subsidy in the strict sense, as they are subject to variation and approval from year to year. On the other hand, it is much to be deplored that the financial support from the civilian side of the link has, of late years, considerably diminished, and what is now badly wanted is civilian support. This is touched upon in the fortieth annual report now presented to the public.

As regards the objects of the Association, the fortieth annual report gives proof that many civilian employers recognise their responsibilities towards these men by affording them opportunities for employment on discharge, and this is gratefully acknowledged.

(Continued on page 49)



Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

E Company, Training Battalion.

As "Barleux" so nobly stood by his guns when requested some few moons ago, it behoves us to return the compliment now that he is calling up. The upheavals, etc., in the Company also demand a few lines.

To-morrow morning our O.C., Capt. F. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., shakes the snow of Catterick from his shoes, en route for England—the 2nd Divl. Signals, to be exact. During his tour of office the Company has done exceedingly well, both in sport and work. His chief regret about the former is that, owing to leave, he was not a member of the rugby team which sent F Company into mourning for weeks. The margin of success was sufficient as it was, though. He has not been with us long, but we sincerely hope that the achievements of the Company all round are compensation for the great interest and activity which he has shown.

We welcome in his stead Capt. P. B. Foot, and we trust that he will find everything as he would wish it. He may rely implicitly upon the Company to back him up in everything which comes along.

A short while ago Lieut Westropp left us for Woolwich, and now C.S.M. J. A. Burgess has left us for the Rhine—he never was particularly unlucky. They both take with them our sincere wishes for the best of luck in their future careers.

We welcome R.S.M. Shave as Foreman of Signals. He has quickly settled down, and already it seems that he has been with us always. To Squibbs' immense relief, it is believed that he neither owns a wireless set nor contemplates "assembling" one.

Although he has been with us quite a time now, we have not yet mentioned the arrival of Sergt Carpenter—one we were extremely pleased to see, for he should be extremely useful to us next summer in the athletic world.

Our heartiest congratulations to Sigmn C. S. Thompson upon joining the ranks of the benedicts during Christmas. Now we know his reason for the prolonged "jew's course," though if we judge by that there should be several of the Company office staff to congratulate in the near future. The Red House and a certain football team are the only topics of conversation amongst them. Perhaps they are saving their money to put on that team in the next round of the Army cup. It's safe enough, anyhow.

THE PARSON.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Arctic conditions again prevail here, and if the meteorological reports are to be believed, the next fortnight is going to be the severest for some years. The next Indian draft leaves on the 29th of this month, and the change of climate will no doubt be appreciated by them. Owing to these drafts, F Company is diminishing. When the next one leaves, it will be difficult to turn out teams. We can always fall back on the boys, though.

News is scarce this month owing to Christmas leave.

Congratulations to Jerry Fegan and Nick on their appointment to the rank of L/Sergeant; also to Corpls Morphew and Peachey on being substantiated.

STEVE.

Boys' Platoon.

At 6.30 on the morning of December 22nd, thirty-six boys wended their way to the Y.M., where a bus was waiting. A foot of old mushy snow lay on the ground, and the air was raw and foggy. The chill morning air, however, could not cool the ardour of these lads, for they were going on their fourteen days' Christmas leave. The majority had been up and about since 3.30 a.m.—a few even earlier. Normally, the bus-in-waiting

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOP

(Opposite the N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines)

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS (INCLUSIVE), 8.30 to 6.30
SATURDAYS, 8.30 to 12.30

All Toilet Requisites in Stock. Razors Set.
Private Room for Ladies.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

holds about 25 passengers. On this particular morning, thirty-six boys with baggage crowded in—truly, a wonderful performance! They left Richmond by the 7.45 a.m. train in the highest of spirits.

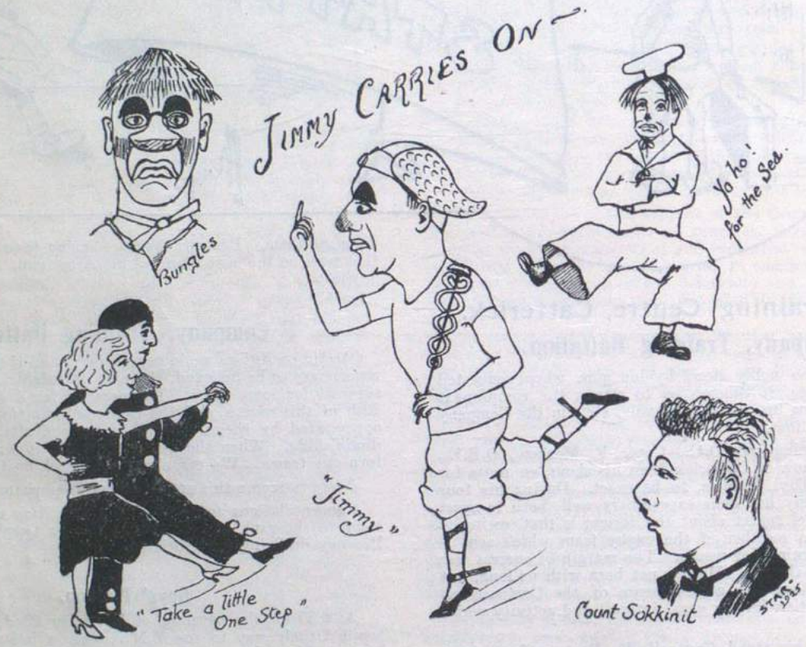
Leave expired on January 5th. High spirits were not in evidence on *that* day, but the boys brought back parcels containing enough food for a battalion. The settling down process occupied two or three days, and now everyone has got into his stride.

Training is progressing as usual.

James' Theatre, Catterick.

"Jimmy Carries On."

When one sees a free show, one doesn't look for such a high level of performance as when one has to pay the modest tanner. Having seen the "Dots and Dashes" first show, which was free, we expected something good on December 2nd. We got it—in parts.



We were given a sparkling little revuette. The opening half, if founded on a slightly fantastic idea, was well carried through, with plenty of cohesion. We saw a mere mortal whisked away by our old friend "Jimmy" on a trip to Mercury. Here they encountered several "Mercurials" who looked suspiciously like earthly pierrots. However that may be, they performed with lots of pep (except when petrified by the unexpected advent of Jimmy).

Half-way through the scene the entire caste, with the exception of the ladies, suddenly got sea fever and joined the Navy. The mere mortal was at once appointed admiral, and poor Jimmy was reduced to the ranks (or is it ratings?). This gave us a very boisterous five minutes while the admiral inspected and "dressed" the fleet.

At intervals one or other of the marines would burst into song, and once, carried away by an excess of nautical enthusiasm, they threw a hornpipe—and a very good hornpipe too, though a trifle extravagant in imaginary ropes. After a very pleasing duet, "Take a little one step," the Mercurials, led by the mortal, wearied of their planet and desired a trip to earth. They were given ten minutes for the journey.

On arrival upon the earthly sphere, they came, one by one, variously disguised, to the local hotel. Here the efforts of Bungles the waiter (Jimmy in disguise, we presumed) and Steve the detective completely disorganised the gastronomic exercises of the guests, while the manager broadcast the local news in musical form in the intervals of "battling with the butling." After this the movement tailed off. There were too many songs rushed on, though "The best-looking girl" was good.

The production as a whole was rather disappointing. The second half failed to fulfil the promise of the first. Lieut. Beattie showed plenty of versatility, but he needs to play a little more to the "gods." Very often his voice could not be heard by more than half the audience. Sigmn Sell made a very graceful and good-looking girl, and with Sigmn Martin nobly upheld the prestige of the fair sex—but they, too, could afford to speak up.

Of the remainder, "Jimmy" was played by Sigmn Sugg, whose face is his fortune. He was disappointing in the latter part of the programme. Sergt Payne and Sigmn Field were good, but Sigmn Ede seemed a little overcome by the presence of an audience.

The success of the evening, however, was the performance of Sigmn Cox. He played his wide range of parts, from light songs to the low comic detective, with equal sureness of touch. The luncheon scene was his crowning effort, during which he reduced the caste as well as the audience to a state of collapse.

Now for a few general criticisms. There were too many waits in the second half, both when the stage was occupied and when it was empty. The make-up indicated a lavish expenditure of grease-paint, to the exclusion of skill in application. The scenic effects were good, especially the take-off of "Jimmy" and the mere mortal on their flight to Mercury.

By the way, we got a new "Ford" joke—a good 'un. It is that Mr. Henry Ford may be considered the greatest humorist of modern times, because he is the only man to make a joke and drive it home.

Still, in spite of our candid criticism, it was a show which did credit to producer and performers alike. To be strictly truthful, we laughed more than we have done for a long time. We shall certainly make a point of seeing the next production.

FIRST NIGHTER.

Say "ARMOUR'S"—and save money when you want pure, high quality Foods

POTTED MEATS AND FISH PASTES — 7½D.
The purest and tastiest made. Ideal for the hurried tea. Makes bread and butter a delicacy. Every jar guaranteed free from preservatives ....

VERIBEST TOMATO SOUP — 5D.
Fresh, luscious tomatoes, producing delicious soup, thick and creamy ....

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A smooth, rich, pure sauce of ripe tomatoes. Rendering a cold meat appetising ; or to flavour soups ....

VERIBEST TOMATO CHUTNEY — 10½D.
A piquant compound of whole cooked tomatoes, delicately spiced. Puts an edge on every appetite ....

GET THEM AT THE CANTEEN!

Armour's QUALITY PRODUCTS

QUEEN'S HOUSE . KINGSWAY . LONDON . W.C. 2

PLEASE PATRONISE "THE WIRE" ADVERTISERS.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

1st Divisional Signals.

Pen versus Sword.

I have recently had the opportunity and pleasure of reading an article by one of our most brilliant writers on the subject of Journalism.

Literary success depends largely, if not entirely, upon the interest of the reader being gripped from the outset.

It is, for example, of no use whatever commencing a Weekly Room Report like this: "Cedric Jones, greengrocer, of Bolton, who is Welsh on his father's side, owns an alarm-clock." It's "flat," and moreover, I very much doubt whether the Company Q.M.S. would appreciate it.

No! As our friend Enoch P. Pilkington, of Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A., has said: "You've sure just got to tickle 'em." And to this may I respond, "How true!"

"Sufficient unto the Day ——"

Individual training commenced in the unit on January 4th. A great deal of it, too!

Wireless operators, electricians, carpenters, instrument makers, despatch riders, line operators, and all the other "eyes and ears" of the Army, are busy looking and listening.

But on Saturday mornings the wireless operator forsakes his valve, the visual operator rolls up his flag, the D.R. leaves his machine, and the whole congregate on the square where, in a few very well chosen words, Guards instructors explain the intricacies of a rifle, and which foot should be placed first. Which, of course, is jolly decent of them.

But what of the cooks? Ah, ha! That brings me to the subject of

Napoleon's Army.

Now, Napoleon's army is credited with having made the discovery that the stomach offered an excellent means of locomotion. Well, if Napoleon's forces had had the opportunity of sampling a sheep's heart "à la Firstdivsigs," they would have moved on stretchers. But, there! A sheep always has been a half-hearted animal.

I understand that the chap who pointed out that "one man's meat is another man's fishcake" has been elected an hono-rary mess representative.

Anyhow, are we down-hearted? I ask you!

Men may come and men may go ——

and I was going to add that "draughtsmen go on for ever," but I shall refrain from doing so.

Departures are many, and our best wishes accompany the following who have left us for India: L/Corpl W. Stevenson and family, Signalmen C. Brown, G. Cocks, H. Faraday, J. Powell, F. Lovell, G. Pascoe, N. Waite, W. Wills, A. Hickmott, and A. O'Brien. Sigmn Pascoe, that great little boxer, is expected to keep the gloves on over there. Gloves may be hardly the thing in India; nevertheless, Pascoe, we look to you.

The following proceeded to the Rhine on January 15th: Corpl A. Challenger, Signalmen Clark, Dunnell, Baker, Ford, Hopper, Graham and Tokins. Best wishes and "Quid pro quo!" (I'm afraid that my knowledge of the German tongue is somewhat limited, but it sounds all right.)

OXO

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Signalmen Drewett, Shipman and T. Webb have been posted to the School of Signals, S.T.C., Catterick. T' best o' look! (Anyway, I *can* converse in the Yorkshire dialect.)

Arrivals are: Sergt G. Kingman and Sigmn R. Jardine from No. 3 Company, Egypt; and Signalmen Ashford, Bellman, Baile, Barron, Beeke, Cocking, Greaves, Gearing, Harper, Lovell, McLintock and Sullivan from the S.T.C. All are welcomed to the Tribe!

"In the Spring ——

A young man's fancy"—and so fo-rth. And here we have one, two, three, four, five of them. They are: L/Sergt W. Lombard, Corpl H. Wilmot, and Signalmen H. Brough, J. Macklin, and C. Watts. Our congratulations to all on their respective marriages.

En Avant!

Congratulations to A/Corpl E. Lambke upon his promotion to Corporal, and also to U/L/Corpl G. Spencer upon his being appointed L/Corporal on the Corps roster.

Removal of Headgear.

This does not, as might be expected, concern a hair inspection, but is an act of homage which should be accorded C.S.M. R. Keevil, who has organised a very popular weekly recreation in the form of a whist drive.

These drives are held in Gibraltar Barracks (No. 3 Coy.), and many useful prizes are to be won. Capt. D. A. Brown, O.C. No. 3 Company, has very kindly consented to attend each function and make the presentation of the prizes.

When the numbers attending are large enough to justify the project, it is proposed that a dance be included in the programme, and that the proceeds be devoted to the Signals Association. But it must be realised that this can only be arranged when the organisers can rely upon the co-operation of the three Companies. So roll up, and give the support that the undertaking so richly deserves.

The Game of "Drafts"—and Draughtsmen.

The rumour that a certain corporal of this unit was overheard to remark, "Eau, d——Cologne," is without foundation.

Ink-Emma-Ink.

The clerk of Q Branch who entered unit headquarters office and asked to be supplied with some ink is now in No. 13 Ward. It was a round ruler that hit him!

Obituary.

We regret to announce the death, at Aldershot, of Mr. E. Hillier, who for some time had been barber to the unit. A wreath was sent on behalf of all ranks in the unit.

L. H. D.

Elaitchdee's News Bulletin.

Patrick O'Ghee, hosier, residing at 34 Aston Villas, Saldershot, was knocked down by an omnibus whilst crossing Wellington Street on Tuesday evening. A gas mantle which he was carrying was broken.

* * * *

The next public meeting of the Little Wallop Women Citizens' Association will be held in the Mission Hall, Little Wallop, Hants, next Friday evening, when Mrs. Iris Kitt will speak on "Rusks and Rheumatism."

* * * *

The Borough Council have appointed Mr. Pickering Greene as station officer and secretary to the Saldershot Volunteer Fire Brigade. Mr. Greene, who is 84 years of age, is very fond of potato soup.

* * * *

If all the cream buns devoured in Saldershot on Christmas Day were placed one on top of another, the bottom one would resemble a pancake.

* * * *

When leaving the premises of the Co-operative Society, where he had purchased a packet of gravy salt, an elderly man whose teeth were false lost a rubber heel.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, January 14th.

I hope the fact that my notes this month have been commenced a day earlier will not escape notice. I made all preparations to start yesterday, when I suddenly spotted the date, and besides, it was Wednesday, so why should I?

Notes this month were to have been under the headings of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies, but as the representatives of Nos. 1 and 3 are either shy of exhibiting their talent, or too busy arranging football matches, the responsibility once more devolves on me.

Now, 1 and 3! if it's a question of talent, you can wash that out right away—you don't need any. All you have to do is to sit down with a pencil and paper, and commence writing down a lot of nonsense. While you are doing this you will suddenly think of somebody or something that has happened in the unit, and down it goes. The fact that everyone in the unit knows all about it doesn't matter a bit: it's to the other units you want to tell the tale.

There! I have thought of something already!

One of our w.o.s thought it would be a good idea if we could run a dance in the unit. He suggested it in the right quarter, and his idea received favourable support. A committee was formed, and the dance took place in the Marlborough Lines Gymnasium on January 8th. It proved successful beyond all expectations, upwards of 300 persons attending.

Dancing commenced at 7.30 p.m. and continued until 2 a.m. the following morning. The dance orchestra of the 2nd Battn. K.R.R. Corps provided the music, and the duties of M.C. were ably carried out by C.S.M. Bayliss and C.Q.M.S. Ruffle. Many officers of the unit and their wives made an appearance during the evening, and joined in the merry-making.

There was not a hitch in the whole programme, and our thanks are due to the various members of the committee, who must have put in a lot of hard work. I am sure all who attended and enjoyed themselves so well are sincerely hoping that they will be given the opportunity of attending another dance soon.

Apart from the dance above mentioned, things have been very quiet in the unit lately, individual training being the order of the day at present. This goes on until the end of February, when we begin to settle down to Section training. Most of us will have completed our furlough by the end of this month, and then I suppose we shall start work in real earnest—not that easy times predominate now, by any means.

I was asked the other day what I thought was the fairest way to divide thirteen horses amongst three men. My answer was, "Square the V.O. to send ten of them to the S.V.H.," but of course you can't do that sort of thing these days.

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations are due to the following on their respective rises: A/R.S.M. J. Cussens to be R.S.M.; A/C.S.M. G. Bayliss to be C.S.M.; A/Sergt H. Archbold to be Sergeant; A/Corpls C. Wren and F. Handley to be Corporals; A/L/Corpl W. Saville to be L/Corporal on the Corps roster; A/F/Corpl J. Hughes to be F/Corporal.

Comings and Goings.

To the undermentioned, who have left our happy band for other units, we bid a reluctant farewell and "the best of luck" in their new stations:—

To India—Sergt Robertson, Corpls Handley and Pack, L/Cpls Lewis and Waldock, Signalmen Gibson, Robinson, Teenan, Stacey, Neal, Anderson, James, Slade, and Walker.
To School of Signals—Signalmen Carroll, Cooper, T. Pratt, Ward and Wills.
To the Rhine—Corpls Bramwell and Sharp, L/Corpls Ibbs and McDowell, Signalmen Southwell, Marson and Insull, and Dvr. Holliday.

We extend a hearty welcome to the following arrivals, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one:—

From Egypt—Signalmen Thomas and Rowe, and Dvr Rowe.
From the Depot Battalion—Sigmn Johnson.
From the Training Battalion—Signalmen Cowdray-Gadney, Rumney and Mills.
From the School of Signals—Signalmen Harbury, Hudson and Jennings.

Hair Discipline

We know that discipline means "subjection to order—improvement." That is what Anzora means too. Improvement to your appearance and the most unruly hair mastered.

ANZORA CREAM for greasy scalps will not soil hat linings or pillows, and ANZORA VIOLA for dry scalps, containing a little oil of violets, are sold in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles, by chemists, hairdressers, stores and canteens.

"Anzora Masters the Hair"

A Geography Test.

One little instance to prove what a boon education is proving. Heard in the barrack-room:—

"I thought you came from the seaside, Bill."
"No, I come from Gillingham."
"Well, that's near Chatham, ain't it?"

And that is quite enough of that!

ENGER.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Wireless Station, Queen's Avenue,
Aldershot, January 16th.

Christmas and its attendant evils are now things of the past, but ere we forget them and start looking forward to the next, a hearty vote of thanks is due to L/Corpl Walker, Sigmn Heaps, and their fellow committeemen of D Troop, for the excellent fare provided for those who had to remain in barracks. Other efforts to gladden the hearts of those who remained behind were made by the fair ladies who dispense tea in an institute quite near to the wireless station, and we trust that their increased knowledge of W/T will amply recompense them for the trouble taken.

Since our last notes appeared, rapid progress has been made towards establishing W/T communication with Egypt, and on several recent occasions messages have been passed between us and Polygon W/T Station, near Cairo.

Congratulations

To C.S.M. Butcher and Sergt Tracey on the subtantiation of their ranks.

Arrival.

A hearty welcome is extended to Sergt H. V. Wattley, who arrived here from sunny Egypt on December 31st.

Departures.

Our best wishes go with Sigmn J. Worth, who proceeded to join L Company Detachment, Jubbulpore, on January 8th; and with Sigmn T. Snowball, who left us on January 2nd for civilian life.

If teeth are "off colour"

Clear whiteness can be quickly regained this new way, and your gums firmed and toned

Your teeth are simply film coated. Remove that film and wonders are worked

JUST because your teeth seem dull, don't believe they are naturally "off colour."

You can restore them to clear whiteness very quickly.

Dental science has made some important discoveries in lightening cloudy teeth—a new method in tooth and gum treatment.

It acts on new principles. In a few days you can work a transformation on your teeth. Can change your whole appearance.

Run your tongue across your teeth. You will feel a film . . . a slippery, viscous coating that dulls and clouds their beauty.

Old methods failed in combating it successfully. Then new ones were found and embodied in a new-type dentifrice called Pepsodent.

It acts to curdle the film and then remove it. Then firm the gums and protect them.

Try it. Results are quick and convincing. Get a tube from your canteen to-day.

Pepsodent MARK TRADE

The New-Day Quality Dentifrice

Sold in large and small sized tubes at all canteens

Send postcard for free sample to:—

THE PEPSODENT COMPANY
42a, SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1.
1971

Answers to Correspondents.

Spud (Frimley) and Timber (Aldershot).—No! a pass to enter barracks daily, to commence work, is not necessary in your case.

H.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, January 13th.

Furlough and Christmas festivities being over, the unit is going full speed ahead with the first period of individual training. Get your eyes down, 3rd Divl. Signals, and make the Paymaster sit up and take notice when he receives the extracts from "Q" sheets.

On Christmas Day a most enjoyable dinner was provided for the men left in barracks, thanks to the Messing Officer, C.Q.M.S. Watts, Sergt Freemantle, L/Sergt Rose, and their able staff. There was plenty of the B group, as no doubt certain members of the unit could testify on Boxing Day. After dinner a jazz "gent's tagg" took place until about 5 p.m., when those who were left slowly melted into thin air.

Departures.

This month we have to announce, with regret, the departure of Capt. P. B. Foot to E Company, S.T.C. We all wish him every success and happiness in his new command.

Sergt Mears, Signalmen W. Wood, A. A. Small, T. Lawson, F. Neeve, S. Hipwood, T. Tupper, J. Yateman, R. Hutchison, J. Hurst, M. Callely, F. Bick, P. Richards, V. Hall, E. Taylor, L. Penn, E. Kuell, L. Smith, F. Jacob, betook themselves on January 8th to H.M.T. "City of Marseilles" en route for India. We wish them bon voyage and a pleasant stay in the land of sunshine.

The following proceeded to civvy street, and we wish them every success in their venture: C.S.M. W. Johnson, Corpl P. Holder, Signalmen H. McDonald and P. Jackson.

Sergt W. Laycock went to the Rhine Command Signal Coy. on December 12th.

Arrivals.

The old-established firm of Barleux arrived on December 21st. We wish him a happy stay with the unit.

The undermentioned arrived from the Training Battalion on December 12th: Signalmen Maddison, Perkins, Sinclair, Stupples and Wise.

Sigmn Ailward arrived from the Depot Battalion on Dec. 19th.

Corpl Lannigan, Signalmen Rowe and Tydeman arrived from Egypt on January 1st.

Birth.

Congratulations to Corpl Brown on becoming the proud father of a daughter, Marie Ethel, born at Greenwich on Nov. 10th.

Marriages.

L/Corpl Coy to Sarah Ellen Garland on December 4th; Dvr King to Emily Alice Vines on December 24th; Sigmn J. Mundy to Hilda Annie Vann on December 26th.

Promotions.

Congratulations to the following n.c.o.s on their recent promotions: A/C.Q.M.S. G. Watts to be C.Q.M.S. w.e.f. 2/11/23; A/Sergt Spreadborough to be Sergeant w.e.f. 28/5/25; A/Corpl Brewer to be Corporal w.e.f. 20/7/25; Corpl G. Murray appointed L/Sergeant w.e.f. 29/11/25.

Posting.

Q.M.S. Forward from the School of Signals.

Extension of Service.

L/Corpl Sykes extended to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Plain Tales.

The Arrival.

A whole lot of people shook their heads, and looked very knowing and solemn, when I told them I was going to Bulford. "What a hole!" said one. "What vile roads!" said another. But behold! here we are at Bulford, and although rain in large quantities appears to be the principal local product, we find the roads beautifully made and bordered with young trees, the whole camp scrupulously clean, and everything in the garden lovely, so to speak. True, on the night of my arrival I tripped over a spare telegraph pole, probably left lying around by some children, and bumped my head on a singularly hard piece of Salisbury Plain, but I discovered in the morning that the road ended just there.

Meteorological Note.

The sun is shining over the camp at the moment. I am told that this is worthy of note, though I have a suspicion that my informant exaggerates, because Sammy, who has been here quite a long time, distinctly recalls several other occasions on which the phenomenon has been observed.

What to Wear.

One's grips take on a more sombre hue on arrival at Bulford: away goes the bright champagne with its tendency to expose grease spots. Here one uses russet brown on grips and puttee strings; and very becoming it looks, too. If ever I go to Woolwich to stay (which heaven forfend), I shall have pure white grips. I think that is why the Artillery chaps go bandy.

Concerning a Card.

Owing to my numerous and rapid movements during the festive season, I received very few cards of greeting. One, however, consoled me for the absence of those I *might* have had. It was from Jock M. and was naturally a "home product." The back from an Army Book 122, a few sticky labels, and a liberal application of S.O. ink: the whole skilfully assembled by Jock's expert hands—and there was a Christmas card! A card as ever was! A good lad is Jock, by the way. I went to see him before leaving Yorkshire, and found him trying yet another experiment. He was frying bacon in Lux to prevent its shrinking. Yes! stand back! I know where you've seen that before.

People One Meets.

I shall always have a tender spot for the S.T.C., and I feel sure that Catterick and Richmond are going to be very delightful places in the near future. One thing, however, to which I could never accustom myself was the peculiar attitude of the workmen engaged on building operations in the camp. Excellent fellows, no doubt, but they invariably considered that one's uniform precluded the necessity for an introduction. "I bet I went to France before you, chum," says one. "Soldiering before you was thought of," says another. Then there is the inevitable ginger-whiskered gentleman who insists that you must surely have known his pal Smith who was in the Engineers. If you say "Yes" to avoid further explanations, you will certainly have to buy him a pint.

Petrol, Resolution and Emotion.

A lot of people have been making jokes about New Year resolutions. Now, these should be treated seriously, and only a few should be made at a time. Personally I have made only one, and that is "to think kindly of carpenters who garage my motor-cycle for nothing when the roads are frozen." (There's nothing like being on the safe side.) Of course there is a story in explanation of this.

I think it was about the middle of November when the Yorkshire roads were covered with a beautiful sheet of ice. Having skidded and careered along the road in anything but the orthodox motor-cycling fashion so many times that it became monotonous, I decided to put the machine up somewhere and walk, or rather slide, the remaining three miles to camp.

I was fortunate in enlisting the sympathies of a carpenter, who assured me that the machine would be safe in his shop. Not liking the way he laced his boots, I grunted something and shoved the machine inside. Here, I removed the pump, the sparking plug and the carburetter, and deflated both tyres, eyeing the carpenter closely the while. I then padlocked the rear wheel and removed the primary chain, after which I piled a heap of packing cases all round it. Stepping back to view the result, I decided that a few sacks to cover it would be advisable.

Five hours later, the roads having thawed, I called in to remove the machine. I inspected everything very carefully, and replaced the parts I had removed. I offered the carpenter a "bob," which he declined. The look he gave me as I pushed the cycle out of his shop will live with me for ever.

I had pushed it but a few yards when the awful truth dawned on me. I had left the key of the padlock in the camp! Only three miles away! How I strove to remember those comforting words, "Blessed are they," or something.

Between the Covers.

The unit correspondents in the S.T.C. are still rather backward. When a man buys a copy of THE WIRE, he expects to find something in it concerning his own Company. He has a right to expect this.

Uncle Alfred swore on his crossed fingers (not that crossed fingers are necessary for him) that he would see to the matter so far as the School of Signals was concerned. Then the "Parson" could exert himself if he liked. It isn't as though he had much to do in E Company stores. As for the Depot Battalion, I feel sure that its Company scribes could produce the most thrilling tales. Then there is the barber's shop: a perfect mine of information, embracing subjects from "blackleg" bands to speed (if any) of Morgans.

Information Required.

On going through the notes from the various Signal units abroad, I find there is nearly always a thinly-veiled desire to get home to England. Sometimes this desire is not even veiled. On requesting an explanation of this from those who have served in India or Egypt, the reply is nearly always to the effect that, given the opportunity, they would go back to-morrow.

Now, I haven't been to India, Egypt, Iraq, Malta, Scotland, or any other queer place—since never mind when, but I am anxious to get at the truth. Perhaps "Mr. X," "Sab," or "Coir" will come to the rescue. I'm not asking "Olive," because if he said he wanted to come home from Malaya to Catterick, I shouldn't believe him.

A Butcher's Farewell.

A large number of people (especially married ones) will remember Ted Darlow, the S.T.C. butcher. He tells me he is leaving the Service to take over the "tap" at the Maiden's Head, Uckfield. This is a job he should be able to deal with efficiently. Let us wish him very good luck.

Weather Forecast.

A large depression over Bulford is moving northward, but will probably rise at the end of the month or when the C.R.A. is due (whichever occurs first).

There is every indication that the ensuing month will contain a considerable amount of weather. Night, for the most part, will be dark, probably lightening towards morning. Mostly rain or fog, though snow, frost, gales, sunshine, or thunder are not unexpected. Wind, west or east, or possibly north. If not, then south, or something else.

Proof of posting will not be considered as proof of delivery. (Sorry! this belongs to something else.)

And it was so.

I think I will call all this "Plain Tales," firstly because the famous Plain stretches all around me, and secondly because I like plain speaking, provided it does no one any harm. I wish someone would illustrate this for me. I can't draw for nuts, and I *would* like to furnish a picture of the first pint which Ted Darlow hands over the counter.

BARLEUX.

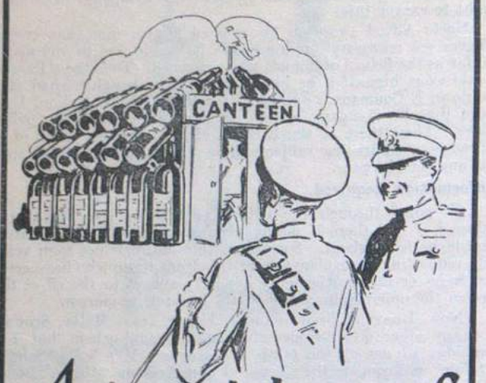
(*Home Stations Notes continued overleaf.*)

National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen.

(*Continued from page 42*)

The work of the National Association is very necessary, because on leaving the Service, regular sailors, soldiers and airmen of long service are at a considerable disadvantage in obtaining employment in civil life. They are in competition with men who have been in more or less close touch with trade conditions and industrial opportunities all their lives, who generally have behind them the support of trade unions, and whose experience has been of benefit to them in obtaining civilian employment. Most ex-Regular Service men have spent a large part of their lives abroad, often finding themselves stranded when arriving home on discharge, having lost touch with former friends and relatives. They are strangers to civilian life and its conditions.

The 1926 edition of this extremely useful publication is now in the hands of the printers, and is expected to be on sale at the end of November.



A perfect dream of a canteen!

Soldiers deserve fine beer. They need it equally for reasons of health, refreshment and good cheer. . .

McEwan's became "The Soldier's Beer" on merit. There's a sparkle in it that speaks of good brewing, good malt, and good hops. What better dream of a canteen than one well stocked with McEwan's?

GLOBE BRAND TRADE MARK

McEwan's THE SOLDIER'S BEER

Wm. McEwan & Co. Ltd BREWERS, EDINBURGH

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester.

Arrivals.

We welcome the arrival of L/Corpl Lewis, Signalmen Sharvell, Zeidler, Ball, Vine, Richards, Hallon, Hill and Weeks.

Departures.

Signalmen Colley and Downs to A Corps Signals; Sigmn R. E. Howard to the Army Reserve; Signalmen Lowe, North, Patterson, Roberts and Stringer to India; Corpls Crockford and Price, Signalmen Ford, S. W. Hall and O'Flaherty to the Rhine.

Birth.

Congratulations to Sigmn T. O'Neill on the arrival of a daughter.

Marriages.

Sigmn O'Flaherty at Folkestone, Dvr W. H. Hill at Bristol, both on December 19th.

Sport.

The weather (as usual) is the real cause of the absence of any sports fixtures and results; and now Essex is in the throes of that white stuff, we must content ourselves with billiards and blow-ball.

General.

Who wrote to his Company commander: "I am financially embarrassed by the buying of these Christmas gifts"?

Who, when roadmaking, said: "I feel like a Roman soldier a-building of an 'aqueduck'"?

Who said, at the sergeants' dance: "I'd rather steer two pairs of horses than one woman"?

Who, when asked the reason for being late for early morning stables, said: "They were late with my early morning cup of tea"?

TAP.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

It is a case of just getting a few words together for the purpose of appearing in the news this month. We have really very little to report.

Everyone has got over Christmas and the New Year, and like the Romans has buckled on his armour and fallen into the necessary rut in the various jobs. There is the usual studying and experimenting with paper and pencil for higher rates, not to mention education certificates. We have our one-and-only without a third, with his nose to the grindstone.

Our second leave party has returned, and by the time these notes appear we shall have concluded the leave periods.

We hope to fire our course in March this year, and it is the wish of the C.O. that we average 80 per cent. We will have a good try, sir.

Most of the football team are back from leave, and we have been drawn against the Depot Royal Irish and Inniskillen Fusiliers in the first round of the N.I.D. cup.

The Outlaws of Dunree must be on a raid, as there is no news of them this month.

Education.

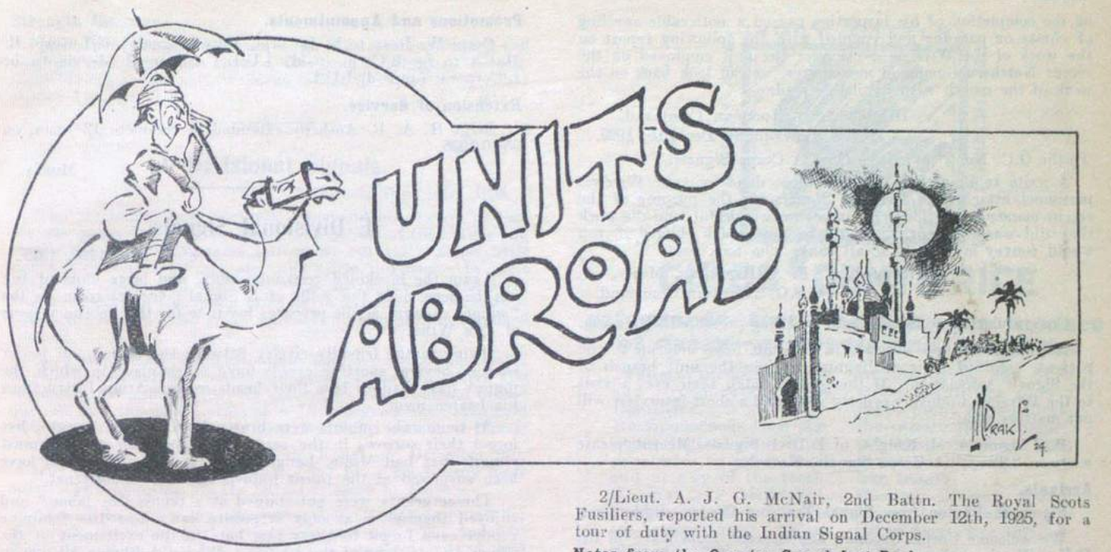
Congratulations to Signalmen Barrow, Stockton, Venner and Wells on getting the 2nd class certificate of education.

Arrivals and Departures.

In the former, nil. We said farewell to Corpl Tester, L/Cpl Fenton and Sigmn Davis on being transferred to the Army Reserve. The best of luck in civvy street.

CHIPPY.

Follow the lead of the S.T.C., Catterick! Become an Annual Subscriber *now*, and have your Magazine forwarded direct by post each month.



Signal Training Centre, India.

Jubbulpore, Dec. 23rd, 1925.

Best wishes for 1925 to all readers of THE WIRE.

The outstanding event of this month has been the Signal Conference. This was an assembly of all the Signal staff officers and unit commanders in India, at Jubbulpore, to discuss and decide upon various matters of import to Signals in this country.

The conference began on December 17th and lasted four days. Col. H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., officiating Signal Officer-in-Chief, directed the proceedings. The results will be made known later, but one definite outcome for the Signal Training Centre is that we now know personally a great many officers whom we had previously only known by their signatures.

An Army Instruction, India, dated December 15th, has brought into being the re-organisation of the Signal Training Centre and Depot. In future we are to be known as the Signal Training Centre, India. The Centre will comprise Headquarters, Signal Training Battalion, Signal Training School, and Record Section.

The new establishment provides for 27 British officers, 14 Indian officers, 68 B.O.R.s, and 150 I.O.R.s on the staff of the Training Centre, with the normal strength of 150 B.O.R.s and 424 I.O.R.s under training. Owing to the shortage of officers in the Indian Signal Corps, we are not likely to get the 27 British officers for some time.

We welcome the arrival of 41 B.O.R.s from the United Kingdom. Many of them have been posted from the Depot to various Signal Companies. Thirty B.O.R.s have arrived to date on transfer to the Indian Signal Corps.

We wish the following the very best of luck on their transfer to the home establishment: L/Sergts Lane and Fogarty, Signalmen Blundred and L. Shankie.

We pity our Central Registry head clerk, who received a letter addressed as follows, and was supposed to know to whom it should be delivered: "O. P. Sar. Camaning, Esqre., Signal Central Depot, Jabalpur, N. India." It was eventually delivered to the Officer Commanding Signal Training Centre and Depot, Jubbulpore, C.P., India.

Officers.

Lieut. B. Middleton, 2nd Battn. The Lincolnshire Regiment, left to join E Divisional Signals, Meerut, on December 9th, 1925, on reposting.

2/Lieut. A. J. G. McNair, 2nd Battn. The Royal Scots Fusiliers, reported his arrival on December 12th, 1925, for a tour of duty with the Indian Signal Corps.

Notes from the Quarter-Guard Log Book.

1—19.00 hrs. Sergeant's dinner arrived in two bottles.

2—15.45 hrs. The day sinks below No. 9 Bungalow.

3—21.45 hrs. Guard commander visited my post (it is believed that Sergt Eynott was the Guard commander).

4—08.30 hrs. Provost sergeant returns to *work* on push cycle.

5—13.30 hrs. Indian bearer passed going towards guard-room. (Ah! ah! I wonder!)

6—14.45 hrs. Native drives up goats and rests under tree near Stationery Stores, and watches goats feed, with child assisting.

7—14.57 hrs. Sergt Beresford passes at high speed on push cycle. (Oh! John!)

8—08.25 hrs. Turned out guard to Church of England parade. New draft, *wearing trousers*, dismissed.

Sergeants' Mess.

Things in general are still very quiet, but this I can assure you is only a temporary measure, as Christmas is coming and the geese must be fattened. Chief geese: C.S.M. Wassell, F/S/Sergt Goodwin, C.Q.M.S. Betts, Sergts Draper, Swaine, and Foote, and others too numerous to mention.

Excuse me! I forgot one of the main culprits, Sergt Nicholls, who is fattening on "lemons," but looking very thin.

Congratulations to the undermentioned winners of cups: S/Sergt Chandler, tennis; Sergt Swaine, billiards; Sgt Fogarty, shooting. The cups are to be presented on Boxing Day, weather permitting.

Casualties.

A/Sergt Bew to be Sergeant; L/Sergt Foote to be A/Sergeant; Corpl Ellerbeck to be L/Sergeant; A/Corpls Dilworth and Traynor to be Corporals.

SIGTRAIN.

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, Dec. 24th, 1925.

Having emerged successfully from the G.O.C.'s and C.S.O.'s visits, and those of our unit employed on the recent manœuvres having returned, the Company is almost settled down and ready to do justice to our usual well-organised programme of Christmas festivities.

We do not wish to be wrongly accused of blowing our own trumpet, but the short speech of Major-Gen. Cooke to the unit

on the completion of his inspection caused a noticeable swelling of chests on parade; and coupled with the following report on the work of the Wireless Section of the unit employed on the recent Northern Command manœuvres, we can look back on the work of the month with justifiable pride:—

Headquarters, Northern Command,
Rawalpindi, Dec. 4th, 1925.

To the O.C. No. 2 (Wireless) Coy. A Corps Signals.

I write to thank you for the work done by your Wireless personnel attached to B Corps Signals for the purpose of the recent manœuvres. Their keenness was wonderful, and the work they did was excellent. I would be very much obliged if you would convey my thanks to all ranks who took part.

(Signed) F. A. HEYMANN, Major,
C.S.O. Northern Command.

Congratulations to Sigmn Autie on being presented with a son.

A number of new arrivals in the unit have not, up to the present, signified their willingness to join the unit branch of the Signals Association. If this should catch their eye, a visit to the Wireless Company orderly room and a short interview will put matters right.

Will Sigmn A. M. Knight, of E Divl. Signals, Meerut, please write to "Tony," A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Arrivals.

Sigmn E. Payton from Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore.

We welcome Corpls Sneddon and Stevens from leave in the U.K. We also welcomed Lieut. F. R. L. Goadby, M.B.E., Royal Signals, who arrived from leave in the U.K., on the 10th inst., only to leave us two or three days later for employment on the Qr.-Mr.-General of Supply Branch, Army Headquarters. We wish him all success in his new post, though we are given to understand that it is only temporary.

Promotions and Appointments.

Corpl W. Reat to be L/Corpl, Royal Signals; U/L/Corpl R. Hatch to be L/Corpl (paid) I.U.L.; Sigmn J. Jervis to be L/Corporal (unpaid) I.U.L.

Extension of Service.

Sergt H. A. R. Anthony extended to complete 12 years, on 23/10/1925.

MOLLY.

E Divisional Signals.

Meerut, Dec. 14th, 1925.

Again the blackbird responds nobly, and large blots of ink can be seen over the walls of E Signal's barrack-room as the "ammer chewer" scribe prepares his note for the February issue of THE WIRE.

Owing to the friendly rivalry between the senior and junior enccoes, several sporting events have taken place in which the juniors have had to bow their heads as per Army Instructions for beaten men.

At tennis the juniors were beaten by a narrow margin, but forgot their sorrows in the sergeants' "good cheer." I must remark that had Mdlle. Lenglen been present, she would have been surprised at the talent hidden under a "mozzie net."

The sergeants were entertained at a tennis "at home," and enjoyed themselves as only sergeants can; also the feminine gender even forgot to query new hats in the excitement of the games and frisking of the waiters. Why did Bhoosa sit among the ladies, and what did he learn that made him so excited?

Dances and whist drives are now running regularly, and are the envy of all other units as regards attendance. Many new steps can be learned that are not in the drill book; and steel-toed dancing pumps are in great demand. Conjuring is becoming a fine art: witness how coffee and sandwiches can be made to disappear between the cookhouse and the dance-room. Waiting (on snips) is not so intricate as one is led to believe. Tip to investors: Ditches are now well below par and should not be speculated with.

Could any 1st class candidate give me the correct definition of "victim"? The word has a stinging effect. Horsey smells and bandy legs float gently around the barracks now the mounted sports have started for British ranks. Many loving scenes can be seen (if you don't pun, you will be pun-ished) as the horses jump, and a dentist should make a fortune in a short time.

In a football match against the sergeants, much good play by the juniors was seen, and what was lacking in technique was made up for in hard work. The result—a draw—was appreciated by all. If I were a tipster, I should suggest watching Skin, 'Arry and Busty. They will go far (if a conveyance is provided), and I have heard whispers that they are sure of getting jobs when they are "time-ex." I wonder!

I am sorry (?) to say there are no manœuvres for us this year. It is rather a pity, because several chaps wanted to copy the Blighty Signals and capture a few aeroplanes to go on leave with. Was ever a country so hard upon its devoted followers?

We regret to announce the sad ending of two unit parrots, who died from exposure (?). Those who have heard their piercing shrieks will no doubt join the owners in their great sorrow!

Our thanks are due to the Bermuda Section for many reminiscences in their first contribution in THE WIRE.

The Signals Association chief is pleased to report that his belt is now full of scalps, and every man pays his respects to the O.C.A. Let us hope they will all do well when they leave the army, and have no need to call upon the Association for assistance.

Writing of chiefs reminds me that our hunter is back from camp with some fine skins to his credit, among which are a cheetah's (9 feet by 4 feet), and some silver fox. Good old Toddy Boy!

Our Christmas notes must necessarily appear in next month's issue, and I hope all other units will have as good a time as we undoubtedly shall.

Strength Increase.

Miss Johnson (mind the jazz set on the crockery, Johno), Cpl Garroni, and Signalmen Rick, Cooley and W. Smith. If "welcome" is not on the mat, we mean it just the same.

SAB.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat, Dec. 16th, 1925.

The much-discussed Northern Command manœuvres of 1925 are now gone—but not forgotten. The details of the battles and results are better left to the historians, but there seems little doubt they were a success and well up to the mark. In some circles it is even said that they were above pre-war standard, and naturally, to the young army of to-day, this is certainly a pat on the back, as well as an incentive to keep up the standard reached.

As a unit we did not participate, only sections being present as recorded in our last notes. Judging by the two letters and comments of the higher powers-that-be, we stay-at-homes cannot but feel that the detachments of F Divl. Signals more than held their own, and have reason to be well satisfied with their efforts.

The sections marched back into Kohat on December 8th, looking dusty and worn, but still game for a good many more miles. The following are the letters referred to above:—

"I wish to convey my thanks to yourself and your unit for the work they did on the recent manœuvres. The keenness shewn by officers, B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s was most marked, and especially so as they were working for another Divisional Signals. I would like you to inform them that, although they were working for another unit, they have done a great deal for the name of the corps in India."

"In every way you have been most awfully helpful, and the officers and men sent to help us out have been perfectly splendid. I have tried to convey my thanks to them all, but would be very glad if you would again let them know how greatly I have appreciated their very willing and loyal co-operation. I want also to tell you how well your Brigade Section under Sergt Small came in, like a Guards battalion (probably better), and I was awfully proud to see Signalmen march in so very well."

Christmas is now almost upon us, and preparations for the festive occasion are in full swing.

The following application for employment as a khansamah, received recently, is reproduced as an example of English (to say nothing of the cooking!) that springs from the native mind.

"Sir,—I most humbly and respectfully beg to request that I am come from Rawalpindi and my very good prectis in the Khansamuh work. If your kind honour keeping me on contract I hope that your kind honour always must be glade from my work because always and every day I shall giving you an good articles on dinner.

"On Sunday at hazri (breakfast) bukan and eggs; on dinner chickin rost, mixed vegetabele muttoni soup, custer puding.

"On Saturday at hazri, mutton champ frai, chep potato eggs. on dinner mutton rost gunt, mint sauce banana fleter, mixed vegetabeles, fruit. on tiffin some day kirnipie, cold meat salad, one tea every day queen cake and uskan cake and tea with toos.

"All kinds of curry I shall be giving daily change to change. Also if any time article you like. I shall be suplying. On bleakfast every day I gining porodge, One teatime at table I giving milk butter jam.

"Only I am to be charging daily rupees one per head. Also what monthly pay you like I like so.

"I giving you a big dinner but kindly examine my work or which is your rule and custom. Kindly let me to knowne from that. My meantion only is this that I shall working of your mess kindly giving me answer.

"For this act of kindness I shall ever pray for your long life and prosperity.

"I beg to remain sir, your most obedient servant,

"NATHOO, Khansanah.

GIBBS DENTIFRICE
safeguards teeth against the menace of decay—preserves and beautifies
Dentists themselves use and recommend Gibbs Dentifrice.
Its saponaceous base produces fragrant foam which penetrates to every nook and cranny of the teeth.
Germs are destroyed.
Dangerous food deposits are swept away before they can form their destroying acids, and then Gibbs Dentifrice puts a high, even, germ-deflecting surface on the enamel, polishing the tiny light facets to lustrous, pearl-like beauty.
Ensure lifelong sound, beautiful teeth. Use Gibbs Dentifrice thrice-a-day.
Gibbs Dentifrice
Large size, 1/-; De Luxe, 1/6, Refills for above, 11d.
Popular size, 7½d. Tubes, 6d. & 1/-
D. & W. GIBBS, LTD. (Dept. 64EQ) Cold Cream Soap Works, LONDON, E.1

"Note.—Or kindly appointed my pay rupees thirty monthly and giving me every articles. I shall be making you from good to good articles."

And now we wonder, if the situation could be reversed, how would the same lengthy application look, in Hindustani, from a good number of British ranks in India?

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Bannu, December 27th.

Christmas festivities will soon be on their last lap, and judging from the numerous cases of severe "morning after the night before" feelings, it is perhaps for the best. We all spent a most enjoyable time, the festive board lacking nothing. Thanks for the arrangements of the Christmas dinner are due in great measure to Corpl Parsons, L/Corpl Orford, and Sigmn Fowler, and others who kindly assisted them. The decorations were carried out by L/Corpl R. F. Fields, Signalmen Richardson and Gill, and Pte Stewart, and a very good show they made.

We have had many changes in this area. There were many broken hearts and moistened eyes when we played the first batch of men to the station for Dera Ismail Khan, where they will join another party and proceed to Karachi for repatriation to the U.K. per the "Neuralia," which sails on the 29th. Many promising young sportsmen were included. We all trust they will have an enjoyable voyage.

The party comprised: Sergt A. Parsons, Corpls A. Rowe and A. E. Haynes, L/Corpls Tyler, C. E. Smith, and H. Norman, Signalmen D. Watson and Deardon. An improvised band, composed of Sigmn Gill (pianist), L/Corpl Fields (jazz drummer), and Sigmn Cole and Pte Stewart (comb and coggage experts), rendered sweet strains outside the Quarter-bloke's office, such as "Show me the way to go home," "Home, sweet home," "Auld lang syne," and "The Signals' March Past."

Most Healthful, Delicious and Enjoyable

KIA-ORA
LEMON SQUASH

The famous English product, made in London and untouched by hand from beginning to end; really made from fresh Messina lemon juice and white cane sugar. No drink can be more enjoyable nor more wholesome.

Kia-Ora has many uses. Just add cold water and you have a table beverage with an acid sweetness and tang that whet the appetite and promote digestion. Add soda water if a sparkling drink is preferred.

SPORTS.—Tennis players, golfers, polo players, in fact, all sports will find Kia-Ora Lemon Squash unequalled as a thirst quenching and refreshing beverage. An extra glass or two will, instead of being harmful, be beneficial.

ECONOMY.—Kia-Ora is extremely economical. A large bottle will make not less than 24 glasses of Lemonade or Lemon Squash. There is no trouble in preparation. The Squash is hygienically clean, ready for instant use and no waste.

SOLD THROUGHOUT
INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

Sole Makers—
KIA ORA LIMITED, Blackfriars, London, England.

G Divisional Signals.

The N.V.H. Meet at Bilhari.
Capt. L. N. Shoosmith, R.A., Capt. Hurst, and Lieut. M. Yates, R.A.

Gocul the Kennelman, and Signalmen Strickland, Highman and Kimber, with some of the Hounds.

Extensions of Service.

No. 2312416 L/Sergt A. Szarkowski and No. 2313031 Corpl J T. Parsons, Royal Signals, have extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

C.I.D. Department.

(1) Unusual occurrence.—Dame Rumour has recently informed our sleuth that the sergeants' mess are to hold a dance in the near future. We wonder if Dame Rumour is still a lying jade, or whether the mess have read the pamphlet on "How to make a heaven in Bannu" (by B. Cheerful), and intend to smarten up parades for the inhabitants.

(2) A soldier's burden.—It is said that every soldier carries a baton in his haversack; but we hear that Sigmn B—— (well known as Benny) is carrying a 7lb. Indian club.

COIR.

Iraq Signal Section.

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: A/Sergt J. Cowley to be Sergeant; L/Corpls J. Schofield and A. J. Turner to be A/Corporals.

Lieut. W. H. N. Dent, R. Signals, left for U.K. on a well-deserved three months' leave. Sigmn F. J. Thomas, late M.T. Section, A Corps Signals, Ewshot, to U.K. and civvy street. (Good luck, Tom, from all the Section.)

Football results will be found in Sports Notes.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

I have had such a busy time of it during the past month that notes for THE WIRE have been sadly neglected. Many pardons! but at the best of time our notes are small.

The new draft have settled down and are quite delighted with our colony (?).

Congratulations to A/Corpls Bowler and Stainer on their substantive rank.

Welcome.

To Q.M.S. and Mrs. Roberts and family, who arrived per s.s. "Kalyon" from Plymouth, a happy and healthy stay is our wish.

Departure.

Bon voyage to L/Sergt Gent, who left for home per H.M.T. "Derbyshire." Best of luck, Bill, and don't forget to keep us informed of your whereabouts through THE WIRE.

Signals Association.

We can claim a 100 per cent. membership here, and hope to have the same for WIRE subscriptions—more about this anon. In Q.M.S. Roberts and Sergt Seymour we have two ardent workers for the Association, and we hope to hear something from them at our meetings.

CAN DO.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters British Troops in Egypt,
Cairo, January 7th.

The Christmas festivities over, we now settle down to real hard work during the coming year. During 1925 some very pleasing work was accomplished, both from an industrial and sporting point of view. We must not, however, rest on our present standard, but go one higher by the time next December arrives. Ths great thing is unity, and if we all unite there can be no disappointments. The past year has seen us very prominent in various sports, our chief honours being as follows:—

Winners of best all-round unit competition for the fourth year in succession.
Runners-up in the Command boxing championships.
Winners of the Command cross-country championships for the second year in succession.
Winners of Command swimming championships.
Winners of Command water polo cup.
Runners-up in Command water polo league.

Credit is due to all who took part in the various events or the training of the teams.

Arrivals.

Lieut. R. G. L. Giblin, Royal Signals, and Lieut. R. L. Hansard, Royal Signals, arrived with the new draft on December 17th, and were posted to Nos. 1 and 3 Companies respectively. We wish them a long and happy stay in our midst.

We have great pleasure in announcing the arrival of 96 other ranks from Blighty, ex H.M.T. "City of Marseilles," on 17th December, among them being some very old and familiar faces. The sporting world was well represented by such notable dignitaries as L/Sergt (Charlie) Wheeler, Corpl (Paddy) Holness, and Sigmn (Ted) Richmond, so we are now looking forward to a rosy time when the championships come along. Our sincere wish is that one and all have a happy stay in the land of Egypt.

Departures.

It is very nice to see old friends arriving from the old country, and to learn all the latest songs, etc.; but there are the others to whom we had to bid farewell when they left for home—45 of the old hands embarked for Southampton on the 20th December, and *really* some of them were very loath to go. Tubby and Blind 60 were "pushed" for parade on the morning of going away. "May the best of good luck go with them" is the wish of the many old friends who are left behind to carry on.

The Sergeants' Mess, A Divisional Signals, Peshawar, N.W.F.P., India, 1925.

Back Row (left to right)—Sergt Wheeldon, A.E.C., Sergt Neal, L/Sergt Wyeth, Sergt Quick, L/Sergt Joiner, L/Sergt Slaughter, Sergt Haigh, L/Sergt Goddard, L/Sergt Neads, Sergt Lodge, L/Sergt Bryant.
Third Row—Sergt Bray, Sergt Drew, L/Sergt Harvey, L/Sergt Lynch, Sergt. Dunn, Sergt Powell, Sergt Blunden, Sergt Gavey, Sergt Bogg, Sergt Gould, Sergt Marsh.
Second Row—F/S/Sergt Hamper, C.S.M. Blunt, D.C.M., Lieut. E. L. Farnall, R.Q.M.S. May, D.C.M., M.M., Capt. E. P. C. Collin, R.Q.M.S. Craig, M.M., Capt. C. M. Malden, C.Q.M.S. Andrews, C.Q.M.S. Dowley, Sergt Saville.
Front Row—L/Sergt Hooker, L/Sergt Payne, L/Sergt Storey, Sergt Hilliard.

TRY
BEACH'S
Jams
and
Marmalades
and Wonderful
Lemon Curd

F. PHILLIPS WELLINGTON .. STREET ..
ALDERSHOT

Medallist.

Silver Cups and Trophies

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C.S.O.'s Directorate.

We welcome the arrival of L/Sergt Bawden, late of D Company, S.T.C., who has taken up duties in this branch of H.Q., B.T.E. We wish him the best of luck during his stay with us.

Sketches.

We convey our thanks to Sigmn H. S. King (No. 1 Company) for the contribution of "The Dizzy Height" in this issue. We have reason to believe that more cartoons are forthcoming. Have we another "Drake"?

BEN.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, January 2nd.

Since our last notes a big transformation has taken place in this unit, with the advent of the boat so eagerly awaited, and the departure of some very old faces. The draft arrived from the U.K. on December 17th, and were given a royal reception, whilst in the evening a concert was given by the Morse-Key-Toes as a welcome to the new arrivals and a farewell to the eastern veterans who departed on December 20th per s.s. "City of Marseilles."

The programme comprised excerpts from the various programmes produced since their debut, and was considered to be the best they have yet given in the canteen theatre. It contained the strongest of their concerted items, amongst which were "The banks of the Nile," "Coffee-stall characters," and "Love in a tub." The show commenced at 8 p.m., and was kept going until 11.30.

During the interval, Tich White, on behalf of the concert party, welcomed the new draft and regretted the departure of the old. He reminded all present that the success of the show depended not only on the efforts of the party themselves, but on the support given them by the rest of the corps.

He then presented Tubby with a gift from the party, as a little memento, and judging by the applause it was easy to see that Tubby is a favourite with the whole of the corps in Egypt.

There were many cries of "speech," whereupon Tubby, who was all blushes, said that he felt too full for words, and that he could not fully show his appreciation of what had been done by a mere "thank you," but that he would always remember it. Good old Tubby! we hope that you will be as great a gain to your new unit as you have been a loss to ours.

The next appearance of the Morse-Key-Toes, we understand, is to be at the Continental Savoy Hotel, so for the information of Biddy, Tubby and Steve, it will be seen that we are coming along very nicely.

Sergeants' Mess.

At last the "old crabs" have gone home, and we have welcomed the new arrivals to fill their places. The following are the departures to England: Sergt Wattley (who couldn't stay the distance, Arthur?), L/Sergts Pout and Minns, and Corporals Hickey and Critchley. We welcome the following to the fold with open arms: C.Q.M.S. Dowie, L/Sergts Bawden (at present with the C.S.O.'s Directorate), Naylor and Woodhead, Corpls Bland, Burns, Connelly, Holness, Rushworth and Solley—and we hope that their stay with us will be long and happy.

It was rather unfortunate that the farewell concert developed into an impromptu (very much so) on account of the two stars, Tubby and Norrie, being detained at the Imperial with departed spirits.

Christmas was "got over" in the usual manner, the mess paying their annual visit to the married quarters, and after the amount of carol singing which was indulged in, the party returned to the mess in ones and twos by various and devious routes, having thoroughly enjoyed their outing.

As usual we had our Christmas festivities on Boxing Day, and when every one was happy and convivial we paid a visit to No. 3 Company mess. It is understood that we created a sensation, even if our visit was short.

A. E. B.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, Camera Club.

Outing to Memphis.

On Sunday, December 28th, the club organised an expedition to Memphis. Despite the urgent need for recuperation after the Christmas festivities, twenty-eight cheery optimists turned up at Cairo station for the start. Several more were prevented at the last minute from accompanying us, among them being the sergeant-major, whose absence left a gap not easily filled.

The first stage was from Cairo to Badreshien by the E.S.R. "E.S.R.," by the way, signifies Egyptian State Railways, and not, as one might suppose after a long journey on them, "Easy Stages Route." The trip recalled many pleasant memories of the dear old "Southern."

Our first stop was at Embaba, where the engine promptly laid down and gave up the ghost. The station staff were mobilised, and both of them threw sand under the wheels, while the engine-driver played with his levers, and the fireman gave a good display of fluent "cussing" in seven languages. Finally, Sigmn Davies got out to give a push, and the train, recognising a master hand, proceeded on its way, and thereafter was on its best behaviour. We passed several donkeys en route, though in justice to the animals we should point out that they were only walking.

At Badreshien we detrained, and proceeded (some hardy spirits upon donkeys) to Memphis. Dave again distinguished himself by his ability to raise a gallop out of the most anæmic of donkeys; but the rumour that he is securing a local discharge, and settling down as chief donkey wallah at Memphis, is totally without foundation.

There are two Rameses: the Sleeping Rameses, and another which used to stand upright until its feet rotted and forced it to assume its present recumbent position. Tich promptly dubbed the second statue the Creeping Rameses to distinguish it from the first one. He was awfully interested in it. We think he had a sort of fellow feeling for anyone whose legs refused to support their body any longer.

Having paid gallant homage to the Lady Sphinx, we had an excellent lunch, the catering arrangements throughout being admirable. We then visited the Temple of Ptah, and from thence went on to the village, where Peter exhausted his supply of Arabic in a vain endeavour to discover the village school, and fell back on French, which was a little worse. "Parle vous Francaise, wallah? Ou est l'Ecole? Ici, n'est—ce pas?" Eventually he found it, presumably by means of the deaf and dumb language, but I missed this bit, my donkey boy being of a morbid turn of mind and taking me on a tour round the local cemetery instead.

After tea we headed back to Badreshien, Peter, astride a donkey and attended by a small army of camp followers and hangers-on, having a patriarchal appearance. Solomon in all his glory never had so many people round his donkey at one time. It took us a few minutes and a liberal application of the whip to convince them that their presence was neither necessary nor desirable. The journey was uneventful (unless you can term Tich's voice in full blast an "event"), and a most enjoyable outing was brought to a successful conclusion.

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Thanks for the excellent organisation are due to L/Corporal Wales and his two henchmen, Signalmen Lever and Cornelius. I would like to draw attention to the motto of the Camera Club Committee: "If we please you, tell your friends; if not, tell us!"

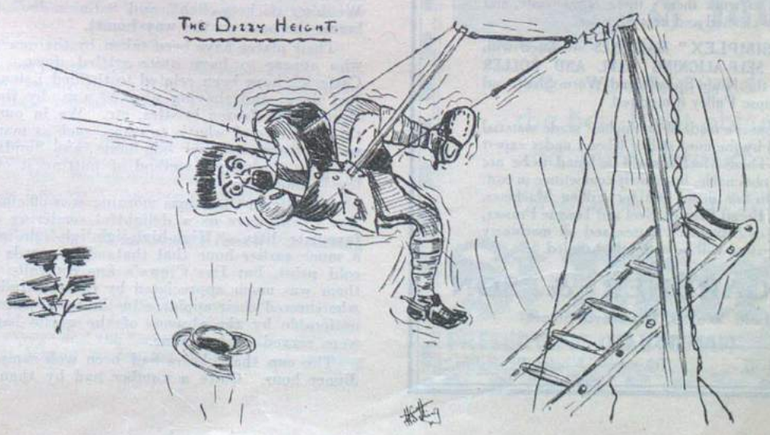
J. H. F.

Hello! Hello!! Hello!!!

The "Morse Key Toes" concert party recently presented an entirely new programme which delighted the large audience. There were seven artistes in the show, and credit is due to each one, for the acting was superb.

Space being limited, I cannot describe every individual item, but will narrate the principal ones.

THE DIZZY HEIGHT.



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On the completion of the opening chorus, the whole party rendered a very lively ditty in "Down on the Bingo Farm."

A song entitled "The Hussars" was sung by "Norrie" Norcross (the "dude") and was received with loud applause.

"Give three cheers for the dustman," rendered by that notable character, "Tich" White, was undoubtedly a real good cockney turn, and was appreciated by the audience. "Tich" is a born comedian, and finds very little trouble in pleasing his admirers.

"Bill" Bailey introduced a coon song, "I ain't a'goin back to nowhere," in good style. This artiste has a very nice voice, and with a little more self-confidence should be level with the best of amateurs. He also sang "That boy of mine," a song which is very much suited to him.

"Fairings" (from "Three Songs of the Fair," composed by Easthope Martin) was admirably rendered by Teddy Edwards, who has an exceedingly fine baritone voice. This artiste also gave "The Ballad monger."

Another talented comedian is "Tubby" Minns, who delighted his audience with "Nobody knows what I know," a comic song which caused the patrons to rock in their seats. He also rendered another laughter-maker in "Ida."

"Tug" Norman has always held a high reputation for monologues, and retained it on this occasion when rendering "The Coward" and "I forget," two very impressive pieces.

Two sketches were staged, one being a representation of "India," and the other of "Africa." Both these were enacted in very fine style.

"Could Lloyd George do it?" sung by Tich White, was a huge success, the applause being so great that he was compelled to give an encore.

Another sketch, entitled "Coffee Stall Characters," gave great credit to the party, and judging from its reception, I foresee a long stay for this particular item.

"Babs" Payling can be congratulated on his rendering of "Little Old Lady." This artiste was at his best on this occasion, and all his songs were splendid.

The stage settings for the various scenes are really good, and credit is due to Sigmn Ryder, who has such excellent taste when holding the paint brush in his hand.

Everyone voted it a most successful entertainment, and hoped that the next appearance of the "Mossies" would be in the near future.

BEN.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, January 1st.

At last the "big boat" has been and gone, taking with it a large number of old members of the Company to U.K., either for immediate discharge or transfer to the Reserve, or for posting to home establishments. The good wishes of the rest of the Company go with them, and we hope they will soon settle down in their new spheres. We already miss Coton's mandoline, Snowy's dry humour, Palmer's "dead-certs," and Webb's "clickety-click" and "dinkie-doo" (we hope he didn't break the boat on the way home).

Their places have been taken by the new arrivals from U.K., who appear to have quite settled down. Harrowing tales of Catterick have been related to thrilled listeners, of snow several feet deep, and shaving at 5.30 a.m. by the simple process of chipping off frozen bristles, etc. We in our turn tried to beat this by hints of what's to come, such as margerine being served up in spoons, summer bug-hunts, and Sunday's breakfast being fried by the simple method of putting it out in the sun for a few seconds, etc.

Reveille on Christmas morning was officially at 6.30 a.m., but Dvr Crewe gave us a delightful rendering of the new canteen favourite ditty—"High-high-'igh-'igh-'igh-'igh-'igh-'igh-'igh," at a much earlier hour that that. The words don't look much in cold print, but Dvr Crewe's fine contralto voice when singing them was much appreciated by the remainder of the Company, who showed their applause in the usual manner. Breakfast was noticeable by the absence of the garlic bags of mystery that were served up last year.

The cup that cheers had been well sampled long before the dinner hour. Quite a number had by then lost all interest in

turkeys, and were asking all and sundry to "show me the way to go 'ome," whilst a few preferred a little sleep on the cold, hard, unsympathetic ground. "Sailor" was quite emphatic in assuring the rest of the company that he was quite prepared to take over the duties of orderly sergeant, if necessary. Still, all things must come to an end, and Christmas Day went out to a chorus of "'igh-'ighs."

C.S.M. W. Clark left us on December 31st for U.K., and all join in wishing him the best of good luck in his new station. We are wondering who will take his place.

Arrivals.

We welcome the following recent arrivals to this unit, and trust they will soon settle down and have a pleasant stay with us:—Lieut. R. L. Hansard, C.Q.M.S. G. Harrison, L/Sergt C. Wheeler, Corpls H. Collins, S. Saunders, and E. Williams, L/Corpls S. Hill, W. Robinson, and W. Saint, Signalmen W. Backhouse, L. G. Bates, A. Bazley, W. J. Birt, S. G. Boxall, R. Brown, A. E. Brown, W. Cabett, J. Corkhill, E. R. Cook, A. C. Cooper, J. A. Cripps, W. Denby, G. Elliott, W. Grose, W. Hanke, G. Hardman, H. W. Hartley, H. T. Hobson, G. Hollingsworth, J. J. Holmes, J. T. Horn, E. C. Jager, G. King, N. Knight, H. Langley, J. A. Macklin, B. Marsh, C. Mayall, T. McDonald, W. J. Muckler, A. North, E. O'Connor, T. W. Osborne, F. Prior, A. J. Richmond, B. Roberts, S. J. Rouse, J. Ryan, F. H. Sansom, J. Smith, W. Tattam, H. E. Turner, W. J. Weir, E. Whitfield.

Departures.

The following left us for U.K. on December 19th, and the good wishes of the Company go with them:—Sergt G. Kingman, Corpls T. Lannigan and A. Jenkins, W/Corpl E. Berry (C.M.A.), L/Corpl E. Lewis, Signalmen C. Chubb, A. Parslow, T. Palmer, E. Ash, P. Webb, C. Cornforth, H. Ford, S. Cross, W. Gaerty, G. Key, W. McDonald, L. O'Kill, C. Callard, S. Whitworth, R. Ruffle, L. Chettleburgh, G. Turner, S. Budd, F. Binder, R. Jardine, G. Richards, C. E. Rowe, C. Rowe, J. Vine, T. Ball, W. Coton.

Appointments.

The undermentioned have been appointed A/U/L/Corporals w.e.f. 24/12/25: 2309481 Sigmn A. T. Dibsdale, and 2315149 Sigmn E. M. O. Tudor.

Miscellaneous.

Sigmn C. Wilson (late Palestine Signal Company) wishes to congratulate Corpl A. Mackie on his promotion.

Sigmn E. Chaloner would like to hear from Sigmn D. W. Jones, last heard of in D Company, Maresfield.

ART.

Signal Section, Malta.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Jan. 1st.

The Section wishes all readers a prosperous New Year.

I must apologise for the absence of notes this last month or two, but being a small Section, and things being a bit quiet, we haven't had much to report until lately, when the excitement of getting ready for Christmas started.

In the barracks everything went off with great success: the dinner was excellent, thanks to the R.E. cooks and committee, not forgetting our two representatives, Signalmen Alexander and Horten.

The Royal Engineers held their last fancy dress dance of the year at the Princess theatre on New Year's Eve. We are pleased to report that Mrs. Baines walked away with the ladies' first prize, dressed as "Sports." Another piece of furniture for the home, Jordie!

Now the holidays are over, we are looking forward to making things hum during the new year.

Departures.

The Section is sorry to lose R.S.M. Shave, L/Sergt Bond, and Sigmn "Billie" Mandy, who left us on the 23rd for the U.K. We wish them bon voyage and the best of luck in the new camp at Catterick. Sigmn Mandy is due for discharge on arriving there.

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Arrivals.

We welcome the arrival of Q.M.S. and Mrs. Mutter, Sergt and Mrs. White, Sigmn and Mrs. Chapman, and Sigmn Vieye, and hope they will be here with us for a long time.

Advertisement.

Would anyone with a silent jew's harp like to swap same for a portable gramophone and saxophone in good blowing order? Apply No. 4 Room, St. Francis Barracks. HAMBEET.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, Dec. 31st.

Christmas has come and gone, leaving us with only the resultant headaches. Unfortunately we were unable to have our Christmas dinner together, being attached to various messes for rations. However, everybody apparently had a good time. Two of the Prospect detachment, returning from Hamilton on Christmas Eve, brought back a Christmas box in the shape of a bottle of whiskey (?) of 90 h.p. strength (cost of living has gone up to 12s. 6d. a bottle).

Congratulations to Corpl C. W. Gale on being substantiated.

Entertainments.

The Bethlehem Tableaux were a great success, better than the previous year in some respects; but, oh! the choir! thank 'eavens there was only one Signal in it. The "E.L. wizards" were overloaded with compliments on their share in the business.

This week the Prospect Officers' Dramatic Club are producing a play, "The Thirteenth Chair." Two performances are to be held in the Gymnasium, two in the Colonial Opera House, and one at the R.N. Canteen, Ireland Island. Two of these have already taken place, and proved a great success. C.Q.M.S. Simmonds and Sigmn Sayers are to be congratulated on the lighting effects which play a very important part indeed. I was rash enough to volunteer to control the hall lights (on the first night, too). Never again! Having switched the lights on at the wrong moment twice in succession, and being forced to creep about on tiptoe, listening to hoarse whispers about "that silly ass on the lights!" I had a most painful time of it.

Horticultural.

So far the results of our great gardening campaign have not been promising. Bananas and pa-paws are doing well; but out of the seven packets of lettuce seed sown, we have as yet only four radishes to show. We are having a sweepstake on what the remainder may be. The fellow who drew "hops" seems to have the favourite.

Mentioning the word "favourite" reminds me that the Bermuda Hunt Club held their usual Boxing Day races yesterday, 30th. For those who have attended before, remarks are needless; but this being my first attempt, well—nuff said! I lost about 38s. on the old c. and a. board. A case of buying experience, again!

I have until now always considered myself fortunate that every girl I proposed to has said "No" in reply, but the last week or so has made me doubt. The married man is certainly getting all the treats. The C.R.E. (O.C. Signals, also) Lieut.-Col. C. W. Biggs and Mrs. Biggs entertained the married families at "Clifton," everyone having a splendid time. Corpl Gale of this section distinguished himself at the parlour games, thereby winning a prize in the shape of a torchlight. Yesterday they attended the S. and D. Christmas tree party, where again everybody had a good time. The children, I suppose, allowed fathers to come to this to keep them out of mischief whilst they were away.

Sport.

At last we have turned the corner, and every game this month has resulted in a win for us. I am sorry to say I have lost the list of results, but it being Christmas time, you will no doubt understand.

"Some" Yarn!

Have you heard this one: "It was Christmas Eve, and the father of a large family, with a frugal mind, meditated · he then went outside the house, fired a shot in the air, and came in again to inform the assembled family that Santa Claus had committed suicide and there would be no presents for them." What was his nationality? THE PLUG JUGGLER.

A DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, PESHAWAR.
"Rare and refreshing."—The n c.o. estimates each man's carrying capacity, and indents accordingly.
Photo by Sigmn Poole

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Burlington St., Manchester.

Having said goodbye to 1925, we welcome 1926, hoping that this year will be a successful one for all.

A little bird has whispered that our next annual training will be held on Salisbury Plain, and we are looking forward to meeting the White Horse of the Hills once more. We will be very busy during the end of January and the first few days of February with our Trade Board, and we expect some very good results.

The unit held a dance in the drill hall on January 1st, which proved a big success. Dancing was from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. The band of the Royal Engineers (T.A.) was in attendance, and the music was of the best. Refreshments were "as per."

The G.O.C. 42nd Division gave us a surprise visit on Tuesday, January 12th, and we hope he found everything up to his expectations.

A. O. K.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

Social events have been as "thick as hops" lately. No. 3 Company held their annual dinner at Topsham in December, and scored a great success. The Plymouth Section, who came by road, unfortunately *missed* Topsham on their way up and found themselves a few miles further on at Lympstone. This added a bit to their mileage, but they did arrive, and seemed rather amused to realise their mistake. The glare of Topsham lights must have been rather dazzling when they passed through!

During the evening opportunity was taken to make presentations to C.S.M. Cosway and Sergt Baker, who recently retired from Territorial activity. A pleasing announcement was also made that the Plymouth Section had won the shooting cup. Congratulations to the unit's healthy babe!

During the week prior to Christmas, No. 1 Company held their annual draw, and there was another merry little evening when the prizes for the Christmas shoot were presented.

The Topsham Section also had a celebration for their prize shooting presentation.

Immediately after Christmas, Topsham got busy again with a ball, which was followed the next day by a children's party.

No. 1 Company entertained all the children of n.c.o.s and men in the Company on January 4th, and on the 9th they held their annual social. The attendance at the latter numbered 200, and was quite the most successful event ever organised at the Exeter headquarters.

Now, after all this galaxy of festivities, we turn to our training manuals and resume our studies. R.S.M. Webb has returned from the north full of vigour after a well-earned leave, and C.S.M. Agombar full of notes from Catterick, where he has been undergoing a three months' course.

We had a wonderful array of Christmas cards from friends in Signals at home and abroad, and we much appreciated the kind thought of the senders. It is very cheering to have this friendly exchange once a year, and it makes us feel that we *are* a part of the great Signals machine.

The next important event is the n.c.o.s course at Exeter in the latter part of February, when old warriors and young ones gather together for a week's hard work.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Corpl W. Radmore, of No. 1 Company, in the recent sad bereavement which has befallen him.

O. ESSES.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

The New Year was warmly welcomed in by us on the occasion of our gala dance, held in the drill hall on New Year's Eve. All present thoroughly enjoyed the evening and early morn. That it really was "some" show, enough to attract the attention of Fleet Street, is proved by the picture which duly appeared in the "Daily Sketch." We take this opportunity of thanking all concerned for their untiring energy and willing help, which made this, and is making our weekly dances, such a success.

A hearty welcome is extended to all ranks of the "Royals" should they happen to pass this way on a Saturday evening; a merry time is assured them.

Our best wishes go with C.S.M. Tyler, D.C.M., of the Permanent Staff, who is now busy at Hounslow preparing for entry into civvy life. We feel sure that success awaits him if he carries on as he did when with us. His mark has been left behind him. All branches of the unit's life, technical and social, testify to "Watty's" interest. One of his many jobs was the building up of the Chiswick Branch of the Signals Association—a job well done, as the list of members proves, and which is

now handed over to Sgt Horner, known to many of the "Royals," and now one of the 44th Divl. Signals.

To all readers of his notes in THE WIRE, "Watty" bids adieu!

Training.

The second period of winter training has now commenced, and we hope to have a good attendance.

Sport.

On February 6th, the Middlesex Brigade boxing competition will take place in the drill hall.

Notices.

Our weekly dances will be held on Saturdays, 13th, 20th, and 27th February, with the unit dance band under C.S.M. Tyler in attendance.

Rifle Club.

The prizes won by members of the unit rifle club were presented at a dance on December 19th by Mrs. Thomas, who gave an interesting speech, which was suitably replied to by C.S.M. H. Jordon. Three cheers were called for Mrs. Thomas, and they were heartily given.

Future Events.

A monthly handicap spoon shoot for members of the rifle club, and a scratch spoon shoot open to all members of the unit, commence on February 1st. Arrangements are being made for several matches with local units and the police.

A. C. A.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

As training has closed down for a bit, things are fairly quiet at headquarters now. Social events are the order of the day. On December 22nd a very successful whist drive was held in the lecture room. Eighteen tables were filled. The prize-winners were: ladies, Mrs. Kidman, 134; gentlemen, Sigmn Jackson, 139. Top score, first half: ladies, Mrs. Carnall; gentlemen, Mr. Murphy. Top score, second half: Ladies, "Miss" Nichols; gentlemen, Dvr E. Moody. A "mystery prize" (a very nice case of tea knives) was given for the greatest number of tens scored. Six players tied with three each, and on the "cut" the prize was won by Mr. Fagan, who has since married the sister of two of our sergeants. We offer our congratulations, and trust that Mr. Fagan and his good lady may live for many years to use the tea knives. Before the last hand of the drive, tickets were sold for a raffle for a bottle of port, the proceeds to be given to the children's party fund. This was won by Mrs. Turmaine.

The children's party and Christmas tree was held on Saturday, January 2nd. Arrangements were made for sixty children belonging to members of the unit. Tea was served at 4.30 p.m. After a good "tuck in," games, singing, etc., were indulged in until 7 o'clock, when an entertainment was provided in the form of conjuring and Punch and Judy. By the happy shouts of the children, they appeared to enjoy this immensely.

Bovril prevents that sinking feeling

Miss Rosie Safferty (aged 6½ years) entertained the company with songs and dances, with Miss Marie Safferty at the piano. Miss Rosie is certainly a coming star. Her rendering of "The Frenchy Girl," "Mammy," "Horsey, hold your tail up," and "Doughnuts," was quite as good as is heard at many music halls. Bandsman Safferty is to congratulated on his talented daughters.

At the conclusion of the Punch and Judy show, an announcement was made that a wireless message had just been received that Father Christmas was on his way to see the children, and a few minutes afterwards he appeared. (Good old Bill!) Father Christmas then gave out his presents, and happy children's faces were seen all round. A very pleasant evening concluded at 9.15 p.m.

Many thanks are due to C.S.M. and Mrs. Hooper, the committee and helpers; also to the commanding officer, officers' mess, sergeants' mess, canteen, and individual subscribers, for their generous support of the fund.

We are pleased to see notes from our offspring (No. 2 Company, Southend) in last month's issue. Reports of their doings are much appreciated by members at headquarters. We hear they are now nearly up to establishment. Congratulations to Corpl Smeeton on his promotion to C.Q.M.S. He will be due for the usual initiation ceremony in the sergeants' mess at camp.

We are all very pleased to hear that our popular R.S.M., Sergt.-Major H. L. Adams, M.M. (Tich) has been granted a further extension of his tour of duty with the permanent staff of this unit. Long may he be with us!

We regret to report the discharge of the C.S.M. of No. 1 Company. After many years' service, both in the Volunteers and the Territorial Army, C.S.M. Carnall, D.C.M., has now resigned. We wish him the very best of luck in the future. We trust he will not desert us entirely, and he can be assured of a very hearty welcome at all times in the mess.

Progress is being made with the Branch of the Signals Association. There are still a few vacancies in the membership roll book, so roll up and see the Branch secretary, C.S.M. Sharp.

Y. E. D.

No. 2 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Training has commenced very seriously once more, after about three weeks' strenuous holiday. Not a bit "thick in the clear." Now the "thick" has "cleared," we hope everyone has made a resolution to put his heart and soul into training, and prove himself worthy of No. 2 Company at the next Trade Board.

An addition to our instructors has been made by Capt. Johns kindly volunteering to give a series of lectures on horsemanship and stable management. I have a strong belief that he will make them very instructive and interesting. Let us all join in heartily thanking him for his kindness and his interest in the Company.

Our biggest event is at hand, namely, our (Baby Company's) first annual dinner. This is now the absorbing topic locally, and we hope to see a full muster on that occasion. Who said "Game"? If you ask Dickie, he will tell you. We have every hope that the March issue of THE WIRE will contain Twocoy's comments on the function, and all members are recommended to order their copy early. We are certain there will be something good in it.

Sport is not being lost sight of, and it is interesting and pleasing to see so many men keenly interested in boxing, with a view to competing in the T.A. Tournament. Best of luck to the plucky ones; and look out, No. 3! we are after *both* cups this year.

Football is not so well patronised. I understand that the committee always has to fight hard to raise one eleven, let alone two for an inter-Company match to select the Company team. Surely they are worthy of more support than this!

A new suggestion to increase the Sports Fund: try "House."

Last month the editor was compelled, by lack of space, to hold over several items; so with a view to assisting him in clearing off some of those arrears, I now say "adieu."

TWOCOY.

Sport in the Fighting Services.

Monthly Sporting Circular—No. 7.

December, 1925.

FOOTBALL.

Army v. Corinthians.

The splendid play of the Army XI. this year is fast becoming a leading topic in amateur soccer circles. B. Bennison, the well known critic of the *Daily Telegraph*, witnessed the match against the Corinthians, and the following excerpts have been made from his report:—

"Football in the Army has never been better. Such was the impression I formed at Crystal Palace, when the Corinthians played a team of officers and men. It is true that the Army lost—the score went against them by 3 goals to 2; but the result did them an injustice—they were the better side and they had more of the play. Howard Baker, bad luck, and much poor shooting lost them the game. The Army were the equal of many of our professional sides—their forwards especially clever; their halves sound; backs steady; goalkeeper first class. I would especially commend the halves, and, if they may be excused much wild shooting, the forwards could hardly have been improved upon. All of them had ideas above the common."

Army v. Oxford.

Despite fielding a weak side, the Army easily defeated Oxford by 4 goals to 0. Woodards (2), Vallance and Evans were the goal-scorers.

Army Cup—Fourth Round.

Fixtures: 2nd Rifle Brigade v. 10th Hussars; 1st Middlesex v. 2nd Leicesters; R.A. (Shoeburyness) v. 2nd Training Bde., R.A. Depot; Depot Brigade, R.A. Depot v. 1st Brigade R.H.A.; Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, v. R.A.S.C. Training College; 5th R.T.C. v. 1st Prince of Wales Volunteers; 2nd S. Staffs. v. 4th R.T.C.; 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers v. 1st Battn. Durham L.I. Ties to be played before January 30th.

Other Matches—Results.

R.N. and R.M. 5, F.A. Amateurs 2. Navy Cup Port Final, R.N. Depot (Chatham) 8, Reserve Fleet (Sheerness) 1.

F.A. Amateur Cup—Middlesex Regt. 3, 2nd Battn. Rifle Brigade 0. H.M.S. "Excellent" 4, 2nd Argyll and Sutherlands 2. R.M. Chatham 0, Erith and Belvedere 2.

RUGBY.

United Services (Portsmouth).

The match v. Guy's at Honor Oak Park was one of varying fortune and ended in a draw, the Hospital scoring a dropped goal and three tries, and the Services two placed goals and a try. While always fast and keen, the play during the first half attained to no particular excellence, each side breaking away repeatedly without developing any really effective attack.

Against Rosslyn Park and R.N.C. (Greenwich) easy victories were recorded, the scores being respectively 21 points to 3, and 43 to 10.

Army Trial XV.

After losing a closely-contested game against U.S. (Chatham), they won convincingly by 18 points to 11 against R.M.A. (Woolwich). The admirable touch-finding of Guardsman Rees at full-back, and the work of H. O. Wright at stand-off half, for the Trial XV., were the outstanding features of the game.

HOCKEY.

In the Services.

The game is becoming increasingly popular in the Army, and there are now more than forty regimental clubs affiliated to the H.A. Among recent English military international players may be mentioned Capt. Halstead, Capt. Turner, and W. O. Godfrey. There is also Capt. McCormick, who played for Ireland against England in 1923. Major R. Brooks, who has been capped for England three times, is a R.M., and as such plays for the Navy.

United Services XI.

Hendon were overwhelmed in the second half of their game against the U.S. (Portsmouth). The final score was 7—1, six of the winning goals being obtained in the last thirty minutes, that clever forward, Lieut. Atkinson, scoring a hat-trick.

ATHLETICS.

Middlesex Championships.

The R.A.F. (Uxbridge) won the Middlesex cross-country championships at Ruislip. In 1924 they finished first, but one of their runners was subsequently declared ineligible. On the present occasion the Airmen supplied the first three men home. They were, respectively, A.C. F. Turner, L.A.C. Ferris, and L.A.C. G. Goodall.

BOXING.

Territorial Championships.

The Prince of Wales has been pleased to give his patronage to the Territorial championships to be held at the Stadium Club, Holborn, on March 4th and 5th. Officers' classes at all weights will be held for the first time.

SQUASH RACKETS.

First Army Champion.

The first Army squash rackets championship was won at Prince's Club, Knightsbridge, by Lieut. G. Scott-Chad, Coldstream Guards, who holds for a year the silver challenge cup presented by the club.

First Naval Champion.

Lieut. R. C. Todhunter, R.N., won the first Navy championship at Queen's Club.

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Inter-Services.

As a fitting conclusion to the above championships, an inter-Services match was held at Prince's Club, which was won by the Army by three ties to none. Two of the matches, however, were closely contested, and went their full length of three games.

TREBLIG.

Cross-Country at Catterick.

All our cross-country runners are now on leave, and we hope they are getting thoroughly out of training. They have had a hard first half of the season, and having done everything they have been asked to do, they deserve a real rest before getting properly fit for the Northern, the Northern Command, and Army championships. It has not yet been decided whether we shall enter for the London-to-Brighton road race. Our last two efforts certainly encourage us to do so, but the matter is a question of expense.

The runners who have stood out so far are Corpl Cotterell, L/Corpl Richardson, Signalmen Ayres, Gosling, Broadley, and Turner. With these six in form, we can give almost any club in England a good run. Then there are L/Corpl Ivison, Sigmn Stibbs, Boy Beale, Sigmn Chadney, and Dvr Gaston, all good class runners.

Although it is dangerous ever to prophesy about cross-country runners, whose form is more misleading than that of race-horses, there is every reason to think that in Boy Beale the Corps has a young runner who may do really great things. Whether he will be another "Joe," time alone will prove. This probably depends upon the boy himself.

Sigmn Lloyd is showing some of the running which brought him to the fore at the end of last season, but Signalmen Moore, Barnett, and Hendy have not yet struck their right form; and Sigmn Blades is waiting until after Christmas before showing some of the young ones the way to go home. Unfortunately, Corpl Cayley and L/Corpl Brundell have been in hospital for some time. L/Corpl Smith has been too busy selecting nice juicy pieces of meat for his A Company runners to be able to turn out very often himself. We must, however, have him for the Army championship.

This season some very promising young runners have been found, the chief of whom are Signalmen Clarke, Hammond, Ryalls, Cockrell, Ruffle, Leslie, Donaghy, Shaw, Beddington, Laurence, Smith (F Company), Markham, Stenning, Gardner, Hope, Lieut. Newson, 2/Lieut. Keddie, and Boys Ellison, Berry, Saunders, Walters, Nicklin, Hall, Brice, Smart, Jury, Josey, and Gregory. Can the "pick" of those mentioned place the Depot and Training Battalions first and second in the Army cross-country? Last season they were second and fifth, but that unfortunate little bottle of Cascara had a deal to answer for. No little bottles, T.B., this year!

We take this opportunity of wishing Aldershot and the 3rd and 4th Divisional Signals the very best of luck in the Command and Army championships; and may we *all* compete at Windsor on March 23rd.

A little bird which lives not a thousand miles from Salisbury Cathedral informs me that a certain Signal unit may spring a very pleasant surprise and actually *win* the Army cross-country. However, watch the D.C.L.I.—they will be the chief trouble.

I wonder how many promising young runners in the Army are ruined every year by being asked to *race* before they are fit. There is no question that many are entirely spoilt in this way; and those in charge of cross-country teams commit an unforgivable sin if they fail to insist on a series of walks and runs for *all* runners before they allow them to take part in a race.

The North Yorkshire and South Durham C.C. League.

The placings at present are Darlington Harriers first, T.B. second, and Depot Battalion third, but there is plenty of time for either battalion to come out on top. On February 6th the League run will take place at Catterick, when "the Corps" will be hosts.

On February 13th, Signals, Catterick, will take part in three races at Gosforth Park, Newcastle:—

(a) The N.E. Counties 7-miles senior championship (over 21).
(b) The N.E. Counties 7-mile junior championship (over 18 and under 21).
(c) The N.E. Counties 3-miles youths' championship (over 16 and under 18).

The *least* we hope for is to be placed in all three races, and to supply the winner of each event in Corpl Cotterell, Sigmn Gosling or Sigmn Broadley, and Boy Beale.

Later in the season, the Northern, Northern Command, and Army cross-country championships will take place. A big effort is to be made to combat "stitch," that curse of nearly all cross-country runners. Exercises which will strengthen the stomach muscles will be regularly carried out, and an experiment with half a wine glass of water, plus a teaspoonful of salt and a little sugar, is to be tried. The salty water is said to entirely neutralise the acids which cause stomach cramp and stitch. It may make some feel a little ill, but individuals are certainly advised to try it before a fast practice run; it may be the simple solution of a difficult problem.

S.T.C. (Catterick) Fixture Lists, 1926.

Soccer.

Saturday, Jan. 9—D.B. v. St. Georges (home).
Saturday, Jan. 16—T.B. v. Croft (home).
Saturday, Jan. 16—D.B. v. Cleveland Bridge (home).
Saturday, Jan. 23—T.B. v. Croft (away).
Saturday, Jan. 23—D.B. v. Heighington (home).
Saturday, Jan. 30—D.B. v. St. Georges (home).
Saturday, Feb. 6—T.B. v. Shildon R.A. (home).
Saturday, Feb. 6—D.B. v. Low Conniscliffe (home).
Saturday, Feb. 13—T.B. v. Barnard Castle (away).
Saturday, Feb. 13—D.B. v. British Legion (away).
Saturday, Feb. 20—T.B. v. Wire Mills (away).
Saturday, Feb. 20—D.B. v. Blackwell (away).
Saturday, Feb. 20—Boys v. East Road Juniors (home).
Saturday, Feb. 27—T.B. v. Darlington R.A. (home).
Saturday, Feb. 27—D.B. v. British Legion (home).

Saturday, March 6—T.B. v. Darlington R.A. (away).
Saturday, March 6—D.B. v. Gainford (away).
Saturday, March 13—T.B. v. Hurworth (home).
Saturday, March 13—D.B. v. Blackwell.
Saturday, March 20—T.B. v. Middleton (away).
Saturday, March 27—T.B. v. Albert Hill (home).
Saturday, March 27—D.B. v. Raby United (away).
Saturday, April 3—T.B. v. Middleton (home).
Monday, April 5—T.B. v. Rocket Athletic (away).
Saturday, April 10—T.B. v. Hurworth (away).
Saturday, April 17—T.B. v. Wire Mills (home).
Saturday, April 24—T.B. v. Rise Carr (away).
Saturday, May 1—T.B. v. Albert Hill (away).

Rugby.

Saturday, Jan. 9—T.B. v. Redcar (away).
Saturday, Jan. 16—T.B. v. Redcar (home).
Wednesday, Jan. 27—D.B. v. York Nomads (home).
Saturday, Jan. 30—T.B. v. Darlington (home).
Saturday, Jan. 30—D.B. v. Middlesbrough (home).
Saturday, Feb. 13—T.B. v. St. Johns, York (home).
Saturday, Feb. 20—T.B. v. Darlington (away).
Wednesday, Feb. 24—D.B. v. Border Regiment (home).
Saturday, Feb. 27—T.B. v. Ribblesdale (away).

Hockey.

Wednesday, Jan. 6—D.B. v. York (Wed.) (home).
Saturday, Jan. 9—D.B. v. Harrogate (home).
Wednesday, Jan. 13—T.B. v. Richmond (home).
Saturday, Jan. 16—T.B. v. Darlington (home).
Saturday, Jan. 23—R. Signals (Catterick) v. York 2nd XI. (away)
Saturday, Jan. 30—D.B. v. Northallerton (home).
Saturday, Jan. 30—D.B. v. Darlington (away).
Wednesday, Feb. 3—D.B. v. Richmond (away).
Saturday, Feb. 6—Royal Signals (Catterick) v. Thirsk (home).
Saturday, Feb. 13—D.B. v. Northallerton (away).
Saturday, Feb. 20—T.B. v. Redcar (away).
Saturday, Feb. 20—Royal Signals (Catterick) v. Bradford (away)
Saturday, March 6—D.B. v. Darlington (home).
Wednesday, March 10—D.B. v. York (Wed.) (away).
Saturday, March 27—T.B. v. Morton (away).
Saturday, Mar. 27—R. Signals (Catterick) v. York 2nd XI.(away)
Saturday, April 3—T.B. v. Ben Rhydding (home).

Cross Country.

Saturday, Jan. 23—South Shields Road Race.
Saturday, Feb. 6—Run, N.Y. & S.D. Harriers League (home).
Saturday, Feb. 13—North Eastern Counties Championships.
Saturday, Feb. 27—Northern Championships.
Saturday, March 13—4th Run, N.Y. & S.D. H. League (away).

Boxing.

Wednesday, Jan. 6—S.T.C. v. London Fire Brigade (away).
Thurs., Jan. 28—D.B. v. 2nd Black Watch (Army team) (home).
Friday, Jan. 29—T.B. v. 1st Border Regt. (Army team) (home).

Cricket.

Mon., Tues., May 24 and 25—S.T.C. v. Yorks Gentlemen (York)
Mon., Tues., June 14 and 15, or Thurs., Fri., June 17 and 18—S.T.C. v. Durham Pilgrims (home).
Mon., Tues., June 28 and 29—S.T.C. v. Craven Gents. (Skipton)
Wed., Thurs., July 14 and 15—S.T.C. v. Cryptics (home).
Mon., Tues., July 19 and 20—Corps v. R.A.O.C. (Oval).
Wed., Thurs., Aug. 4 and 5—Corps v. Royal Tank Corps (Oval).
Fri., Sat., August 6 and 7—Corps v. R.E. (Aldershot).
Fri., Sat., Aug. 27 and 28—S.T.C. v. Craven Gentlemen (home).

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cross Country.

Someone was right when he remarked that the cross-country results of E Company were not like their usual performances. Now then, lads! you are carrying all before you in football and rugby; now regain your old spirit at running. It is your chance to show the new Company commander that you intend to back him up. You *can* do it, so let's have it.

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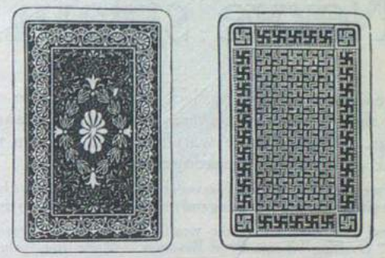

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Boxing.

The boxing team has more pluck than science, and as it is formed by absolute novices, the performances to date are far better than they may seem on paper. However, the spirit is there, and with the training they are having, we feel confident of good results. We must congratulate young "Pip" Wheeler upon being one of the four Corps boxers to win against the London Fire Brigade. He is going to be worth following up—a chip of the old block! We wonder if *all* his family have this gift.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cross Country.

There is nothing doing in the cross-country line at the moment. Our team is training, and have just about recovered from Christmas leave.

Rugby.

Rugger has not had much chance of late owing to the adverse elements. We defeated the School after a jolly hard game, and we all feel rather elated, as they always give a good account of themselves in any game. They scored first, Harberry taking advantage of a mistake by our back and scoring in a favourable position for Lieut. Morrisson to convert. The game was keenly fought out, and we succeeded in crossing the line on two occasions. Lieut. Danby evaded the major portion of the Schools back division to score right in the last minute. Result: F Company, 6 points; School, 5.

On January 2nd we met E Company in the League, and after winning against the School we were rather confident of defeating them. Four of our best forwards were absent, but E were without their live wire, Capt. Mathew. It was a really good game, and though the score read 3—0 against us, we acknowledge the fact that whatever happens, E Company can always be

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depended upon to play a clean and hard game. They beat us, but we are still in the running for the League championships. Beware!

Lieuts. Coryton and Danby, and L/Corpl Jones, are congratulated on being awarded Battalion "Jimmies."

We would be pleased to have a game against the Corporals' Mess of the T.B. whenever they feel a little inclined.

Boys' Platoon.

In a soccer game, playing for A team against C, Boy Nicklin sustained a fractured femur. The accident occurred in front of goal during a scrimmage, Nicklin falling with the goalie on top of him. He was unable to straighten his leg, and was in great pain. He didn't moan, though, showing that he had plenty of grit.

The boys improvised a stretcher from a piece of fencing and some great coats, and conveyed Nicklin to the camp hospital. Later he went to York, where his leg was straightened. I am afraid he will not be out of "dock" for some considerable time. It is unfortunate that the accident occurred just before Christmas leave. However, the boys made a whip round, and the corporals' mess did likewise, and enough was collected for two parcels which were despatched to York Hospital to help brighten Nicklin's Christmas.

Nothing of interest in the realm of sport has occurred since Christmas. Our runners are training, and we hope for great things from them on February 14th, when they compete in the N.E. Counties championship at Gosforth Park. Anyhow, the best of luck to Boy Beale and his team.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

The leave season has again interfered with football, and several matches had to be postponed. On other occasions it was only possible to field weak teams. No Garrison League fixtures were arranged between December 20th and January 8th inclusive, but it is hoped that all Companies will be able to turn out at full strength after the latter date.

The second round of the Bulford Garrison cup is due to be played on January 25th, when Nos. 2 and 3 Companies meet the Staff and Departmental and the 5th Pack Battery R.A. teams respectively.

A unit team has been entered for the Salisbury Plain Area cup.

The arrival of Corpl Lannigan from Egypt will go far towards strengthening an already good side. We shall miss the services of Sigmn Moody, who is under orders for the Rhine.

Hockey.

Owing to annual furlough, there was very little hockey in the unit last month. Matches have now started again, and there is a full fixture list up to the middle of March. We welcome the arrival of Q.M.S. Forward, who should be a great asset to the side.

The results of matches played to date are: Played 12, won 5, drawn 3, lost 4; goals for 36, against 31.

Cross-Country.

Steady runs have taken place during the month. We are hoping to have a run against our old friends the Sappers before we start serious training for the Southern Command championship.

Signal Training Centre, India.

Games.

The hockey team (winners of the Brigade shield), of which I hope to publish a photograph next month, arrived o.k. in Mhow, but left after the first round, very sad. I was one of 'em. We lost by 2—1, and to cut a long story short, we—er—er—lost by 2—1.

Since my return I have seen very little of sport in general, and in consequence would prefer to hold my remarks until a later date. G Signals, I notice, were very quick to challenge us at hockey, but only suggested the 24th Dec. for the match, so I am given to understand by our sports officer that there is nothing doing.

E Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Football.

Junior v. Senior N.C.O.s, 1—1. Unit v. H.Q. Wing Worcesters, 0—1. Inter-unit, 3—2.

Hockey.

The sergeants beat the corporals by 3—1. As there are no sergeants about, I may say that they were rather lucky.

Tennis.

Senior versus Junior N.C.O.s.—The former won by 14 points after some very good games.

Officers versus Senior N.C.O.s.—The latter won by 17 points. The games were very close, and the scores of 11—9 show that both sides played well. The unauthorised spectators (over the wall) were rather disappointed that Capt. Lewis-Barclay never gave an exhibition, but as one youth remarked, "he is atora garm."

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Football.

Results to date: Versus 60th Squadron R.A.F., lost 2—5; versus R.A.F., Kohat, won 2—0.

Rugby.

F Signals, 6 points, 60th Squadron R.A.F., 6 points.

Hockey.

Results to date: Versus R.A.F., Kohat, won 3—0; v. 22nd Pack Battery R.A., won 4—0; v. 2/9th Jat Regt., won 4—1; v. K.E.O. Probyn Horse, won 1—0.

Tennis.

This branch of sport is just now making great strides among the junior n.c.o.s and men, the unit club having a membership of forty. All are very keen, and we hope to see some "Patersons" before long.

The members of the tennis club of the w.o.s and sergeants' mess invited the junior n.c.o.s and men to an "at home," which the seniors won by 36 games to 24. It is rather to be regretted that the chai and wads arrived before play finished, as the attention of the juniors appeared in a few cases to be distracted by it. However, better luck next time, the juniors! May we soon be sending a few to Wimbledon.

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area, Bannu.

Hockey.

Since our last appearance in print we have been busy playing off the various heats, semi-finals, and final of the Waziristan District hockey cup. After winning our way to the semi-final and gaining entry into the final by beating the S. and T. Corps, we encountered an unlooked-for piece of bad luck. The S. and T. Corps saw fit to raise a protest against three of our players, Sigmn W. Chambers, Corpl Channell, and Sergt Gibbard. This necessitated a replay less the three persons protested against, and the result was a defeat for us.

Our first team comprised: Sigmn Gill (goal); Sigmn Brannagan and L/Corpl Whiley (backs); Sigmn Watson, Corpl Channell, and Sigmn Chambers (half backs); Sigmn Clay-Peters, L/Sergt Watts, Sergt Gibbard, Lt. Palmer, and L/Cpl Tyler (forwards).

Our second team included Sigmn Gill (goal); Sigmn Watson and L/Sergt Watts (backs); Signalmen Benson, Clay-Peters and Ferdinando (half-backs); Sigmn Hawkes, Pte Thomas, Lieut. Palmer, Sergt Bushnell, and L/Corpl Tyler (forwards).

The referee was Lieut. Whyte (S.S.O. Bannu), and the opinion of various unbiassed spectators was that strict judgment and fair play was the order throughout the game.

I am afraid the crowd of *interested* witnesses of the game were disappointed when the full-time whistle went and our opponents held the lead. Everyone, or almost everyone, was shouting for "The Royal Corps," and Signals colours were much in evidence.

No other hockey games worthy of note have been played owing to the Bannu Brigade and District sports.

Iraq Signal Section.

Football.

Having lost some of our team, who have gone "somewhere" to build and maintain new routes, we are not quite up to our usual standard, though many teams still shake when they are due to meet us.

Up to date we have played 27 matches, won 17, lost 4, drawn 6. This includes friendly games. In the local League of sixteen teams we are second from the top. Sigmn Carpenter has scored 20 goals, Sigmn Marshall 12, and Signalmen Vitch and Jarvis, 10 each.

The Corps in Egypt.

Football.

There has been very little (if any) improvement in the Corps team since last month. True, we have won two games, but not in convincing style: it's been a mere crawl. Still, I suppose the criticising should be left to the committee, whose job it is to run the team. The results for the month and league position are as follows:—

December 12th, v. 1st A. and S. Highlanders, lost 2—4.
December 19th, v. R.A.M.C., lost 2—3.
January 2nd, v. 3rd Brigade R.H.A., won 3—0.
January 6th, v. R.A.O.C., won 4—1.

Played 16, won 7, lost 9; goals for 44, against 43; 14 points.

Hockey.

In a friendly match with the Gezireh Sporting Club we were defeated rather badly, the score being 10—4, but on visiting the Y.M.C.A. we romped home with the honours, beating them by 11 goals to 1.

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P.1248

In the Command cup (1st round) we met the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and lost by 5—1, thereby making a hurried exit from the competition.

Cross-Country.

Both the Company teams are having "scruff" runs with a view to finding some yet undiscovered Joe; and glancing around, I think that we should be able to turn out a fairly strong team this year for the various runs.

It is rumoured that Dvr Caudwell, one of our best men, has decided to take no part in future cross-country owing to a bad knee sustained whilst playing soccer. We sincerely hope there is no truth in this rumour, and that his knee will be quite in order by the time the season commences.

Boxing.

There is no boxing to record for the last month. The Command individual championships are being held at the time of despatch, and details will be given in the next issue. As stated elsewhere, L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond have joined us from the United Kingdom, and we are all looking forward to their coming out of the championships with flying colours.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.

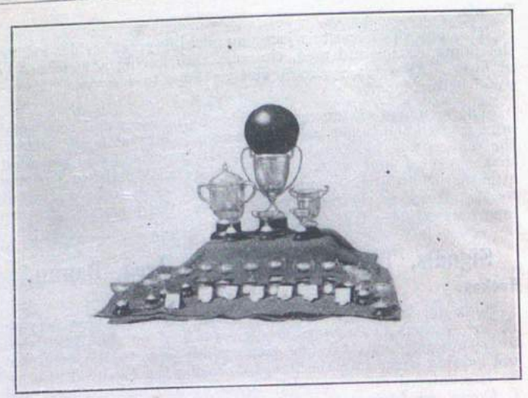
The following are the results of matches played during December:—Versus No. 3 Company Egypt Signals, drew 1—1; v. Royal Tank Corps, won 7—6; v. Royal Horse Artillery, drew 7—7.

In the C. of E. cup for small units, we managed to beat the 25th H.T. Company R.A.S.C. after a good game by 2 goals to 1.

It will be seen from the results that we continue to hold our own in the world of sport, and with the addition of some of the recent arrivals, we are hoping for far better results in the future.

Hockey.

The Company have played no matches during the month. The results of the Corps matches are recorded elsewhere.



Some of Egypt Signals' Aquatic Trophies.
Photo by Corpl H. Barnham.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Cross-Country.

The Company cross-country run and inter-Section team race will be held on January 13th or 14th, over a distance of three to four miles of sand. Headquarters Section, who won last year, have a fairly strong team, and with Sigmn Beeton, Dvr Ratledge, L/Corpl Clark, Sigmn Wilson (all of whom were in the team last year) and Sigmn Jeans (who may surprise everyone by his greatly improved running), they should renew their last year's success.

Boxing.

The Command individual boxing championships are being held at Abbassia, Cairo, on the 7th, 8th and 9th of January, and representatives have been entered by the Corps in the various weights. The following from No. 3 Company will be competing: L/Sergt C. Wheeler (middles), L/Corpl F. Matthews, Signalmen A. J. Richmond and W. Coleman (feathers), Sigmn E. Burns (bantam), and Sigmn J. Smith (fly).

Signal Section, Malta.

Not having enough men in the Section for a team of our own, we do what we can to help out the R.E.s football team. Sigmn Vieye plays for the 2nd eleven, and Corpl Baines and Sigmn Bevis for the first team.

We congratulate Corpl Baines on being selected to play for the Army against the Navy at the Empire Sports Ground on Sunday, January 3rd.

42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals, Manchester.

Football

Our club obtained their first victory at the expense of the Lizard A.F.C., whom we defeated by the odd goal in five on their ground.

Miniature Rifle Club.

No. 3 Company defeated No. 1 in the team competition by a margin of four points, but we hear that the cracks of No. 1 were digesting "sparks" and "direction."

Games Tournament.

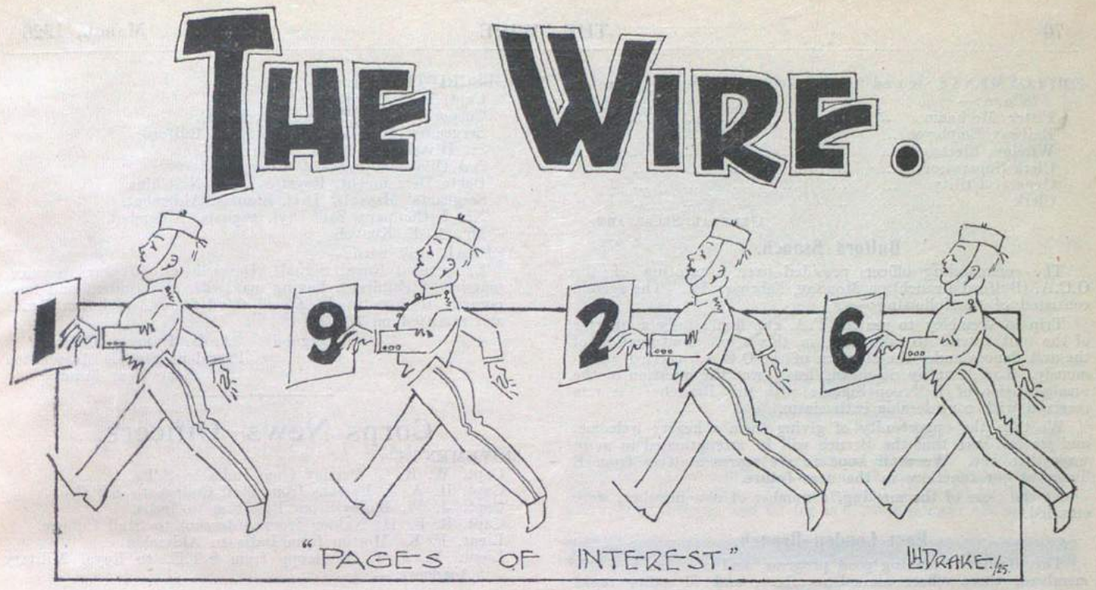
The members of the sergeants' mess entertained the sergeants of the 52nd Brigade R.A. (T.A.) and the 6/7th Manchesters (T.A.) in a general games tournament on Friday, January 8th. The results were as under:—

Billiards—42nd (E.L.) Signals, 300; 52nd Brigade R.A., 216.

Miniature rifle team—42nd (E.L.) Signals, 376; 6/7th Manchesters, 247.

Whist—42nd (E.L.) Signals, 8 games; 6/7th Manchesters, 4.
42nd (E.L.) Signals, 6 games; 52nd Brigade R.A., 2.

On the whole, the mess ran out comfortable winners in all events.



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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.

Editorial Notes.

It is with great regret that we record the death in Scotland, on February 5th, 1926, of Lieut.-Colonel A. St. J. Yates, O.B.E., M.C., Chief Signal Officer Scottish Command. A memoir appears on page 71.

❀ ❀ ❀

It has been suggested that Signal units abroad should be asked to contribute an article from each of our foreign stations, describing briefly: The value of the Station to the Empire; the climate; games, social entertainments, etc.; the work performed by the Corps locally; and any other similar information calculated to be of interest and value to those who have foreign service ahead of them.

Will our foreign contributors please note, and kindly supply the desired information at their earliest convenience?

❀ ❀ ❀

Owing to the exceptional supply of unit notes this month, it has been found necessary to hold over certain interesting articles, etc., until the April issue, when every effort will be made to include them.

❀ ❀ ❀

Many thanks to B Divisional Signals at Quetta for their reassuring letter. May we hope for a resumption of unit notes from that station in the near future? THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Committee extend a very hearty welcome to all those new members who have recently been enrolled under the "9d. per man per month" scheme. They greatly appreciate the ready response made by A Corps Signals, Ewshot, and No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, Cairo—the former having provided 345 and the latter 173 members.

To facilitate the work of this office, will those units participating in the scheme kindly arrange to render, *without fail*, a monthly return of "additions and cancellations" to their original nominal rolls—such returns to reach this office *not later than the 16th of each month* (a "nil" return will suffice when no change is necessary). This information is vitally essential if we are to be responsible for the correct addressing of each subscriber's magazine.

Further particulars concerning the whole scheme will be promptly supplied to any unit at home or abroad, on application to this office.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from Branches, etc., up to the time of going to press:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Major G. D. Ozanne, M.C.
Capt. C. P. Prescott.
Lieut. T. C. Thompson.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

Major J. S. Parsons	£0	5	0
Capt. W. E. Rayner	0	5	0
Lieut. F. S. Atterton	0	5	0
Capt. A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.	5	0	0
Capt. W. Solly, M.B.E.	0	10	0
Chiswick Branch	1	0	0
Lieut. F. R. L. Goadby	1	1	0
Baghdad Branch	1	15	0

EMPLOYMENTS WANTED.—A situation is urgently required for an ex-n.c.o. of Royal Signals, qualified as a Physical Training Instructor; age 25 (single); in possession of A.1 Certificate of Physical Training, 1924.

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of February were as follows:—

Fitter Mechanic	1
Railway Employee	1
Wireless Electrician	1
Clerk Supervisor	1
General Utility	1
Clerk	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Bulford Branch.

The commanding officer presided over a meeting of the O.C.A. (Bulford Branch) on Monday, February 1st. The agenda consisted of the following:—

Trip to Wembley to see the F.A. cup final: fully a quarter of the unit intend to take part in this trip. Continuation of the unit dances under the auspices of the O.C.A.: carried unanimously. Last, but by no means least, was the question of the amalgamation of E Troop Signals with this Branch: is was received with considerable enthusiasm.

We take the opportunity of giving them a hearty welcome, and we feel sure that the Branch will be strengthened in more ways than one. We shall hope to see representatives from E Troop at our functions in the near future.

At the close of the meeting, a number of new members were enrolled.

East London Branch.

This Branch is making good progress, and now has four life members, three officer annual members, and 51 other ranks annual members. It is hoped that when training commences in the 54th Signals, the *whole* of the unit will join. The present non-members will find the Branch secretary well after their blood.

A very successful whist drive was held on February 11th. The prize-winners were: ladies, Miss H. R. Smith; gentlemen, Mr. G. Turmaine. Top scores first half: ladies, Miss J. Savage; gentlemen, Dvr W. Cutter. Top scores second half: ladies, Mrs. Spike; gentlemen, Sigmn Jackson. Mystery prizes: ladies, Mrs. Lily; gentlemen, Mr. Lelliot.

The ladies' mystery prize was for the greatest number of sevens. One lady *nearly* won this, only she counted up the sevens in the opponents' column of her card—collapse of the M.C.!

A raffle for a bottle of port was won by Sigmn Nichols.

A very enjoyable evening was spent, and many thanks are due to C.S.M. Hooper and his committee.

F Divisional Signals Branch, Kohat.

F Signals Branch gave their first show in Kohat on January 9th, striking out on new lines and presenting "An Evening in a Cabaret." The theatre was full at 9 p.m., but with a big party of visitors from the cantonment (including the District Commander and Mrs. Isacke) we were later full to overflowing.

Well-known artistes of F Signals contributed the programme, and so we went on for three hours, from song to dance and from dance to song. Of the artistes, Sigmn "Snowy" Robbins came into his own again, and with his old songs brought the house down, keeping the audience rocking with laughter.

We are greatly indebted to Lieut. R. J. N. Solly, who, for band and singer, tickled the ivories in his own inimitable style; to Major R. H. Rayner, M.B.E., who (together with two shy sergeants) gave a couple of tries; to the energetic cafe staff-manageress (Mrs. W. D. Peerless) and willing waiters and helpers; and last, but very far from least, Sigmn C. Garner, who with a couple of yards of D.3 (where from?), some rags, and a few electric lamps, worked miracles, giving us a real first-class stage, complete with footlight and even orange trees.

We cannot omit the cartoonist, Sigmn Clapson, who sat amid the throng and caricatured many, from the General downwards. It gave one an uncanny thrill to think that, at any moment, one's unbeautiful features were being rapidly but accurately reproduced on paper.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from—
Capt. C. P. Prescott.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Capt. M. F. M. Parkes.
Corporals' Mess B Company, S.T.C.
Sergeants' Mess 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Pekin Detachment, Royal Signals, N. China.
Sergeants' Mess 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot.
No. 3 Company 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.
Mr. A. E. Kenyon.

APPEAL dealt with:—
Ex-sergeant Royal Signals (Devonshire), 16 years' service, married (5 children), having met with an accident and temporarily incapacitated. £5 allocated from Association Funds and remitted on 12/2/26.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS—
Capt. W. R. C. Penney from India to S.T.C.
Capt. H. A. J. Parsons from Staff College to S.T.C.
Capt. J. W. Bailey from Palestine to India.
Capt. R. F. H. Nalder from Aldershot to Staff College.
Lieut. F. K. Morton from India to Aldershot.
Lieut. V. J. E. Westropp from S.T.C. to Royal Military Academy.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 15/1/26

REGULAR FORCES—ESTABLISHMENTS—
School of Signals—Lieut. E. J. Hatfield, Devon Regt., to be Instructor, 4/1/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—2/Lieut. L. J. Robbins resigns his commission, 16/1/26
Francis Robert Bolt to be 2/Lieut., 16/1/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—56th (1st London) Divl. Signals. Lieut. A. C. C. Willway to be Captain, 16/1/26

War Office, 22/1/26

REGULAR FORCES—ESTABLISHMENTS—
School of Signals—Lieut. H. H. Malpass, Royal Sussex Regt., to be Instructor (ungraded), 2/1/26

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. R. C. Constable resigns his commission, 23/1/26, and retains the rank of Lieutenant.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals. Capt. (Prov.) C. F. Coley is confirmed in his rank, 17/12/24

War Office, 26/1/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. J. W. Davies, from Inns of Court O.T.C., to be Lieut., 1/7/25 (substituted for the notification in the "Gazette" of 30/6/25)
C. W. Millard to be 2/Lieut., 27/1/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—2nd Cavalry Divl. Signals. Lieut. D. Sinclair is seconded for special duties and is granted the temporary rank of Captain whilst so employed, 27/1/26

War Office, 29/1/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Lieut. H. J. Wiseman, from D.L.I. to be Lieut., 30/1/26, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Major G. D. Ozanne, M.C., from R.A.R. of O., to be Major, 30/1/26
Reginald Charles Smith to be 2/Lieut., 30/1/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals. Lieut. C. M. Beckett, from 47th (2nd London) Divl. Signals, to be Lieut., 30/1/26
51st (Highland) Divl. Signals—Capt. (Prov.) W. Johnston is confirmed in his rank, 11/2/25

War Office, 2/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets, from the Royal Military Academy, to be 2/Lieuts.:

Dated February 2nd, 1926—
Royal Corps of Signals—
Nicolas Gambier Newell.
Wilfred Montague Ponsonby.

Dated February 3rd, 1926—
Royal Corps of Signals—
John Foster Longfield.
Henry Vandyke Ewbank.
Desmond St. John Hoysted.
John Edmond Montague Bainbridge.
Richard James Moberly.
Patrick Rolleston Hyde.
Francis Roger Bryanton Moore.
Frank Carse Seely.
Montagu Geoffry Alaric Hepper.
George Woodhouse Roney-Dougal.
Swynfen Francis Pipe-Wolferstan.
Leslie de Malapert Thuillier.
Edmund Lewis Llewelyn Vulliamy.
John Chambers Hardy.

The undermentioned University Candidates to be 2/Lieuts., February 3rd, 1926, with seniority as stated against their names:—
Royal Corps of Signals—
2/Lieut. Harry Douglas Mountford, from Gen. List, T.A. 8/10/25
2/Lieut. Henry Richard Vincent Cooke, from Gen. List, T.A., 15/11/25

Royal Corps of Signals—The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 29/1/26:—
(Bt.-Major) F. R. Cobb, M.C.
F. O. St. John, D.S.O., M.C.

ESTABLISHMENTS—
Signal Training Centre—Capt. H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., Royal Signals, is appointed Brigade Major, 21/1/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—50th (N.) Divl. Signals. Hon. Colonel (Major T.A. Res. of Officers) C. L. Bagnall, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., resigns his appointment of Hon. Colonel, 3/2/26

War Office, 5/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Corps of Signals—The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets, from the Royal Military College, to be 2/Lieuts., 4/2/26:—
Sergt A. S. Milner, Durham L.I.
L/Corpl H. O. Pargeter, Royal Tank Corps.
K. C. O. Bastigan.
E. D. Good.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—GENERAL LIST—
Royal Signals—William Tipper, late Officer Cadet, Birmingham Univ. Contgt. Sen. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 6/2/26

War Office, 9/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Capt. C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C., to be Adjutant vice Capt. R. F. H. Nalder, 22/1/26
Capt. R. F. H. Nalder is seconded whilst a student at the Staff College.
2/Lieut. Edgar Bryan Wallace (Univ. Candidate) from Gen. List, T.A., to be 2/Lt. 10/2/26, with seniority 28/10/25
Devon Regt.—Lieut. E. J. Hatfield is seconded for service as an Instructor, School of Signals, 4/1/26
Royal Military Academy—Lieut. V. J. E. Westropp, Royal Signals, to be officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets (Cl. B, graded Cl. GG), 2/2/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Major A. S. Chenevix Trench, M.C., late R.E., to be Major, 10/2/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals. K. J. T. Boag, late Cadet Brighton College Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 22/1/26

43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—Capt. R. A. E. Blake, from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Captain, 10/2/26, with precedence as from 7/6/22

War Office, 12/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Lieut.-Col. (local Col.) C. J. Torrie, D.S.O., O.B.E., retires on Indian pension, 11/2/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Capt. W. M. Knight, T.D., from T.A., to be Major, 13/2/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals. 2/Lieut. K. C. Cooper to be Lieut., 16/1/26

NOTICES.

School of Signals.

War Office, 25/1/26

A regimental course of instruction for officers and non-commissioned officers will begin at the School of Signals, Catterick Camp, on April 29th. The provisional allotment of vacancies gives 20 for officers and 60 for non-commissioned officers.

The Late
Lieut.-Colonel Arthur St. John Yates, O.B.E., M.C.
A MEMOIR.

ARTHUR ST. JOHN YATES was the son of Col. H. T. S. Yates (late R.A.), and he first saw the light in India on July 23rd, 1882.

He entered Woolwich in 1899, and obtained his commission in the Royal Engineers on July 23rd, 1901. After two years at the School of Military Engineering he joined the Submarine Mining Service, with which he served in British Columbia and at Singapore.

In 1909 submarine mining was transferred to the Royal Navy, and in 1910 Lieut.-Colonel Yates took up Signal work, being posted in October, 1910, to K Signal Company in Ireland. From that date until 1914 he was employed for the greater part of the time as Sectional Engineer of the Cork area of the Post Office Telegraphs, with headquarters at Cork.

He joined L Signal Company on mobilization in August, 1914, and remained with that Company in France till the end of 1916. In February, 1917, after service with the 2nd Army and X Corps Signals, he became Assistant Director Signals II. Corps. At the end of that year he was transferred to General Headquarters, where he worked as Liaison Officer on the staff of the Signal Officer-in-Chief till the armistice. For his services during the war he was mentioned three times in despatches, and received the Order of the British Empire and the Military Cross.

After the war, Lieut.-Col. Yates was Chief Signal Officer, Ireland, until April, 1920, when he was transferred to the Rhine, where he served successfully as O.C. Rhine Signals Company and Chief Signal Officer.

He was transferred from the Royal Engineers to the Royal Corps of Signals on the formation of the latter Corps in November, 1920. In November, 1924, he joined the Scottish Command, and was appointed Chief Signal Officer in January, 1925.

During his service on the Rhine, Lieut.-Col. Yates' health had not been good, and he underwent a serious operation. By the summer of 1925 he seemed to have recovered his former health, but later in that year tuberculosis supervened, and he died in a nursing home at Banchory, Aberdeenshire, on the 5th February, 1926.

His quiet, cheerful disposition and lovable personality gained for him many friends among those with whom he came in contact, and his loss will be felt by all ranks of the Corps, whose sympathy is extended to Mrs. Yates and her two young boys.

Corps Promotion Roster.

Subsequent Amendments.

TO BE W.O. Cl. I. (R.S.M.)—
2306435 Santer, L. 21/11/24

APPOINTED QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANT—
2306196 Clark, W. 16/12/25
2311718 Fegan, H. 18/1/26

TO BE W.O. Cl. II. (C.S.M.)—
2306130 Harris, C. 1/11/25
2306210 Caulfield, C. 1/11/25

APPOINTED C.Q.M.S.—
2311226 Foster, E., 27/1/25
2306231 Biart, R. 27/1/25
2306237 Smith, E. 21/11/24
2307387 Jones, G. 21/11/24
2306219 Hoitt, W. 2/12/24
2306344 Setterfield, E. 17/1/26
2306175 Sharpley, W. 19/1/26

TO BE SERGEANT—
2307727 Oliver, S. 20/7/23
1854461 Scott, A. 19/8/23
1855195 Bray, A. 21/11/24
2306161 Diffey, W. 21/11/24
2311590 Donaghy, M. 27/1/25
2311814 Ford, W. 18/2/25
2306/98 White, F. 24/7/25
2305440 Dixon, A. 1/8/25
2308849 Wattley, H. 16/9/25
2308519 Newman, R., 21/10/25
2308703 Smith, S. 2/11/25
2307491 Pennicott, A. 20/11/25
2306706 Hall, P. 29/11/25
2311422 Buttle, W. 30/11/25

APPOINTED ACTING-SERGEANT—
1852454 Monk, A. 11/12/25
2310320 New, F. 15/12/25
1850327 Wilcox, E. 15/12/25
1850339 Wilson, J. 7/1/26
2311582 Potts, W. 8/1/26
2311583 Lowrie, J. 17/1/26
2311587 Hamlin, H. 19/1/26

APPOINTED LANCE-SERGEANT—
2306534 Betts, H. 4/12/25
2306267 Cayley, W. 11/12/25
2309683 Webster, H. 15/12/25
2311392 Partridge, W. 22/12/25
2306514 Brunton, C. 7/1/26
2307911 Diamond, G. 17/1/26
2309933 Wright, W. 19/1/26

TO BE CORPORAL—
2309739 Heitman, C. 31/1/25
2309802 Green, W. 31/1/25
1857229 Orton, B. 17/2/25
2309855 Macintyre, M. 17/2/25
2312580 Snow, H. 17/2/25
2314176 Holness, A. 28/5/25
1857147 Brashaw, A. 28/5/25
2309333 Blogg, S. 28/5/25
2312684 Winter, W. 7/7/25
2309746 Devey, H. 20/7/25
2308816 Critchley, R. 1/8/25
2309160 Hickey, G. 4/8/25
2310420 Gordon, E. 6/8/25
6905950 Walsh, W. 11/8/25
2312934 Brown, V. 24/8/25
2306799 Batchelor, W. 29/8/25
2311380 Cutler, J. 2/9/25
2306789 Harris, T. 5/9/25
2309008 Miles, H. 8/9/25
2311126 Wigzell, W. 15/9/25
1859026 Simmonds, F. 16/9/25
2314172 Parsons, L. 16/9/25
2313923 Cook, T. 16/9/25
2310123 Geer, R. 7/10/25
2314281 Challen, W. 7/10/25
2314099 Crabtree, N. 9/10/25
2311588 Chandler, A. 14/10/25
2309517 Balderson, S. 20/10/25
2309826 Macdonnell, D. 26/10/25
5485787 Effland, R. 20/11/25
2313016 Willcocks, C. 30/11/25
2307448 Davis, J. 1/12/25
2310539 Bloodworth, H. 4/12/25

APPOINTED ACTING-CORPORAL—
2311016 Applegate, W. 30/7/25
2311579 Varley, F. 10/12/25
2308590 Berry, P. 11/12/25
2306747 Hall, H. 15/12/25
2306624 Hall, F. 15/12/25
2310399 Andrews, D. 18/12/25
2309327 Lewis, S. 22/12/25
2313905 Heath, C. 7/1/26
2313894 Fish, A. 8/1/26
4380733 Blackett, R. 8/1/26
2314290 Beeton, J. 8/1/26
3515942 McDowell, A. 8/1/26
2314810 Ayling, E. 12/1/26
2311450 Finn, V. 13/1/26
2314883 Austin, A. 15/1/26
2308407 Smith, J. 19/1/26

Transfers to the Army Reserve.

2308898 Sergt G. Dunthorn, 31/12/25
2309206 Corpl J. Holder, 11/1/26
2309368 Corpl F. Hooker, 12/1/26
2311240 Corpl E. Jackson, 13/1/26
1850178 A/Corpl C. Harwood, 14/1/26
2309396 Corpl J. Wadlow, 19/1/26
2308816 Corpl R. Critchley, 19/1/26
2306726 Corpl F. Giles, 26/1/26
2309962 Corpl W. Tester, 28/1/26
2310123 Corpl R. Geer, 30/1/26

Discharges during January, 1926.

2306381 Sergt P. Walsh, 2/1/26
2306899 C.S.M. W. Johnson, 6/1/26
2311469 Corpl A. Milford, 12/1/26
2306342 C.Q.M.S. T. Mills, 16/1/26
2305435 R.S.M. L. Santer, 17/1/26
2306112 C.Q.M.S. J. Cadwell, 18/1/26
2306709 Sergt E. Kelly, 26/1/26

Plain Tales.

Most magazines and newspapers will soon be telling us all about the young buds and flowers, and enthusiastic correspondents will write and describe how they heard a thermostat calling to its young. A go-ahead concern like THE WIRE doesn't wait for anything like that. We get right down to it now!

Only last night we listened to the rippling notes of the feline tortoiseshellus. It was nowhere to be seen when I hopped out on one foot for my other boot.

The gentle rains have caused the brown earth to become a charming morass of liquid black and tan. The grass (where growing) is green in places. So it is in other places. Amateur gardeners may now begin to curse their unhappy lot. The following have not yet appeared: bluebells, irises, asparagus, mayonnaise, delphiniums, aluminiums, gum-arabic, butter-cups and blisters. Spades are trumps. Fortunately, I am not a gambler!

* * * *

Mrs. Hall, the popular N.A.A.F.I. superintendent, who worked such catering and decorating wonders for us at big entertainments during our stay at Maresfield, is now the welfare supt. of this area. Her many friends will be pleased to hear that Mrs. Hall has practically regained her old-time health and energy. Speaking of old friends reminds me that Mrs. Ne has just arrived from Catterick, and looks quite happy about it too.

* * * *

The "Bulford Breezes, 1926," are going at it hot and strong and judging by their enthusiasm at rehearsals we have something coming to us at their next show. Don't miss it if you are in the neighbourhood. It was either Shiner or Harris who proved that the flautist could not watch him and perform efficiently at the same time!

* * * *

The Regiment at home

The places where the British Army hasn't been at some time or other are scarce enough. It has got the habit of making itself at home anywhere.

Sailor Savouries, too, are at home anywhere. They can usually be found where the Army is, and what delicious sandwiches they make! Try them on bread and butter, or better still spread on hot toast.

They are light and convenient to carry, always give a good meal, and on the march you will value their sustaining qualities.

Sailor Savouries are no "ordinary" food. They are appetising and nourishing meats, fish and poultry, cooked by experienced chefs and put up in handy form in glass jars, ready for use at a moment's notice. There are poultry, meat and fish varieties, and every one is guaranteed made of the exact ingredients as stated on the labels.

Packed in hermetically sealed glass jars, they retain all the nourishing value of choice fresh foods.

Write and tell us if you can't get them in your canteen.

Don't blame us if accepted "just-as-good" substitutes disappoint.

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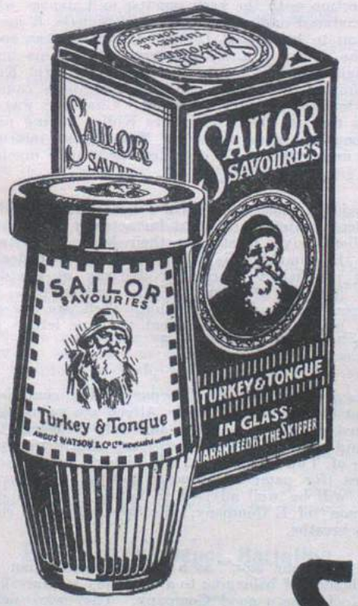

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IN SUN-PROOF CARTONS

PLEASE PATRONISE "THE WIRE" ADVERTISERS.

In every season the most delightful & wholesome drink is

KIA-ORA
LEMON SQUASH

NOT only is 'Kia-Ora' wholesome and a beverage you can drink at all times, but it also has the advantage of being one of the most delightful drinks you can imagine, the flavour being that of fresh lemon juice sweetened to the correct degree by cane sugar. Of all beverages, those made from fresh fruit are the most beneficial, also the most delicious and economical.

FOR a cold drink mix a tablespoonful or two of 'Kia-Ora' with water for a still drink, soda water for a sparkling drink. For a ***hot drink*** use hot water, and if preferred or necessary add a little gin or whisky. As a cocktail 'Kia-Ora' and gin or 'Kia-Ora' and whisky are really good.

'Kia-Ora' Lemon Squash can be purchased in all British Dominions, and the price per bottle is such that by comparison with similar beverages the cost per glass is the lowest.

A bottle will make from 24 to 30 drinks.

Sold by all Stores, Grocers, Wine and Spirit Merchants & Chemists throughout Great Britain at 1/2 and 2/2 per bottle

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Also Melbourne and Sydney, Australia; India; East and West Africa; U.S.A. and Canada.

No doubt there will be a number of young married chaps drifting to the top of the roll for quarters in the near future. A tip or two on the subject would not, I think, come amiss.

If, after moving into your quarters, you find your next-door neighbours are the enthusiastic possessors of four children and a gramophone with only three records, do not be disheartened. I'll admit that if you have knocked up several shelves and cupboards on your side of the intervening wall, and have made a row of clothes pegs to look like an elongated pin-cushion, without feeling quits, you are pretty well done.

On the other hand, if you possess a motor cycle, you can run the engine in the back yard without the exhaust pipe for a while. This evens things up somewhat, but does not foster that "swapping frying pans" spirit so beneficial to army life.

Another thing to remember is never to allow your wife to hang pictures. Either she introduces the hammer to the glass with the inevitable result, or her lack of decision in selecting a suitable place causes the wall to take on the appearance of a honeycomb. We are using one of our walls to strain the cabbage through, so I know what I am talking about.

My final tip: never, on any account, create a job for the plumber. To my somewhat jaundiced mind this is what happens: (a) you bust a pipe; (b) it is included in an annual return; (c) the following year, a man arrives to see if it can be included in the next year's estimates for jobs to be performed in the year after.

* * * *

The film "Ypres" was shown to full houses in the Garrison Theatre at Bulford on February 3rd and 4th. Happily it was well presented, and not rushed through at top speed to make room for a fifth-rate cowboy thriller. We are expecting the programmes to look up a bit now. There has been a long string of "woolly west" dramas, and they do give one a pain in the mental regions after a time.

* * * *

In connection with the very popular unit dances which have been re-introduced in the 3rd Divisional Signals, it may interest some of you to learn that L/Corpl Chambers has spent many years in the study of the sazzaphone. When his instruments are past their prime he passes them on to L/Corpl Kidby, who promptly finishes them off in one tune, fortissimo, causing much merriment to everyone except himself. Chambers was unable to function at the last dance owing to Kidby having noticed the last of a long line of sazzaphones. The hapless instrument disintegrated under the strain of "Yes, sir, that's my baby."

* * * *

How awful it must be to have a house with no address. A correspondent writes to say that he actually knows of a place where soldiers' wives must have their letters addressed to the Company. Presumably this is due to the postmen deciding that 1½d. is an insufficient charge for delivery at the door. One trusts that it is not necessary for the good ladies to parade in the mess room for the daily scramble. Well, we live and learn! In time it may be more convenient to have letters packed in Tate sugar boxes and sent by rail.

* * * *

Whereas a perusal of the February WIRE confirms my suspicions that Jessamine and Uncle Alfred are swinging the lead without just cause, be it noted and duly digested that unless the aforesaid persons cause their literary efforts to appear in an early issue of THE WIRE, their life history will be set forth in these pages (for name of proposed author, see lower). These gentlemen will be well advised to follow the good example of "The Parson" of E Company, who apparently has come to the surface to breathe.

* * * *

"Yahs and yahs ago," as a reverend gentleman once said, I had the honour of belonging to a Company at Maresfield known as "Don." It was a good Company. They were never afraid to tell of their doings on the field, track, or in the ring. To-day (correct me if I am wrong) there is another body of men forming a Company which also bears that honoured appellation. It is extremely unlikely that they have never a win to record, but if this is in very truth the situation, then everyone will respect their desire to lie low, most of all

BARLEUX.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.
A Company, Depot Battalion.

Is there any sun at Catterick?: this month's problem—find it.

We have said goodbye to No. 27 Squad, who have left for their trade companies, having given a fillip to our musketry records. Sigmn Hartland gained top place, and there was only one 3rd class shot.

No. 29 Squad carried off the inter-Company squad flag competition for cross-country running on February 3rd. The first three men in were Sigmn Pope, Sigmn F. Smith, and Dvr Trotman.

We are very sorry to say goodbye to Sergt Wilcox, L/Sergt Carter, and Corpl Boon, who have gone to Exeter and Aldershot. May their shadows never grow less!

Signalmen Fielding and Hamer represented the Depot Battalion at a specimen dismounted marching order parade for the Colonel-Commandant on February 12th. We want to see all the Company turn out like them!

Who is the signalman who went to Richmond with some friends on the same day as they arrived here from overseas? Why was he late? And why couldn't he find the way back?

Who said, "Now then, put your cap on straight, and not on the back of your head on your ears; your ears are meant to hear with, and not to hold your cap on"?

Does everyone with over 18 years' service earn his pay, and how?

A certain individual would have found it cheaper to buy a jig-saw puzzle than to cut one out of his breeches.

ROOKIE.

B Company, Depot Battalion.

Training.

In spite of bad weather, "Business as usual" is our motto, and we still endeavour to transform the raw into the finished article in about fifteen weeks.

Some exceptionally good musketry averages have been returned by the squads who have recently fired, the best to date being 72.06 by B.21 Squad.

Recreational training has been limited to cross-country running up to last week, when the monthly flag competition was restarted. For the information of those who have not passed through Crowborough of late years, perhaps it would not be out of place to say a few words about the flag and its purpose.

The object of the competition is to foster the team spirit in the young recruits. The trophy which is competed for is a flag, but we hear this is shortly to be replaced by a shield presented by the officers who were at Crowborough.

The competition aims at having as many men as possible competing for their squad each week, and the squad obtaining the most points at the end of the month holds the trophy for the ensuing month. A brass plate, engraved with the number of the squad and its instructor's name, is affixed to the trophy.

The sports in which the squads compete are athletics, field events, and boxing in the summer, and cross-country running and boxing in the winter.

Entertainments.

Entertainments have so far been confined to the sergeants' and corporals' messes. The only amusement for the recruit is an occasional concert in the N.A.A.F.I. It is hoped that the Depot Battalion weekly dances will start shortly; if not, perhaps our Branch of the Signals Association will do something in this line.

General.

Although frost, snow and rain are the usual things here, we have already started spring cleaning, and everybody has been busy with distemper, paint, varnish, and Brunswick black, making everything look spick and span. In fact, the barrack-

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOP

(Opposite the N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines)

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS (INCLUSIVE), 8.30 to 6.30

SATURDAYS, 8.30 to 12.30

All Toilet Requisites in Stock. Razors Set.
Private Room for Ladies.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

rooms look so clean and comfortable now that it is a job to get a man to leave "shining parade" to go to his supper.

Who was the member of A Company who asked a recruit to clean his "ammo's" for him, and on returning to his bunk found his boots still dirty, but 135 rounds of dummy ammunition nicely polished on his table?

LIMPET.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

I must apologise for the absence of notes from this unit for the last few months. Our representative forgot what was expected of him!

Movements.

Major C. W. Fladgate resumed command of this Company on the 4th inst., after a lengthy stay at headquarters as A/Brigade Major. Capt. J. Crowley, M.C., held the reins during his absence.

C.S.M. Kneebone arrived from Bulford on October 27th, and took over the duties of C.S.M. Riding Instructor vice C.Q.M.S. Horner, who was promoted C.S.M.

C.S.M. Wray was posted to A Company on November 20th, and his duties devolved on C.S.M. Horner, who is carrying on admirably.

L/Corpl F. T. M. Smith has left us for the 1st Divl. Signals, and we all wish him the best of luck.

Obituary.

We regret to report the death of No. 12500 L/Corpl A. H. P. Carss, who was employed under the Quartermaster. He went on leave from 23rd to 28th December, and we were informed later that he had been admitted to Royston District Hospital. He died there on January 28th, the cause of death being carbuncle and septicæmia.

Promotions.

Congratulations are extended to the undermentioned on their recent promotions: Sergt Caulfield to C.S.M.; A/Sergts Terrell, Battersby and Young to Sergeant; and to A/Corpls Dodds, Deamon, With, Searle, Cogswell and Miles on being substantiated.

Birth.

Congratulations are also extended to Corpl Searle on being presented with another "rough."

Heymann Jumping Cup.

This cup, kindly presented by Major Heymann for the best horseman in the Company, has not yet been competed for this year. We hope to run it off in the near future.

Correspondence.

Dvr H. O'Neill would like to hear from Sigmn H. E. Richards, last heard of in D Company, Maresfield.

Peter, Rhine Signal Company.—If you have a runner for the Grand National in the 8th Brigade stables, please forward the animal's name in code to C Company, Catterick, and earn the undying gratitude of "Firespark."

Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.

Since our arrival at Catterick last year, we have endeavoured to maintain the name we held at Crowborough for sociability; and judging from the remarks we hear from time to time, our weekly Friday night whist drive and dance is going a long way to help us in this direction.

The arrangements are left in the hands of Bill Hore and his entertainments committee. Vic Bardoe obliges in the capacity of musical director, assisted at times by Bill Holmes and his "bazuka." Unfortunately, Bill has lately lost his instrument. Some individual, who no doubt meant well, changed our loudspeaker for an elaborate affair which has no detachable horn. Poor Bill hasn't been the same man since!

As regards our dancers, C.S.M. Kneebone is our shining light. In fact, when he starts to dance, everyone else on the floor is so overawed that they forget to get out of his way. He doesn't mind, though!

We held our annual dinner on January 15th, being the first anniversary of the formation of the Depot Battalion. We were very pleased to have the company of the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. H. Lee Wright, D.S.O., Major C. W. Fladgate, the adjutant, Lieut. W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Capt. M. F. M. Parkes, M.C. (O.C. A Company), Capt. J. L. Collings (O.C. B Company), Capt. J. Crowley, M.C. (O.C. C Company), Lieut R. R. A. Darling (B Company), and Capt. and Quartermaster G. A. Kent. R.S.M. Nolan in his inimitable style said a few words, to which the commanding officer very suitably replied.

After dinner we had a "five minutes furious" billiard tournament, each officer being matched against one of the mess cracks. The officers won.

The evening as a whole was very enjoyable, and we are looking forward to January 15th, 1927. We only hope that Sergts Stone, Limb and Carter will be with us to carry out the catering arrangements again. At the same time, we are not forgetting that Sergt Joe Eastes' experience in the catering line contributed greatly to the success of the dinner.

Congratulations to R.S.M. Nolan on his substantiation in the rank, and R.Q.M.S. Watson, C.S.M.s Horner and Caulfield, and Sergts Stone, Pennicott, Dowie, and Hamlin, on their promotions; and also to Sergts Sherman and Clarke on their success on the last Foreman-of-Signals course.

Arrivals.

R.Q.M.S. Craig, Sergts Bray, Hooper, Slaughter, Marn, Manley, Figg, Bryant, Neads, Blogg, Spender, Brashaw and McIntyre from India.

Departures.

Sergt Sherman to Chester, and Sergt Clarke to York.

I am looking forward to including Sergt Jim Donnelly in our list of departures next month. It is broadcasted for the information of all who know him that "Don" is making *another* attempt to get back to civvy life, and I am afraid the mess will shortly have to find a fresh mascot instead of the "old beauty."

DILDON.

Corporals' Mess, Depot Battalion.

The Depot Battalion Corporals' Mess was officially opened at Catterick on September 11th, 1925, when C Company arrived from Maresfield. The ceremony was carried out in the approved junior n.c.o. style.

Since our arrival we have being holding monthly whist drives and dances, and they have been a very great success. We hope, with the aid of the N.A.A.F.I., to hold them once a fortnight in the near future. The last one, held on January 20th, was described by all as the best that had been held in the camp. The prize winners were: ladies, 1st, Mrs. Coombs; 2nd, Mrs. Dowie. Gentlemen, 1st, C.S.M. Skinner; 2nd, Corpl Mansfield.

Several very good musical evenings, coupled with impromptu dances, have been held, thanks to our old and faithful pianist, L/Corpl Joe Brookes, assisted by Corpl Tosdevin (Tos) with his drum, which consists of a chair, two ash trays, and two chair legs.

The chair legs are highly prized by Tos, as they were presented to him by the proprietor of "The Bay Horse," Tunstall, Yorks, when a number of members visited that worthy gentleman to test his reputed very fine ale, which was found to be of the best. Joe, as usual, was obliging on the dominoes, but Tos did not consider this sufficient, and requested the proprietor to find him something to operate upon—a drum for preference. He obliged with the chair legs and a cigar box, and needless to say the cigar box had a very short life. By the way, we should like to know if Johnny has been able to dispose of the mud that he collected on that occasion.

Tos is now on the lookout for a new pianist, as Joe is under orders for Baghdad. Another old and entertaining member, Nat Gould, left us quite recently for India, and is greatly missed.

We take this opportunity of thanking L/Corpl Chicko Leath (Bermuda Signal Section, late of the Depot Battalion) for his message in THE WIRE, and Christmas card, and wish him the best of luck. My word, Chicko! you have missed some fine cases lately, and also opportunities of making some of your hair-raising saves in the Depot goal.

We hope, as soon as the grounds are in full working order, to hold a series of sports events with the different units in the camp garrison; also social evenings in the mess when it is enlarged—but things move very slowly at present in Catterick.

Say "ARMOUR'S"—and save money when you want pure, high quality Foods

POTTED MEATS AND FISH PASTES 7½D.
The purest and tastiest made. Ideal for the hurried tea. Makes bread and butter a delicacy. Every jar guaranteed free from preservatives ....

VERIBEST TOMATO SOUP 5D.
Fresh, luscious tomatoes, producing delicious soup, thick and creamy ....

VERIBEST TOMATO KETCHUP 9D.
A smooth, rich, pure sauce of ripe tomatoes. Rendering a cold meat appetising; or to flavour soups ....

VERIBEST TOMATO CHUTNEY 10½D.
A piquant compound of whole cooked tomatoes, delicately spiced. Puts an edge on every appetite ....

GET THEM AT THE CANTEEN!

Armour's QUALITY PRODUCTS

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PLEASE PATRONISE "THE WIRE" ADVERTISERS.

Congratulations to Corpls Aslett and Walker upon their success on No. 4 Foreman-of-Signals course. We wish them every success in the future. Corpl Aslett proceeds to the Eastern Command Signal Company, and Corpl Walker to the Rhine.

NOBBY.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Owing to mental distraction consequent upon the Christmas holidays, we omitted to forward any notes last month. We regret the omission, and trust that it will not occur again.

What a place for studying the English climate! From snow to slush; from hurricane to fog; but never a chance of observing those sun spots about which we have heard so much from our learned professors.

Visual Squads still litter the country. Our sympathy goes out to the signalman whom we observed the other day sending *across* the wind with a wet flag. We, too, have done it! And talking of training, we find Ginger and Sailor once more in our midst, but as instructors instead of learners. Good luck to 'em!

In the spring a soldier's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of —gardens. And so it is with us. Several cartloads of seeds have been deposited near the cook-house (we suspect a connection with porridge), and beds are being dug up and trodden down with feverish anxiety. Gaudy catalogues illustrated with multi-coloured sun-flowers, delphiniums, and forget-me-nots, are rolling in by every post. Greenhouses and cucumber frames are on their way. The great seed rush has begun.

Arrivals.

Corpl A. W. Winstone from the Rhine Signal Company (quite an asset to the Telegraph School). L/Corpl Perry from Gibraltar; he prefers Darlington "rock."

Departures.

Corpl A. S. Crockford to 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester. Corpl E. A. Jackson to the Reserve. Corpls Collins and Williams, and L/Corpl Robertson to Egypt. Spud Marsden to India (he will teach them how to play hockey). Sergt Herbert has gone to Liverpool to take over from Sergt Noonan the arduous job of instructing the young idea in telegraphy.

Promotions and Appointments.

L/Corpl D. Andrews to be Corporal. Sigmn Blythe to be A/U/L/Corpl. Congratulations! What about taking on, Andy?

DON.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Considering everything (even the Welsh rugby team) things *are* rough at Catterick. The weather has been so beautiful that we have hesitated to spoil those new blades of grass that are beginning to peep above the snow on our playing pitches. The only people who are doing anything worth mentioning are the cross-country runners, who appear to revel in the mud and slush of the country-side. What they have done, and are doing, is reported elsewhere. Good luck to 'em.

Owing to the ground being too hard or under water, it has been impossible to play any rugby matches. To-day, February 15th, I am wearing smoke glasses owing to the brilliancy of the sun—it (the sun) came out at ten minutes to four, and is still going strong at 4 p.m., so we have great hopes of giving C Company a run in a rugby league match on Wednesday.

Welcome to the officers on their first commission who have been posted to this Company. We hope they will enjoy their stay here.

Our heartiest congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Fegan on his promotion to that rank. We shall be sorry to lose him. He has been with us now over three years as C.S.M., and the amount of work he has done for the Company from both a sporting and disciplinary point of view is only really known to those who worked with him. As I said, the Company will miss him very much, and he leaves a record which will be hard to beat.

SPARKS.

Training Battalion Boys.

Having come to the conclusion that the boys as a mass are deserving of a separate "write-up," we have joined forces and are producing our notes this month to include both D and F Company boys.

Time passes, and Christmas leave becomes more and more a pleasant dream of the past; slowly—very slowly—the boys forget their festivities, and return unwillingly to their studies. Two months ago the mention of a mince-pie would set their faces glowing; but now—just say something about a relay or a valve, and see their eyes light up! Then mention tea and buns!

Our F Company contingent has taken to violent exercise in the early morning as a form of recreation. The daily rissole is put firmly in its place thereby, before a start is made with technical training.

Departures.

The following boys have joined the ranks: Operators, line, Boys Clark, Harding and Gilding. Operators, wireless, Boys Evans, Moylan, Ferrier and McKenzie.

LURKON KA BAP.

School of Signals.

So many excuses have appeared from time to time for the absence of notes from the scientific side of the Corps, that it would be futile to add to them. The present scribe will, however, do his level best to keep things going, even if only to occasionally keep "Barleux" in his place.

Hoots, mon! awa' wi' ye! The latest occupation at the School is the endeavour to elucidate the finer points (if any) of the Scotch dialect. The staff, both instructors and assistants, number amongst their ranks so many of the ca' canny race that the general exodus would appear to be not only confined to footballers. One forbears to make an obvious joke re transfer fees. We understand, on very unreliable authority, that future passing-in tests will include a complete knowledge of all Scotch dialects.

In case anyone should be in doubt as to any difference in the type of instruction given to various ranks at this or any other School of Instruction, the following definitions, culled from the applicable official pamphlets, may throw some light on the matter.

A course for an officer is "to disseminate and inculcate sound principles, etc."; for a n.c.o. "to impart sound methods, etc."; for a man, "to train him to become, etc."

Thus, who would say that the English language is incapable of subtle distinctions?

The warrant officers and sergeants' mess held a very enjoyable dance on the evening of Friday, February 12th. All the officers of the staff turned up in force, and judging from reports it was a most successful show altogether. We say "from reports" advisedly, for as the music was provided by a new "blackleg" band (to wit, Uncle Alfred's Royalty Dance Band) we may be accused of being biassed. However, we hope it was only the forerunner of many similar functions.

Speaking of bands, it may interest numerous readers of THE WIRE to know that Chatfield's Orchestra is still going strong in the sunny south, and the members thereof wish to be kindly remembered to all old friends of the Corps.

UNCLE ALFRED.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

1st Divisional Signals.

Aldershot.

What vile things have been said of our English climate!

What vitriolic things have been mouthed of our astronomers and weather prophets!

Pshaw! I will have none of it!

Boy! bring me my ten-stringed harp, and turn down the wick of the oil stove, for I would have song—and then to write of beautiful things.

Early Spring.

The sunshine was inviting, and I walked abroad.

Although it was a day in mid-February, that month of rains and mire, the sky was a clear cobalt blue, and the slight breeze had just that sufficient warmth which enables one to pause in the course of one's perambulations and take notice of Nature's progress without fear of becoming frozen in one's tracks, as it were.

I found the hedgerows budding, slowly it is true, and looking as though they were rather shy about it.

But, nevertheless, the process of producing the green leaves had undoubtedly commenced, and the development of the buds is only a question of time.

The gradual swelling of the volume of bird-song is a sure sign of the advent of springtide.

I could distinguish the call of the chaffinch from the accompaniment of its first cousin, the chiff-chaff.

There, high in the blue, sang the lark, whilst from the adjacent marshes a peculiar croak proclaimed the presence there of the lesser clod-hopper.

A glorious feeling of freshness is over everything at this period of the year, and as Chaucer (or was it Browning?) said, "It is all so delectable."

I think the guard-room could do with a coat of paint, though.

Discharge.

Our best wishes to R.S.M. J. Santer, who left us for civil life on 17/1/26.

Postings.

The undermentioned n.c.o.s were posted to the Depot Battalion, S.T.C., Catterick, on the dates shown against their names: L/Corpl G. Read, 15/2/26; Corpls R. Sullivan and H. Wilmot, and L/Corpl Palmer, 18/2/26. Good luck to all!

Arrivals.

The following are welcomed to the unit: Corpl Murphy and Sigmn Maketelow from the Rhine Signal Company, on 25/1/26. L/Corpl F. T. Smith from the Depot Battalion, on 1/2/26. Signalmen T. Crowsley, N. H. Lovett, J. P. Steele, and G. J. Silver, from the Depot Battalion, on 1/2/26. Sigmn H. Kinsley from A Corps Signals, on 10/2/26.

Promotions.

Congratulations to the following upon their respective promotions: A/C.Q.M.S. E. Foster to C.Q.M.S.; L/Sergt W. Buttle to Sergeant.

Whist Drives.

No. 2 Company is now holding a weekly whist drive in McGrigor Barracks, and the venture has so far proved to be very satisfactory. It now remains for No. 1 Company to enter the arena. We will wait and see!

Signals Association.

A lecture was delivered to the unit by the secretary of the Signals Association on February 5th, when the whole meaning of the Association was explained in detail, and the many cases in which help had been sought and received were enumerated.

A few facts received from the secretary in person will no doubt produce a better understanding of the aims of the Association, and the many benefits which may be derived therefrom. There will be further notes on this subject.

Cold Comfort!

Splendid tact was shown by the booking-office clerk at Aldershot station last week, when he advised an impatient traveller to go and cool his heels in front of the waiting-room fire.

Not Exactly!

Although Columbus gambled and got America, it does not follow that a chap who wins a crystal set in a raffle will do the same.

In the Summertime.

To all those people who write letters to me;
To all those people who write post cards to me;
To all those people who write post cards to me and forget to put a stamp on; and
To all those people who have come to me in person!

I thank them, one and all.

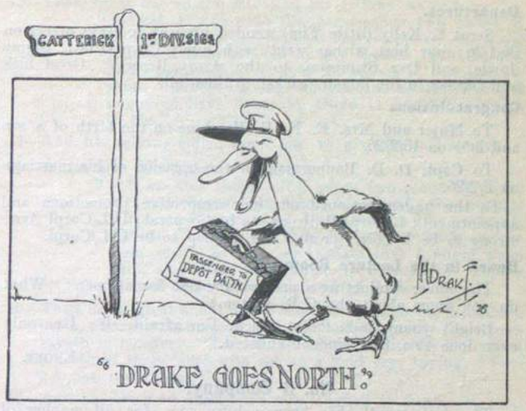
They have told me much, and I am deeply grateful to them for their concern on my behalf.

Catterick, it appears, is the last word in frightfulness, but it will be glorious in the summer.

Terribly bleak and miles and miles from anywhere—but it will be beautiful in the summer.

Cannot think what made 'em stick the Signals there, of all places—but it will undoubtedly be ideal in the summer!

Thanks! Thanks, awfully!!



"DRAKE GOES NORTH."

Baubles, Removal of.

Oliver Cromwell, upon catching sight of the mace, said, "Take away that bauble!"

"Records" delved beneath the accumulated dust of ages, and, unearthing one Elaitchdee, quoted Cromwell.

And so, in bidding "adieu" to the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs, I crave but one boon:

That you will remember me in the summertime is the wish of

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, February 16th.

The secretary of the Signals Association paid us a visit last week, and as a result of his little talk to us I hope to be able to report next month that a large proportion of the unit have come into line with the S.T.C. and become members of the Association.

The Corps generally manages to get to or near the top of the tree in anything they set out to do, and in this respect we want to be bang on top of everyone else. Just say one word, lads, and for 9d. a month you may become an annual subscriber to THE WIRE and a member of your Regimental Association.

No one will miss 9d. a month, as it can be stopped through the P. and M. book; and you will be sure of your copy of THE WIRE, as it will be sent to you personally by post.

Ingenious.

A young soldier (a reader of "The Sunday Pictorial"), when charged with being late for parade, told his C.O. that he had forgotten to cut the string at the back of his new boots! (His C.O. has now completely recovered.)

General.

During the month our Company commanders have been changed round. Capt. F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., to whom we extend a cordial welcome, arrived from the Training Battalion, and has taken over No. 2 Company. Capt. C. E. Sketch has taken over No. 1 Company from Capt. D. D. Bannerman, who is now in the process of taking over No. 3 Company from Capt. F. S. Straight, M.C. The latter officer, much to the regret of us all, is due for posting to the Training Battalion in March.

Things are still very quiet here (presumably the lull before the storm), the main topic at the moment being the quarterly Trade Testing Board which commences on the 18th inst. and continues until all the tests are completed. The Quartermaster has anticipated a rush on caps, and has laid in a stock of all sizes.

Arrivals.

We welcome the undermentioned to our fold: L/Corpls Willcocks and Askew, and Dvr Walmsley from Rhine Signals; Sigmn Lodge from the Depot Battalion; Signalmen Richardson and Bingham from the Training Battalion.

Departures.

Sergt E. Kelly (little Tim) wended his way to civvy street on 26/1/26; our best wishes went with him. Corpl Platt, Sigmn Jowle, and Dvr Stimpson, to the Army Reserve. Good luck and success in the labour market to them all.

Congratulations

To Major and Mrs. E. N. F. Hitchins on the birth of a son and heir on 15/2/26.

To Capt. D. D. Bannerman on the occasion of his marriage on 3/2/26.

To the undermentioned on their respective promotions and appointment: L/Corpl Willcocks to be Corporal; U/L/Corpl Armstrong to be L/Corpl (paid); Dvr Bishop to be U/L/Corpl.

Heard in the Lecture Room.

The officer conducting a preliminary test for linemen: "What do you know about the C.B. system?"

Bright young lad: "Not much, I'm afraid, sir; I've only ever done two days since I enlisted."

ENGER.

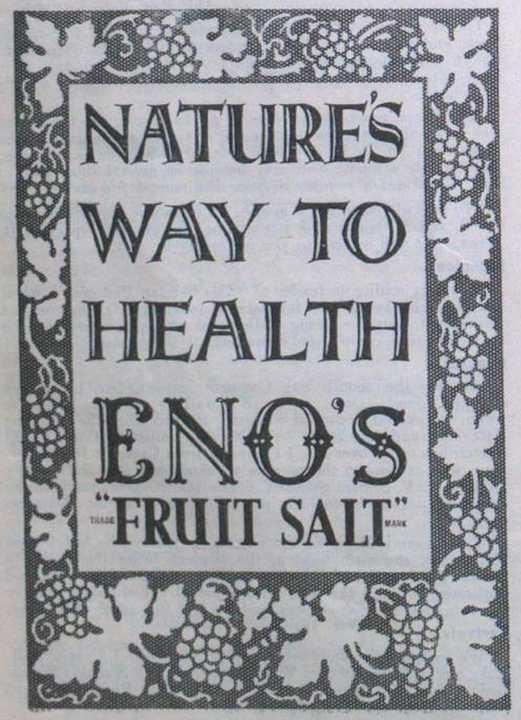
No. 3 Company.

The last month has been a busy one, for all manner of things have had to be done at one and the same time. What with technical training, rides, education, and sport, we have had no time for anything else.

Most of the operators are now ready for the Trade Board, and are very optimistic. Everyone has been on the "ride." Some have happy memories, while others recollect some regrettable incidents. Still, on the whole, it was not too bad.

A great improvement in education has resulted from the efforts of the educational officer, Lieut. G. W. Odell, and his staff. The fact that only ten men in the Company remain uncertificated illustrates this. The same standard has been attained throughout the unit.

THREECO.



No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

Blackdown, Feb. 15th.

Since my last notes things have been very quiet here, but now the furlough season is over, the boys are settling down to hard work again, of which there is plenty, which will keep them fit for the work to be carried out during summer training and divisional exercises later on.

The construction of the new barracks for the 1st Air Defence Brigade proceeds apace, but it is not expected that we shall be permanently settled in our new quarters until October next.

Promotions and Appointments.

Hearty congratulations to the following on their recent promotion: C.Q.M.S. "Joe" Smith, Sergt Harrington, and Corpl Effland (substantiated) and L/Sergt Betts.

Arrivals.

We welcome Lieut. F. Goldsmith, R.A., who is attached to the unit for duty, and hope he will have a pleasant stay amongst us. It is understood he will be an acquisition to our hockey team.

Other arrivals are Sigmn Budd from No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, and Signalmen McKenzie and Richards from Sierra Leone.

Departures.

Drafts: L/Corpl Jennings, Signalmen Murray and Statham to Egypt Signals; Corpl Rogers and Sigmn Clark to India; Cpl Effland to Ceylon; and Sigmn Young to Spike Island—on 17/2/26. By the time these notes are in print, L/Sergt "Pasha" French, and Signalmen McKinlay and Probets will be on their way to Iraq. We wish them all bon voyage, and may they have happy experiences at their new stations. We shall miss Sigmn McKinlay from the hockey, soccer and cricket fields, and hope he will have opportunities to keep his hands and feet in, wherever he settles in Iraq.

Army Reserve: The following have been transferred to the Army Reserve, and our wishes for the best of luck go with them into civil life: Signalmen Travers, Fell, Derbyshire, Bolton, Tilley and Elloway. Sigmn Elloway has opened up a newspaper round at Blackdown, and we wish him every success in his enterprise.

Hospital.

We regret to report the admission to hospital of Lieut. H. A. Daws, North Staffordshire Regt., on 15/12/25. We are glad to hear that he is now convalescent, and trust his recovery will be complete in the very near future.

Marriages.

Congratulations to the following on joining the married ranks: L/Corpl Cockings (with permission), L/Corpl Barrett, Signalmen Nelson, Spriggs, Smith and Trowell. We wish them all the best of luck in the future.

ACK ACK.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Tidworth.

Many apologies are offered for the absence of notes last month, but owing to the shortness of personnel, the Christmas leave, and intense studies for a piece of parchment called the "1st," time was and is indeed precious. It is hoped that with a small modicum of luck, the latter will not prove a factor in the absence of future notes.

Departures.

We have had to say goodbye, or perhaps au revoir, to two of our men this month: Signalmen Foster and Norton. The latter is in the running for a position in the Post Office, he having received nomination through the Signals Association. All ranks join in wishing both good luck and prosperity in civvy street.

Signals Association.

At long last we are able to get going in this matter, thanks entirely to the efforts of our commanding officer, Capt. C. M. F. White, Royal Signals. The 3rd Divl. Signals Branch very kindly invited us to join with them, and within twenty-four hours of the receipt of this invitation, 63% of the Troop had either enrolled as new members or renewed old membership. It is hoped to have a 100% membership before long; and we are firmly convinced that if the delinquents would only consider for a moment the great work of the Association, they would (to use a figure of speech) "not be backward in coming forward." However, perhaps a little persuasion will produce the desired effect, although this should not be necessary where the welfare of their friends in the Corps or themselves is concerned—for who knows, in all probability a helping hand in civvy life will prove a god-send.

Social.

Mrs. Chenevix Trench, wife of Major R. Chenevix Trench, 3rd Divl. Signals, very kindly invited the wives of our men to join the 3rd Divl. Signals Women's Circle. A party was made up and proceeded to Bulford on February 12th, and from reports received a very pleasant afternoon was spent, the hope being expressed that these visits will continue. Esprit de corps is as fine an ideal among our womenfolk as it is among our men.

We are losing our landlords, if such a term may be applied to the 12th (P.W.O.) Royal Lancers; and it is fitting that a word of thanks should be expressed for the many kindnesses we have received at their hands, and the very friendly spirit that has prevailed between them and us during their three years' tenure of these barracks. It is hard to separate from old friends, and our hope is that their successors will prove as good friends to us as the "Ones and Twos." Cheerio, the 12th! may all good things attend you at your new station. When you *do* eventually arrive in the Land of the Pharaohs, we hope you will renew your acquaintance with the Signals there and maintain your appellation of "good old 12th."

SANDY.

Aldershot Anecdotes.

No. 31—Which concerneth, among other things, Monies and Magnanimity.

1—And on the fifth day of the second month there came to Alshot the Chief Scribe, yea, even the Father of the Great Book itself.

2—And he had journeyed far that day to speak words of wisdom to the warriors of the Firstdivsigs concerning the mighty Assosiashon of Signuls, a matter of vast import to the whole Tribe.

3—So that when the meridian hour had passed and the shadows lengthened, then did each and every warrior of that great people gird up his puttee tapes and set his steps with those of his neighbour's in the path to the meeting place.

4—And a mighty concourse awaited the Word.

5—Then spake the Chief Scribe, who is also the Father of the Great Book, saying:—

"Brothers, I stand before ye as a disciple of the Fax which as ye know, and that right well, are oft stranger than Fixshon."

6—And they that listened were one and all agreed.

7—Then did the Chief Scribe question the multitude, saying: "Behold, I take ye to task! Is it not the aim of the great Assosiashon of Signuls to promote and foster, in addition to many other things, Esspreedeekor?"

8—And there was much waxing of enthusiasm among the juniors and of mustaches among the seniors, although the latter were also loud in their cries of agreement.

9—And the Chief Scribe was thorough. Verily, his words embraced the whole meaning of the Assosiashon, and all was made plain to the assembly.

10—So that when his teaching was ended the warriors marvelled among themselves, saying:

"How great is this thing!"

11—Then spake the Chief Scribe unto the multitude in this wise: "My people, ye have ears and can hear. Ye have tongues and can speak. Therefore, if there be one among ye who, having heard, knoweth not fully the meaning of the things of which I have spoken unto you, I charge him to speak."

12—And there was a great murmuring among the warriors.

13—Then spake one in the midst of his fellows, saying:—

"Behold, I give unto the Assosiashon two pieces of silver and reap the benefits thereof. Yet, when the period of time covered by my shekels hath elapsed and I place not silver into the coffers of the Assosiashon, thereby leaving undone the things which I ought to have done, lo, there is but little health in me."

14—And his fellows called upon him to give further tongue.

15—Whereupon the speaker sayeth:—

"Tell me this thing. If I place two pieces of silver with the Assosiashon and then permit the passage of one score years ere I again make a like payment, will the Assosiashon then furnish me with an ass upon which to ride, and goats that I might have milk, and oxen with which to harness the plough when I depart from the land of Alshot?"

16—Then did a great shout of derision go up from the assembled hosts. Some there were who shouted "Israelite!"; others sayeth in mockery, "Behold, he asketh but trifles!"; whilst yet others there were who set up a loud cry, saying, "Forget not thy change!"

17—And he who had questioned was laughed to scorn.

18—For is it not written in the Book of Kewemmz that he who expecteth something for nothing hath had it?

19—Nay, my brothers, it is not done. Therefore, place thou thy pieces of silver with the Assosiashon of Signuls at regular periods, so that in the performance of this duty thou hast for all time something up thy sleeve.

L. H. D.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Unit Headquarters.

The absence of notes recently is much regretted. It is hoped, however, that with the inauguration of the monthly subscription, our notes will be varied and regular, and so satisfy the many new subscribers.

Furlough has been going strong, and as many as could be spared have been on their annual vacation. The staffs of the unit and Q.M.'s offices had to put their backs into it to carry on, with half on furlough; but they rose to the occasion in fine style, and with a few hours' overtime they managed to keep the flag flying.

The Christmas festivities for those who had to be here were on the quiet side. No. 3 Company combined with No. 1 for Christmas dinner, which was partaken in the dining hall, cosily and tastefully decorated under the supervision of Lieut. Totterdell. Sergt Hayes and his cooks surpassed themselves in turning out such a well-cooked and varied dinner, and the senior n.c.o.s who attended to the requirements of the men cast longing eyes on the well-spread board. The weather was beautifully seasonable—six inches of hard snow on the ground, and bitterly cold—but even that did not prevent Col. and Mrs. Powell, Capt. and Mrs. Thursby-Pelham, and the officers not on leave, from attending to foster the spirit of goodwill. After dinner the fortunate ones faded away, and the less fortunate ones turned in for water and feed.

For various reasons, other Signal units in Aldershot did not have the eagerly-anticipated Christmas tree, but that is their loss. Thanks to our C.O. (Col. R. M. Powell, D.S.O.) and our officers, the families of this unit, near and far, were entertained right royally on January 14th.

Nothing was overlooked to ensure success. The ladies exercised their decorative talent on a huge tree, and our Q.M. got busy with his "chippys" and arranged a novel fireplace through which, at the critical moment, Father Christmas was expected to pass. On this occasion also, the weather was as it should be, and it was snowing hard.

Owing to our limited accommodation for families, many live out, while some are in quarters in Aldershot, but they were not left to get here as best they could. Ambulances collected those living in the vicinity of Crookham and Fleet, and a bus brought those living in Aldershot, in each case taking them home again at the conclusion of the function. The Q.M. had a fit of

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generosity and gave a liberal issue of coal, with the result that the dance hall was comfortably warm.

The proceedings started with a splendid tea, to which justice was done by a full house of 130, and it was a treat to see them eat. Of course they all said, "The cold weather *does* give one an appetite," but it was not that: they had been "saving up for it." Sergt Doust provided the humour during the tea, and was also master of ceremonies for the revue given by his own children and those of Q.M.S. and Mrs. Edwards. Quite a talented show, with action songs, reels (not cotton) and Highland flings. A Punch and Judy show caused a lot of fun, not only among the children; and then came the event of the day.

All the lights went out except in the fireplace, and on the Christmas tree, with much commotion, Daddy Christmas came forth, suitably attired. Order was eventually restored, and then the roll was called, each child toddling up to receive a handsome present.

Thanks are specially due to the donors of really good and useful gifts, and to our O.C. for his patience during the distribution of them. Regarding the whole affair, we would say to other units, "If you can beat it, you are welcome to try, but you will have a job."

The Sergeants' Mess had no functions at Christmas time, most of the single members being on leave, one only being left. He, being modest and requiring no fuss, was asked out for the day, so the caterer had the place to himself. Two whist drives have since been held, but owing to the limited accommodation and bad weather, these could not be classed as successful. It is hoped, however, to cut out these frequent small drives, and to have a bumper one, with a dance to follow, in the dance hall.

We have had to bid farewell to our adjutant, Capt. Nalder, who is making a bid for staff work at Camberley. We wish him every success. We welcome his successor, Capt. Thursby-Pelham, and hope his stay will be a happy one.

Early in February we had the pleasure of welcoming the secretary of the Signals Association. Mr. Butler delivered a most interesting lecture on the work of the Association, and told us of the great progress being made in the sale of THE WIRE every month. He informed us that the S.T.C. had set a fine example in urging all its personnel to become members of the Association and annual subscribers to the Corps magazine, by paying the small sum of 9d. per man per month. Since the secretary talked to us, endeavours have been made to persuade the A Corps n.c.o.s and men to follow the splendid lead of the S.T.C., and we earnestly hope that these efforts will be crowned with success.

No. 1 Company.

Like everybody else in the unit, we have almost forgotten furlough, and have knuckled down to a well-organised system of individual training which will continue until the end of March, when the sections will form up.

We welcome many new arrivals lately joined, and wish them a long and happy stay. At the same time we send our best wishes, through the pages of THE WIRE, to the many n.c.o.s and men of No. 1 who have taken their departure. We hope that good luck will favour them in their new spheres, and that they will always remember those still at Ewshot.

It is rumoured that we shall lose Lieut. Totterdell in March. The day he says farewell will be a sad one for us, especially the drivers.

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

Rapid strides in organisation, training and games are taking place in "Freekoy."

We have always considered ourselves extremely fortunate in being in the R.A.M.C. Depot lines. Although this is not our camp we are made to feel that it *is* our home, and the R.A.M.C. are always ready to assist us in every way.

In Crookham the lads are very much up-to-date, even to a gramophone—which, by the way, is likely to suffer a complete breakdown unless it is given more rest.

The word "furlough" is hardly ever thought of, much less heard of now, whereas a couple of months ago it was mentioned more times in five minutes than there are pay days in a year! In other words, "they have all had it," and are just forgetting it.

Individual training is the order of the day, and it is very encouraging to have such excellent opportunities for training—probably much better at Crookham than anywhere else. The drivers also have a look-in by attending upgrading courses at Feltham, and previous results have shown that they are as good as if not better than the R.A.S.C. drivers.

Discharges.

C.S.M. Lambourne, C.Q.M.S.s Mills and Cadwell, Corpls Giles and Milford, L/Corpl Terry, Signalmen Webster, Tracey, Mills, Holdman and Holley, have our best wishes for their venture into civilian life.

We lose Corpl Hadler and L/Corpl Dixon on February 15th. They will both be missed from the soccer team, but we hope to send them a photo of the cup and league winners.

Drafts.

To India: L/Corpl Longwill, Signalmen Butcher, Webber, Gibbons and Clinton.

To Rhine Signals: Corpl Marchant, Signalmen Ashley and McNair.

Arrivals.

A hearty welcome is extended to L/Sergts Pout, Minns, and Radcliff, Corpls Devey and Renecle, Signalmen Crowther, Colley, Downs, Brett, White, Brereton, Walker, Thomas, Randolph, Wilmington and Turner.

Promotions.

Congratulations from the Company to A/C.S.M. Robertson, A/Sergts Cox and Stevenson, A/Corpls Todd, Marchant and James, on dropping the "A."

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford Camp, Feb. 12th.

In accordance with the time-honoured custom, unwritten regulations, and so forth, the w.o.s and sergeants' annual dinner and dance was held on January 7th in the regimental institute. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent, and thanks are due to the various committees for their successful handling of the arrangements. C.Q.M.S. Sweeting provided the edibles, and the subsequent dance was in the hands (and feet) of C.S.M. Nichol. Music was provided by the Austin dance band.

The 21st January will live long in the minds of the children. This was the occasion of the annual Christmas tree and tea, which took place in the regimental institute.

Following the excellent tea, served at 4.30 p.m., came Father Christmas (Joe Sweeting), who distributed presents amid great excitement. The wives and mothers were also remembered, and a bran-tub yielded to each a present both useful and pleasing to the eye.

A feature of the entertainment was Lieut Oliver's miniature theatre with working models. The unit jazz band greatly assisted in the revels, and were occasionally conducted by Sigmn Shiner, appropriately attired as a little boy.

Thursday, February 4th, marked the re-introduction of the popular unit dances, which are always so well attended. This one was no exception, and an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent. Dancing continued until 1 a.m. Praise is due to the unit dance band, under the able direction of Corpl Barlow (avec concert flute and megaphone).

After many and varied obstacles, the concert party, "Breezes, 1926," under that able producer, Lieut. C. A. Oliver, M.C., will present its second show of this season in Jimmy's Theatre, Bulford, on or about February 18th.

On February 2nd the corporals' room was the scene of considerable gaiety, somewhat tinged towards the end with regret, for this was a smoker to mark the passing into civvy street of L/Corpl A. Jones, a veritable old-timer with this unit. The room shook to the strains of "He's a jolly good fellow" and "Auld lang syne," and we have no doubt that Jonah has a faint recollection of this.

The men's billiard handicap was concluded in the recreation room on Tuesday, February 9th. The finalists were Signalmen Boniface and Beach. The latter played a good steady game, and eventually won by a comfortable margin. A cue and case was awarded the winner, and the runner-up secured 5s. worth of wads (or equivalent value). It is hoped that the runner-up played a steady game also, if he elected to take the wads.

We are pleased to announce that this month's booby prize has been awarded to a young bride who, in exercising her innate desire for tidiness, fastened all her doting husband's bachelor buttons together for safety.

Arrivals.

Q.M.S. Forward from School of Signals, 29/1/26. Signalmen Steele, Wolfe, Vine, Collins, Wright, and Teague, from Training Battalion, Catterick, 21/1/26. Sigmn Donoghue from the Rhine, 25/1/26. Cpl Lannigan, Sigmen Rowe and Tydeman from Egypt.

Birth.

To L/Corpl T. Taylor, a son (David Leonard Thomas), on 15/1/26.

Discharges.

Corpl Cook, 29/1/26; Q.M.S. Boulsbee, 16/2/26. Transferred to the Army Reserve—Sigmn Pettitt, 20/1/26; L/Corpl A. Jones, 17/2/26; Dvr Bundy, 11/2/26.

Marriage.

L/Corpl Searle to Gladys May Newton, 5/1/26.

Promotions.

Sergt Setterfield to be C.Q.M.S., 17/1/25. A/Sergt P. Hall to be Sergeant, 29/11/25.

Hospital.

Corpl Webb, from hospital, is now on leave recuperating.

Courses.

L/Corpls Reid, Sayers and Sewell returned from the School of Signals on 1/2/26.

A.I. Certificates.

L/Corpls Ives and McDonald were awarded A.I. Certificates of Signalling on 19/1/26.

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4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester,
February 15th.

Arrivals and due to arrive.

We welcome to Colchester: L/Sergt Gent, L/Corpl Rogers, and Sigmn F. Wilson from North China; L/Sergt Morel, Corpl Moss and Sigmn Rainey from the Rhine; Signalmen McClelland and Axtell from Ireland; and Tpr Fry from the Training Battn.

Departures.

The best of luck to Corpl Diggins, who has left us for the Depot Battalion; Corpl Montgomery and Sigmn Chambers for the Training Battalion; and Signalmen Harvey, J. O'Neill and H. Walker, due to leave us for Ireland.

Marriage.

Congratulations to Sigmn Henderson, who "braved it" at Gateshead on 26/12/25.

Extension of Service.

Corpl F. S. Buhlmann and Sigmn Whelan to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations to the following n.c.o.s on their recent rises: C.Q.M.S. Harris to C.S.M.; Corpl Partridge to L/Sergt; L/Cpls Fish, Finn, Heath, Smith and Lewis to A/Corporals; Signalmen Buxton, Southwell, Redfern, Salmon, Knott and Knowles to L/Corporals.

Discharges.

C.S.M. A. Bowler, Dvrs H. Sworn, W. Sworn, and Skellon, on termination of engagement. Two good footballers and one gippo king gone astray! We wish them the best of luck.

Eastern Command Signal School.

The Eastern Command School instructors have been having a busy time recently, putting some n.c.o.s from various Territorial units through their paces, and by all accounts spent an enjoyable time with them. A farewell concert held in the sergeants' mess the night prior to the breaking up of the course showed a feeling of goodwill and comradeship between instructors and the course, whose one regret was having to leave us after a brief stay.

General.

A farewell concert took place in the sergeants' mess on Wednesday, February 3rd, in honour of Major E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (our late commanding officer), who, we are all very sorry to say, is leaving us for India. Lieut.-Col. Spaight, D.S.O., and officers were present. During the interval Q.M.S. Fry (our acting R.S.M.) spoke on behalf of the members of the mess. Everyone agreed that there should not be such a place as India, and then perhaps Major Bradley would not leave us. No unit could have a more popular C.O. All ranks joined whole-heartedly in wishing him the best of luck, the best of health, and a safe return (hoping, when he does, he will again be posted to the 4th Division).

Major Bradley (when the cheering subsided, which I thought never would) warmly thanked all ranks for their co-operation at all times. He went on to say that a commanding officer was useless unless he had the loyal support of his n.c.o.s, and never during his two years' stay in the Division did he, when called upon by the G.O.C. or his staff, doubt the integrity of everyone serving under him. He was very pleased to say that the 4th Divl. Signals were commended on their performances during the recent manœuvres. At times Major Bradley could only speak in a whisper, and I am sure everyone present could feel and understand how difficult it was for him to bid us not goodbye but au revoir. Major Bradley concluded by wishing Lieut.-Colonel Spaight and all ranks the very best of luck. I take the opportunity to congratulate the unit to which he is going (lucky dogs!)

The concert was organised by the mess entertainment committee, who thank all members who assisted them, especially Sergt Thomas as "the waiter and programme seller." It was a huge success, despite the damp atmosphere (outside). Our pals, Douse Skelton and Pte King of the R.A.S.C. (both comedians) were "it," and caused us much anxiety as to the reliability of button thread and elastic. Our local talent, comprising Sergts Gambrill, Betteridge and McDonald with their humorous songs, Signalmen Bartley (tenor), Alden (baritone), Jones (our vicar), and Smith (on his guitar), all helped to make the show a success. Mrs. Britton, wife of C.S.M. Britton, helped to swell the programme and sang delightfully. A small sketch entitled "A yacht for sale" was "some scream," and Mrs. Fry, wife of Q.M.S. Fry, was very good as Lady Montgomery, ably assisted by Sergt McDonald as the major, and Sigmn Alden as the butler. Sigmn Taplin, our pianist, deserves great credit for his playing —at least, that's what I say.

MESS MEMBER.

Your Emergency Ration - Bovril

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Our hardest job these times is to get something suitable together, shuffle it, deal, and then call it notes for THE WIRE. As the scribe of the 2nd Divl. Signals says, we have paper and pencil, but have been sitting here quite a long while waiting for inspirations. Quite a few have crossed our vision, but alas, they are too personal!

Our whist drives have sadly fallen off lately, with the inevitable result that we shall have to close down in this line. Too many festivities outside barracks, and the alluring Irish colleens, are being blamed for this.

Sigmn E. R. Jones would like to hear from Sigmn Stacey and L/Corpl Goodman.

Arrivals.

L/Corpl McDonald and Sigmn Hill welcome a change in Belfast after Dunree, the former having taken over the electrician's shop.

Congratulations

To Capt. E. J. Murphy on obtaining a "distinguished" in the recent promotion examination, subject (c).

South Ireland Signal Section.

After a few months' silence we again endeavour to keep the pace in supplying notes to the journal. The cause of our silence has been shortage of editorial staff, since most of the section have been wintering in Blighty.

Promotion.

Our hearty congratulations are extended to L/Corpl Field (Tich) on his first step up the ladder.

Arrival.

We welcome Sigmn Brown from 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.

Departures.

Signalmen Paddy Joyce and Freddie Styles have gone back to their native firesides, accompanied by the heartfelt blessings of the section. We understand that they are both in good jobs. Sigmn Tebby, after a very short stay, has gone to Catterick en route to Iraq.

Lough Swilly Signal Section.

Corpl Standley returns the compliment. Ex-rats of the Seven Seas, please note that the writer is now residing in the south.

C. A. W.

Signal Training Centre, India.

Jubbulpore, January 22nd.

The new organization continues to take shape. We have now resolved ourselves into our component parts. The equation is: S.T.B. + S.T.S. + Record Section = S.T.C.I. (vide Educational Training and Army Instruction, India, No. 1114 of 1925).

There is still a certain shortage of British officers, with Jekyll and Hyde effects in some quarters. At any rate, we hope that the staff officer to the Commandant and the adjutant of the Signal Training Battalion will continue to work in the closest co-operation—however many pages of orders it takes.

Congratulations (if somewhat belated) to Lt. H. M. Boucher, The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's) on his marriage

Officers.

Lieut. J. W. Kenny, R.A., reported his arrival on 6/1/26, for a tour of duty with the Indian Signal Corps.

Congratulations to Subadar-Major Murugesan, I.D.S.M., Sardar Bahadur, on his promotion to the rank of hon. lieutenant, Indian Signal Corps, which was gazetted from 1/10/25.

Subadar Dharam Singh, I.D.S.M., Indian Signal Corps, was recently transferred to G Divl. Signals, and Jemadar Lall Khan, Indian Signal Corps, transferred from G Divl. Signals to the Signal Training Centre in his place.

General.

Ninety-seven B.O.R.s arrived from the United Kingdom. Our transfers from various units now number 75.

We all spent a merry time at Christmas, and the dinner went down very well. I think the last diner left about 4 o'clock in the afternoon (very merry).

Sergeants' Mess.

The Christmas festivities were extraordinary. Everybody seemed to be in the best of spirits, and the best of spirits seemed to be in them.

On the night of the 23rd a very enjoyable dance was held. The electric lighting and decorations made a vast improvement in our dance room, and in consequence we were all very happy.

The New Year's Eve dance was also a great success, and I'm afraid the new year came in in a very "thick" way for quite a number.

Sergt Chumbley has now taken over the duties of caterer, having relieved Sergt Foote.

An interesting billiard match with the Phœnix Club took place on Saturday, January 16th. The mess won by 7 points.

Mr. Durham	35	Sergt Foote	100
Mr. Redmond	148	Sergt Barber	100
R.Q.M.S. Sutherland	62	Sergt Swaine	100
Mr. Higgins	155	C.Q.M.S. Andrews	76
Mr. Smith	93	Sergt Gamester	124
	493		500

SIGTRAIN.

Some of the Christmas "Decorations."

THE name PLAYER on a packet of cigarettes guarantees the quality and purity of the contents. It is more than a name—it is a *reputation and a tradition.*

PLAYER'S
Navy Cut
Cigarettes
(Medium Strength)

10 for 6D. 20 for 11½D.
WITH or WITHOUT Cork Tips.

Reg. No. 154011.

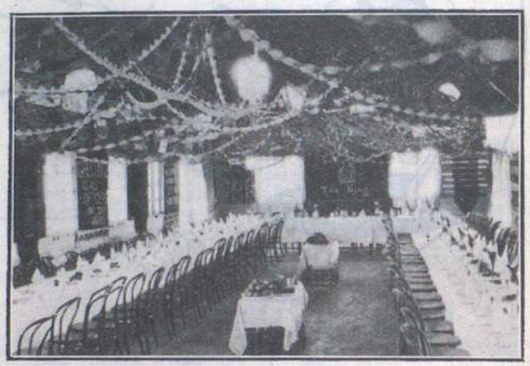
P.1242

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, January 21st.

The most outstanding event since our last notes was Christmas, of which we retain the most pleasant memories. It is impossible to chronicle each event in detail; suffice it to say that we had as pleasant a time as it was possible to have under Indian conditions.

We cannot let all thoughts of Christmas pass without a word of thanks to the various committees and workers of the Corps who helped to make things a success, not forgetting Prof. A. C. B. Swindler and Barney, his able assistant.



The Dining Room prepared for the Men's Christmas Dinner.

The grand finale of the Christmas and New Year celebrations was the corporals' mess fancy dress dance held on January 6th. The number of outsiders who attended the dance did not reach expectations, but we are given to understand that the receipts at the "hoose across th' wee" made up for the lack of visitors. I think we can write "finis" to the event with the remark, "a social success."

Our thoughts are now reluctantly turned to the subject of training. The first item on the programme, it is believed, will be a "standing camp" for a week or so at Mango Pir early in February. The second event will be the Command manœuvres, which are expected to take place in September-October. We know that these events will be eagerly looked forward to by many, especially the old Gaza lines campaigners. We can only hope that the weather and conditions generally will be all that they ought to be, and that we cover ourselves with glory.

This month we welcome our O.C., Capt. J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) and family on return from long leave in the U.K.; also Lieuts. R. H. Crouch and D. R. Paterson, Royal Signals, who have joined us from Signal units at home. May their stay with us be a long and pleasant one.

Hearty congratulations to the following on the award of 1st class certificates of education at the October examination: Sergts A. R. Chimes and A. A. Taylor, Corpl D. Thompson, L/Corpls J. Crichton and A. J. Wedgebury, Signalmen L. N. Lloyd, F. V. Jones, H. C. Spencer, E. N. Walker, and R. J. Douglas. Hard luck, Quarter! Mind you "clear the jump" in April.

During the month several inter-Company football, rugby, billiard, and other events have taken place, resulting in about even honours for both Companies. It is proposed to hold, next month if possible, Line Company v. W/T Company hockey, football, rugby, shooting and billiard matches, and —may the best Company win. The A.C.B.(I.) will *not* present a cup.

Casualties.

Arrived—L/Sergt E. Greening, Signalmen S. Carr, J. Cole, D. Jarvis, R. Button, W. West, and C. Hall, from the S.T. Centre (India), Jubbulpore. Corpl A. R. Godbold, from A Divl. Signals, Peshawar. L/Corpl F. Finley from the S.T. Centre, Catterick.

Departures—Signalmen L. Mothershaw, R. Evans, A. Macdonald and F. McLoughlin to the U.K., "medically boarded." Sigmn A. Bennett to B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Appointment.

U/L/Corpl W. Howell to be L/Corpl (paid) in the I.U.L.

MOLLY.

A Divisional Signals.

Peshawar.

Owing to the departure of the official scribe for a "better land," notes from this unit have been missing for some months, for which apologies are tendered.

Hearty greetings for the New Year, which although late are none the less sincere, are tendered to all.

Much has happened, and many changes have occurred, during the off season.

The Commander-in-Chief inspected the unit on October 28th, and expressed his appreciation of the turn-out.

Northern Command manœuvres were held between November 23rd and December 5th, when, with the able assistance of a few of F Divl. Signals personnel from Kohat, we upheld the prestige of the Signals with the Blue Force. A few of the D.R.s seemed to think they were on speed trials, and only when one of their number was kidnapped by the enemy did they realise that there was a war on. Even then, although England was lost to us, we managed to emerge from the struggle victorious, despite reports to the contrary from the Khaki Forces.

A successful dance was held by the O.C.A. on the occasion of the departure for U.K. of those who are "time-ex.," etc. The sergeants' mess is now mourning the loss of several members famous—or notorious—throughout the land of Hind. All luck be their portion in the new sphere of life for which they are bound.

Christmas was celebrated in time-honoured fashion, and everything went off well. Unfortunately, owing to the exigencies of the Service, the unit can never get all its people together; but even those in the outposts of Empire managed to have a good time, if the recorded consumption of lemonade is to be regarded as a basis on which to work.

Arrivals.

Capt. B. S. Watkins, Lieut. J. Hawke, R.Q.M.S. H. V. May, D.C.M., M.M., Sergts G. Shepherd and L. Penny, and L/Sergt W. Goodyear from leave ex India.

Sergt F. Bogg from S.T.C., Jubbulpore.
Corpl P. Clewlow, D.C.M., from C Divl. Signals, D.I. Khan.
Signalmen Knight and Tipping from F Divl. Signals, Kohat.
Sergt G. Harpin, D.C.M., from Army School, Poona

Departures.

C.S.M. J. Blunt, D.C.M., to U.K. on discharge.

R.Q.M.S. F. G. Craig, M.M., Sigmn H. Davies and Sgt-Inst. C. Wheeldon, A.E.C., for home establishment.

Sergts A. E. Bray, L. Hilliard, B. Marsh, and J. Lodge, and L/Sergt W. Slaughter, to U.K. for discharge.

Sigmn J. P. O'Grady, invalided to U.K.

L/Sergts W. Needs, F. Hooker, F. Bryant, and J. Goddard, Corpl J. Collier, Signalmen Ingram, Taylor, Griffin, Hart, Pickard, Drewett, Marris, Ward, Power, Chapman, Cousins, McCall, Winstanley, Gregory, Poole, Snelson, Saxbee, Roberts, Pitt and Huggins to U.K. for transfer to the Army Reserve.

R.Q.M.S. H. V. May, D.C.M., M.M., to C Divl. Signals.

C.Q.M.S. H. Andrews to S.T.C., Jubbulpore.

Corpl A. R. Godbold, to A Corps Signals.

Sigmn (A/Sergt) F. Taylor to I.A.S. Corps.

Signalmen Clapson and Dudley to F Divl. Signals.

Sergts Gavey, Blunden and Joiner on leave, ex India.

Appointments.

Sgt H. Andrews to be C.Q.M.S.; Sigmn Dwyer to be L/Cpl (paid); Sigmn Freemantle to be L/Corpl (unpaid)—all in the I.U.L.

Educational.

Congratulations to the following on attaining the fruits of knowledge, as under: Sigmn L. G. Smith, special; Sergt J. H. Gould, 1st class; Signalmen Ward and Poole, 2nd class.

Honours and Awards.

Sergt W. Saville and Sigmn J. Hogan "mentioned" for 18 years' undetected.

COL.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi, January 21st.

Since our last notes, nothing exciting has happened with the exception of manœuvres.

During the Christmas holidays a six-a-side tournament was held, the cup being won by No. 2 Company.

D Signals "Six-a-Side" Tournament Trophies.

Photo by Sigmn McLaven

The sergeants' mess shooting cup and spoon were won by C.S.M. Cann and C.Q.M.S. Draper respectively.

Arrivals.

Lieut. W. A. Peachell (Q.O.R.W.K. Regt.) from U.K.

Sergt Coppack, Sergt Snook and family, Corpl Pallett and family, and Sigmn Donovan, from leave in U.K.

Sergt Barnett from E Divl. Signals, Signalmen Rees, Shaw, Spencer and George from S.T.C., Jubbulpore.

Departures.

Lieut. F. K. Morton, Royal Signals, to home establishment.

C.S.M. Chitty to C Divl. Signals.

Sergt Walsh and Sigmn Busby invalided to U.K.

Corpl Farley (R.W.K. Regt.), Signalmen Waller and Richards (R.A.) to units for transfer to Army Reserve.

L/Sergt McIntyre, Corpls East and Hilton, L/Corpl Keeler, Signalmen Beaumont, Childe, F. Clarke, Cowherd, W. E. Cooke, H. Dawson, Fleming, Greenhalgh, J. Hall, Hamborg, Henman, Kerrin, Muslin, Lawley, Middleton, F. Mitchell, Mortimer, Mulholland, Oswald, Rollinson, Twigg, A. Williams and Worthyson to U.K. for transfer to Army Reserve.

Education.

Congratulations to the following on being awarded their "firsts": L/Corpls A. D. Smith, N. Moore, Mulholland, yan, and Skipper.

Appointments.

The following are appointed Lance-Corporals (unpaid): Signalmen Beadle, Birchall, Fraser, Holland, W. Martin, Mott, W. E. Matthews, Nobbs, Polling, Smalley, Simmons, Liggitt, Long, Watt, and G. H. Young.

Extensions.

L/Sergt Rand and L/Corpl Sharples have extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

D SIGS.

E Divisional Signals.

Meerut, January 13th.

After partaking of much-needed refreshment, I will endeavour to record the doings of E Signals during the festive month of December—that is, all that I can remember.

Several dances were held, but the main one was a fancy dress ball (bar in attendance) on the 20th. Everyone attended, including all our officers, and all settled down to a good time. Happiness reigned supreme (although bruises could be seen next morning).

Billiards, tennis and horses were freely discussed; and a car ride cost the police much valuable time. Out of the many remarks passed, I have yet to discover what Nappi meant when he said that "only the feet could be seen"; and although Bhoosa unscrewed his pen, what did he think he was going to write on?

On Christmas Eve happy smiling (?) faces could be seen about the wagon sheds, as the lads cleaned up the cable wagons for the Proclamation parade.

During the afternoon a fancy dress football match was arranged. No goals were scored, but bags of glasses were smashed.

Some of the Team.

Photo by L/Sergt Nichols.

Miss (?) Fair created a disturbance through her calves slipping, and this might have been the reason why the Q.B. gave everyone such black looks; but still the day finished well, and high spirits prevailed (not ski).

"Der Tag" started well, but nothing of note occurred, bar a rather damp welcome to our O.C. The dinner was a great success, thanks to Jock, and the decorations by Vera and Co. were of the best. The toasts to our worthy C.O. and officers were drunk with right good will, and then we "mucked in."

The afternoon was given to dancing—and sleep, but all were ready for the concert during the evening. I would like to mention some of the artistes. Smudger opened, supported (?) by the piano; Polly gave a tearful rendering of "Brothers" (those who know him could guess what sort of tears flowed); Blanco gave us "Over the foam," but as his glass was empty I am not sure which foam he meant; Jock gave us some Scotch songs, and had to give several encores (good kid, Jock). As I cannot remember any more, I must let several good names remain anonymous.

The sergeants and w.o.s held their Christmas on Boxing night, and had a good time, I believe. Not being there myself, I can say no more on the subject.

The corporals performed on the 27th, and for amateurs the "do" was great. The dinner was perfect and well organised. After dinner a large circle gathered round the fire, and songs and laughter were the order of the evening. Den gave us a weird dance, and I believe he still rubs his lower portion where bruises can be felt.

Arrivals.

Lieut. Middleton (the Company hopes he will become a permanent fixture), Signalmen Goddard and Thorne.

Departures.

Sergt Morris to U.K. on six months' sick leave, and R.Q.M.S. Gilmore on twelve months. We wish them a pleasant time, and almost (?) go as far as to envy them.

Education.

Congratulations to Sergt Maynard on his "distinguished" and to L/Corpl Policella on a "good" in an A.I.'s course at Poona.

SAB.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat, January.

Christmas, 1925! Another one gone; another round of festivity past. Roll on, the next! Our programme this year was as follows:

24th—Children's Christmas tree; whist drive and dance in sergeants' mess.
25th—The dinner, followed by a smoker in the evening.
26th—Six-a-side football tournament.
27th—Football versus 2/8th Gurkhas.
28th—Men's dance in theatre.

Altogether a time of merriment, with plenty to eat. The dinner on Christmas day went off in real Army style—and that is a style of its own. Food disappeared like magic—and so did the sweepers, with their tins full.

Mention must be made of the clever caricatures of well-known personalities of F Signals which adorned the walls, the work of Sigmn Clapson.

So far no reports have come in from out-stations, save the accompanying snap from Razani. At Parachinar the four B.O.R.s were feted in turn by the Kurram Militia mess, the Political Agent at Kurram, and the Garrison Engineer, so P.C.R. did alright.

Razani, Christmas, 1925.

On December 21st we sent off eleven men to Karachi en route to the homeland. To all, we wish the very best of luck in civil life. May they all get something to do, and something for doing it.

Sergt A. Lydamore also departed for six months' leave, and Sigmn W. Jeffrey left for Catterick on transfer to the home establishment.

Strength, Increase.

On September 5th, to Sergt and Mrs. A. G. Hales, a son, Albert Lawrence.
On December 27th, to R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. R. J. Diffey, a daughter, Dorothy.
On January 3rd, to L/Corpl and Mrs. J. J. Parker, a son, Ronald Trevor.
On January 18th, to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. P. H. Smithies, a son.

All doing well!

G Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, Dec. 19th.

We welcome the return of Capt. M. H. Howard Smith from England after nine months' leave. Sergt Marshall has also reported his arrival from the same place.

Christmas festivities will soon be upon us, although this year's will be very restrained, as we march out for manœuvres on the 23th. I am thinking there must be a wave of "kill-joy" sweeping over Jubbulpore.

In the absence of any other interesting notes, I am this month giving a report of the doings of the Nerbudda Vale Hunt.

I am not an embryo John Gilpin, for I am living in great hopes of seeing England soon, and I consider it far, far better to live in hopes than die in India. I have, therefore, to thank Capt. G. S. Hurst for supplying the data upon which these notes have been compiled.

The Nerbudda Vale Hounds.

On the arrival of the unit in Jubbulpore it was decided to try and start a unit pack of foxhounds. The officers' mess put forward the money necessary to cover the initial outlay, and subscriptions were raised locally to cover the expense of upkeep. Very good kennels were found, in the locality of the Saddar Bazaar, which had been built in 1918 for the local hunt.

Thanks to a very generous donation by Capt. R. Rayner, F Divl. Signals, and splendid support locally, at the beginning of the cold weather the pack consisted of eleven couples. Of these, two couples were from the original pack hunted by Capt. Rayner, three-and-a-half from H.H. the Maharajah of Joora's pack, one-and-a-half from the Ootucamand Hunt, one from the Peshawar Vale Hunt, and three from the Poona and Kilkee Hunt. This last transaction was made practically complete by Col.-Commandant Beach, G.O.C. of the 21st Infantry Brigade, who is a very keen supporter of the hunt.

The original plan of making the hunt a unit affair, with Capt. G. S. Hurst as master, and Capts. Leonard and Gruar as whips, fell through when the two latter officers left us; and the hunt has now developed practically into a station show.

In spite of the fact that little is known about the habits of the jackal around these parts, we have had some very good sport. Up to date we have killed two brace of jack and one fox.

Next season one hopes it may be possible to get a draft out from home, so that we can have about ten or eleven couples out instead of the six which has been the rule this season; and with all the local knowledge gained this season, it should be possible to have a real first-class show. The country is quite pleasant to ride over, and though there are small bunds around the many small plots with which India seems to be overrun, the ground except for nullahs is ideal for the sport.

For the benefit of any readers who know the surrounding country, two accounts of a typical morning's sport are included.

On Sunday, December 6th, hounds met at 7.15 a.m. at the fifth milestone on the Saugar road, near Maratol. They opened on a line and, hunting at a pretty fast pace, carried it in a semi-circle by Amkhera and killed to the north of Kathonda after 14 minutes. He was a large jack, and took a lot of pulling down. The last three-quarters of a mile was over very bad cotton soil; otherwise it was a very nice run of about three-and-a-half miles.

On Sunday, December 13th, a large field met hounds at Nimkhera. The pack got away on good terms with a large jack from an orchard, south of Nimkhera camp. He proved to be a very sporting jack, and ran a good straight line. A fast 20 minutes brought hounds to high ground between Hinotia and Pindrai, where there was a long check. From here the hounds hunted on very slowly to the west of Pindrai and along the nullah on a very cold scent.

Just after swinging round Pindrai, the jack was viewed crawling across the open. Hounds were laid on, and the jack made straight for the jungle. In a quarter of a mile one hound was on his brush, with the rest of the pack twenty yards behind. After a very fast mile and a half, jack made the jungle just ahead of the hounds, who hunted him on their own for 15 minutes through some very dense country, when they were finally called off.

Signalmen Highman, Kimber and Strickland have given up a lot of their spare time in helping to exercise the hounds.

That extra ounce—

TOWARDS the end of a hard-fought game of Soccer or Rugger, it's the man who can pull out that "extra ounce" who most frequently gets the winning goal or try. The whole crowd cheers, and it's good to be that man.

* * *

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May also be kept for use in Training Quarters.

Ask for and see that you get Horlick's.

About fifteen British ranks of the unit subscribed, as did also the sergeants' mess. On most of the good runs that have taken place, Signalmen James, Winter, Strickland, Kimber and L/Corpl Hindle have been well up. In spite of the long trek in the gloom and the cold of these wintry mornings, they have shown great keenness.

Let's hope that next year there will be more out, nearer meets, and no manœuvres to cut out six weeks of the best part of the season.

F. L.

[Photos of the N.V H. were published in our last issue.—ED]

No. 1 (Line) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, January 20th.

No, you need not cheer! It is only B Linesigs appearing once more. It is no use apologising for past omissions—that is played out; but notes will appear regularly henceforth. That was my new year resolution. Now to business!

We have said farewell to many of our old hands, including Corpl Wheatley, who has already been sadly missed in our combined Signals football team. George was a good all-round sportsman. He used to play everything, even "Slippery Sam." We wish him every success in civil life.

There are too many departures to mention them all, but No. 1 (Line) Company wish them all the best. There are still a few more to go this trooper, and they are anxiously waiting for the boat.

Our married establishment has been increased by the arrival of Sergt Whitehead and his wife. "Shoey" took the bold plunge whilst on leave. May your troubles be small, and your—but that's another story, "Shoey."

Things have been rather tame this season as regards entertainments. The O.C.A. gave a dance on the 16th inst., which

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Jams
and
Marmalades
and Wonderful
Lemon Curd

was well attended. Dancing went on until past midnight, the music being supplied by Sergt Strickland and his merry men.

By the time these notes appear, Capt. A. J. Harris, O.B.E., will have left us for Blighty leave. We all wish him a pleasant time in the "Blight."

The Signals annual sports meeting takes place on February 5th and 6th, when records are going to be broken, judging by the way the lads are training. More about this next month.

I nearly forgot to tell you this. The whole Company have been out to camp for ten weeks. When I say the *whole* Company, I mean with the exception of one or two who managed to —I was going to say—"dodge it," but that's not polite: somebody had to look after the Company office, etc.

We had a very enjoyable time, and came back smothered with glory. Everybody worked hard. We formed "Neutral Signals" for the Northern Command manœuvres, and were highly praised by all the staff.

There *was* one little thing we didn't do. There was some "husk" on the line for days, and we didn't find it until the last day. We are now keeping it as a memento. There will be no more "Can you hear me?" and "Yes, but you're husky."

Before closing, I would say that it is hoped that we shall still continue to have notes from "Barleux." We understand that at last the axe is to be used; but never mind, Bob! let us hear of you now and again. Of course, it took a long time to shift the Depot to Catterick, but it has taken longer to shift you, Bob (no offence!)

B LINE SIGS.

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Bannu, N.W.F.P., Jan. 18th.

"Tochi and Khaisora Area speaking: a happy new year, everybody."

No! we have no casualty reports to submit. The festive season passed quite nicely. Of course boys *will* be boys, and as such a holiday requires adequate celebration, everyone did his share towards making things lively—and I'm convinced they succeeded.

I think the troops were rather fed up with the idea of going to sleep at night, so they revised the order of things and slept through the day for a change. Who says "The old order never changeth?"

Shaving water was not brought round on Christmas morning, but instead we indulged in coffee and rum, though the coffee was more in evidence than rum. The rumour that the next mess meeting will decide whether we get it *every* morning, or not, is unfounded.

Although Christmas weather was not included on the "me and you," Christmas cheer was, and everything went with a swing. By the way a certain individual is still wondering how he came to rest in a Ford car after starting out in a gharry, and how he missed his Christmas dinner. You shouldn't do it, Ginger!

New Year' Eve was held by everyone in Bannu at a fancy dress dance in the Frontier Cinema, and those who *could* and those who *couldn't* dance were all tripping the light fantastic toe in some form or other. Music was supplied by the Bannu Orphans, viz., Sergt Rick, I.A.S.C. (pianist), L/Corpl R. F. Fields, Royal Signals (jazz drummer), Sigmn J. Brannagan, Royal Signals (sazzaphone), and a violinist.

Colonel and Mrs. Furney helped to judge the costumes, the latter kindly distributing the prizes to the winning lady and gentleman. The ladies' prize went to Miss Georgina Fayrcs, who dressed as a Welsh girl. The gentlemen's prize went to Sigmn F. Cole, Royal Signals (well known as Ginger), who dressed as "Felix." Of course, he *didn't* keep walking: unlike his namesake, he was standing still after a time, and it was the walls of the place did the walking by moving in a circle. I think that was what started the orchestra playing, "Show me the way to go home."

By the way, those people sweating on top line for U.K. are still sweating. Evidently Old Moore's predictions don't carry any weight, because no one seems to mind which boat goes down so long as they can get nearer Blighty than they are at present.

Arrivals.

We welcome Capt. and Mrs. Gemmell back into our midst, and hope their stay with us is a long and pleasant one; also Lieut. and Mrs. Wiseman, who have joined us.

Notes from the C.I.D. Book.

1.—Who were the individuals who heard reveille blow and said, "I think we'd best pack in now and get to bed; it's gone 'lights out'"? and who was responsible for their loss of memory for the previous eight hours?

2.—L/Corpl L. G. Robson, Royal Signals, wishes to know how a certain Corpl Minion came to have his name and address written in the bound copy of THE WIRE for 1925 just received; and whether it was an intentional affair, or a coincidence? (Which is it, Mr. Editor?)

3—Is the big black case "Arreff" carries out at times responsible for the change in him since his return from the Depot? Certain it is, he creates quite a lot of noise when he opens it. (Music hath charms, but not a jazz drummer without the rest of the band!)

4.—Is it correct that "Robbo" the ex-rat, will play football when he gets his magic shoes? To obtain these, he requires a loan of 500 rats (rupees). Will any kind signalman oblige him with this loan? (Not too many applicants, please.)

5—Our sleuth wants to know if it's true that a certain few bhoys of C Div. are going to open a school for giving courses of instruction in "How to give pariah dogs the hockey stick treatment"?

Appointments and Promotions.

Sigmn Benson to be U/L/Corpl, 6/1/26. Now we know why he started cleaning those Indian clubs which have been laying so long in his haversack, in place of a baton. The first step on the ladder, "Benny." Good luck to you.

Christmas Undertaker.

"Traffic," alias "Yank," the well-known D.R. and fitter, gave quite a decent diversion at Christmas, taking us out for spins in a touring car—and no accidents either, although I hear he once got under the car instead of "at the wheel."

COIR.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Two outstanding items of news this month are the Christmas festivities and the departure of the old draft. I really don't know which is the more important. Anyway, both went off in time-honoured style.

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Christmas dinner for the juniors was served in the 40th Company R.E. mess-room, and I believe justice was done to a jolly good menu. The officers of the Royal Engineers and Royal Signals visited the mess-room, and were met with that Christmas greeting well known to us all.

Q.M.S. Roberts has kindly written an article on "Cable Reservations," which should be of interest to readers of THE WIRE. We trust we may be able to have some more interesting articles from him.

Hong-Kongites will learn with surprise and regret that the fine Hong Kong Hotel has lately been the scene of a great fire, the three top floors having been completely gutted.

Congratulations to Sigmn Purcell on winning the semi-final of the Company tennis handicap. His victim was Lieut. Whyte, R.E., and he has now to meet C.S.M. Pitt, R.E., in the final, which we are expecting him to win.

Departures.

Q.M.S. Ramsay and family, Corpl Stainer and family, Signalmen Hole, Slater, Dempsey, Upton, Wells, and "Smudger," left us on December 30th, embarking on the "City of Cairo" for England; and with them go the best of wishes from all ranks of the Section. *Perhaps* we may see them "trooping" back to Hong Kong ere long. Our latest barrack-room ballad is, "Oh, Hole, how we miss you."

We also extend our best wishes to our R.E. friends who departed on the same ship.

Personal.

Will Sigmn A. Durand (late of F Company, Catterick) please communicate with A.D. here.

CAN DO.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani, Dec. 31st.

Although rather late in the season, our wishes are none the less sincere that all readers have a prosperous New Year. We apologise for the absence of Singapore notes in the previous issue,

Auld Lang Syne.

The Section regret to hear of the departure of E.S.J.H. to civvy street, and wish him all prosperity in his new sphere of life.

A hearty welcome is extended to L.H.D. on joining the ranks of U.C.s. His colleague W.A.H. is at present on strike, but we hope to make him a regular subscriber yet.

Hong Kong Twisters.

Dame Rumour has been proved a lying jade once more. The Section kept awake all night (we don't know how) for signs of the "Derbyshire," but alas, there were no signs of either Bish-Bow or Soofoo to the casual eye of the "transport bloke."

We hope that W.H.B. does not have to work so hard collecting the "rent" for the Cent Club in H.K. as he had on P.B. We would like to know if he continues the practice of taking his "cent" in his toilet glass to the bath room.

I'm afraid you're slightly pushed for the Makan Wang, Billie dear! We hope you had a merry Christmas, and that another bar is forthcoming during the new year.

Personal.

Sigmn Jerry Kenneally would like to hear from Tim, last heard of at 1st Divl. Signals, and also from W. Hotchkiss of the 4th Divl. Signals.

OLIVE.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo,
February 5th.

Arrivals (Officers).

Lieuts. H. Bartlett (Royal Signals) and R. G. Woodbridge (Royal Signals) joined us from the United Kingdom on 27th January, and have both been posted for duty with No. 3 Coy. Egypt Signals. We wish them a bright and happy stay in our midst.

Training.

We have been quite busy of late, there being several schemes, which of course could not be brought to a successful end without the aid of the blue and white arm-bands. The Command manœuvres commence on the 14th March, and judging from rumours we are in for a glorious time. Quite a number of the new draft showed signs of disappointment when told that they would not be able to make mud pies at Mena, but were highly delighted at the thought of sand castles.

Concert Party.

The Morse Key Toes are still making headway, appearing before numerous audiences during the past two months. On the 31st January they introduced their programme to the visitors at the Continental Savoy Hotel, Cairo (the second largest in Egypt), and I believe it was a great success. Of course, not being one of the "new rich," I was unable to witness the show, so cannot give any details. Corpl Paddy Holness has now joined the party, and I think he is a great asset as the "toy drum-major."

Reference recent WIRE notes concerning the Mossies, Corpl Tich White (producer) wishes me to point out that it was not he who actually founded the party, but that Corpls Tug Norman and Jerry Fegan (late of No. 1 Company) were its promoters.

Signals Association.

In a pamphlet issued by the Signals Association, it was proposed that every n.c.o. and man throughout the Corps should contribute 9d. per month, thereby becoming annual subscribers to THE WIRE and also members of the Association. This suggestion was placed before the two Signal Companies out here, and was "voted for" unanimously. (Mr. Editor, please note!)

Bliss!

News has reached us that Sergt Micky Slater, late of C.S.O.'s directorate, has taken unto himself a wife. This being the case, we wish you all the best for your future happiness, Mick; and may all your troubles be little ones.

Court and Social.

Sigmn Smith, who had audience with the C.O. yesterday, was awarded C.B. It will be recalled that he served without distinction during the late war.

Agony!

L/Corpl Bennett (late of F Company, S.T.C., Maresfield) would *still* like to hear something of Sigmn Geordie Pyper, of the same unit. This is for the second time of asking!

BEN.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, Feb. 1st.

Since the appearance of our last notes, we have had a comparatively quiet time, but this may be assumed to be the lull before the storm, as minor schemes have been the order of the day preparatory to the Command manœuvres next month.

With the last draft were included a number of O.R.s who participated in the army manœuvres at home last summer, and who contributed towards earning the congratulations which were bestowed upon the Signals by the army commanders. May the experience which they gained then be used in the coming manœuvres, to keep the Corps colours flying in Egypt and get even more feathers in our cap than we did last year. May their stay at Helwan and Mena camps, in the sand, carry happier recollections than their respective experiences with the Eastern and Western Armies last year.

On the return of the unit from its stay at Mena, we anticipate a move to our new home at Polygon, which is now nearing completion. If all resolutions and propositions are effected, we shall have a veritable "home from home." All ranks are eagerly awaiting the order to pack up, to enable us to get settled down in our new home.

The Morse Key Toes concert party have been quite busy during the past month, as they have given shows at the Surtees Hall in aid of the 1st Abbassia Troop, Boy Scouts; at the canteen of the 15/19th Hussars at Helmeih; and last, but not least, at the Continental Savoy Hotel on Sunday, January 31st. All these performances were thoroughly appreciated by the audiences, and have increased the popularity of the Mossies. May they continue to buzz and maintain the reputation which they have so deservedly won. Biddy! please note this continued success in spite of all adversities and criticisms.

The sports competition for the inter-Section challenge shield is in progress at present, and the full results will be published in our next issue. The Corps boxing championships took place at Red Barracks on January 15th, but these are fully reported in the Sports Notes.

N.C.O's Mess (A Mess).

On January 24th we received an invitation from the n.c.o.s' mess of No. 3 Company to an "at home," which included a billiards tournament and smoker. The invitation was accepted by the members en bloc.

A prize awarded for the highest break during the tournament was won by Sergt Yates of this unit. Good old Tich! may *the* prize always have the pride of place among your trophies, and for ever bring happy recollections. The tournament ended in a win for No. 3 Company.

The smoker was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, and the turns given were of the highest order. It is difficult to pick out any outstanding performance, but special mention should be made of Dorrie's French opera, the rendition of which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The "at home" dispersed in the small hours of the morning, and the evening's enjoyment was voted "tres bon" by all.

The mess has been staggered by some secret information received. News has come to hand of the contemplated marriage of Mick, Jock and Jack (Feelham). Now then, Jonah and Freddie, what about it? why allow the younger generation to show you up? Why not join the happy throng and go nap, now that the widows are provided for from your contributions and from State funds.

L/Sergt Ratcliffe left us on January 8th per s.s. "Neuralia" from Port Said, on posting to the home establishment. May his stay with A Corps be as happy as it was with us.

Sergt Teddy Price has left us on posting to No. 2 W/T Coy., Palestine. We all miss his smiling face, but we hope that his sojourn there will be as happy as in Cairo, and that he will have a real good time; and "apré bar'den,"

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L/Sergt Brett has joined us from No. 2 W/T Company. We extend a hearty welcome to him, and hope that his stay with this unit will be as happy as with his late one.

A. E. B.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, Feb. 1st.

The past month has been a fairly quiet one, except for J Section and the Signal Troop, for whom schemes have mostly been the order of the day.

The manœuvres will take place shortly, and the majority of the Company will leave barracks for a two or three weeks' camp on the desert. This will make the second manœuvres in a season for some of the new arrivals, as a large number of them have already participated in the big manœuvres that were held in England last autumn. They will be able to make up their minds as to which they prefer best—mud (bags of it) or sand (ditto).

The painters and decorators have been busy for the past few months on the barracks, and recently routed us out of our "home from home" to enable them to slap the whitewash on the walls in peace.

The new Signal barracks at Polygon are nearing completion, and we expect to move in some time between now and next July.

L/Corpl Thomas left here on January 27th, per s.s. "City of Cairo," for home establishment. We wish him the best of luck in his new station.

Corpl H. Devey, Signalmen A. Crowther and S. J. Bevan, also left here per H.T. "Neuralia" on January 8th for home establishment. Both Taffies had really begun to think that "boats may come and boats may go, but we stay here for ever!" We sincerely hope that "Esses Jug" will keep getting "Younger" every day.

According to the latest news from civvie street, Charlie Chubb and Percy Webb, late of this unit, have arrived. We hope that the excitement of drawing money for nothing wasn't too much for them, as Charlie had been used to that for a long while. What's wrong with the clickety-click, Percy?

ART.

No. 1 Section No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand.

February 8th.

Several changes have occurred in the unit since our last appearance in THE WIRE. A new draft of thirteen O.R.s arrived on December 18th, together with Capt. T. B. Ferriday, who has taken over command of the Section. The old familiar faces of Sergt Pitt and Corpls Wright, MacIntosh and Macdonel were a welcome surprise, and needless to say the draft has now settled down quite comfortably.

On December 29th we said goodbye to four old members of the Section, who left for Blighty: Corpl D. Kirby and Signalmen Hand and Stacey for civvy street, and Sigmn Hatheral for a spell at the Depot. We wish them the best of luck in their new spheres.

Capt. and Mrs. J. W. Bailey bade us farewell on February 7th, for India. Our best wishes go with them.

Other departures are C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Betteridge for U.K. and L/Sergt and Mrs. Brett for Cairo.

Sergt G. E. Price has arrived from Cairo.

With the departure of the 9th Q.R. Lancers to Cairo last month, social life will no doubt become rather quiet, and we are looking forward to the warmer weather to enable us to renew our bathing parties at Jaffa.

Promotions.

Congratulations to Sergt R. B. Newman, Corpls Newmarsh, Cutler, Balderson and Macdonel, and L/Corpl Collier, on being substantiated in their ranks.

Birth.

Congratulations to Major and Mrs. Worlledge on the arrival of a daughter.

Personal.

Shiner has already qualified for his A.B. degree at Jerusalem University, and all correspondence should be addressed to him: "Moses Rubenbacker, Esq."

B. B.

Signal Section, Sierra Leone.

January 30th.

We will start our notes with wishing everyone a happy New Year—a bit late; but still, the heartiness is there.

We are sorry to hear the weather is so bad in England, but what can one expect when the gods hear of the Signals changing their home from the sunny south to the dreary heights of Catterick?

Our Christmas was not very cheerful except for a posh dinner. Still, we hope to make up for it when we get home this year.

At present there is a railway strike on here, and Signalmen Mizen and Graves (ex Bulford) have been away up country on strike duty. The strikers have been out a month at the time of writing, and the R.E.'s are engaged in engine driving and firing.

Of course, *everyone* said he had been driving and firing on the railways at home, when volunteers were asked for; but I think they were dreaming of being paid about £3 a week by the Colonial Government.

Sigmn Graves was supplied with a cycle that runs on the lines, but it took him about six hours to do three miles, and the railway manager sent out a "special" to see if he had made a mistake and was on his way to the Sudan.

Sigmn Mizen was in charge of a telegraph office, but not knowing much about the sounder, he proposed a relay of bush runners at each station—but the railway people disagreed with the idea.

Signalmen Graves and Ramsden must be complimented on their bit of lineman's work in repairing a line which was broken in the town. It was of military importance, being a direct line to the railway office. This was their first attempt at line work, and it was a success, being done in twenty minutes. Good old S.B.O.s!

We congratulate Major Cobb and his happy band of warriors on lifting the Clive Cookson cup.

WINKLE.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, February.

We apologise for the absence of notes from the February edition. There were several reasons for this, the chief being our move to Wiesbaden from Cologne. All ranks had a very busy time, and were greatly relieved when the last truck was unloaded.

Never mind! We are now getting settled at Dotzheim, the village in which our little home is situated. It is stated in some quarters (although we cannot vouch for the truth of the statement) that the name was conferred on the village owing to the fact that it "puts dots" on everybody who has dwelt within its walls. Maybe there *is* truth in it! Since our arrival it has been more or less covered in mud, and the N.A.A.F.I. will do a good trade in boot brushes as soon as stock permits.

Our greatest drawback is the lack of baths. The "Froggies" evidently do not believe in bathing regularly, as there was not a single bath in the barracks when we took over. We can rest assured everything will be done to overcome this difficulty at an early date.

Arrivals.

Since our last notes we have had large re-inforcements from England. From the 1st Divl. Signals we had Corpl Challenger, who is still a persistent but lonely shopper. With him came Signalmen Ford, Graham, Dunnell, Tokins, Clarke, Baker and Hopper.

From the 2nd Divl. Signals there arrived Corpl Bramwell (who, by the way, has still got a good standing capacity), Corpl Sharp, L/Corpls (now A/Corpl) McDowell and Ibbs, Signalmen Southwell and Insull, and Dvr Holliday.

The 3rd Divl. Signals sent us Sergts Freemantle and Smith and Sigmn LeCocq.

Last, but by no means least, are the arrivals from the Depot, to whom we are indebted for C.S.M. Burgess.

To all the above we extend a very hearty welcome, and hope they will very soon get settled down. A hearty welcome is also extended to the family of C.S.M. Burgess.

Departures.

After a very long stay in Rhineland, C.S.M. M. Gregor has been ordered to Catterick. No doubt he will find a great difference in his surroundings. We hope he will soon get settled down and find things as he found them here. He will be missed sadly by all ranks, but our loss is the gain of another unit.

At the time of writing C.S.M. Jones is in hospital, suffering from pneumonia. We hope he will soon be able to get out and about once more.

The men's regimental institute has more or less got into running order, and the first dance will take place on Thursday, 11th inst. Let's hope this will be the forerunner of many, as they have much better accommodation here than at Cologne.

Personal.

T'Chal would be pleased to have news of Drake, Platch and Flan; and can they give him any information regarding a certain shirt of his?

Sigmn Guest would like to hear from Ginger Williams of F Company.

Corpl Colgan would like to hear of L/Sergt Harrison, formerly of the 2nd Signal Troop R.E.

Reference Northern Ireland Signal Company notes. As stated, the "Outlaws of Dunree" *must* be on a raid. Now then, W.R.A.C., what about a few notes? We have been waiting to see your marriage announced, but up to the present there are no signs of it. Perhaps, if you missed one milk diet and wrote a few lines to F.J.C., we might hear something! Sergt Nash wishes to be remembered to you, and congratulates you on your recent step up the ladder.

Promotions.

We congratulate the following on their promotion: Sergt Sharpley to A/C.Q.M.S.; L/Sergts Lowrie and Potts to be A/Sergts.; L/Corpls Davis, McDowell, Berry, Hall, Varley and Austin to be Corporals.

Congratulations to A/Sergt Smith on having his rank substantiated.

CAPTAIN.

26th and 27th Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies.

Chelsea, S.W.3, Feb. 17th.

The Companies' notes have been conspicuous by their absence for some time, and we tender our apologies to those who have looked for news of us.

Our annual training found us wandering farther afield, and on the whole the change from the Wash to the north coast of Somerset was voted an improvement. We enjoyed our stay at Watchet very much, thank you, No. 1 Company. It was quite a new and pleasant experience to be among people who had not, even in the late war, become used to the sight of khaki. We very much appreciated their efforts for our entertainment.

We are still looking forward to the time when the whole unit can go away together instead of spreading ourselves out to cover a period of two months.

The usual lull followed our return to town, except for the permanent staff, who had to put up with the efforts of a small army of carpenters who were knocking our temporary home at the Duke of York's into shape.

Dance.

On Saturday, October 24th, a very enjoyable dance was held in the drill hall of the London Irish. The committee responsible for the arrangements are to be congratulated on the success achieved.

Children's Christmas Party.

The children came into their own on January 9th, when a tea and Christmas tree was held at the headquarters in their honour. Sergt Powell again made a venerable Father Christmas, and caused great delight amongst the kiddies at the distribution of presents.

We would like to know if it is true that the small boy who had been presented with a jazz set had to wait patiently for half-an-hour while one of the junior officers found out how it worked.

Annual Dinner.

Our second annual dinner was held in the central mess at the Duke of York's on Saturday, January 23rd, when a large gathering of present members and old friends sat down to a very excellent dinner. Our commanding officer (Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D.) was in the chair. We were especially pleased to have Lieut.-Col. E. H. Leaf and Col. T. W. Vigers with us.

After dinner the assembled company was entertained by various members of the Corps, and it is very gratifying to find that we have such a wealth of talent. We ought to refrain from making any special mention where everyone was so good, but Capt. Darby's skill at handling his pack of cards made us resolve to bar bridge when he comes to visit us in future.

Training.

Our training as an Anti-Aircraft Signal unit has at last reached a very definite step in its career, while practice raids on the metropolis have been fast and furious of late.

ACK ACK ESSES.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

The officers' exercise held on January 22nd, 23rd and 24th was a most instructive and enjoyable affair, more particularly in the former sense, as we had the benefit of the advice of

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Major Chenevix Trench, of the 3rd Divl. Signals, who came down specially to help us. He was "all out" to give us every assistance, and we welcomed his lecture on the "latest things out" in Signals—especially the details of the "blob" system. There was a very good attendance, and the solutions to the problems set caused favourable comment. Our C.O., Lieut.-Col. Michelmore, set the scheme, and was, as usual, unsparing in his efforts to make it go. We hope the suggestion that we should meet later on at Bulford will mature.

No. 3 Company are making headway both as regards numbers and in their activities. The Plymouth Section is now nearly up to strength, and since winning the shooting cup they have set their caps at a jaunty angle—which means, they say, that *one* cup is not enough for them!

Billiard table makers are busy, having received orders for tables for the recreation rooms at Plymouth and Crediton. So far we do not possess a billiard trophy, but there may be room for one later on.

We are glad to hear that Lieut. M. Noël Ford has resumed duty after a year's leave, and has taken over command of the Topsham Section. Cheerio, No. 3!

Congratulations to Signalmen J. F. K. Bridle, B. R. Newman, and R. F. Thomas, of Topsham, on gaining the first step up the ladder of promotion. The eyes of Topsham are on them!

O. ESSES.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

Headed by our trumpet band, we marched on Monday, Feb. 8th, to the Electric Cinema, High Street, Chiswick, in connection with the showing of the Territorial Army film and the active part they took in the Army manœuvres, 1925—with the object of recruiting for the unit.

The event was introduced by Capt. Reid, M.C. (O.C. No. 1 Company) whose speech, though short, was very good, and well to the point. During the evening the unit dance band played selections which were thoroughly appreciated by the audience.

Training.

The winter training is proceeding, and it is hoped a good number of all ranks will successfully pass the coming trade tests.

Sport.

On February 6th the Middlesex Brigade boxing competition took place. The attendance was very good, and a fine, clean exhibition of sport took place.

Rifle Club.

We met the Chiswick Police team on the unit range on the 11th inst. Scores: Police 760, Signals 717.

We all join in wishing Corpl G. A. Johnson (of No. 1 Cable Detachment), who sails for Australia early in March, the best of luck and a successful future.

A. C. A.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Phœnix Street, Derby, Feb. 15th.

The notes of the 46th Divl. Signals have been conspicuous by their absence recently, for which many apologies! However, there has been nothing exciting of late, so there has been little to record.

The annual dinner of the sergeants' mess proved a most enjoyable and successful function. The County Hotel was the scene of operations this year. Hostess Macdonald provided an excellent repast, to which full justice was done. After the tables were cleared, the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.

We had the pleasure of the company of our commanding officer and most of the officers of the unit, many of them having made a long journey to be present. We also had the pleasure of welcoming C.Q.M.S. Charley Wood and C.S.M. Mickey Hurn, of the 49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals.

An excellent programme had been arranged, interspersed with a very short toast list. One of the most interesting items was the showing of a number of films taken with a "baby" kinema camera by our commanding officer at the annual camp last year. Eleven o'clock arrived all too soon, and the party had reluctantly to disperse after the singing of "Auld lang syne."

Our headquarters are still in the course of construction, and happy we shall all be when we have said goodbye to the builders, etc., and we can settle down once more. As matters are at present everyone is working under difficulties. Signalling classes have to be held at Siddals Road, as our yard is full up with girders, bricks, etc. However, the builders will be finished *some* day, and then we shall reap the benefit of a few inconveniences.

We have lost a few old members during the past year, many having been with us since the formation of the unit, but new ones are turning up to take their places. No doubt, when the headquarters are finished, we shall be able to report "recruiting brisk" once more.

MEREBIMUR.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Gateshead-on-Tyne) Company.

The close season of 1925-26 is now drawing to a close, and we are eagerly looking forward to re-commencing training on February 22nd.

Under the re-organisation of the Companies, by which this Company now becomes solely W/T, great things are anticipated. Being now in possession of two 120-watt sets, the writer sees no reason why we should not get in touch with Mars, providing the operators at the other end are conversant with our "Signal language"!

Recruits are coming along in fair numbers, and we have high hopes of being up to full strength before annual camp. This applies not only to this Company, but also No. 3 R.A.F. Squadron Signal Section.

Although early in the year to write about the different trophies given for competition throughout the Divisional Signals, we warn our fellow signallers at Middlesbrough and Hull that we are having a "go" for the Bagnall cup, and anticipate quite a different order of placings this year from those of last.

The sergeants held their annual ball on January 22nd, and judging from the numbers present it was a great success. The O.C. Company, Capt. G. Bell, Lieuts. W. K. Carroll and T. Mensley, and 2/Lieut. T. H. Dalton were present.

Our heartiest congratulations to "Joe" on carrying off the honours of the North-Eastern cross-country senior event at Newcastle, and also to the Corps on being placed second.

A. C. S.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company

We held our annual party for the children of the serving and honorary members of the Company on February 3rd, and I am very glad to say that it was a huge success. After having tea, the children were entertained by a minstrel troupe, which I think they all enjoyed. The toys, etc., were presented by Mr. T. Robinson (Tosher). This was followed by a dance for the adults, which lasted until midnight, and wound up a very enjoyable day for all. We thank all serving and honorary members for the kind support given to the fund to provide this treat.

Smoker.

We are holding our annual smoker on February 19th, for the presentation of the Bagnall cup won by the Company for the third year in succession, and also the Section shield which was won last year by the Visual Section.

Annual Ball.

We are holding our annual ball in the drill hall on February 25th. This will wind up our dances for the season; and then, down to preparation for the annual training which takes place in June.

A. C.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

"The early bird catches the worm" must be this year's slogan in our Company, judging from the early start in the new training season. Last night (February 9th) saw the start of another "year," when quite a good number of troops were on the first parade.

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The many rumours which had been floating around for a few weeks were no doubt responsible for this; and when it was given out that the Company were to take up cable work as a "change" (?) from V/T, W/T, L/T, and all the other "oblique tocks," great was the excitement thereat!

Judging from the eagerness shown by all ranks we should be able to make a good show as "cable merchants." Perhaps the chance of a mount on a "gee" is responsible for this, but more of this in our next (and after we have been round the school a time or two.)

Recruiting goes on apace, and we hope to report a "full house" in the very near future. Plenty of recruits are coming forward, and after a careful sorting over many are being attested.

The early start of this year's training is no doubt due to camp being earlier this year, and we are looking forward to being in camp with the other Companies of the Divl. Signals, where we hope to prove to Nos. 1 and 2 Companies that the "placings" in last year's race for the Bagnall cup were all wrong.

Congratulations to Corpl Cotterell on winning the North-Eastern cross-country senior event at Newcastle. We are looking forward to seeing him in action when the annual camp comes round.

"SIGNALS OF HAPPINESS."

Wives and Children Entertained at Hull.

An admirable innovation was made at the headquarters of No. 3 Company of the 50th Divl. Signals on Friday evening, when the wives and children of the members were entertained to tea, followed by an enjoyable musical entertainment.

Sergt-Major Burrows, who presided, moved a vote of thanks to Capt. Petch and the officers for their generosity in making the innovation, which it was hoped would be an annual affair. He asked the ladies to regard it as an expression of appreciation of the sacrifices which they made in enabling their men-folk to attend Company training.

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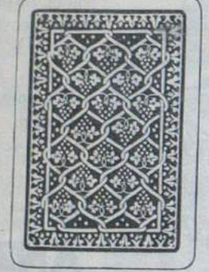

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The committee responsible for the arrangements did their work thoroughly, and their due reward was reflected in the happy, smiling faces of all present. An excellent tea was provided by Marshall's, the universal caterers, and each child was the recipient of gifts of toys and fruit.

In a brief but happy speech, Capt. Petch said the evening was only a start in the direction of cementing friendships amongst the ladies of the Company similar to those which existed between the n.c.o.s and men. He hoped they would be able to provide something even better next year, and many would have the opportunity of fraternising again at the forthcoming annual dance in the Metropole on March 22nd.

A varied programme was sustained by the following: The orchestra, R.S.M. Burrows, Sergts Wilson and Hardy, Miss P. Bramhill, Miss Irene Thompson, Miss G. Spivey, Mr. and Mrs. Chew, Messrs. Birkhead, Thickett and Redshaw, Miss Thomas, and wee Molly Fleetham.—*From the local Press.*

Company Carnival Dance.

Without a doubt the close season of 1925-26 is proving what we hoped it would: a record as far as sports and social events are concerned.

Our last function was again a great success, the number attending being very gratifying to all who had worked so hard to *make* it a success. We congratulate the entertainments committee on the results shown.

The Social Evenings.

Held on every other Saturday in the recreation room, these are proving very popular. At our last one, the stewards reported a full house. Some first-rate artistes assisted in what proved to be a splendid entertainment. As is usual in the social affairs of the Company, the Signals jazz band was in attendance, and rendered some very pleasing items. Judging from their form at present, we are going to cause "some stir" at the next camp. We congratulate our bandmaster (no names; he's so shy!) on getting his jolly little band up to such a first-rate standard.

Sergeants' Annual Ball.

This is to be held on March 22nd in the Metropole Hall, and we are hoping it will be a great success. Sergt Wright, M.M., is i/c all arrangements, and has a good committee with him. Further particulars re this next month.

A. C. O.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Things are still fairly quiet here, but we are looking forward to the commencement of training at an early date. Meanwhile social events continue. A unit whist drive was held on 28th January, but owing to the bad weather there was not a very good attendance. However, a very pleasant evening was spent by a company of sixty. Congratulations to the following prize winners: Top score ladies, Miss E. Parker; top score gentlemen, Sigmn A. Wheddon; top score first half, ladies, Mrs. Safferty, gentlemen, Mr. Turmaine; top score second half, ladies, Mrs. Lelliott, gentlemen, Sigmn Davies; mystery prize (for the player with the greatest number of fours) Mr. Lelliot.

The East London Branch of the Signals Association held a very successful whist drive here on February 11th. A report of this will be found under Association Notes.

The Divisional boxing tournament was held on February 12th at the headquarters of the 4th Battn. Northamptonshire Regt., Clare Street, Northampton. This unit had five entrants—Welters Sigmn Frith, lights Sigmn Leaver, feathers Sigmn P. Clark, bantams Dvr Mercer, flys Sigmn Detenon. Three of these managed to get into the finals, but were unable to gain the verdict. Undoubtedly, in the opinion of the writer, the fight of the evening was between Tommy Mercer of this unit and Bombardier Carlo of the 413th Field Battery R.A. An extra round was expected, but the decision was given to Carlo—so we shall not be represented at the Holborn Stadium. Hard luck! but we live in hopes for next year. A full report will be found under Sports Notes.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Bailey on his promotion to W.O. Class II. vice Carnall resigned.

Y. E. D.

Athletic Doings at the S.T.C., Catterick.

February 12th.

Here we are again, after a slight rest from athletics, and al noses are getting down to the trail once more.

Inter-Company doings have been nil, but excitement has been high with the "soccer fans" and the "boxing pros."

Since Christmas the T.B. soccer team have finished with the Army cup—but not until the fifth round, which in itself is a record for any Corps team. In the fourth round the R.A.S.C. Training College came to Darlington Feethams, and after an exciting game the Corps won by 3—1. It must be admitted, however, that the R.A.S.C. as footballers were our superiors, but their efforts in front of goal were futile, and when the extra stamina of the T.B. was manifest in the second half the R.A.S.C. were successfully overcome. The three goals scored by the T.B. were real gems—especially the first by Jock Welch: it was a real professional effort. Sigmn Payne was crocked on the Saturday prior to the match and did not play; needless to say, he was sadly missed. The team as a whole played well, and kept hard at it until the last minute. A crowd of 1300 at Darlington thoroughly enjoyed the game, and the T.B. team is getting well known in Northern soccer circles. The team comprised: Gibbons, Saunders, Corpl Wooldridge, Caple, Sgt Laing, Corpl Morphew, Lieut. Cole, Sergt Squirrel, Welch, Hooper, and Wesselby.

In the fifth round we were drawn against the 1st Battn. Royal Scots Fusiliers from "Glasgie," and they visited us on Wednesday, February 10th, beating us by 3—1 after a hard struggle. The T.B. lacked fire and their passing was weak, whereas the Scots were fast, clever, and wholly superior in their team work. Congratulations to the winners, and may they have the best of luck in the next round.

Boxing is on a full flood here, and on February 9th the T.B. met the D.B. in the final of the Northern Command and the fourth round of the Army boxing team championships. The T.B. were successful by 8 fights to 3, but it was a real good tussle. Congratulations to all! Not only was the boxing good, but there was a full house to witness their favourites do battle. The teams were as follows:—

Welter—Lieut. Spencer (T.B.) v. Lieut. Lyddon (D.B.). This was a short fight, as the T.B. officer's experience counterbalanced the enthusiasm of Lieut. Lyddon, who ran into a jab in the first round and was knocked out.

Middle—Lieut. Keddie (T.B.) v. Lieut. Burridge (D.B.). The T.B. officer won on points after a level fight.

Heavy—Lieut. Tresider (T.B.) v. Lieut. Morrison (D.B.). Lt. Morrison was much the heavier, and the k.o. arrived, to give the D.B. their first fight, in about one minute.

Bantam—Sigmn Lee (T.B.) v. Sigmn Powell (D.B.). A good scrap—and a win for the T.B.

Feather—Sigmn Guthrie (T.B.) v. Sergt Hamblin (D.B.). A fight between a coming signalman and an experienced sergeant, won by the signalman after an entertaining bout.

Light—L/Corpl Jones (T.B.) v. Sigmn Grainger (D.B.). A spanking bout, with bags of pluck from Grainger against an experienced boxer, who won but was hard put to do so.

Welters—Sigmn Moore (T.B.) v. Corpl With (D.B.). This time a D.B. experienced boxer won after a good struggle. Sigmn Wheeler (T.B.) v. Corpl Burkenshaw (D.B.). Won by Sigmn Wheeler after a fair fight, in which Burkenshaw knocked up his hand.

Middle—Sergt. Payne (T.B.) v. Dvr Howard (D.B.).—Won by Howard, a greatly improved boxer, who will be an Army champion before long. He packs a good punch in either hand.

Light Heavy—Sigmn Rodda (T.B.) v. Corpl Gunnell (D.B.). A short fight, ended in a k.o. by Rodda.

Heavy—Sigmn Stuart (T.B.) v. L/Corpl Tanner (D.B.). Another short fight, and a win for T.B.

On Wednesday and Thursday, January 26th and 27th, the Training Battalion and the Depot Battalion each sent a team to York for the Northern Command boxing championships. Results: 5 winners and 4 runners-up in the seven weights. Well done, all concerned!

Other games have not yet got into their stride. I hope to have more to report next month.

SIGTRAINCEN.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.

We met the School of Signals in the Garrison knock-out, and drew at 3 all. It was a good game, although the snow was falling thick and fast all the time. The replay has not yet taken place.

In the senior league, E beat us by 3—0.

In the junior league we drew at 4 all with the School of Signals, and beat D by 15—0. I am unable to say who the goal scorers were. I have made inquiries; one man remembers scoring five, and lost count after that.

Rugby.

We have played no league matches yet, but Lieut. Morrison, 2/Lieut. Gordon, and Cpl Cutler have been awarded "Jimmies."

Hockey.

Only one match has been played to date, when we beat B Company by 6—0.

Cross-Country.

There have been three inter-Company runs, and we were placed 3rd, 2nd and 2nd. In the S.T.C. championships we also came second, F Company beating us again.

Boxing.

So far we have only met E Company, when we won by 20 points to 15.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Sport.

Hearty congratulations to the T.B. team on reaching the fifth round of the Army cup. We love the mud!

We have only played one league match (at hockey). F Coy. beat us by 6—3 after a glorious scramble in the slime.

Platoon cup matches are going ahead steadily. Latest results: Football, No. 3 beat No. 1 by 5—1. Boxing, No. 1 beat No. 4 by 16—13; Boys beat No. 2 by 17—7.

In the cross-country, the teams finished as follows: Boys 1st, No. 4 2nd, No. 3 3rd, No. 1 4th, No. 2 5th.

In the Training Centre cross-country league runs (5 miles and 7 miles), D Company finished 3rd and 4th respectively. Our final place in the league was 2nd.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.

This game is at a standstill with the exception of the T.B. team. Reports on their matches will be found elsewhere in these Sports Notes. Congratulations to all the team in getting as far as the fifth round, but "my hat!" what was wrong in the last match? Rumour has it that a certain Scotch player is feeding himself rather well in our cookhouse, in the hopes of winning the billiard championship of the sergeants' mess. After all, Jock, three small balls are better than one big one.

Cross-Country.

On January 28th the S.T.C. championship was run. Corpl Cotterell, Sigmn Ayres, and L/Corpl Richardson did not run, as they had been selected to run for the Army v. Cambridge University. The individual results were as follows:—1, Sigmn Broardley (F Company); 2, Dvr Gaston (C); 3, L/Corpl Ivison (F); 4, Sigmn Stibbs (F); 5, Sigmn Turner (School of Signals); 6, Boy Beale (F); 7, Sigmn Chadney (F); 8, Sigmn Moore (C); 9, Sigmn Dutton (D); 10, Sigmn Ryalls (C); 11, Sigmn Markham (D); 12, Sigmn Lloyd (C). The above twelve and Corpl Cotterell, Sigmn Ayres, L/Corpl Richardson, and Sigmn Gosling, were awarded S.T.C. "Jimmies."

The Order of Companies.

S.T.C. Championship Race—1st, F Company, 319 points; 2nd, C Company, 450 points; 3rd, School of Signals, 470 points; 4th, D Company, 609 points; 5th, E Company (did not finish a team).

Final order for the season—1st, F Company, 10 points; 2nd, C Company, 8 points; 3rd, D Company, 6 points; 4th, School of Signals, 4 points; 5th, E Company, 2 points.

F Company (including the time when it was the old "G") has won 29 successive races: a really splendid record.

The following (in addition to those mentioned above) have been awarded Battalion "Jimmies"—Sigmn Clarke (D), Sigmn Barnett (F), Sigmn Stenning (F), Sigmn Blades (School of Signals), Sigmn Hammond (C), L/Corpl Morris (C), Sigmn Hendy (C), Sigmn Croucher (C), Sigmn Thompson (School of Signals). Lieut. Keddie and Dvr Braithwaite just missed the coveted honour.

N.E. Counties Cross-Country Championship.

Signals (Catterick) did very well by securing 5th place in the junior race (13 teams entered); 2nd in the youths' race (10 teams); and 2nd in the senior race (14 teams).

Corpl Cotterell won the senior, and Boy Beale was 2nd in the youths' race (he unfortunately, for the first time in his life, got stitch). Both are to be heartily congratulated.

In the senior, Signalmen Ayres, Broardley, and Moore had to fall out owing to stomach trouble, caused probably by the very cold wind. This was unfortunate, as when the race was three-quarters over, it looked long odds on the Signals winning.

Sigmn Broardley ran a very plucky race: he fell two miles from home, got up, went on another half-mile, then completely collapsed, and after twenty minutes regained consciousness in a farm house.

The Northern championships will take place on February 27th, when we hope to do even better.

Training Battalion Boys, Catterick.

Sport.

Our greatest interest at the moment centres in the fortunes of C team in the boys' army cup. They have drawn the Artillery College "L" team in the fourth round, and are destined to travel to Woolwich for the game on February 13th.

In the final match of the Catterick division of the boys' army cup, on January 29th, C team beat E by 4—2. The ground was ankle deep in mud, and a chilly wind was blowing. Having regard to the difficult conditions, the football was of a remarkably high standard, the boys showing very good control of the ball. The play in front of goal was rather weak until the last fifteen minutes, when the C team forwards woke up and started shooting. L/Corpl Boy Snow played a good game on the right wing for E team, while Boys Hopwood and Hutchcroft did well in the C team attack. Boy Kerr was very sound in defence.

Further results in the Boys' League are as follows:—B team beat D by 2—1. E drew with B at 1—1. D beat A. by 2—1.

We have had two outside fixtures. On January 30th we beat the Richmond boys by 4—1. Our boys were just that yard quicker on the ball the whole time, and never looked like losing. On February 6th we went to Darlington to play the East Road Junior F.C., and defeated them by 4—2 after a very well contested game. Harding distinguished himself in goal.

Cross-Country.

The boys showed up well in the Corps championship run (7 miles). They finished as follows: Beale 6th, Berry 24th, Ellison 29th, Smart 41st, Brennan 47th, Kerr 49th.

The D Company contingent carried off the inter-Platoon cross-country run by a large margin a week or so ago.

Boxing.

The boys' championships will take place on February 24th and 25th. We expect a large entry.

D Company boys beat No. 2 Platoon of the Company with the loss of only one fight. No. 2 are wondering why they were afraid of hurting the boys!

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.

After being knocked out of the Russell-Cotes charity cup by the 1st Battn. Middlesex Regt., and the Hants junior cup by the 2nd Battn. Rifle Brigade Reserves, we were able to concentrate on the Aldershot junior league. We have now established ourselves firmly at the head of our section with the following record: Played 15, won 13, lost 1, drawn 1; goals for 104, against 27; points 27.

Rugby.

We are still team building, but have managed to play one game against the 1st Divl. Signals, which we won.

Hockey.

Nothing doing, except a trip to Ewshot. We got there alright, but as A Corps Signals were not expecting us, we came back again. Bad staff work somewhere!

Cross Country.

We entered a team for the Divisional run on February 1st, and finished 5th out of twelve teams. C.S.M. Bayliss, our first man home, was 6th.

The unit inter-Company run, for points towards the unit trophy, took place on February 12th, and resulted in a close race between Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. The placings were as follows: 1st, No. 3 Company, 145 points; 2nd, No. 2 Company, 155; 3rd, No. 1 Company, 513.

Individual placings were: 1st, Sigmn Blunt (No. 3); 2nd, C.S.M. Bayliss (No. 3); 3rd, Sigmn Munn (No. 2); 4th, Sigmn Earp (No. 1); 5th, Sigmn Pearce (No. 2); 6th, Sigmn Bates (No. 2).

No. 3 Company 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

The sports trophy competitions have commenced. On Friday, February 12th, the cross-country run was decided. A very good race resulted in a win for our Company, and as a result one C.S.M. is reduced to "smalls" and lemons for the remainder of the week. We certainly must congratulate No. 2 Company on a really good show.

Latterly the Corps boxing teams have been very successful. Our Company finds two representatives in L/Corpl Pinkney and Sigmn Pinsen. Both have several victories to their credit.

No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company, Blackdown.

Soccer.

We have been drawn against A Company 1st S/L Battn. R.E. in the first round of the 1st Air Defence Brigade Association cup. Although our opponents are numerically stronger as a unit, it is hoped to put up a good fight. We have had two matches in the Company with a view to finding the best team the unit can produce.

Hockey.

Although we have lost some of our players by drafting, we are still very hopeful of retaining the 1st Air Defence Brigade hockey cup. In the first round we are drawn against the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battery R.A., whom we beat by 3—1 last year.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Football.

As prophesied in a previous issue, A Corps Signals passed into the third round of the cup by defeating the Coldstream Guards by 9 goals to 3. Our next opponents are the Seaforth Highlanders, whom we hope to beat, to put us into the semi-final.

While on the subject of cups, and in case this should catch the eye of critics in the north, when will Signal units outside the S.T.C. get to know something about the Army cup? The papers tell us nothing. We feel sure all units would like to know the date, place, and result as soon as a game is finished. A telegram to W/T Station, Aldershot, would be circulated with all speed. They will get a great welcome if they come down to the "Shot."

As regards leagues, we have done well on the whole. Our present positions are 2nd and 5th in the Aldershot Leagues.

Boxing.

The Royal Signals (Aldershot) team is still in the running for the Command championships, and gets better and better after each round. Corpl. Richardson, Signalmen Mitchell, Clarke and Hancock, and Dvr Martin are our unit members in the Aldershot team. They have fought well, and have the support of the whole unit behind them.

Cross-Country.

Several practice runs have taken place between the Companies. The last was held recently to decide which Company should represent the unit in the Command competition this week. The distance was 5½ miles, and the run resulted in a win for No. 3 Company.

The order of finishing was as follows: Sigmn Nicks (3 Coy.), L/Corpl Clarke (3), Sigmn Driver (3), Dvr Grey (1), Sigmn Adkins (1), Dvr Roderick (1), L/Corpl Scarles (3), Sigmn Gallagher (3), Dvr Lingfield (1), Sigmn Jones (3), Corpl Todd (3), Sigmn Abbott (1), Sigmn Eatwell (3), L/Corpl Gresham (3), Sigmn Bryan (3), Sigmn McCann (3).

No. 3 Company will compete for the unit in the Command competition this week. The next event to train for is the Command inter-unit competition on March 16th.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

After a period of inaction due to bad weather rendering grounds unfit for play, league matches are now being played regularly. No. 1 Company have been experiencing a rather depressing season, but have now taken on a new lease of life, and on February 6th gained a well-earned victory over the 8th Field Battery R.A. by 3 goals to 2.

No. 2 Company have not yet regained the form shown at the beginning of the season. The forward line is still weak, and shooting practice is badly needed. This remark applies to all Company teams generally.

No. 3 Company are a much improved side. They are fortunate in possessing both Sergt Hall and Corpl Lannigan.

Interest in football at the moment is chiefly centred on the Bulford Garrison cup, the second round of which was played on February 8th.

No. 2 Company won their match against the Staff and Departmental team by 3 goals to 0.

No. 3 Company opposed the 5th Pack Battery R.A., and a really excellent game ensued. The Gunners led by 2 goals to nil at half-time, but shortly after the resumption No. 3 Company scored their first goal and later obtained the equaliser. Although extra time was played, no further scoring took place. It was a thoroughly good fast game, and great credit is due to No. 3 Company for holding one of the leading sides in the Garrison, particularly as they lost Corpl Lannigan shortly before full time. He was accidentally kicked whilst attempting to clear in front of goal.

The unit team played a friendly match at Larkhill on the 3rd February against a School of Artillery side, and won by 5—2. This result is most encouraging, and the unit should do well in the Area cup. A bye has been drawn in the first round.

Cross Country.

Owing to being snow-bound, more enthusiasm has been shown for tobogganning than cross-country running, but nevertheless several enjoyable jaunts have taken place. We had a friendly run against the R.A.S.C. on Saturday, January 31st, and beat them by 52 points to 88.

We had the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, and 15th men home, but we must not think too much of this, as the R.A.S.C. were not strongly represented.

We hope to have runs against our old friends the Sappers and Tanks before the Southern Command championships on March 12th.

Hockey.

Owing to the bad weather experienced on the Plain during January, a number of our matches have been unavoidably cancelled. We have had five games, however, of which we won three and lost two. The results have been as follows: v. 2nd Battn. Welch Regt., lost by 0—4; v. 58th Company R.E., won by 6—3; v. 2nd Battn. Welch Regt., won by 4—1; v. Balloon School, lost by 3—4; v. 2nd Pack Brigade R.A., won by 4—3.

The last-named match, against the 2nd Pack Brigade, was our first encounter in the Bulford hockey league, a competition which we won last year and are hoping to win again.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

A cross-country run was arranged with the 2nd Battn. The Leicester Regt., which resulted as follows: Sigmn Ruff first man home, Sigmn Martin 5th place, and L/Corpl Wyman 6th. Leicesters 147 points; 4th Divl. Signals 156.

All the boxers are in strict training for the forthcoming individual boxing tournament, and as some of our best noted are "hot stuff," we are looking forward to some real good fights.

Our football team are not doing so badly. Our match with Severalls resulted in a win, but with the 2nd Leicesters we were not so lucky. Wednesday, February 17th, will see us engaging the Leicesters in a rare fight on the Garrison ground for admission to the final of the Pearson's charity cup. I hope to be able to record a win, but must do as Lord Asquith said, "wait and see." As the Leicesters are in the semi-final of the Army cup, well, "nuff said."

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Football (North Ireland District Cup).

As mentioned in last notes, we were drawn against the Depot The Royal Inniskilling and Irish Fusiliers. The match was played in Belfast, and in spite of one or two quagmires in the middle of the field a very good game resulted.

Our team lined up as follows: Sigmn Poole; L/Corpl Handford, L/Corpl Wicks; Sigmn Chick, L/Corpl Parker, Sigmn McDowall; L/Corpl Fisher, Corpl Hall, Sigmn Gandey, Sigmn Elliott, and Sigmn Greening.

From the kick-off Signals pressed, and a pretty bout of passing by the inside forwards nearly led to a goal in the first minute.

The Depot retaliated, and from a long pass to the outside right, who centred well, the first goal was scored against us. A second quickly followed from a corner, well taken. Neither of these gave our goalkeeper much chance. Signals now had more of the game, but with the exception of a high shot by Sigmn Gandey we did not look like scoring. Half-time arrived with the score 2—0 against us.

In the second half our defence played a sound game and gave nothing away, while our forwards took more control of the game. Our only score came from a neat centre from Sigmn Elliott to L/Corpl Parker, who defeated the goalkeeper with a first-time shot. In spite of continued pressure we failed to score again, and were hence defeated by 2—1 after a really good tussle.

Corpl Hall played an outstanding game, and in spite of being well marked, he defeated the opposing defence time and time again—but the openings he made were not taken advantage of. The wing forwards hung back too much. As a team we were outweighed, the Depot being a far heavier side. Sigmn Poole made many fine saves in goal, while both backs were safe, L/Corpl Handford showing a fine turn of speed. Sigmn Gandey played a fine game at centre-half, which is undoubtedly his correct place. L/Corpl Parker was a good centre-forward.

We would as a team do better on a dry ground, owing to lack of weight as a whole. The combination between the forwards was at times brilliant, but we still lack shooting power. The team can be congratulated on putting up a really good show for such a small unit. The clean play and sporting spirit displayed were most noticeable.

E Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth.

Sport.

Soccer appears to be on the wane, although we still hold our own as regards position in the league. Various opponents seem to be slacking, for it is with great difficulty that we are able to play off arrears caused by the leave season. We hate claiming points through a team's non-appearance, preferring to play a game for the game's sake rather than receive the points for nothing.

Running.

We are unable to produce a cross-country team of our own, so we do the next best thing and amalgamate with the 3rd Divl. Signals. Two of our members, Signalmen Legge and Wood, are in strict training, and we hope that their talent will prove such that they will be chosen as part of the pack to compete in the forthcoming Southern Command championships.

Signal Training Centre, India.

Hockey is still going strong, but owing to the units being out of the station on manœuvres at present, this is practically the only game which is played. Since the New Year, the results of matches have been as follows: Versus Indian Ranks, won 4—0 and 5—3, and lost 1—2; v. Rajputana Rifles, lost by 1—2; v. C. P. Police, lost 1—4; v. Christ Church Boys' School, lost 0—4; v. B team, lost 1—2.

E Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Hockey.

We entered for the Khunwar cup, but suffered from bad luck. We played the ultimate winners, drawing in the first game, and being beaten in the replay by 2—1.

Football.

We beat the 53rd Battery by one goal; this goes to the credit of Ted, our dashing D.R. After a good game with K Battery, we managed to beat them by 1—0.

Cricket.

We gave Meerut Gymkhana a run, but they beat us by an innings. This could have been forecast, as they have entered for "all India" honours. Beaten, but not disgraced!

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Football.

Games have been fairly numerous, and with a somewhat re-organised team (thanks to repatriation) we have done very well. We are still a long, long way from possessing anything approaching the ideal team, but as we can seldom play the same team twice in succession, well (as the babus say), "What can man do?"

On Sunday, December 27th, we travelled to Hangu, 25 miles up the Kurram Valley, to meet the 2/8th Battn. Gurkha Rifles stationed there. A lorry-load of supporters also went, the whole still retaining a certain amount of the festive Christmas spirit. The game was a very good one; a series of attacks on both goals, with the Gurkhas the better marksmen at close quarters, and they ran out winners by two clear goals. It is noteworthy that not once did the whistle blow for a foul.

The remaining matches are as below:—

British ranks 6 (L/Sergt Smith 4, Reeves, Smith); Indian ranks 0.
F Signals 3 (Andrews); District Staff 0.
F Signals 6 (L/Sergt Smith 4, Cullum, Andrews); R.A.F. 1
F Signals 3 (L/Sergt Smith 2, Reeves); District Staff 0
Blues 2 (L/Corpl Hammond, Ranger); Whites 1 (Tracey).
F Signals 0; R.A.F. 1.
F Signals 0; R.A.F. 2.

Hockey Results to date.

F Signals 0; 2/9th Jat Regt. 5.
Blues 1 (L/Corpl Hammond); Whites 1 (Sigmn Clarke).
Blues 3 (L/Corpl Hammond, Nk. Ramchander, Shn. Hamira); Whites 0.
F Signals 6 (Lieut. Gray, Sergt A. E. Smith 3, L/Corpl Hammond, Havr. Dalip Singh); R.A.F. 0.
British ranks 2 (Sergt A. E. Smith, L/Corpl Hammond); Indian ranks 0.

No. 1 (Line) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Sports.

We have nothing startling to report. We have won our first two league games at soccer, but have not played any hockey league games yet.

The combined Signals football team reached the semi-final of the District cup, and then lost to the Sherwoods by 4—1.

Sigmn Gray won the middle-weight competition for Rawalpindi District, beating L/Corpl McFarlane (of No. 2 W/T Coy.) in the final. Sigmn Gray, who is also in the W/T Company, was in a class on his own, and it was a foregone conclusion that, excepting accidents, he would win. He is now in hospital, we regret to say, but we hope to have him with us again soon.

One thing more, and then "good-night." L/Corpl Barasconi won the shove-ha'penny competition of the corporals' club. Well played, "Sconi." Taffy was the marker.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Football.

Garrison League.—We have a tale of woe to unfold in this direction, the team having struck a patch of bad luck. We have played seven matches and obtained the great reward of one point. The members of the club grew so exasperated that they sacked the selection committee, and elected a new one consisting of Capt. Brownjohn (R.E.), Q.M.S. Floyd (Royal Signals), and Sigmn Skiffens. The point of which we are so proud was obtained after this change had been carried out, and the new committee must think that nothing can touch them now! Matches to date are:—

v. A Company, Royal Sussex Regt., lost by 0—1 away.
v. B Company, Royal Sussex Regt., lost by 0—1 away.
v. D Company, Royal Sussex Regt., lost by 0—4 home.
v. Fort Canning, lost by 0—1 home.
v. R.A.M.C. drew 1—1 home.
v. C Company Royal Sussex Regt., lost by 1—4 home.
v. 27th Heavy Battery R.A., lost by 2—3 home.

As can be seen, there *is* an improvement.

The Corps in Egypt.

Football.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, we were engaged in the first round of the Command cup with the 5th Pack Brigade, who are at present the league leaders, having lost only one match during the season.

The first half of the game was fairly even, and at the half-time stage the Gunners were one up. On resumption of play, we made one or two changes in the team, and all went well for the next ten minutes. After that we seemed to drop right away, and the Battery had a fairly easy time of it, running out winners by 6 goals to 2. Dvr Terry scored our first goal and Sigmn Edge the second.

Since the rendition of last month's notes, we have played two league matches, winning one and losing the other. The following is the position:—

January 9th—Royal Signals v. Cairo City Police, won by 15—0

January 16th—Royal Signals v. R.A.F. Heliopolis, lost by 3—4

Played 18, won 8, lost 10, goals for 62, against 47, points 16.

Boxing.

Members of the Corps at home will understand when I say that we have our old rivals up against us in the first round of the Command team championships, namely, The Royal Irish Fusiliers. This takes place on Friday, February 12th. It is rather unfortunate to be drawn with the "Faughs" so early in the competition, for everyone knows what a brilliant team they possess; but still, our representatives are in strict training, and will no doubt give them a run for their "ackers." From what's been seen of "Charles the wheeler," it is the opinion of many that whoever meets him will, if he isn't an exceptionally brilliant boxer, "be shown the way to go home."

On January 15th we held the Corps individual championships in the Red Barracks ring, which was attended by a good number. Col. Mackworth (Chief Signal Officer), together with other Royal Signals officers, was present. The Colonel presented the prizes at the conclusion of the competition, and remarked on the splendid fights in which the men had taken part. It was a very brief speech, but meant a good deal. The results are as follows:—

Fly weight (semi-final)—Dvr. Caudwell (No. 1 Company) v. Sigmn Cooper (No. 3). This was a very good fight, Cooper fighting back in a very game manner throughout, but Caudwell's experience brought him through a winner on points.

Fly weight (final)—Dvr Caudwell (No. 1 Company) v. Sigmn Maynard (No. 3). The referee stopped the fight in the first round in favour of Caudwell, he being much too strong for the Signalman.

Bantam weight (preliminary bout)—Sigmn Smith (No. 3 Coy.) v. Sigmn Burns (No. 3). This was an exceedingly good fight, there being some very hard hitting on both sides. Smith was awarded the fight on points after a very close encounter.

Bantam weight (preliminary bout)—Sigmn Robinson (No. 1 Coy.) v. Sigmn Bray (No. 3)—This was not a very exciting contest, there being a deal of wild swinging, but for all that both men were very game, and Bray was eventually awarded the decision on points.

Bantam weight (final)—Sigmn Smith (No. 3 Company) v. Sigmn Bray (No. 3)—Bray showed much better form against this opponent that he did with Robinson, but Smith was the more experienced boxer and received the verdict on points.

Feather weight (final)—L/Corpl Matthews (No. 3 Company) v. Sigmn Stone (No. 3)—Although not a very brilliant display, this fight proved to be one of grit. Stone has entered for more than one competition this season, and has lost each time; this is an example of a true sporting spirit. The fight was awarded to Matthews on points.

Light weight (final)—L/Corpl Solomon (No. 1 Company) v. Sigmn Dawson (No. 1)—Solomon proved to be too good for his opponent, and received a points decision.

Middle weight (final)—Sigmn Richards (No. 1 Coy.) v. Sigmn Williams (No. 3)—Both men delivered some telling blows during the first round, and at the opening of the second Williams floored his man, but Richards regained his feet and seemed little the worse for it. The third round saw Williams a trifle weak, but he still fought back. "Sporty" eventually gained a well-earned victory on points.

Welter weight (final)—L/Corpl Wales (No. 1 Company) v. Sigmn Dunn (No. 1)—After having won his fight in the semi-final, Dunn had to be content with the runner-up prize, Wales proving a little too good for him.

Light heavy weight (final)—As there was no contestant for this weight, L/Sergt Charlie Wheeler received a walk-over.

The points gained by each Company counted towards the Pritchard cup, and the following was the total at the conclusion of the competition: No. 3 Company, 61; No. 1 Company, 57.

The best loser's prize went to Sigmn Williams of No. 3 Coy.

Cross-Country (Corps Championships).

On February 4th the Corps held its annual cross-country race over a 4½ miles course, and as usual was well equipped with runners, over forty men going to the post.

The winner completed the course in 27 mins. 10 secs. The first four men home were: 1st, Sigmn Beeton (Art) No. 3 Company; 2nd, Dvr Caudwell (No. 1); 3rd, Dvr Stillwell (No. 1); 4th, Sigmn Ratledge (No. 3).

The prize awarded for the lucky number went to Sigmn Hunter, No. 3 Company, who finished 14th.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Boxing.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Wheeler on winning the light heavyweight championship of the Command on January 9th, and to Sigmn Richmond on being runner-up to an old opponent of his—Fusilier Eddie Williams, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers—in the feather weights.

L/Sergt Wheeler had no difficulty in winning his weight, being in a far superior class to his opponents. Richmond was rather short of training, but even so, in the opinion of many good judges, he had won his fight easily. He will get his chance against Williams again in the near future, as the Corps in Egypt have been drawn against the Royal Irish Fusiliers in the first round of the Command team boxing tournament.

The Corps boxing tournament and inter-Company team competition took place in the Red Barracks ring on January 15th, and resulted in a win for this Company over No. 1. This was achieved without the services of L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond, who very sportingly stood down from their respective weights to give the others a chance.

We congratulate Sigmn Smith (bantam) and L/Cpl Matthews (feathers) on their victories in the finals, and the following on being runners-up at their respective weights: Dvr Maynard (fly), Sigmn Bray (bantam), Sigmn Stone (feathers), and Sigmn Williams (heavy).

Sigmn Williams was awarded the prize for the best loser in the meeting. On this occasion L/Sergt Wheeler competed in a special three-round contest with a 16/5th Lancers representative, winning very easily on points.

Cross-Country.

The Company cross-country and inter-section team race was held over a 3¼ miles course on January 15th. The team race resulted in a win for Headquarter Section with 1st, 2nd, 4th, 8th, 10th and 17th positions; total 42 points. J Section were second with 65 points; H Section were third with 97; and Signal Troop fourth with 102. K Section did not compete.

Sigmn A. H. Beeton repeated his last year's success by winning easily from Dvr G. Ratledge, Sigmn L. Clarke coming third; then followed Sigmn E. Chaloner, Sigmn E. O'Connor, Dvr J. Oliver, Sigmn H. Milsom, Sigmn H. Wilson, Dvr Pitman, Sigmn W. Jeans, Sigmn G. Hunter, L/Corpl A Kemp, L/Corpl F. Matthews, and Sigmn J. Stone 14th. Thirty-nine men altogether finished the course.

The prizes were afterwards presented to the winners by Capt. J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., Dvr G. Ratledge, Sigmn L. Clark, and Sigmn Chaloner taking first, second and third respectively, as Sigmn Beeton did not take his award. A special lucky number prize, awarded to the competitor finishing in a position corresponding to a number drawn by the judges during the race, was won by Sigmn Jock Wilson, who finished 8th.

The Corps cross-country championship will take place on February 4th, and the inter-Company team race will be decided at the same time.

Football.

The Company have played several games during the past month with varying success, but they have done very well in reaching the final of the C. of E. cup competition, in which they meet C Company K.O.S.B. on February 10th.

The inter-Section football is still going strong, and J Section at present head the list, with Headquarters (last year's winners) at the bottom, not having won a match yet.

No. 1 Section No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand.

Football.

With the departure of the 9th Q.R. Lancers, the Command football league was brought to an early close, and we find ourselves eighth in the table.

In the Command knock-out competition we were beaten by Headquarters Squadron 9th Q.R. Lancers. Old members of the section may be interested to hear that G.H.Q were again successful in winning the cup and in heading the league table.

Hockey.

League hockey has not yet commenced, but in a series of friendlies we have an undefeated record this year. Our old rivals, the Palestine General Hospital, unexpectedly met with a 3—0 defeat on our territory, and we drew with them at 2—2 on their ground—a good performance against such opponents.

Other victims include Command Headquarters (3—2), 14th Squadron R.A.F. (3—2) and the Armoured Cars R.A.F. Drawn games have been the results on two occasions versus the British Gendarmerie. Their ground may account for a great deal of unorthodox hockey, although they are certainly smart exponents with the stick.

Running.

A 9-miles road race (open to all Palestine) was held on 13th January, from Jaffa to Sarafand. Five of the section competed and put up a really wonderful show, all of them being in the first fifteen. Hearty congratulations to L/Cpl Jeffers (3), Sigmn Batten (8), Corpl Cutler (10), Sigmn Mackenzie (11), and Sigmn Morley (15), on a splendid race.

Unfortunately there is little cross-country running in the Command, for we are sure we could hold our own in Palestine.

Rhine Signal Units, Wiesbaden.

Sports.

All our football fixtures have fallen through since leaving Cologne, owing to the lack of grounds here.

We have entered for the Rhine Army hockey cup, and will endeavour to enter a team for the Rhine Army rugby cup. Results and further particulars will be forwarded for the next issue.

No. 3 (Hull) Co. 50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals.

Football.

Since our last report the football team has only been beaten once, and as we were short-handed for half the game, we are not downhearted yet. In the four previous games the Signals scored 16 goals to only 2 against, but rather spoilt things by losing 5—1 (two penalties) in the game already referred to.

It will be interesting to Signals away from Hull (who hail from our little fishing village) to hear that the local Territorial Association have kindly presented a silver cup for competition between the local T.A. units.

OXO

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Great was the surprise when only five teams entered. Being present at the draw, our secretary was pleased to see the Signals come first out of the hat. We are drawn at home against the R.F.A., and whilst remembering the old saying, "there's many a slip," etc., our boys are confident of making a good show, and are optimistic enough to think they will win the cup. This would prove a great fillip to the sporting side of the Company, and would, we venture to say, be bliss to our A.F.C. President.

The Rifle Club.

This is going on nicely, and is giving some of the best local teams a good run for their money. Against a strong team in the last match, they only lost by 8 points.

The Billiard Team.

The latest report is "all's well," and so it should be, seeing they have won five of their last six matches; and though the spurt came too late to land them amongst the medals, certain readers will understand what we mean when we say they look like being in the first four.

Mr. Wilson (one of our honorary members of the n.c.o.s mess) is captain, and is to be congratulated on the great amount of work put in by him in coaching some of our players.

Cricket.

Although still busy at football, our boys are looking forward to the summer game, and we hope to enter a local league. Last year we only played a series of friendlies; and although none of our players is likely to cause any controversy as to the constitution of test teams, we think we can field a strong enough team to do well locally. Nuff said.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Boxing.

The 54th (E.A.) Division held their boxing tournament on February 12th at the drill hall of the 4th Battn. Northamptonshire Regiment, Clare Street, Northampton. The bouts decided the representatives of the 54th (E.A) Division in the T.A. championships, which will be fought out at the Holborn Stadium on March 4th and 5th.

The preliminary bouts took place in the afternoon, and semi-finals and finals in the evening. The 54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals were represented in the finals by Sigmn Frith (welter weight), Dvr Mercer (bantam weight), and Sigmn Detenon (fly weight).

Sigmn P. Clark was beaten on points in the preliminary bouts of the feathers by Pte Rudd (5th Essex) after a very plucky fight.

In the semi-finals of the light weights, Sigmn Leaver lost to Pte Richmond (4th Essex). Leaver was leading on points, but unfortunately broke a bone in his right hand during the second round. He very pluckily finished his fight with the use of one hand only.

The final of the bantam weights saw a splendid fight between Bombardier Carlo and Dvr Mercer of the Signals. The pair were very evenly balanced, and although Mercer showed up to great advantage in the last round, he was unable to regain the ground he had lost in the first two, and Carlo secured the verdict.

Final Results:

Catch weights—Pte Lantsbury (4th Northants) beat Pte Hawkins (5th Northants).

Light heavies—Pte Phipps (4th Northants) easily beat Pte Deane (5th Essex).

Middle weights—Pte Ellgood (5th Essex) scratched to Corpl Ellis (4th Northants), who was declared the winner by default.

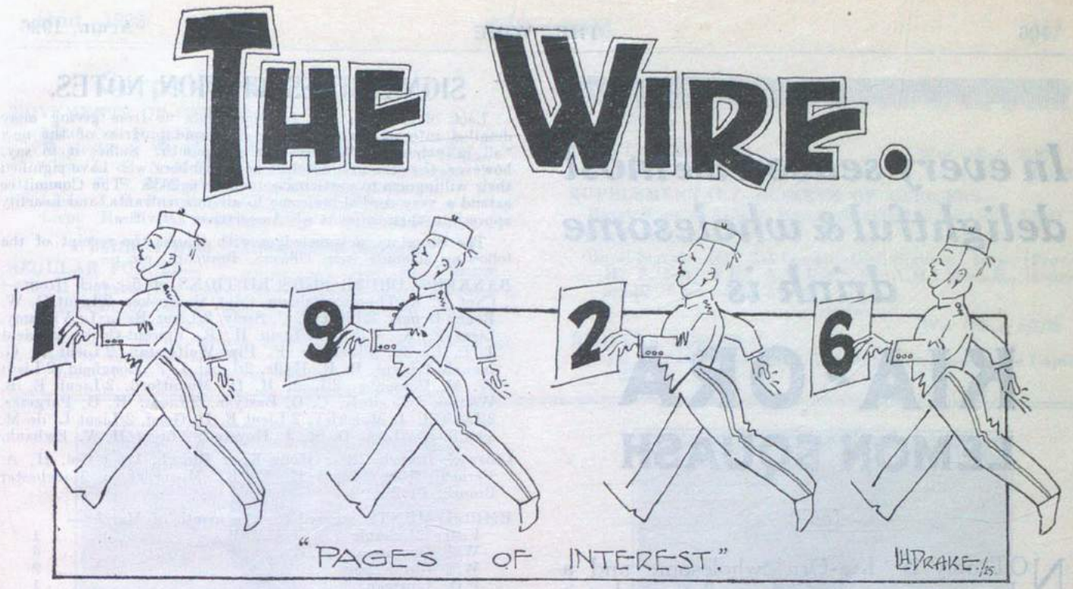
Welter weights—Pte Hale (5th Essex) beat Sigmn Frith (54th Signals).

Light weights—Pte Richmond (4th Essex) beat Corpl Standley (6th Essex). Standley was greatly handicapped by an injured knee.

Feather weights—Pte Marks (4th Northants) beat Pte Harvey (4th Essex) by a knock-out in the first round.

Bantam weights—Bombardier Carlo (413th Field Battery) beat Dvr Mercer (54th Signals). The best fight of the evening.

Fly weights—Pte Goldsmith beat Sigmn Detenon (54th Signals).



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VOL. VII.—No. 74 APRIL, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Owing to the heavy increase in "Unit Notes" submitted for publication, it has again been found necessary to hold over certain articles, correspondence, etc., from this issue. Will unit correspondents therefore kindly endeavour to make their contributions as concise as possible in future, in order to obviate the necessity of condensation and "cuts" at this office. Due observance of these instructions will obviate the possibility of matter being omitted which would probably interest many readers.

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We acknowledge the receipt of correspondence from F Divl. Signals at Kohat, and will anticipate the photographs, etc., referred to therein (reply posted—ED.).

❀ ❀ ❀

Our hearty congratulations to Subadar Major Murugesan, I.D.S.M., Sirdar Bahadur, and Subadar Major Abdur Rashid, Bahadur, on their promotion to Honorary Lieutenant.

All who are acquainted with these Indian officers will be delighted that their long and distinguished Army service has received such well deserved recognition.

A short summary of their service may prove of interest.

Subadar Major Murugesan, I.D.S.M., Sirdar Bahadur, was transferred from the 2nd Sappers and Miners to 34th Divisional Signal Company on its formation by Captain (now Colonel) R. G. Earle in 1912. His war services include Relief of Pekin, 1900–01; Somaliland, 1903–04; the Great War of 1914–21; Iraq 6/11/14 to 13/1/19. Mentioned in despatches, London Gazette, 25/6/15. Granted Indian Distinguished Service Medal.

Subadar Major Abdur Rashid, Bahadur, was transferred from Indian Infantry to 33rd Divisional Signal Company on its formation by Captain (now Colonel) L. R. Queripel in 1912. The outbreak of the Great War saw this unit on the N.W. Frontier, and owing to the necessity for retaining a proportion of regular troops there, he was unfortunate in not proceeding overseas. He was, however, instrumental in recruiting upwards of 500 sappers and drivers, and he superintended the training of these recruits so effectively that not only was it possible to meet the requirements of his unit, but a large number of fully trained soldiers were transferred from the unit to the Depot at Poona. The good reports obtained by the unit in post war campaigns in Iraq and on the N.W. Frontier bear witness to the thoroughness of this training. He saw service in Afghanistan, N.W. Frontier 1919, Iraq 1920, Waziristan 1922–23. Mentioned in despatches, London Gazette, 30/5/24.

Two such appointments in so short a period redound credit to the Corps, as well as to the recipients; and in view of the approaching amalgamation we are sure that all ranks will join us in our congratulations and good wishes for the future health and welfare of these officers, photographs of whom are reproduced on page 107.

❀ ❀ ❀

We are asked to announce that "The Syllabus for English" for the Army second class certificate has been amended so as to provide for a short course on "The Army and the Empire," based on regimental history and shewing the connection between the geography and history of the Empire and the history of the regiment or corps. The object of this course is to build upon the regimental history and tradition dealt with in the third class certificate, and to stimulate the soldier's interest in the past records of his regiment or corps and in the history of the Empire, with which its geography must necessarily be associated.

THE EDITOR.

LATE EDITORIAL.—Unit notes for publication from S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore, India, received too late for inclusion in this issue.

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SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

Lack of space in this issue prevents us from giving more detailed information concerning the rapid progress of the new "all in" scheme of 9d. per man per month. Suffice it to say, however, that the nett total of new members who have signified their willingness to participate to date is 2435. The Committee extend a very cordial welcome to all new entrants, and heartily appreciate their support of Association activities.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from Officers, Branches, etc.:—

BANKERS' ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS of 5/- each from:—Capt. C. K. Thursby-Pelham, Capt. G. Rooker, 2/Lieut G. W. Roney-Dougal, 2/Lieut F. C. Seely, 2/Lieut E. L. L. Villiamy, Lieut F. K. Wilson, 2/Lieut H. R. Vincent-Cooke, 2/Lieut J. C. Hardy, 2/Lieut S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan, 2/Lieut N. G. Newell, 2/Lieut. P. R. Hyde, 2/Lieut J. F. Longfield, 2/Lieut W. M. Ponsonby, 2/Lieut H. D. Mountford, 2/Lieut E. B. Wallace, 2/Lieut K. C. O. Bastyan, 2/Lieut. H. G. Pargeter, 2/Lieut R. J. Moberley, 2/Lieut E. D. Good, 2/Lieut L. de M. Thuillier, 2/Lieut D. St. J. Hoysted, 2/Lieut H. V. Ewbank.

Chiswick Branch, 18/-; Hong Kong Branch, 11/-; Col. H. A. Vernon, 5/-; 2/Lieut R. F. B. Moore, 5/-; Manchester Branch, £1 2s.

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of March:—

Fitter Mechanic	1
W/T Operators	4
W/T Electricians	2
P.O. Lineman	1
Commercial Traveller	1
House Porter	1

Edinburgh Branch.

A meeting of the Edinburgh Branch took place in the Drill Hall, Brandon Terrace, on Monday, March 8th. The following were elected office bearers for the ensuing year: President, Lieut.-Col. J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., commanding 52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals; vice-president, Lieut. R. J. Walker, O.C. Edinburgh detachment; secretary and treasurer, Sergt Ross. The foregoing, together with four elected members, to form the committee.

The watch cards are going well. Remember, two gold watches and your double chance, i.e., 12 to 5.59 is also 6 to 11.59 (excuse non-Signal time, Mr. Editor). Now, who says another card? "Watch" the date for returning, and don't let the "time" slip by.

The hall is now open on Wednesday evenings for badminton, billiards, etc., so roll up, become an expert, and, who knows, you might be an "international" some day!

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—Capt. C. K. Thursby-Pelham, 2/Lieut E. L. L. Villiamy, 2/Lieut H. R. Vincent-Cooke, 2/Lieut S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan, 2/Lieut. J. C. Hardy, 2/Lieut N. G. Newell, 2/Lieut P. R. Hyde, 2/Lieut J. F. Longfield, 2/Lieut W. M. Ponsonby, 2/Lieut H. D. Mountford, 2/Lieut E. R. Wallace, 2/Lieut K. C. O. Bastyan, 2/Lieut H. G. Pargeter, 2/Lieut R. J. Moberley, 2/Lieut E. D. Good, 2/Lieut L. de M. Thuillier, 2/Lieut D. St. J. Hoysted, 2/Lieut H. V. Ewbank.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
2/Lieut N. G. Newell.
2/Lieut R. F. B. Moore.
2/Lieut F. C. Seely.
2/Lieut E. B. Wallace.
A Corps Signals, Karachi.
F. Divisional Signals, Kohat.
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.
B Company S.T.C. Catterick.
Sergeants' Mess, 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Hong Kong Branch.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association
Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS OF OFFICERS—
Lieut.-Col. P. R. Bald from Catterick to Edinburgh.
Major E. de W. H. Bradley from Colchester to India.
Capt. L. B Nicholls from Catterick to Colchester.
Capt. F. S. Straight from Aldershot to Catterick.
Lieut. J. R. Patten from Egypt to Bulford.
Lieut. H. E. M. Swan from Egypt to Colchester.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

REGULAR FORCES— War Office, 16/2/26

Royal Signals—The promotion of Major E. W. J. Hobkirk is antedated to 14/8/25, and to take precedence next below G. M. H. Henderson, O.B.E., M.C.

Capt. H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., remains seconded for service on the Staff, 21/1/26.

Lieut. L. W. Schneider to be Captain, 29/1/26.

55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Capt. W. J. May, having attained the age limit, is retired and is granted the rank of Lieut., 27/2/26.

REGULAR FORCES— War Office, 2/3/26

Royal Signals—Lt. G. G. Glanville, M.C., to be Capt. 22/1/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Sydney Hartforth Gould to be Capt. 3/3/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—56th (1st London) Divl. Signals. Major (Prov.) H. F. Fox, T.D., A.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., is confirmed in his rank, 5/9/25.

War Office, 5/3/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson to be Capt., 29/1/26.

Subadar Major Murugesan, I.D.S.M., Sirdar Bahadur.

Subadar Major Abdur Hashid, Bahadur.

War Office, 23/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Major and Brevet-Lieut.-Col. A. C. Fuller, O.B.E., to be Lieut.-Col., 6/2/26.
Capt. O. P. Edgecumbe, M.C., to be Major, 6/2/26, and remains seconded.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—William Ernest Chinn to be 2/Lieut. 24/2/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. Capt. G. H. Walton, late Service Battn. West York Regt., to be Captain, 24/2/26.

War Office, 26/2/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Lieut. V. J. E. Westropp is seconded for service as an officer of a Company of Gentlemen Cadets, R.M.A., 2/2/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—51st (Highland) Divl. Signals. Capt (Prov.) E. B. Reid is confirmed in his rank, 1/6/23.

Lieut. J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., from Worcester Regt., to be Lieut., 6/3/26, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—John Dawson Rankin to be 2/Lieut., 6/3/26.

War Office, 9/3/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—2/Lieut. Gordon Gray, late R.E., to be 2/Lieut. 10/3/26.

War Office, 12/3/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Lieut. J. L. Totterdell, M.C., retires on retired pay, 12/3/26, and is granted the rank of Captain.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Capt. J. L. Totterdell, M.C. (Lieut. ret. pay) to be Captain, 12/3/26, with seniority 15/2/23.

War Office, 16/3/26.

REGULAR FORCES—MEMORANDA.
Major-Gen. Sir J. J. Fowler, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., to be Lieut.-General, 19/2/26.

How to Apply for Employment.

BY MAJOR F. K. HARDY, D.S.O.,
Army Educational Corps.

A number of books giving advice as to the best way of making an application for employment have been published in America, but I have not met with any published in this country. Those American books are interesting, but the advice they give, though sound, is not entirely applicable to British conditions. So, for the benefit of n.c.o.s and men who will be leaving the Colours shortly, I will attempt to give some words of advice.

To the uninitiated it may seem that there is nothing to learn about applying for a job, but there is a lot. Approximately one in every fifty of the population of these islands is out of work, so that competition to obtain employment is very fierce, and consequently the man who can "show off" his capabilities well has an enormous advantage.

Speaking broadly, application for employment is made by:—

(A) Inserting an advertisement in the "Situations Wanted" columns of a newspaper. This method is not recommended, as few employers can spare the time to scan these columns.

(B) Registering one's name at recognised Employment Bureaux. It is of course essential to register at the Labour Exchange, and very advisable to register with every available association or bureau which can assist in finding employment. Agencies which charge fees should be avoided unless something in their favour is known. Do not be satisfied with registration, but continue the search for work unceasingly.

(C) Answering advertisements which appear in the "Situations Vacant" columns of newspapers. I will deal with this, at length, later.

(D) Personal application to foremen and others authorised to take on hands. I will have some remarks to make on this when dealing with personal interviews.

To turn to the application written in response to an advertisement in a newspaper. These advertisements, by the way, appear in the greatest number and variety on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, which seem to be the best days in the week for obtaining employment. Great care must be exercised in writing the letter of application, because on that letter—and that alone—will the applicant be judged as being worthy of further attention. It would be no harm to practise writing such letters, as it is essential to picture the type of man, and his qualifications, likely to be required by the employer. The applicant should, if he has those qualifications, bring them out clearly and concisely in his letter, carefully avoiding any superfluous information. Remember that if the job is worth having, the employer will receive several hundred applications, and naturally will consider more readily those applicants whose letters set out their qualifications briefly, clearly and logically.

Unless the advertisement asks for the salary required, no mention should be made of it in the letter. This can be done later if the application meets with approval. In any case, it is wiser to let the employer make the first move; the applicant *may* undervalue his services, or he may ask too much, and so be passed over. Similarly, unless called for, testimonials should not be forwarded, except possibly in the case of a chit from an officer which may prove that the applicant is *the* man for the job. In no circumstances should original testimonials be sent; copies are quite sufficient. Whenever possible, these copies should be typewritten; on no account should they be printed. Printed testimonials give a bad impression, as they savour too much of the babu or professional applicant.

In certain better-paid posts, the address from which a letter is sent and the paper on which it is written undoubtedly influence employers in the selection of candidates for employment.

It is imperative that the letter should be posted as soon as possible after the publication of the paper. The delay of a day may be fatal. It is not unusual for five hundred letters to be received in answer to an advertisement for a desirable post; hence the odds are against anyone whose application is not received in the first few batches. An employer does not care to hold over his decision many hours, let alone days.

If the written application meets with approval, a personal interview is required. I will treat this and the personal application referred to above, together. In these interviews the applicant has to rely on himself entirely, so it is essential that he makes up his mind beforehand as to what he intends to say; in fact, he must rehearse the interview.

Personal appearance counts for much, so the applicant should be as alert and businesslike as possible. He should be scrupulously clean in person, and his clothes, no matter how old they may be, should be well brushed and tidy. A down-at-heel bedraggled man handicaps himself unnecessarily. Naturally a man should dress according to the job he seeks; a man who dresses like a bricklayer will have little hope of a job as a clerk, and vice versa.

If the interview takes place in a room, the applicant must take off his hat before entering; soldiers are apt to forget this custom. The applicant should avoid being nervous; he should try to impress the employer with the fact that he is confident and capable of doing the work. All questions should be answered briefly and civilly. Unnecessary talk should be avoided; it is not called for, and may give the applicant away. In most trades the man will be set to some task to test his ability and value. He should get to work in a businesslike and confident way. Hesitation or lack of confidence will attract unfavourable comment, and may be disastrous.

In conclusion, do not be misled by the old saying: "All things come to him who waits." Good employment only comes to those who have the wit and the energy to find it, and to impress employers with their suitability.

Unit Notes—Received too late for inclusion under "Home Stations."

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Wireless Station, Queen's Avenue,
Aldershot.

As a calm before the storm, so we are experiencing a quiet spell before the commencement of the individual training season, and the only person looking hot and bothered at present is the Q.M., who is busily engaged in issuing line and training stores.

Slight activity has been noticed, however, on the part of the Tank Signal Section, who are testing their sets in the district, and the old cry of "Hullo! hullo!" is once more causing consternation to the R.A.F. and giving satisfaction to local amateurs.

After having been with us for a number of years, C.S.M. Butcher has departed for the land of the Firstdivsigs, and the best wishes of all ranks for his future go with him. The axe again fell heavily on February 20th, when Sergt Edmunds, who has been i/c D.R.s at Command Headquarters for many moons, left us to rejoin his unit at Crookham. Cheerio, Eddie, and good luck to you!

It will doubtless be of interest to WIRE subscribers to learn that E. S. J. H., of "Aldershot Anecdote" fame, is one of our number, and (as *Mr.* Haines) is at present busily engaged upon the "Underwood" in the office of the C.S.O.

The secretary of the Signals Association recently paid us a visit, and told us many wonderful things with regard to the Association and THE WIRE. As a result, every man of the unit and of the Tank Signal Section has followed the lead of the S.T.C., and has become a member of the Association and a subscriber to THE WIRE.

Congratulations to L/Sergt C. L. Brunton on his appointment to that rank, w.e.f. 7/1/1925; and also to Sigmn Morley, who was promoted "daddy" (substantive) w.e.f. 20/2/1926. Maisie Mary is doing very well, thank you!

H.

Corps Promotion Roster.

Subsequent Amendments.

APPOINTED Q.M.S. (F. of SIGNALS)—
2306315 Elsmore, B., 4/10/23

TO BE W.O. Cl. II. (C.S.M.)—
2308082 Robertson, A., 13/7/25
2307728 Doust, F., 18/1/26
1850728 Bramley, F., 13/2/26
1850122 Shenton, A., 16/2/26

TO BE SERGEANT—
1852454 Monk, A., 11/12/25
2310320 New, F., 15/12/25
2308518 Norcross, N., 15/12/25
1850327 Wilcox, E., 15/12/25
1850339 Wilson, J., 7/1/26
2311587 Hamlin, H., 19/1/26

APPOINTED A/SERGEANT (A/FARRIER-SERGEANT)—
1859011 Prince, C., 18/7/25

APPOINTED A/SERGEANT—
2306738 Harrison, B., 3/8/25
1857356 Brandon, J., 2/11/25
2308518 Norcross, N., 15/12/25
2308542 Limb, F., 19/1/26
2311566 Overington, L., 27/1/26
2311719 Hillman, J., 29/1/26
2310446 Bradbury, E., 1/2/26
2307520 Bowden, A., 3/2/26
2305851 Minns, C., 10/2/26
1853151 Clarke, C., 13/2/26

APPOINTED LANCE-SERGEANT—
2310788 Aslett, J., 1/12/25
2306247 Kent, W., 15/12/25
2310574 Bremner, R., 19/1/26
7811747 Doughty, W., 19/1/26
2202150 Barnham, H., 27/1/26
2314271 McLoughlin, P., 29/1/26
2306450 Donaghy, S., 1/2/26
2309337 Wright, D., 3/2/26
2306753 Cole, W., 10/2/26
2306774 Goble, F., 13/2/26

TO BE CORPORAL—
1860274 O'Rourke, L., 31/1/25
2312059 Swatton, J., 11/2/25
2306723 Aitken, J., 17/2/25
2310684 Nicholson, W., 17/2/25
2311117 Burton, J., 17/2/25
2311116 Powell, J., 17/2/25
2312526 Watts, J., 17/2/25
2306449 Hay, E., 18/2/25
1850445 Peerless, W., 18/2/25
2306749 Peck, H., 22/5/25
2314564 Guy, F., 28/5/25
2310958 Morris, W., 28/5/25
6618569 Horam, W., 20/7/25
2312357 Adams, C., 20/7/25
2309594 Gilmour, A., 4/8/25
2311362 Udell, L., 5/10/25
2308167 Murphy, G., 18/10/25
2311579 Varley, F., 10/12/25
2308590 Berry, P., 11/12/25
2306747 Hall, H., 15/12/25

APPOINTED ACTING-CORPORAL—
2312048 Thorpe, J., 28/5/25
2312332 Bromwich, H., 15/12/25
393482 White, A., 20/12/25
2556764 Corbett, W., 8/1/26
2312593 Perryman, G., 19/1/26
2311669 Berry, H., 19/1/26
6193431 Davies, C., 19/1/26
2310963 Searle, L., 19/1/26
1850477 Templeman, C., 27/1/26
2314243 Wright, F., 1/2/26
2314025 Ibbs, G., 3/2/26
2312900 Elford, H., 8/2/26
2314183 Irving, J., 10/2/26
1854520 Napier, R., 13/2/26

Discharges during January/February, 1926.

2306709 Sergt E. Kelly, 26/1/26
2310436 Corpl W. Cook, 29/1/26
1855195 Sergt A. Bray, 9/2/26
1857141 C.S.M. A. Bowler, 12/2/26
533743 C.S.M. W. Lambourne, 15/2/26
2306105 C.S.M. T. Latham, 15/2/26
2306383 Q.M.S. J. Boulsbee, 16/2/26

Transfers to the Army Reserve, February, 1926.

1857009 L/Sergt E. Elliott, 2/2/26
2309692 Corpl A. Jenkins, 2/2/26
2308444 Corpl D. Kirby, 6/2/26
2309727 Corpl W. Neads, 8/2/26
1857229 Corpl B. Orton, 9/2/26
1857147 Corpl A. Brashaw, 9/2/26
1857448 Corpl G. Manley, 11/2/26
2309314 Corpl E. Spender, 12/2/26
1857019 Corpl D. Mann, 15/2/26
2309807 Corpl E. Lane, 15/2/26
2309818 Corpl J. Platt, 15/2/26
2309402 Farrier-Corpl H. Smith, 18/2/26
1857083 Corpl M. Figg, 19/2/26

The South African Re-union (Tel. Res. R.E.)

Under the chairmanship of Brig.-Gen. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., the fourteenth annual dinner was held on Saturday, February 13th, in the Elizabethan Hall of the London Tavern, E.C. Seventy-two sat down to the tables—the record attendance since the war. The vice-chair was taken by Mr. C. H. Rodway, a staunch supporter of the Re-union, and a valued friend of all. The committee were privileged by having as their guests Sir John Fowler and Major-Gen. H. B. H. Wright, C.B., C.M.G.

After "The King" had been honoured and "The Silent Toast" drunk to comrades who did not return, "The Chairman" was proposed by the vice-chairman and responded to in a most interesting speech. "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. R. C. Luttrell in a speech that arrested the attention of all by its ease and grace, and replies were made by Sir John Fowler and Major-General Wright.

The former recounted some interesting and amusing incidents of his recent visit to China and his interview with the "Christian" General Feng. The scoring of bad marks until (a certain total being reached) a soldier's head is cut off, would perhaps discourage recruiting in England. Again, one has heard of a race to an inn and the last man paying; but when "physical jerks" takes the form of a race into camp, the last man in having his head cut off, there is no doubt that even Corpl Cotterell would feel aggrieved if he had the misfortune to sprain his ankle badly!

The entertainment during the evening was exceptionally good. Bert Sainsbury and Frank Hudson had their audience rocking with laughter; Merlin Vaughan, the well-known baritone, gave a fine rendering of "The sergeant-major on parade," one of Chappell's latest; Burdett, with his conjuring, mystified and delighted; and the tenor, George Owen, was a discovery. Mr. E. T. Bonner officiated at the piano, and as always we could never get a better.

Letters or telegrams of regret for absence were received from Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bt.; Brig.-Gen. A. B. R. Hildebrand, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; Col. E. V. Turner, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Capt. Barber; and Messrs Minors, Waghorn, Tozer, Way, Blacktin, Cleeve, Davis, Fenton, Ferguson, Harvey, Haycocks, Herbert Shaw, Stokes, Wells and White.

Plain Tales.

A few weeks ago I stood on the old Q.M. sentry beat and looked towards Maresfield Park Mansion. I found it very hard to believe that scarcely seven months ago the Signal Training Centre filled the intervening space. Not a board, nor a sheet of the ubiquitous corrugated iron, was to be seen. The large number of big trees in the park comes as a surprise to the visitor who remembers the camp. The main gate will not now be pulled down as reported previously. The mansion is already in the hands of the breakers, although no alteration is apparent when viewed from Batts Road.

A house is nearing completion behind the pavilion on the village recreation ground, and a road has been cut through the bank from the main road. Between the village school and the cemetery there is a large garage.

On the whole, I don't think there is anything for the old family to return for.

* * * *

Bulford Camp is well stocked with wireless sets. Here and there, no doubt, is an owner who knows a valve from a packet of heterodyne seeds, but one wireless fan whom I know is the absolute goods.

Half way through a particularly interesting bit of music from London, his set packed in. No amount of knob twiddling had any effect, so the next day he took it to some "experts." They gave it a thorough overhaul, charged him 7/6, and pronounced it "fit for service in any part of the world."

George (as we had better call him) could scarcely bolt his tea fast enough to get the set working that evening. Alas! still nothing doing. Just as he was beginning to get really peevish, the little boy from next door called to say that his daddy would be glad if George would shift the tangle of wire and rope out of his garden, as it had been lying across a rose tree for two days. Sorry to bother, and all that; but daddy says the proper place for an aerial is in the air.

The children went to bed early that evening.

* * * *

It is indeed a great thing to be able to meet all one's misfortunes with an unruffled air. I have just been taking lessons in this art from a young motor cyclist, who ran his machine against a brick wall and snapped his handlebars.

No whit put out by this mishap, he attempted to ride it home, but crashed in front of an Artillery "caterpillar." Luckily for his insurance company, he rolled clear, but the motor cycle was less fortunate. With some little difficulty he dug the debris out of the road and piled it on a hand-cart. On arrival at the garage, he calmly enquired whether they could give his machine a look over, as it refused to start up! The mechanic is one of those chaps who deserve to get on in life. He gave the machine a thorough inspection, pointed out a bent spoke, and told the owner to call again in 1965.

You see, last week the C spring on my sidecar snapped one mile from home, at night, and of course in the rain. Half-an-hour later my passenger removed her fingers from her ears, and said a few words the gist of which is briefly summed up in the opening sentence above. We continued our journey at dawn. Never let it be said that I rudely interrupted a lady.

* * * *

We Salisbury Plain people wish to thank all those kind naturalists, astronomers, philosophers and poets for their information re Spring. Toboggan races took place on the Beacon last week, or at least there would have been such racing had the snow been just a little deeper. However, perhaps there is some truth in these rumours of the approach of Spring. All that wet newspaper on my front garden is gradually drying, and I am hoping that March winds will blow it away before the arrival of April showers.

Gardens are interesting things viewed through a window. Mine is interesting, anyhow. If I leave it alone it might become a lawn, but if I push a rake across it once or twice, who knows but what it may not turn out to be a flower garden —or a rock garden.

Let us not judge these nature students hastily.

* * * *

A friend of mine who has moved from one unit to another (including the S.T.C.) as much as anyone, and more than most, has of necessity acquired one of the most varied collections of coloured cloth-balls and blancos imaginable. He is anxious to get into touch with anyone desirous of swapping a gramophone plus cash for his "pile." No dealers.

* * * *

So "Drake goes North." Well, we shall look forward to "Catterick Catechisms" or whatever that inimitable scribe and artist decides to call his work. A great re-shuffling of n.c.o.s appears to be taking place. This, I believe, occasions some joy among the departures from Yorkshire, whilst the attitude of the new arrivals at the S.T.C. is one of "reserve pending impressions." It is a bit of a scramble to get these n.c.o.s embedded in their new jobs at this time of the year. It will be interesting to note whether any star footballers are leaving the S.T.C.

* * * *

"Uncle Alfred" has disentangled himself from his cobwebs, and we are so pleased to see his handiwork that we will overlook his somewhat ambitious claim for the School. "Scientific side of the Corps," indeed! These young lads!

* * * *

"B Line Sigs" is no doubt a nice young man, but as he is camouflaged under a "nom de whatsit," I must regard his comment on my leechlike propensities with—well, something awfully superior. If he is still in the same frame of mind, I should like to draw his attention to the plight of one Ring, christened Harry, who has lingered in one job for nearly eight years. Poor man, he has done his best. A mere shadow of the former Harry of early S.T.C. days—probably doesn't tip the scales at more than 16 stone to-day.

* * * *

Just received a letter from an old friend. A bit of a speed merchant. He runs some sort of a band up Catterick way. According to his letter he knows this part of the country, having made the trip from Guildford to Andover. His route said he should pass through Farnham, Odiham and Basingstoke, but he declares that he didn't notice these places, owing to the fact that he gave the "Morgan" her throttle most of the way!

H'm! These hair-raising stories are good for trade, I expect.

* * * *

Quite a post this morning. Here's another letter. This time from ex-Signalman McDowall, who secured a good job in civilian life one day, and left the 3rd Divl. Signals the next, on transfer to the Reserve.

It only shows that it *can* be done, but it seems to me that the letters "Mc" as a prefix are worth all your flash letters after the name. Need I add that the job secured by McDowall has a London address? The capital of Scotland! Heigho! (or a noise like it). Wish I had been born Angus McBarleux; then I shouldn't be doing a pontoon.

* * * *

I hate to say it, but it is well deserved, so here it is. A man who has to think several times before paying 6d. for THE WIRE is tight-fisted. A large proportion of the personnel of the 3rd Divl. Signals *are* tight-fisted. I wouldn't say they were Jews, because I don't think that would be fair—to the Jews. Out of about 350 men in the unit, fifty copies of THE WIRE were sold behind the pay table. I sincerely hope someone will have something to say about this, because I shall then be able to present both sides of the question.

BARLEUX.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (Post Free):

3 Months, 1/9; 6 Months, 3/6; 12 Months, 7/-

All matters for publication, and any communication on matters *other* than Signals Association business, should be addressed to the Editor, Corps Publications Committee, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

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.

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PLEASE PATRONISE "THE WIRE" ADVERTISERS.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

The sun was observed by a watchful youth some time during last month. He is progressing favourably. March, as was expected, has come in like ten lions and one hippopotamus, but on the sheltered square this fact is not appreciated. For further particulars see "Drill Instructors." It is generally known now where the poet lived who wrote: "Oh, to be in England now that Spring is here!"

King "Flu" decided to hold his court not long since, and the work and the play of the Company were somewhat disorganised. Baghdad Lines resounded to the riotous song of gargle. The majority of the Company, among many others, paid homage at the throne of the afore-mentioned king in the M.I. room, two days in bed being the sequel. However, he outstayed his doubtful welcome, and My Lord Inoculation was called upon to oust him. No appreciable difference, however, was noticed on the visiting card (A.F.B.255) until the M.O.—who had been prevented previously by force of superior odds—started to use a thermometer. Sick parade has since resumed its natural proportions.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

Valete.

Having said good-bye to Corpl Boon in our last issue, we now welcome him as an attached detail. "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men—." He was always lucky.

We parted sadly with Corpls Williams and Percy, who have wended their way to A Corps Signals. It is untrue that "Ider" is held on command at Aldershot. A song, Bill, entitled "Where the bus stops," will be published shortly.

Arrivals.

We welcome Sergt Overington, L/Sergt Massey, Corporals Brewer, Diggins and Blackett, Signalmen Ellison, Stickley (soon to take the first step towards the contents of every soldier's haversack, it is whispered), Hammond and Fell. We hope that their stay will be long and happy.

Musketry.

Congratulations to No. 29 Squad on their musketry results. In "no 3rd class shots and an average of 70 points" they have a record of which they and the Company may be justly proud. The following obtained 1st class honours: Sigmn Chambers, 85 points; Signalmen Eickhoff and Pope, 83; Sigmn Gunn, 81. It is hoped that other Squads will emulate their example.

This Month's Fairy Tales.

There was once an n.c.o. who volunteered to take a Squad to the gymnasium.

Once upon a time a Squad Instructor entered the Company office, and seeing a pencil on a table, left it there.

ENOB.

B Company, Depot Battalion.

Training.

Since our last notes we have said goodbye to Nos. 26 and 28 Squads, who have departed to their various trade companies. Musketry averages continue satisfactory, the results being: No. 26 Squad, 79.0; No. 28, 74.11.

General.

The "flu" epidemic has been raging during the past two weeks, and being no respecter of persons has visited practically everybody, the only immunities being the non-teetotallers. I am seriously thinking of falling off the "water wagon" myself. Quite half of the Company have been sick, and this has entailed much extra work for the staff, both instructional and administrative—but "muck in" was the order, and everything went well.

Arrivals.

We welcome the arrival of Corpl Griffith from A Corps Signals, L/Corpl Palmer from 1st Divl. Signals, L/Corpl Kelly from No. 2 M.A.B. Section, and Sigmn Chadney from the T.B. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Departures.

Corpl Cook has left us for Blackdown, and L/Corpl Rockall for Aldershot. Both these n.c.o.s have been with this unit since its formation, and their loss will be greatly felt by the instructional cadre. But still, our loss is others' gain, and we wish them every success with their new units.

LIMPET.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

Baghdad Lines, March 8th.

Here we are again! The March winds are blowing with unusual vigour, and I hope they will blow away the "flu" which is rampant here. Dances and cinemas are out of bounds, and the troops wade through gallons of gargle daily. Several men almost drowned themselves when being initiated, but they have now reduced it to a fine art. They don't waste a drop, and it rarely goes down the wrong way.

At last we have commenced to train the jumping team for Olympia, and the form so far is very promising. Don't take this as a tip; send your shirt to the wash as usual instead of putting it on our team. To be able to jump at Olympia we have to win our way through the Northern Command, an event which takes place early next month at York. Let's hope we follow the example set by the boxing team.

At present our string of horses numbers six: Liza, Baby, Billy, Chance, 63, and Mustard. The last-named is alleged to be a horse, and none of us expect him to win anything at a beauty competition. He certainly is "mustard" at jazzing. So far it is impossible to name the four which will form the team, but it is thought that they will be the same as last year. Billy, at any rate, is trying hard to redeem himself. With Major Fladgate in charge of operations, we are having a different system to previous years: every horse trained on the grid, and nothing to do with the Cyclist Corps. Any way, watch the Signals for the Northern Command show.

Sigmn H. White recently attended a cook's course at Aldershot and obtained a "good" report, but he has not yet revolutionised the cook-house. Now, come on, Blanco! what about something posh—some new-fangled dish—rissoles with meat in, burgoo that can't be used as cement, or something after that style.

Corpl H. Marshall left here on the 1st inst. to undergo a course at the R.A.V. School, Aldershot.

Arrivals.

Corpl R. Sullivan and L/Corpl S. G. Read from 1st D.S.C., Signalmen Avis and Sparey from D Company T.B.

Departures.

Dvr C. Kunz and Sigmn R. Knight transferred to the Army Reserve.
Sigmn W. C. Coppins discharged by purchase.
Dvr J. S. Bain to No. 1 A.F.A. Signal Section, Newcastle.
Dvr C. S. Crackett to A Corps Signals, Ewshot.
Dvrs Leaver, Swann and Warren to 2nd D.S.C.
Dvr Hilton to 3rd D.S.C.

Promotions.

Congratulations to A/Sergt Limb and L/Corpl Dunn on being appointed to their respective ranks.

Correspondence.

Corpl Miles would like to hear from L/Corpl F. T. M. Smith.

Overheard in the Riding School.

Instructor: "Grip with your knees; I can see daylight between your knees and the saddle."

Recruit: "I can't, sir; I've hurt my foot."

General.

Where *is* a horse's crest?

Fanny wishes to convey to Barleux his deepest admiration for his notes. Stick it, Bob!

FIFI.

Corporals' Mess, Depot Battalion.

Owing to the very unwelcome visit of "old King Flu" to the S.T.C. during the last two weeks, we have been unable to hold any functions; but before his unwelcome appearance, we managed to have a very enjoyable smoking concert on February 17th to say good-bye to Corpls Williams, Cook and Rockall, who have left the dust (?) of Catterick many miles behind them—lucky dogs! Corpl Williams has gone to A Corps Signals, and L/Corpl Rockall to 1st Divl. Signals. Corpl Cook went to No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Blackdown, but his stay there was very short-lived, and he is back again with us. Hard luck, Captain! however, we wish Bill and George better luck.

Corpls Allen and Carter have left us to take up employment in the Police Force, and we wish them every success.

We have now added a jazz drum set and gramophone to the mess, and the strains of sweet (?) music can be heard daily.

With reference to 3rd Divl. Signal notes in THE WIRE for March, Lank would like to know if Yorky was in the same squad as Jonah when the smoker finished, and if he got back to Tidworth alright.

Ron would like to know if Corpl Holness, Egypt Signals, is still singing "the toy drum major," and who is now occupied with the hoop. By the way, Paddy, our gramophone is *not* for sale, and the screws are immovable.

Dear Bill, "Marfer" wishes to say "toad i' toil" once again; and there is a very strong rumour here that "Ider" has been arrested for loitering near where the bus stops.

"Old King Flu" has now taken his departure, and in his stead have arrived wind, rain, hail, sleet and snow—and having apparently combined forces, they are having a right royal time of it here at present. Oh, what a happy land is Catterick! I don't think!

FELIX.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Some careless individual recently opened one of the Company windows on a cold and rainy morning, and in flew Enza. It would seem that Enza intends to tarry with us awhile. So we now have two low comedians on our strength: Mumps and Enza—and between the two of them they cause a considerable amount of trouble.

Mumps is the better class comedian; he makes a habit of putting one's hut into isolation for 22 days, and then producing another little mump from another little hut at the end of 21 of them. So we start the day over again.

Enza, on the other hand, relies on the more blatantly obvious forms of humour—practical joking, in fact. He just comes quietly up behind someone when he's not looking, taps him on the shoulder and, like the policeman, says "You need a rest; come along." Whereupon the victim comes over all of a tremble, sucks a thermometer instead of his breakfast, and retires to bed. Meanwhile the remainder of the Company continues to parade

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1962

as usual, albeit with the occasional temporary loss of its headgear (we still live on Windy Hill) and to revile Enza's victims who have

"Drained their cup a round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to rest,"

for littering the huts and making them look untidy.

The casual observer would have thought that no microbe, germ, bacillus, or coccus would have a chance against the tame hurricane of which we are the proud possessors. But you don't know them; they're hardy little devils! They just catch hold and hang on like grim death. Still, the doctor's on their track now, armed with a sharp pointed garden syringe—"that'll larn 'em!"

The great seed rush, of which we spoke last month, has tailed off rather badly of late owing to the "snales" (a combination of snow and gales) which have been very prevalent. The greenhouses and cucumber frames took one look at the camp, and were next seen making a nice 45 miles an hour down the Great North Road half way to Boroughbridge.

The only real optimists are the boys, who have fixed in position (we cannot call it planted) several green stalks which appear to be of the vegetable kingdom. They are now anxiously waiting to see what breed of flower will materialise. The prices at present quoted are: crocus 6—4; snowdrop 4—1; daffodil 9—2; sunflower 25—1; forget-me-not 100—1. Pansies were being offered yesterday morning at 150—1, but found no takers.

Our parade ground is being treated with "tarmac, signallers'." Its chief constituents are bricks and ashes. It has been suggested that sackcloth and ashes would be more suitable, but the suggestion has been over-ruled. The "mumplets" occupy their time profitably in laying the foundations—when nobody else is about.

Wedding.

C.S.M. Hughes was married on March 10th. We all wish him every happiness for the future.

Promotions.

We congratulate Capt. Glanville on his promotion from Lieutenant, and also Corpl Guy on his promotion from A/Corpl.

Departures.

Corpl J. W. Wylie to Glasgow. Corpl T. Flint to E Coy. L/Corpl A. E. Lee to D Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals.

E Company, Training Battalion.

There's a nasty suspicion hanging round the stores that a certain threat handed out by our worthy Barleux may be fulfilled should we fail to "come up for another breathe." Not that we would object to the laying bare of our past, but the flapping of a certain pair of ears in D Company might result in the owner dealing himself a severe injury. The gales of wind which roar down from that quarter don't need augmenting, either. We dont think the parting in Uncle Alfred's hair will be affected by the same threat. There is such a person as the Censor of Publications.

Though late in the day, we extend a hearty welcome to C.S.M. McGregor from the Rhine, who has already settled down in his new office. At the moment he is suffering from the fashionable complaint of flu, but, like those whose "C.B." is now expired, he will shortly be back to duty.

Capt. L. B. Nicholls left us before we knew he was gone, almost, and not for Egypt, but the 4th Divl. Signals. We assure them that their sporting status is going to improve by leaps and bounds under his guidance. We can ill afford to lose him, but it is one of those things to which we must bow.

Moses Rubenbacker of Sarafand is advised to communicate with our office staff. He will realise how little he knows after a short correspondence. Having backed against the Battalion team in the fourth round of the Army cup, they walked to Darlington to avoid the suspense of waiting to hear the result, only to be disappointed—they were too tired from their long walk to be able to climb over the fence.

Can anyone help Squibb out of the cart? He wants to know in which section a "voltmeter, o-zero" appears.

Congratulations to Sergt Hailes upon being presented with another daughter. He left us recently for the T.A., where we trust he will spend an enjoyable sojourn.

THE PARSON.

Training Battalion Boys.

The flu epidemic has been bumping the boys to a certain extent, but not so badly as it did the men. We therefore conclude that our boys are hardy young ruffians for whom the deadly perils of bacteria possess no terrors. However that may be, they have been comparatively free from illness.

We have started a boys' recreation room in the spare end of a hut. The equipment includes such incentives to fast living as draughts and chess, and a lot of papers which have been very kindly supplied by the Corporals' Mess. We used the room on February 17th for a whist drive. Fourteen tables were occupied by eager competitors, who became still more eager when the interval was announced and the L/Corporal Boys handed round the food. The prizes went to Boys Estorffe (1st), Ross (2nd), Jury (3rd), and Bull (booby).

Boy Nicklen is back from hospital, where his leg seems to have been successfully repaired.

Boys Humphries, Kerr, Stevens, and Smart have joined the ranks.

Boys Wardley, Vine, Wilcock, Snow, Jackson, Rickard, Page, McKeer, Whitehead, Yalden, Smith, Hutchcroft, Myddleton, Jury, Josey, Bell, Chidgey, McKillop, Harvey, Brooks, Beale, Dixon and Barlow have passed their test as Class 3 wireless operators. The ether is full of joyous waves—undamped.

LURKON KA BAP.

School of Signals.

Having made ourselves known by broadcasting in February, we will proceed to give further news concerning our merry band at the School.

As everyone is aware, our life has been made more cheerful by the invasion of 'flu, etc., which "flu" in with the first of the month. We have not yet felt the influence of 'flu, but scarletina has paid us a fleeting visit, enabling a number of our band to enjoy the luxury of beautifying our lines to their heart's content. It is not true that they were searching for germs when digging near the sergeants' mess; they were finding worms with which to go fishing for trout in the lake during their spare time.

Although "movies" are taboo, we manage to entertain ourselves with a certain amount of success. One part of this entertainment consists of seeing how much "gargle" can be taken by one man. It is good sport, and there are many aspirants for the first place.

Arrivals.

We welcome to our midst L/Corpl Gorden from the 2nd Divl. Signals. May his sojourn with us be a happy one.

Departures.

We regret to announce that our popular Commandant, Lieut.-Col. P. R. Bald, D.S.O., Royal Signals, has departed to take over the duties of C.S.O. Scottish Command. He will be greatly missed by all ranks of the School who have served under him. Our consolation is that Lieut.-Col. A. E. Osborne, D.S.O., Royal Signals, has been appointed as our new Commandant.

C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Weeks sailed on March 4th for Mauritius, where it is hoped that he will find plenty of scope for emulating the B.B.C.

L/Corpl Barras has left us for the 2nd Divl. Signals. May he meet with every success!

A MESSIN SIGNALLER.

Sergeants' Mess.

Everything this month is overshadowed by the departure of our Commandant, Lieut.-Col. P. R. Bald, D.S.O., Royal Signals. We trust that his new appointment will prove as pleasant as his short stay at the School has been.

Prior to the departure of Lieut.-Col. Bald, a dance was held in the sergeants' mess, and we were honoured by the presence of practically all the officers of the staff. During a most successful and enjoyable evening, opportunity was taken by the Colonel to say a few words of farewell, and of thanks to the staff. Mrs. Anderson, on behalf of the wives of the warrant officers and sergeants, presented Mrs. Bald with a magnificent bouquet. The cheers given for Col. and Mrs. Bald were apparently the cause of several workmen appearing the next day for essential repairs to the ceiling. Uncle Alfred's "blackleg" band again provided the incentive for the dancers to do their utmost to wear out the floor.

A very successful concert was given in the Garrison lecture room on Wednesday, March 3rd, by the candidates of No. 87 Regimental Signalling Course, assisted by a few members of the staff. A "full house" was kept fully entertained and amused throughout, and it seems a certainty that the next performance will severely tax the seating accommodation. In spite of all-round excellence, special mention must be made of Corpl A. Howard, of the Norfolk Regiment, who in both individual turns and sketches had most of his audience almost in hysterics.

It is hoped to run these shows regularly in the future, and we take this opportunity of informing all interested that they are assured of a really good evening's entertainment.

A Few Impersonal Questions.

Whether it is always policy to attack an individual through the medium of the Press.

Whether a wireless set, in spite of four valves, usually works better with an aerial attached.

Whether there is always an actual road where one is shown on the map, especially on cable-laying routes.

Whether Barleux would be well advised to consult the editor of the Headquarter Gazette on the subject of Life Histories; and

Whether he should not remember that he was merely a junior sub-editor of that fascinating and popular journal.

UNCLE ALFRED.

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COLONEL:—"I am travelling abroad next week, and I am taking a blessing back with me."

TRAVELLER:—"What is it, old man?"

COLONEL:—"Why: a most important thing—some hing that will give me an easy and perfect shave. It is SHAVEX, and with it there is no misery of lathering o ill my face is sore, for it requires no soap or brush. I just smear a litti SHAVEX over my beard and then shave in a quarter of the time. I always get a close and clean shave, and my skin feels as soft a satin. I had a lot of wrinkles but they have disappeared through the use of SHAVEX, because it is a Skin Food as well as a Shaving Cream, and there is no need to use any lotions.

That is the 'blessing' I am taking with me, old friend."

TRAVELLER:—"Why, old man you certainly look younger! I have recently been travelling in East Africa, and I wish I had had a few tubes with me It would have been a godsend."

DOCTOR:—"I am one Doctor among many thousands who recommend SHAVEX. There would be no rash or pimples, etc., if all men used SHAVEX, because it is ant septic. SHAVEX is the one perfect and healthy method of shaving."

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ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Unit Headquarters.

My difficult task of collecting material for this month's WIRE has met with a small measure of success. All intelligent members of Headquarters have been approached for tips, but I have been met with a vacant gaze and a scratching of the head, so what is one to do? There is no plot; no strong and silent hero, no reformed criminal, round whom to weave a few exciting words. We of Headquarters do not appear in the limelight to any great extent.

Others come and go; Sections train, some building lines, others wire huts, and arrange all sorts of instruments in prominent places, giving the impression of much energy expended, whilst we of Headquarters keep busy with returns, discharges and transfers, sorting out ledgers, and keeping equipment up to standard—all very necessary to keep the wheel turning! We congratulate those of the unit who are responsible for the good report from the D.D.V.S. as a result of his recent inspection of the horses, and we look forward to another such report when the Commander-in-Chief inspects them in a few weeks' time.

Sergeants' Mess.

Our number has been augmented this month by the arrival of C.Q.M.S. Betteridge, Sergts Rowe and Hatfield, and L/Sergt Betts. We welcome them and trust they will settle down happily.

As foreshadowed last month, we had an invitation whist drive and dance in the Ewshot Dance Hall on March 5th, which was undoubtedly a great success. The hall was tastefully decorated, and about 120 attended. Whist concluded at 10 p.m., to be followed by the presentation of prizes by Mrs. Mepham, and dancing.

All the ladies' prizes were won by ladies outside the unit, but we did manage to obtain two gentlemen's prizes, won by Sergt Carter (1st) and C.S.M. Doust (2nd).

The officers who attended were pleasantly surprised to see such a successful gathering, and took an active interest in the dancing. The dance concluded at 2 a.m. We shall now have to lie low for a time, having come to the end of our funds.

The sympathy of the mess is extended to Sergt T. Wilson in his recent sad bereavement.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Doust on his promotion to that rank; and our best wishes to him and to Sergt Wilson on their transfer to 3rd Divl. Signals and 51st (Highland) Divl. Signals, T.A., respectively.

No. 1 Company.

On March 12th we bade farewell to a famous Signals' institution, known far and wide throughout the Corps as "Tott." We do not feel that it is necessary to enlarge upon the services of such a celebrity, who has helped so many members of the Corps over the stile—both with and without their horses.

His final riding school—a full choral celebration over the jumps—will long be remembered in A Corps Signals. We have enjoyed the good fortune of his judgment and experience during the past year in organising our mounted training and stable management on the proper lines. He carries with him the affection and regard of all ranks, and the grateful appreciation of many comfortably contented animals.

Happily we shall often have the pleasure of seeing him this summer, as he intends to live near Ewshot until the autumn. We understand he will then settle in his native Yorkshire, so we may look forward to his being a frequent visitor to the S.T.C. to meet old friends, make new ones, and carry off new open events at the gymkhanas.

The photograph opposite was taken when Lt. Totterdell was in the old E Company at Maresfield.

In A Corps Signals we shall feel his loss very much indeed. His advice and assistance have never been refused to anybody—a sound friend to all ranks. We feel sure that everyone in the Royal Corps of Signals will join in wishing Mrs. Totterdell, "Tott" and Jim (not forgetting Bob) all happiness and good luck for many years to come.

Lieut. J. L. Totterdell, M.C., Royal Signals.

Signals Association.

The new scheme with regard to the Signals Association is progressing well. The first collection of 9d. per month was made in the Company on March 5th, with the result that 164 membership cards have been issued. This number does not include several on Command or leave, who have still to be added to the total in the Company.

Arrivals.

We welcome Sergt R. Rowe and Corpl Percy from the Depot Battalion; and Sergt Hatfield and L/Sergt Betts from other units.

Departures.

The following have left us for civil life: Corpl Tubb, L/Corpl H. N. White, Dvrs Redmond, Williams and Harvey, Signalmen Blazer and Barry.

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

Individual training is still in force and will continue until the end of March, when the many Sections form up. This year we shall have several Wireless Sections formed, and H.Q. Section is still up to its usual high standard.

To prepare all ranks for section training, a series of lectures has been conducted for n.c.o.s and signalmen. The n.c.o.s' course has been well attended, and should prove most beneficial to candidates for their 1st class certificates. To enable the various sections to get the "team" spirit, they are now accommodated in section huts.

Saturday morning's post saw the Post Corporal struggling through the lines with sacks and sacks of WIRES. Never before have there been such enquiries after them!

A severe blow has just fallen upon us, for to-day we learn that Sergts Deyermond and Stevenson, Corpls Nokes and Henson, and L/Corpl Grainger are leaving us on March 19th on being posted to Catterick. We shall miss them all. We shall be interested to hear of their welfare when they move north, and will be pleased to see them if they can spare Aldershot a visit at any time.

Sergt Deyermond has been invaluable in the organisation of sports throughout the unit, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for his splendid efforts and valuable assistance. Our loss is the Training Battalion's gain.

Arrivals.

A hearty welcome to the following on joining the Company from the Training Battalion: Signalmen Samuel, H. Williams, Todd, Robinson, F. Smith, and Hope.

Departure.

Sigmn Hancock (one of our boxers) to Sarafand.

Appointments.

Signalmen Lund, Rankin, Gadd, Wilce and Venn, appointed A/U/L/Corporals.

[*For Command Signal Company Notes see page 108*]

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

Impudence and Progress.

An eminent politician (unless I am mistaken) once said: "The more effrontery there is in a man's make-up, the greater are the chances of that man's success in life."

Those words, spoken as I have said by a distinguished politician (although it might possibly have been someone else), were recalled to mind the other day when the following story came to my ears.

A youth, who counted among his possessions a great deal of impudence and seven days "C.B.," approached the sergeant-major with the request that "the performance of the seven days' 'C.B.' by so-and-so be sanctioned, please."

Just like that. Bang in the midriff!

But it appears that the forfeiture of so-and-so's week of freedom was conditional, and defaulting applicant desired to make it perfectly clear that he, in turn, would be only too delighted to perform in so-and-so's stead when *that* lad "got his!"

Always bearing in mind the words spoken by that famous politician (or whoever it was), I venture to predict that the defaulting applicant will go far—even if only as far as the guard-room!

Discharges.

All good wishes to the following, who have left us for civil life:—F/S/S. J. Brown and Signalmen A. Barton, J. Carroll, E Le Poidevin, S. P. Munson, and J. B. Shephard.

Men may continue to come and go

—and quite a number have gone recently:—Sigmn H. Francis to Mauritius Signal Section; Signalmen J. Holford and L. Pratchett to No. 2 Wireless Company, Palestine; Signalmen N. Audsley, G. Dunbar, J. C. Knight and H. Ridgley to Iraq. Jolly good luck to all!

And now we extend a hearty welcome to all those who have joined the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs during the last month. They are: R.Q.M.S. H. L. Fegan, Corpl J. Dumphy, and Signalmen H. C. Howard, E. Goode, A. C. Davies, and E. J. Forsgate, all from the Training Battalion, S.T.C.; Corpl A. Blundell and L/Corpl G. A. Rockall from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C.; C.S.M. Butcher from the Aldershot Command Signal Company; Sergt Millross from the Western Command Signal Company; L/Sergt G. A. Morel from the 4th Divl. Signals; Corpl E. Cooper—an old friend—from the Eastern Command Signal Company.

The First Step.

Congratulations to the following upon their respective promotions to U/L/Corporal: Signalmen F. W. Binder, E. R. Castle and H. A. Fisher.

Games Tournament.

The junior n.c.o.s received an invitation from the w.o.s and sergeants to attend a games tournament which was held in the sergeants' mess on 25/2/26. The tournament commenced at 8 p.m., and resulted in an equal distribution of points. A most enjoyable evening terminated with an impromptu concert. But surely there are many more juniors in the unit?

Slow Motion Horses.

I still retain vivid memories of a morning spent in the riding school at Maresfield, and (here memory becomes a trifle indistinct) I can almost swear that a horse was involved. A very instructive film on horsemanship was shown to the unit on March 4th, and the ultra-rapid eye of the camera revealed every movement of the horse in action. Reverting to that morning spent in the riding school at Maresfield, I omitted to state that I distinctly recollect carrying a saddle back to the stables.

Dentifriskiness.

The recent dental inspection was productive of a sudden spirited defence of ivory castles, but latest reports show that our roast meat remains impregnable.

Atmospherics.

A rather novel method has been adopted in the unit whereby wireless operators are set to memorise the procedure of erection and operation of the various sets by means of short rhymes. This, for instance, is the latest thing in the tuning of aerial circuits:—

"At six o'clock both rheostats set,
Use wave-range switch and set range correct,
Turn switch to 'buzz,' and at 'stand by'
Tune A.T.C. and A.T.I."

Now, isn't that just too jolly! Boy, pass me the F set, and don't drop the cat's whisker.

"Hey! diddle, diddle,
The spark's in the middle,
Reception *would* be okay
If we could but solve this gigantic riddle—
Our aerial's blown away!"

Similarly:—

"My note is weak, my note is weak!
I wonder what the matter is?
I really think the grid must leak,
Or maybe it's the batteries."

Also:—

"I've got a little crystal set—
It's IT, I will be bound;
And when I want to listen-in,
I turn the knobs around."

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at Aldershot are being constructed by

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And lastly I would offer a piece of advice:—

"If the sergeant tells you that your note is 'flat,'
Don't throw at him the rheostat,
For this, I know, is quite unlawful,
And the reaction, you'll find, is simply awful!"

"The Wire."

The sales of our Corps Journal show a steady increase each month, and one hundred copies of the March publication were disposed of. Of this number, seventy went to the credit of No. 1 Company, but there are rumours of a lively competition from Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. Can they beat it?

Odds and Ends.

To "Olive" of Pulau Brani, I convey my thanks for his greetings in our March issue; and to Sigmn J. Kenneally, also of that Section, I can volunteer the information that his brother is at present undergoing a G.P.O. course at Glasgow.

To Tchal, of Wiesbaden, I present my salutations, along with those of Flan and Pratch.

The latter has now gone from our midst, declaring that he was unaware that Tchal had a shirt. Flan maintains that it was cast, and I decline to be implicated.

My Faux Pas.

Whilst I continue to express my gratitude to all those people mentioned in last month's WIRE, I beg to point out that Drake did *not* go north.

The bauble has been replaced. Whether it will be suffered to gather dust or moss is a matter, I am afraid, beyond my powers of deduction. It rests entirely with Fate—and Fate is to be found in the vicinity of Chatham!

I thank you!

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, March 15th.

The quarterly Trade Board is over, and with very few exceptions all our candidates got through.

We have now settled down to Section training, with just a slight dose of rifle drill first thing to put us in good trim for the day.

The "dust heap," from 9 a.m. till about 9.30, resembles (in some ways) the Guards' square at Caterham; even your humble is undergoing a course of voice training.

Soon, I suppose, we shall be careering round the dust heap on ceremonial parades, in preparation for H.M. the King's visit in June.

ENGER.

No. 1 Company.

Lieut. F. K. Morton, Royal Signals, assumed command of A Section on March 8th vice Lieut. E. H. C. Harris, Royal Signals, who leaves us for Woolwich Experimental Establishment.

The individual training period finished at the end of February. A number of n.c.o.s and men were tested by an Area Board, and a large percentage obtained higher ratings. It is hoped that the unfortunate ones will pass the next quarterly test.

Both Sections are concentrating on their respective drills in an endeavour, with the experience gained during manœuvres, to speed up the present record in opening communication. This will help us to live up to our reputation in the coming Divl. exercises.

Prior to the start of the weekly unit ceremonial, the Company do 15 minutes' arms drill daily under the O.C. B Section. A marked improvement is noticeable after a fortnight of this, and this will tend to smarten up appearances for subsequent parades.

Birth.

To L/Corpl G. F. and Mrs. Skitt, a son Ronald, 22/2/26.

Personal.

Sigmn F. E. Warren would like to hear from George Cave and Guildford Aitken, believed to be stationed in the Middle East.

HAMO.

No. 2 Company.

We have had a very busy time during the last month, as most of the Company have been preparing for the Trade Board, from which everyone hopes for the best.

Arrivals.

Sergt D. Todd from North China Signal Section, and Signalmen Roberts, Whiting and Morgan from S.T.C.

Departures.

Sigmn J. Wake to Mauritius (unfortunately no long week-ends are available from there); Signalmen Dunbar and Ling to Iraq; and Sigmn MacNab to Egypt.

Obituary.

We regret to report the death of the little year-old son of L/Sergt Cousens.

No. 3 Company.

Since last month we have finished individual and commenced Section training. So now the neighbourhood fairly sprouts with antennæ rods: a sure sign of erection drill. The pack ponies, too, feel the effects of the general bustle, for they have taken unto themselves their packs again.

Departure.

Dvr G. Stirrup has left us for civilian life. We wish him every success.

THREECO.

No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

Blackdown, March 15th.

Postings.

L/Sergt Betts has been posted to A Corps Signals, and our best wishes go with him to his new unit.

Corpls Reid and Cook posted to this unit from Catterick. Corpl Cook was re-posted to the Depot Battalion after a week's stay with us, and the conclusion is that either he must like Catterick or he found Blackdown detrimental to his health after the salubrious climate of Yorkshire.

The posting of Sigmn Young, reported in last month's notes, has been cancelled.

Appointment.

Congratulations to A/Corpl Elford on his appointment to that rank. May he soon be substantiated.

Education.

Our heartiest congratulations, also, to L/Corpl Cockings on obtaining his 1st class certificate of education.

Birth.

Sigmn Sargent has been presented with a daughter. Again, congratulations.

ACK ACK.

Aldershot Anecdotes.

No. 32—Which concerneth an Envelope and a Broken Neck.

1—Now ye have heard of the four seasons of the year, how there cometh Spring, Summer, Autumn and then Winter.

2—But verily I say unto you, there is yet a fifth season.

3—And it is called the Phlatrasingseezon.

4—Now, with the Phlatrasingseezon cometh the Bookee, a strange being who hibernates at Neece on the Reveerah for a space, in the hope that people he met on the Epsomdownz would forget him.

5—But there cometh a time when the Bookee findeth the contents of his coffers reduced to next to nothing, and he is compelled to smoke but one cigar at a time.

6—Then it is that he goeth unto his brethren, and they converse one with the other, saying: "Behold, we are even as the beggars in the market-places, and our satchels remain the one slender thread with which to bind body and soul together. Let us therefore journey back to the land of Eng, for is not the Phlatrasingseezon come?"

7—Whereupon, in their abject poverty, they do straightway break the seals upon the wine bottles, and in due course set they their sandals upon the turf at Askot and other places where horse is pitted against horse.

8—Now there is yet a second pestilence rife at this season. And it is the Groopee Bookee, although he is also known as a Tipstah.

9—And the Tipstah is one who holdeth daily communion with horses, and disburseth this information to the citizens for a slight consideration, for he hath a kindly heart.

10—And behold, there cometh to Alshot a Tipstah who concealed beneath a waistcoat of check a breast overflowing with the milk of human kindness. And his knowledge he placeth into the mouths of envelopes and marketh thereon a seal, so that that also was concealed.

11—Now, when a certain warrior of the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs goeth unto the bazaars, behold he was waylaid by this Tipstah, who sayeth: "Lo, for the trifling matter of six coins, shall I tell ye the winner of the Grandnashonal."

12—Whereupon the warrior placeth six coins upon the palm of the Tipstah's hand and receiveth in exchange an envelope, pink in hue.

13—Whereat he waxeth exceeding glad and runneth among the tents of his fellows, crying in a loud voice: "Behold, I alone have the winner of the Grandnashonal!"

14—And they questioned him, saying: "If thou hast this thing, then, we beseech thee to name it."

15—And the warrior answered them: "The name of the beast is Phli Masque."

16—Then did a great shout go up from the assembled hosts. One there was who cried, "Thou hast no winner there, for three moons ago did the animal fall and break its neck!" Another sayeth, "Mayhap it will prove to be neck or nothing"; and a third there was who cried, "Behold, study thou the necrology!"

17—And the warrior who had paid his six coins for the information went unto his tent and was not seen, yet in his passing he sayeth unto the multitude: "Lo, the Tipstah is a dog, yet spake he the truth. For did he not tell me that in this thing I had a *dead* certainty?"

L. H. D.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, March 15th.

The unit is now busily engaged with the second period of individual training. The conclusion of the first period saw the rise and fall of several of our tradesmen, which of course occasioned a little flutter among those concerned. To the latter, we can only offer the stirring advice of Columbus at the Court of King Arthur: "Pull up your socks!"

To those n.c.o.s who are shortly to leave us for the S.T.C., we wish the best of luck. Remember Drake's words, "Catterick will be lovely in the summer-time." He forgot to add "if any."

"Breezes 1926" presented their eagerly-awaited show on the 18th February. As predicted in last month's WIRE, and to the confusion of certain critics, the show was a great success. To single out individual artistes would be "inutile," so we give here the whole of the troupe responsible for the production: Lieut. C. A. Oliver (producer), R.S.M. Adams, Sergt Thomas, Signalmen Shiner and Harris, Mrs. Fee, and Miss Frost; orchestra—Sergts Austin (A.E.C.) and Graham, Corpl Barlow, Signalmen Bennett and Ovenden, Dvr Hawthorne. At the conclusion of the concert the audience refused to depart until a speech had been made by Mr. Oliver. This caught our able but modest producer unawares, but he responded nobly and thanked everyone for their support, adding that without such support the efforts of the artistes would be of no avail.

On Wednesday, March 10th, another successful unit dance was held, complete with balloons and paper hats so dear to the hearts of modern jazzers. The music was provided by the usual band, who (sad to relate) will shortly suffer a severe hit amidships by losing L/Corpl Sayers, the pianist.

We regret to record a serious accident to Dvr Perry, who sustained a broken leg whilst playing football against the 9th Pack Battery R.A. on March 8th. Dvr Perry is one of our really good men, and we shall be pleased to see him about again.

We had all the material for a thrilling detective story on the evening of March 10th, but Army etiquette forbids the publication of full details (which is rather a pity). However, a clever bit of detective work unravelled what was beginning to look mysterious, and the coppers and red-caps were sent empty away the following morning. Congratulations to our sleuths!

A number of people will be interested to learn that Sergt Spreadborough has developed a love for horses, and may be seen in the afternoons taking five-barred gates quite casually. Good old Sam! remember the left spur goes on the left boot!

Arrivals

Sergt P. Hall from the Rhine, 11/1/26 (left there unsung, presumably owing to the move of the Rhine troops, but welcomed here with open arms). Another ex-rat.

Trumpeter Gilpin from the S.T.C., 16/2/26.
Dvr Hilton from the S.T.C., 18/2/26.
L/Sergt Ginger Carter from Depot Battn., 19/2/26.
Signalmen Holroyd and Woodstock from S.T.C., 22/2/26.
Corpl Stainer from North China, 23/2/26.

Signalmen S. Edwards, F. Quarm, W. Rankin, J. Staunton, and W. Day, from S.T.C., 5/3/26.

C.S.M. F. Doust from A Corps Signals, 8/3/26 (just the very man we have been waiting for).

Sigmn H. Leslie from Training Battalion, 11/3/26.

Departures.

L/Sergt S. Massey and Corpl A. Brewer to Depot Battn., 22/2/26.

L/Corpl C. E. T. Reid to Training Battalion, 23/2/26.

L/Corpl L. Golder, Signalmen E. Phillips, L. Symons, C. Gurling, C. Wallis, W. King, and R. Deradour, to Iraq; and Signalmen A. Harrison and S. Wort to Egypt—all on H.M.T. "Nevassa," 2/3/26. Bon voyage!

Hair Discipline

We know that discipline means "subjection to order—improvement." That is what Anzora means too. Improvement to your appearance and the most unruly hair mastered.

ANZORA CREAM for greasy scalps, will not soil hat linings or pillows, and ANZORA VIOLA for dry scalps, containing a little oil of violets, are sold in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles, by chemists, hairdressers, stores and canteens.

"Anzora Masters the Hair"

Postings.

L/Corpl L. J. Peerless from Training Battalion, 22/2/26.
Sergt W. E. Coates from 54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, 5/3/26.
Sigmn W. Cooper from Depot Battalion, 15/3/26.
L/Corpl A. Lee from Training Battalion, 19/3/26.
Corpls Townley and Cogswell from Depot Battn, 22/3/26.
L/Sergt Wright, L/Corpls Cole and Savage, from Training Battalion, 22/3/26.
C.Q.M.S. G. Watts to Depot Battalion, 8/3/26.
L/Sergt G. Murray, Corpls Webb and Tunnicliffe, L/Corpls Sayers, McDonald and Frost, to S.T.C., 22/3/26.

For various reasons, some of which are obvious, these postings have not been carried out at the time of going to press. To those leaving us, the best of luck always; and to the arrivals, a hearty welcome.

Transfers to Reserve.

Signalmen T. Ward and T. Gale, 2/3/26. Sigmn L. D. Mc Dowall, 3/3/26.

Discharge.

Sigmn G. Rugman, 26/2/26.

Marriage.

Sigmn E. R. Boniface to Gertrude Isabel Frances Cox, at Amesbury, on March 1st, 1926. The unit wishes the happy couple the best of luck.

Married Quarters Roll.

L/Corpl A. Jago, added 19/2/26.

Appointment.

L/Corpl L. Searle to be A/Corporal, 19/1/26.

Impending Calamity.

The disturbing news is received that we are to lose our one and only Sergt F. Austin, the "Breezes" pianist. We can but bow to the decision of the authorities, but Sergt Austin will take with him our very best wishes. Apart from his work as pianist, his activities in the Garrison school are reflected in our list of education certificates.

R. F. B.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester,
March 15th.

Comings and Goings.

We welcome Capt. L. B. Nicholls from S.T.C., Q.M.S. Craig from India, Signalmen Hammerton and Woolley from T.B., and Signalmen Chapman and Wilson.

The best of luck to A/Corpl Heath, posted to Northern Ireland, and to Sergt Schwencke, posted to T.B.

Marriage.

F/Sergt Harris, at Leek, Staffs, 11/2/26.

Eastern Command Signal School.

The 16A Preliminary Signalling Course, comprising four officers and nine other ranks, assembled here on March 11th, and is now in full swing.

Courses.

The following personnel are away on various courses: Corpls Fish and Perryman and L/Corpl Baxter at Aldershot, on a veterinary course; Sigmn Hughes at Woolwich cycle repair course.

General.

Dancing has again commenced in the regimental institute. The first one was a great success, close on 200 attending, and everyone had an enjoyable time. During the interval Sigmn Bartley charmed us with his delightful songs, "Be brave and smile" and "Nirvana."

A most enjoyable evening was spent in the corporals' mess on the visit of the corporals' mess of the 1st Battalion The Essex Regiment. Numerous items were rendered. The evening was brought to a close by singing "Auld lang syne."

The 16th March will see the unit on a ceremonial parade to bid farewell to Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. B. Stevens, K.C.B., C.M.G., who relinquishes the command of the 4th Division.

Individual training being to the fore, everyone is more or less busy.

Sergt Bartlett (late F.S.S.D.) would like to hear from Sergt Billy Buttle, M.M., who also has pleasant memories of the same place.

Our Band.

I have been asked to say a few words on our band. I don't mean a rubber band or a brass one, but a real live jazz band. Debates are still rife as to the most suitable name for it. Practices are held frequently in the canteen, causing much amusement, especially the antics of the bandmaster "Johnny," ably assisted by "Krushen." Some of the latest fox trots, including the "Cook-house Blues," "Canteen Glide," etc., were splendidly rendered.

The band consists of two banjos, one tin whistle, one small drum (very small), and two dixie lids. The harp, of which the patent will most probably be applied for, is of elegant structure, weighing approximately 1½ cwt., and makes an excellent boot wiper in muddy weather.

At a recent home football match, the referee asked one of the players if he thought they would give a turn before the mayor in the town hall, but he replied that the fee would be too large.

TAP.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

Everything in Northern Ireland is much the same as last month, except for one or two mild happenings which came nigh upsetting the balance of things.

First, our Paystiff managed to scrounge ten days' leave.

Second, our Kewem has been posted back to the Terriers. Lucky dog!

We had a visit from the chief outlaw at Dunree, who passed this way on leave (only a short leave, by the way, as milk dieting is somewhat expensive).

Our last leave party returned to time after a very shaky crossing, the Irish Channel being none too kind to them. All the same, they look very fit after their stay in the little spot across the way, probably due to the better climatic conditions existing there.

It is worthy of mention that a little scene took place in the ablution room whilst the S.M. and Q.M. were making an inspection. There were three actors, a certain signalman (now discharged) being added to the two aforementioned.

S.M.: "Well, I hope now that you have got your wish, you won't be long before you get a job."

Q.M.: "Looks quite smart in civvies, eh?"

Signalman: "I got a job, sir; start on Monday morning, sir." (this was on a Friday).

Collapse of S.M. and Q.M. (what a wangle!)

Arrivals and Departures.

We welcome L/Sergt Bradbury on completion of a Foreman-of-Signals course (get your note-books ready, my lads, while the Q.M. indents for larger sizes in caps); also Corpl Rice, Signalmen Keates and Shaw from Catterick, and trust they will find this little spot to their liking.

Corpl McIvor has left us for a course at the Vocational Training Centre prior to taking his discharge.

Promotions.

Of these we have quite a few in the honours list, and congratulations are cordially extended to all: L/Sergt Bradbury to Acting-Sergeant; L/Corpl Irving to Acting-Corporal; L/Corpls Fisher, Wicks, Brewster, Roberts, and Turner on getting the pay; Signalmen Barrow, Simpson and Weir on joining the ranks of the great unpaid (nevertheless, we must have that first step).

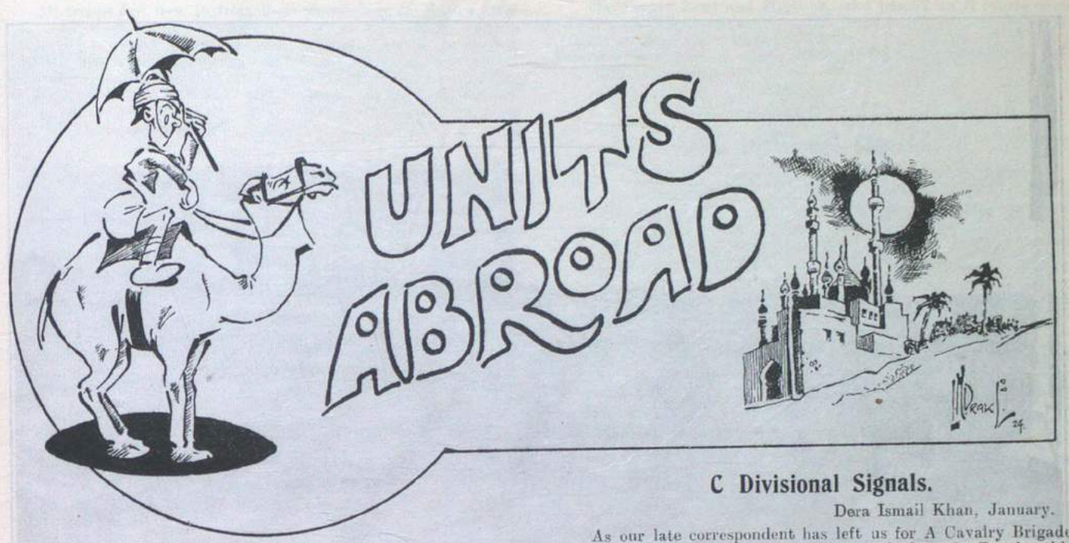
Extension.

L/Corpl Handford to twelve years with the Colours.

Sports.

Things are fairly quiet in all branches. We have a big report on the N.I.D. boxing tournament, in which we had four individual entries; but the tournament being held close on the time for getting notes to H.Q., and wishing to have a photograph of the boxers for publication, we have had to hold over this report until next month.

CHIPPY.



A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, February 18th.

The outstanding event of the month has been the attendance of the unit at the standing camp at Mangho Pir, a desert region about 14 miles from Karachi. Although everyone was kept busy, and night schemes, etc., were carried out (and McEwan's a poor substitute for Steel and Coulson's), it will I think be looked back upon as a pleasant experience and a welcome break in the rather monotonous life of the rest camp. The whole party are returning to-morrow, and are looking forward to a pleasant and deserved short rest.

We hope that the experience gained (although things were not on a very gigantic scale) will prove of value when we attend the forthcoming Quetta Command manœuvres in September or October next.

The result of the "Scissors" cup musketry competition, published this month, show us third amongst the Signal units of India. We can only hope for better luck next time. The most spectacular event of the competition was Barney during the 100 yards up the range, at the high port, in 14 seconds!

Congratulations to Sergt Rhodes on joining the ranks of the benedicts. He might have let us into the secret. Naughty boy, Cecil!

Congratulations also to Sigmn J. Wade on being awarded a 1st class certificate of education.

Our notes must perforce be brief this month owing to lack of news, but we hope that there will be more to record next month.

Promotions.

L/Sergts Fox, Stather and Dawson to be Corporals, Royal Signals.

Postings.

Sergt A. Disbrey to A Divl. Signals, Peshawar.

Signalmen Morris from the United Kingdom.

L/Corpls Murphey, Chandler and Ayres, and Signalmen Millhouse, Clarke, McGilvary, Roulston, Podger, Tanner, Trivett, Sewell, Walker, Murray, Lagden, Richards, Gordon from the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore.

MOLLY.

C Divisional Signals.

Dera Ismail Khan, January.

As our late correspondent has left us for A Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, once more I take up the badge of office for this unit. We commence with a New Year resolution: not to be absent from the pages of THE WIRE during the ensuing year.

We had a very good Christmas dinner: in fact, it was so good that some of them haven't got over it yet. It's a good job it only comes once a year, eh, "Porky"? What price the west country now? Many thanks to the messing committee for their excellent turn-out; the messroom looked quite cosy at 3 a.m. on Boxing Day.

We, with others, regret that E. S. J. H. has left the Corps for civvy street, and we also hope that he will not forget to drop a line or two to THE WIRE now and then, as his cheerful "anecdotes" will be missed by everyone.

[Our correspondent has doubtless, ere now, seen the "Musings in Mufti" by E. S. J. H. in the first two issues of this year. To our great regret we have been compelled by pressure on space (even with extra pages) to hold over No. 3.—ED.]

Our jazz band were getting into their stride just before Christmas, but since then we have heard nothing from them. We were hoping that they would be able to give us a dance, but it does not look as if they will. Perhaps they have not got over their carol playing on Christmas night!

Personal.

Will Sigmn W. Bolton, last heard of in D Company, Maresfield, in 1922, please communicate with Sigmn Hutchinson of this unit?

Congratulations from all ranks of this unit to Sergt Sheale (Yorky) on his marriage.

Arrivals.

R.Q.M.S. May, D.C.M., M.M., arrived from A Divl. Signals. Signalmen Jehan, Chambers, Wilson and Pavey arrived from S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore.

Departures.

Corpls Shiner and Clewlow to A Cavalry Signal Troop and A Divl. Signals respectively (the "locals" are in ruins now, Jack).

Courses.

The following have proceeded on courses as shown: L/Sergt Hay to Small Arms School, Pachmari. Corpl Evelyn to School of P.T., Ambala. Corpl Channel to Army Signal School, Poona. L/Corpl Orford to Army Veterinary School, Ambala.

Promotions and Appointments.

The following L/Corpls have been granted pay of appointment: Iddon, Davis, Fields and Tyler.

D Divisional Signals Marching Past. No. 1: British Ranks. No. 2: Indian Ranks.

Repatriation.

The following embarked on the s.s. "Neuralia" on December 29th: Sergt Parsons, Corpls Rowe and Haynes, L/Corpls Iddon, Baldwin, Tyler, C. E. Smith and Norman, Signalmen Leonard, Sandoe, Elmer, Watson, Beavon, and Deardon.

SPEED.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi, February 23rd.

The chief item of interest this month has been the Pindi Signals annual sports (see Sports Notes). We have made a great improvement in the dismounted events, and we hope to relieve the Corps Signals of the trophy next year. Major F. A. Heyman, who judged the mounted events, made a short speech at the conclusion of the sports, and Mrs. R. V. Montgomery presented the prizes.

As the result of these sports, the combined committee has been able to make selections to represent the Pindi Signals at the forthcoming District tournament.

Successful whist drives are being held weekly in the dining hall, the profits from which go to assist the sports fund of the unit.

On the occasion of the 2nd Battn. K.O.R. Regiment being presented with new Colours by General Sir Claud W. Jacob, G.O.C. Northern Command, we had to furnish a British and Indian detachment for the ceremony.

Manœuvres and camps over, we are now undergoing our annual musketry and riding courses. In the meantime about one quarter of the unit are looking forward to vocational training, which commences next month.

Lieut. F. I. N. McOstrich has joined C Signals for temporary duty.

Sergts Day and Heath, L/Sergt Pope, and Corpl Greenall have left for U.K. on six months' leave.

Congratulations to Sergt Pidgeley on being promoted to C.Q.M.S. (I.U.L.), Sergts Coppack and Heath on their long service medals, Sergt Barnett on his 1st class certificate, and to Corpl McKenna on his appointment as L/Sergeant (I.U.L.).

Congratulations, too, to Lieut F. I. N. McOstrich on winning the 440 yards, and securing second place in the long jump, at the Rawalpindi District athletic tournament.

We also congratulate the Combined Signals on obtaining second place in the team championship competition at the same meeting.

Arrivals.

Sigmen Irvine, Morgan and Tate from the Depot, Jubbulpore.

Departures.

L/Sergt Roe, Signalmen Milne and Smerdon, invalided to United Kingdom.

Extensions.

Signalmen W. Shaw and W. Randall have extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

D SIGS.

E Divisional Signals.

Meerut, February.

Hurrah! Meerut mounted sports are due to function. Yo! ho! and two days' holiday. As regards the above, this unit could not do much, as most men were away at camp. Capt. Winckley gained second place for C.B. polo ponies (he will no doubt add this trophy to his many others), and had exceedingly bad luck in the tent pegging.

A big fall in meat has occurred in this unit. This can be traced to the ride, but one skilled exponent of this noble art considers that he will be better when the jumps commence. Grand National candidates, please observe.

The w.o.s and sergeants held a dance on January 14th, and judging by the soldiers doing "knees bend" by the screen, it was a success. I don't think Percy called it a success, because I noticed some pink and white pyjamas roaming round the bungalow at 0.30 hours and muttering at intervals.

The junior ranks' dance on January 23rd was voted very good, and gained many new recruits to the shrine of Madame Dancing. The ladies retired about 12 p.m., but just as things were getting dull, in strolled one of our officers with a concert party; this livened up things considerably, and so the morning finished as all good things must—but the future is bright with anticipations of an I.M.I.

All troops are now in from their wanderings at Kutwa, and they talk much of the hardships of active service, but the photos enclosed assist us to form our own opinions. The home station wallahs are also in training, and such words as test-panels, separators and instruments must be spoken of with bated breath, or I am afraid the R.A.M.C. will be busy. In fact, schemes are going on at such a rate now as to cause murmurs of "Oh, Catterick! where is thy sting?"

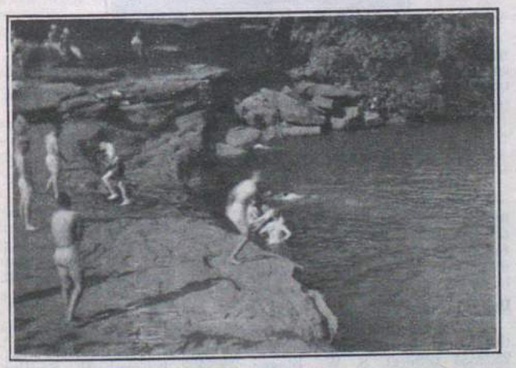
An Army Marches on its Stomach.—Kutwa.

Photo by Sigmn Knight

Any soldier wishing to become an author may now be permitted to take over as E Signals scribe. The main qualification needed is a large stock of imagination. Don't rush, please!

Arrivals.

The unit is pleased to welcome Mrs. Crowe and daughter, and Mrs. Hibberd and son, and hope that their stay in India will be nothing but very pleasant. We also acknowledge receipt of "Long Tom" from the 3rd Signal Section, Cairo (a very tall proposition); Rance and Hayes from Roorkee for training; and Blackstone, Kars, Brindley and Esther from the Depot.



Come on Manœuvres! Some War.—Kutwa.

Photo by Sigmn Knight

Departures.

We regret to say farewell, but the undermentioned are going to leave us for the U.K.: L/Sergt Graystone, Signalmen Reeves, and Thorps. Best of luck! rely on us to buy your bootlaces.

Congratulations.

To Sergts Urquhart ("distinguished" in maths.), Hall and Munn, Corpl Macmillan, and L/Corpl Sabine, on obtaining their 1sts, thereby getting excused afternoon parades. No more will the bungalow ring with the cries of "X, the unknown."

To Sergts Fawl and Hibberd, who passed an S course with the usual honours at Jubbulpore. These are the things which cause the tax-payers' pockets to decrease and E Signals' efficiency to increase. Roll on, these courses! Sweating on one, myself, in 1929—vocational (of) course.

SAB.

G Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, February.

After five weeks of camp life we are once more established in what I suppose we ought to consider more convivial surroundings. This is a matter of opinion, for we all have our likes and dislikes: some day, some of us may even grow tired of heaven.

It is hoped that during our stay at Dhana we were able to please the powers-that-be as far as our technical abilities are concerned. I see no use in saying how we performed our work, the easier way being to summarise it thus: "We did what we were asked to do."

We were denied the pleasure (?) of the return march of 120 miles owing to the prevalence of cholera on the route, and the unit with the exception of the M.T. Section with D.R.s returned by rail. The M.T. Section's performance was one of the most pleasing, the journey being done in good time—a tribute to both machines and riders.

The work of our only Brigade Section was always of first-class order and called for no criticism, but surely it is time someone realised the difficulties of the lower peace establishment.

If one were to attempt all the work required of a Brigade Section of the lower peace order, it would be necessary to have all supermen. We left at camp one Artillery Brigade Section, who remain with the 24th Brigade R.A. for co-operative training. I don't suppose for one moment that they were elated at being left behind; still, theirs is the consolation of knowing that all the fatigues consequent on our return from camp will have been completed before they return. Perhaps!

On the 19th of this month our remaining repatriation wallahs leave the unit en route for Bombay, and from there to England via Catterick. To these people we extend the same good wishes offered to the first party.

These notes seem to ramble from one topic to another. We started off with camp; then switched off on to repatriation; now it's back to camp again, but only to the lighter side of our life there. We must tell you the prize story from camp.

A certain n.c.o. was ordered to Chitauria, at which place he had orders to erect a Signal office with D.H.Q. He pitched his tent and set about his job.

First, like those sea-dogs of old, he nailed his colours (flags distinguishing T.O.) to the mast outside his office. It was to be only a temporary affair until things shook out a bit, and so the flag was put in what was actually half-mast position. He was then visited by his C.O., who noted the flag at half-mast and asked the reason: "Hullo! someone dead?" "No, sir," came the answer; "only half open." This is not fiction, but the plain unvarnished truth!

Our brave "shikhari" wallahs did not function too well at camp. I believe the ammunition was bad. Still, several buck were bagged which made, for those who like it, a welcome change from ration meat. Lieut. Morgan of F Signals (who was attached to us) and one of our Indian officers each bagged a splendid nilgri.

Sergt Marshall had the terrifying experience of bagging an owl, single-handed, and in the daytime at that. This surely requires the attention of the League of Nations!

"Tich" is a very useful man with a gun, but Nature has been very unkind to him, for he owns two dis-engaged eyes and will persist in closing them both when he fires. Try to get out of this habit, youngster! Musketry training is very clear about closing *the* (italics please) disengaged eye.

We have to report with regret the impending departure of Capt. M. Howard-Smith, who sails for England shortly, there to take up an appointment with the Corps. All old members of the unit, and also those who only came to know him since his recent return from England, will join with me in wishing him the best of luck at home.

This snap of the men's dining room on Christmas Day was taken by Sigmn Campain.

Sports news are nil, for the simple reason that most games call for a team of eleven men, and I very much doubt if we have that number in the unit at present. Still, that draft *has* arrived, and who knows but that some of them may come to us.

F. L.

No. 1 (Line) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, February 22nd.

The draft has arrived at last, but this Company has only received seven up to the present. We wish them every success with us.

Our O.C. (Captain A. J. Harris, O.B.E.) has left us for a time to enjoy eight months' leave at home. We all wish him an enjoyable time, and hope to have him back with us in the near future.

Several n.c.o.s and men have also left for Blighty leave. They have all left us unmarried, with sworn vows to remain so. We wonder!

The regimental concert party gave a show on the 8th inst., and as the proceeds were for the central sports fund a large gathering turned up. Some very good numbers were given, and were greatly appreciated by the audience.

B LINE SIGS.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, February 4th.

Some wonderful things *have* happened, and some wonderful things *will* happen; but the most wonderful of all is notes from No. 2 (Wireless) Company for THE WIRE. Anyway, our intentions are good, and every endeavour will be made in future to send a few items of interest monthly.

General.

By the time these notes are published a number of n.c.o.s and men will have left the Company for Blighty, either to settle down in civilian life or to spend a few months' leave in the "dear old homeland."

We wish the former the very best of luck, and the latter a very happy vacation. May they come back full of vim to carry on the duties of those who are on the verge of a "nervous breakdown" (due to hard (?) work) and anxiously awaiting their turn for a rest in the "land of Eng."

Of course, vim will be out of the question if they insist on spending a certain amount of their time in Paris, after the manner of a certain "Paris wallah" whose name need not be mentioned, but is one of four letters, the first L and the last E (now then, crossword puzzle experts)—because Paris *is* a gay city nowadays, isn't it. L—E?

Sports.

We have had a revival in sports, and numerous converts have been reported. It has been said that F Company at Catterick will be put in the shade when we get "cracking," so look out, F, for some startling reports from *us* in the near future!

Mention must be made of the splendid example of sportsmanship shown by our sergt.-major, C.S.M. Saunders, in entering for various branches of sport, even the 5 miles cross-country run, and great credit will be due to him when we have some records to show.

Arrivals.

A hearty welcome is extended to the five n.c.o.s and 44 men who recently arrived from the S.T.C. (India), Jubbulpore. The party included some who had recently been drafted from F Company, Catterick.

Technical.

The light motor (wireless) car, with its frame aerial, has proved very successful, especially during the recent manœuvres. The C set is used in conjunction with this car. The frame aerial

was invented by Capt. Beedon of this Company, and great credit is due to him for the highly efficient working of this type of mobile set. The photograph shows the aerial in position, ready for use.

C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Risalpur, February 11th.

Owing to the departure to U.K. of nine B.O.R.s out of the unit's small establishment of 26, we have been fairly quiet on the Risalpur front for the past month. However, we are hoping for the arrival of a draft in the near future. We trust that most of them are budding cavalrymen; if not, they soon will be when the T.S.M. gets hold of them.

Departures.

The following n.c.o.s and men have left us for transfer to the Army Reserve, and we wish them all success in civil life: 2309333 L/Sergt S. W. Blogg; 2309402 F/Corpl H. Smith; 2309557 Sigmn J. Cook; 2309332 Sigmn S. W. Euing; 1850297 Sigmn W. Lardner; 2308736 Sigmn R. Webber; 2311375 Sigmn V. Evans; 2309713 Sigmn R. Hewer; 2310543 Sigmn P. Tricker.

At present, owing to the rumour in the Troop that the dole can only be drawn between the hours of 5 and 6 a.m., there is a great rush to extend for 12 years' service!

Arrivals.

We extend a hearty welcome to 2310884 L/Sergt Nicholson from F Divl. Signals, Kohat, and to 1421103 Gunner G. Harris and 1040087 Sigmn A. E. Cardell from S.T.C., Jubbulpore. We trust their stay with us will be long and pleasant.

C CAVSIGS.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Signal Section have started the New Year in good style, and Q.M.S. Roberts' good resolution seems to be "Top rate men for me." A series of interesting lectures are given each week, when the "Mysteries of Electricity and Magnetism" are expounded. We trust the outcome will be more dibs for the lucky ones.

Congratulations

To R.S.M.s Lawrence and Anderson on their recent promotion (from old Rhinelanders).

Arrival.

All ranks of Royal Signals extend a hearty welcome to Major Alabaster, R.E., who has taken over command of the 40th Coy. R.E. A very pleasant sojourn, sir.

Matrimonial Cricket.

Corpl Bowler c Miss L. Peachman b Cupid 0

The above match was played at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, on the morning of February 9th, 1926.

Personal.

Sigmn Harris, late of Eastern Command Signal Company, wishes to be remembered to all of that unit.

Of course, I don't mind if I *do* receive one or two letters from old friends.

Section Tit-Bit.

"Get on with yer stuff" (only applies to ham wallers).

CAN DO.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

It has hitherto been customary for notes from North China to be included in those from Hong Kong, so we trust our friends there will not take exception to our recording, as a separate unit, the doings of the Corps representatives in this land of wars and rumours of wars.

The new draft which came out in November per H.M.T. "Derbyshire" had to get down to work right away, as within a fortnight of their arrival fighting was in progress which culminated, some three weeks later, in the capture of Tientsin by Chinese National forces.

More than two miles of our telegraph line were cut out, and communication with Tientsin had to be carried on solely by wireless. For the benefit of those who look on long-suffering "wirelessops" as being fairly harmless but altogether useless, we would mention that during the above period some 18,000 words were dealt with on two antiquated 120-watt sets—and this in spite of almost constant working by four local high-power spark stations.

Sport of any kind is practically non-existent, and our only recreation is skating. A big rink has been erected in the Legation, and a nominal subscription of 2 dollars enables us to borrow skates from the East Yorkshire Regiment. As an alternative to this rink there is the Winter Palace, where one has access to a lake some acres in extent. Unfortunately, owing to a comparatively mild winter (on only two or three occasions has the thermometer been down to zero), the skating season is now almost finished.

We hope soon to be able to forward a few photographs which may be of interest to readers. The Section is only four strong, and consequently very few WIRE readers will ever be called upon to slave in this, the most remote of all stations.

W. H. P.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani, January 27th.

Great excitement prevailed on the 3rd inst., the occasion being the arrival from Hong Kong of the s.s. "City of Cairo," but alas! we missed one face we were looking forward to seeing, that of our old friend, Bro. Willie. What do you mean by it, Bill, after preparing the chapel, too! Amongst the Royal Signals, only one of the "same old faces" was to be seen, Soofoo to wit. We sincerely hope the rumour that the ship has gone down is not true, but that the lads are now enjoying a well-earned leave in Blighty.

Enquiries keep reaching the U.C. as to the health, whereabouts, etc., of Sigmn Charlie Gurling, late of this unit. Not being in a position to reply to these with any accuracy, we would be much obliged if the U.C. informed ones can enlighten us (thank you!) How about Chelsea now, Charlie?

Promotions.

Congratulations to the following on the attainment of the ranks mentioned:—Corpls W. Horan and C. G. Adams, 20/7/25; L/Corpl (paid) W. A. Hall, 20/7/25; and A/U/L/Corpl C. Bond, 20/1/25.

Personal.

L/Corpl Bob Hall wishes to return Corpl Jimmie Mill's congratulations, and reports that Tishy is evidently hiding his blushes and watching points. Wake up, Charlie!

2314611 Sigmn Anderson would like to hear from Sigmn Darky Denton—evidently a lax correspondent.

OLIVE.

The Corps in Egypt.

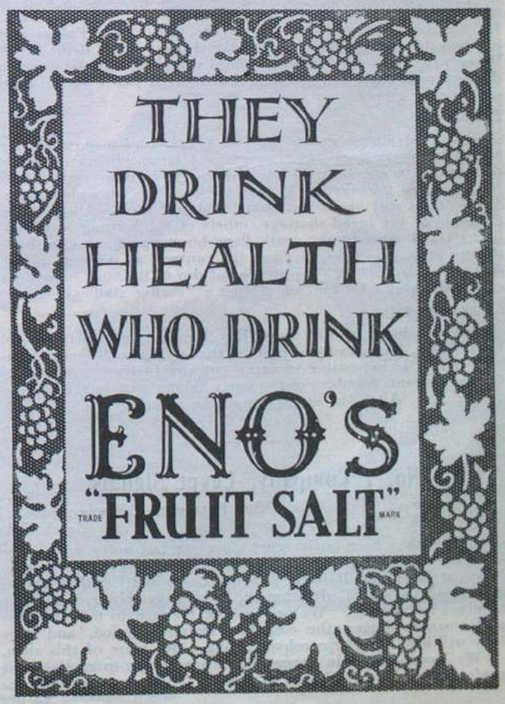
Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo,
March 4th.

Departures.

Lieuts. J. R. Patten and H. E. M. Swan, Royal Signals, left us for U.K. on February 8th, having completed the tour of five years in the East. One and all join in wishing each of these officers "all the best."

Discharges.

L/Sergt (Joe) King took his departure into civvy street during February, having completed 18 years' service with the Colours.



ABDULLA

SUPERB

CIGARETTES

TURKISH EGYPTIAN VIRGINIA

He has secured employment with the Cairo City Police, and can now be seen scorching along the Avenue de la Reine Nazli in company with a "Triumph" and a notebook, endeavouring to dig out road-hogs, etc. Best of luck, Joe! Don't be *too* hard on the poor gippos.

Training.

Brigade training is now in full swing, and manœuvres are about to emerge from the "wings." A large number of Signal personnel are on vacation at Mena and Helwan camps, and judging from information received they are having a great time. There seems only *one* thing wrong, and that's *everything*. Some complain of the bread shortage, others of the housing accommodation; and some bright youth flaps his wings because he finds it impossible to get "sossled" in the canteen, as positions at the counter are booked right up to the last day of training. I wonder somebody hasn't thought of getting a "corffee stall" going.

Entertainments.

The producer of the Morse-Key-Toes concert party, Corpl Tich White, has asked me to state that owing to Brigade training, etc., it is impossible to carry out any further engagements for the present, members of the party taking part in the various struggles. "After the storm comes the calm" sort of thing.

BEN.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Red Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.
March 3rd.

Things have been fairly quiet since our last notes, as we now have detachments away for the manœuvres. We have detachments at Mena and Helwan with the Cairo and Canal Brigades, and also the Cable detachment, which greatly reduces our numbers in barracks. We are looking forward to news of their performances during the collective training period, and hope they will keep the Corps colours flying. But more of this anon.

We have started in earnest, and are trying to emulate the performance of the Signals at home. There are no tanks for us to capture in Egypt, but we are endeavouring to do the next best thing, and our captures to date are a detachment of cavalry bagged by the personnel of No. 1 C set detachment. But will n.c.o.s i/c detachments please note that when setting out to capture prisoners, it is advisable to remove the breech covers from their rifles.

We are all very pleased to hear of the continued success of the Training Battalion in the Army cup football competition, and wish them the best of luck in the next round. We have heard a rumour that a certain Scot in the middle line of the defence treated himself to a ginger after defeating the R.A.S.C., but it is discredited by the Corps in Egypt. Perhaps the Parson could supply more information on this important subject.

The attention of Barleux is directed to an article on kit inspections, compiled by one of the scribes of this unit. But please note that it is not customary in this country to carry a complete kit on the back of a lady's cycle.

A jazz band has now been formed in the unit, consisting of three members of the Corps and a gunner from the R.H.A., and they perform in the canteen to the enjoyment of all concerned. One person was heard to remark that "it was a dead loss in the canteen now, as the jazz band made every night the same as a pay night." We wonder what he meant!

N.C.O.s Mess.

C.S.M. Jeffery and Sergt Donaghy wish to be remembered to all acquaintances (military only) in the Rhine Signals, and wish me to state that they have successfully weathered their three years' sojourn in this clime.

Felicitations to Corpl and Mrs. Jennison on the birth of their son and heir Peter Allan (Polyopolis) at Abbassia on February 11th. Rumour has it that Jenn has already started teaching his son football, but personally I do not believe it. Perhaps Jenn will verify.

Will the correspondent of the Aldershot Command Signal Company please note that the Bishop of Ash is firmly established in Cairo now. It is uncertain whether he is known to the Cairo City Police or not, but he is well known to Messrs. Younger. It is also understood that he has found some civilian friends in Cairo, as he frequently goes to town. We do not know his ultimate destination, but we know that he leaves the trams at Opera Square, *probably* to proceed to the Soldiers' Home in Ezbekieh Gardens.

A. E. B.

Obituary.

It is with profound regret that we record the death of 2315803 Sigmn W. M. White, who was killed on February 11th as the result of a tragic accident when out with the Cable Section.

He was popularly known as "Blanco," and will be remembered by many throughout the Corps as the clever outside right of the Corps team at home which did so well in the Sussex competitions, and also for his performances in the athletic team when he represented the Battalion in the Army team championships at Tidworth in 1925. He was an "ever present" with E Company athletic team when that unit won the inter-Company championship last year.

He came to Egypt with the draft which left Catterick on December 4th last, and on arrival in Cairo found his place in the Corps soccer team immediately.

Needless to say, the news of the accident came as a great blow to the members of the Corps in Egypt.

The funeral was attended by eight officers, including the C.S.O., Col. H. L. Mackworth, C.M.G., D.S.O., and a large number of Signals personnel and representatives from the Royal Engineers. Ten wreaths were received from various branches of the Corps in Egypt, and one from the 2nd Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to his family in their bereavement.

A photograph of the late Sigmn White, and some snaps taken at various stages of the funeral, are reproduced opposite.

The late Signalman W. M. White, No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Snapshots of the Funeral taken by L/Corpl Wales.

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Kit Inspection.

If you are "an old sweat"—that is to say, if you have been in the Army for more than three weeks—you will be familiar with those chatty little paragraphs which appear in Daily Orders from time to time. Nice literary little things they are, brief and therefore (since brevity is the soul of wit) witty also. They appear something like this:—

Para. 301. Parades.

There will be a Kit Inspection in the Barrack Room at 14.00 hours on the 6th inst. *No exemptions.*

How exactly you receive this news will depend on the length of your service. If you have less than six months' service, your kit will still preserve much of its pristine freshness. Six months and over, though, and it will begin to look a trifle dog-eared and dilapidated.

The first thing to do is to get it out and have a look at it. To do this, loosen the string and invert the kit bag over a bed, preferably someone else's. The force of gravity will then come into action, and the kit will leave the bag en bloc. If the last kit inspection took place more than three months earlier, it will be advisable to keep your mouth shut during this operation; otherwise the resultant cloud of dust may irritate the delicate membranes of the throat.

The next thing to do is to find a full kit. There are several ways of attaining this:—

(A) Make a list of what you've got, and subtract it from what you should have.

(B) Find out what you should have, and subtract it from what you've got.

(C) Go to the Quartermaster and say, "I want a kit."

I recommend the last method as being the easiest procedure.

Now, having obtained as much kit as possible, you must then obtain a kit-plate. Army kit-plates are designed by humorous artists such as W. Heath Robertson or Mr. Drake. Every article on them is folded so neatly and with such impossible precision that I cannot arrive at any other conclusion. Of course you may be situated in a place where they have photographic kit-plates, in which case you are even more unlucky, because (acting on the principle that "what man has done, man can do") the Inspecting Officer will point to the photograph and enquire coldly, "If he could do it, why can't you?"

In any case, having studied the kit-plate carefully for half-an-hour, proceed to lay the kit down in your own way, paying due regard to that golden maxim, "make the minimum amount of kit occupy the maximum amount of space." Care should, however, be taken in folding woollen articles like socks or cardigans; otherwise the holes may show. It is not considered barrack-room etiquette to exhibit any cutlery that has been branded with the N.A.A.F.I. stamp, as the best people go elsewhere for such articles.

Then, of course, you will require a piece of soap, as you will be unable to use the piece you usually wash with, as your bedmate will require it to show himself. A good plan to obtain soap is to go and sing outside the cook-house until the cook throws something at you in self-defence. Pray heaven that it will be a chunk of Quartermaster's Erasmic; but be ready to dodge, as it is just as likely to be a dixie-lid or a soup-ladle.

Having finally got your kit laid out to your own satisfaction, you will light a cigarette, whereupon the orderly sergeant (who has been waiting for this moment) will shout "Stand to your beds." This means that the Inspecting Officer will be around within the next hour. When he arrives, you will be put down for half a kit, and will undergo stoppage of pay for a month or so. It's a great game!

J. H. F.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, Feb. 28th.

Since our last notes appeared, a total of 174 other ranks have become members of the Signals Association and subscribers to THE WIRE. This is an increase of approximately 140 on the previous month.

A large number of the Company are now on a three weeks' camp in the desert, participating in the annual Brigade training and manœuvres. They will endeavour to emulate the feat of a certain Aldershot Signal Section should any spare tanks be about.

Lieut. J. R. Patten, M.C., left here for U.K. per H.M.T. "Nevassa" on February 7th. The good wishes of the Company go with him for the best of good luck in his new station.

The Company was well represented at the funeral of the late Sigmn W. M. White, of No. 1 Company Egypt Signals.

Sigmn Wright (he of the million-dollar smile) has at last detached himself from Polyglon W/T Station and returned to the Company for duty. He has had a long sojourn among the pigeons, teaching them the way to fly, etc., and we feel sure they will miss his smile at "water and feed" times. For the information of old members of the Company, his new set of molars was safely installed some time last month. What actually happened to the previous set is very hard to say: they disappeared during that hectic period of Christmas Day, but whether he swallowed them or coughed them up during those joyful hours, he doesn't know. One thing he *is* sure of, and that is that the pigeons haven't got them, as there was no trace in the milk the next morning.

Will No. 2314424 Sigmn S. J. Rose kindly communicate with a former half-back in Sigmn S. J. Rouse, of this unit? Sigmn Rose was last heard of in Jubbulpore.

Sigmn P. C. Harmsworth would like to hear from Sigmn Jack Norcup, late of this unit, last heard of in 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.

The F.A. cup competition for 1926 has been the cause of many arguments in the barrack-rooms on the merits of the respective teams, particularly of Millwall and Southampton, and it is reported that a huge (?) sum of money changed hands over the defeat of the Lions by Swansea Town.

A particularly strong supporter of the Villa (I nearly said Walsall), after their draw with the Arsenal at Villa Park, must have known what the result of the replay was going to be, as he failed to put in an appearance when the Gazette arrived with the news of the Arsenal's victory, and (like Brer Rabbit) lay low and said nuffin'. The occupants of his room did not fail to let him know that *they* knew the result, however, when he eventually did return. I will not mention the name of this staunch supporter of the Villa, or that team's officials will be having a benefit match played for him—though I will admit that he comes from Walsall, does Orderly Corporal's duties occasionally, works in the C.Q.M.S. stores, and is well known by the call of "Nobbie"—so it's no use whatever anyone trying to guess who it is, as I cannot be bribed.

The orderly room and O.C.'s office have been transferred from their old position in Zafaran Barracks to fresh quarters in 1911 buildings, pending the final move into the new barracks some time next June. The present position of the orderly room is A.1, with a canteen right outside the window, "Daphne" in particular being in his element. It's a jolly good thing that cocoa and coffee are non-intoxicating liquors; otherwise I'm afraid Daphne would have a record for "drunks," and a new orderly would have to be indented for. His appetite for these refreshing fluids is amazing: no wonder the wallah in charge of the stall smiles and rubs his hands when he sees Daphne appear on the horizon.

With reference to the query of Barleux in the February issue on the attractions of the land of the Pharaohs, perhaps the following would be of some informative value.

Football results do not reach here *correctly* for eight days.

A week-end pass won't reach "the smoke."

Garlic doesn't smell nice.

"Akkas" don't last so long as pennies. N.B.: an akka is a piastre worth 2½d. (sometimes). Don't say "tips."

A clear blue sky and blazing sunshine really get monotonous at times; a drop of real *Catterick* (or Bulford, if you like) rain, hail, snow and mud *might* be welcomed by some.

Every time you go to the Pyramids or the Sphinx, you meet the direct descendants of Moses or Abraham, who are terribly anxious to tell your fortune—all, of course, after you have crossed their palm with silver.

When you go to the pictures out here, where practically all foreign films are screened, a separate screen is erected at the side of the main one for the translation into English of any wording that appears during the film. You usually get the translation for a later part of the picture appearing at the beginning, something like this. The translation says: "The bloodthirsty redskins do their terrible war dance round the bodies of the pale-faces," whilst the screen depicts the hero calmly eating ice-cream in a New York bar or something equally exciting.

A great deal of Cairo being out of bounds to troops, one has to travel direct to Cairo from Abbassia by tram or bus, and Egyptian buses are not exactly the acme of comfort. They are built to carry about sixteen passengers, but they usually get about sixty aboard, to say nothing of the bootblacks having a buckshee ride on the back. Instances have been recorded where certain buses have reached Cairo without breaking down, but these conveyances are now in the Cairo Museum along with King "Tut" and other rarities.

Swimming is one of the attractions during the hot summer months, and the open-air baths at Heliopolis are well patronised by the troops. Beware, when taking a dive and you come up breathless just as a gippo does, that he is not facing you, or he may let his breath out just as you are gasping yours in. Phew! the "niff" of garlic needs to be experienced to be appreciated. The "lure of the East" and the "magic of the East" should be associated with the "smell of the East," as you cannot have the first two without the third.

There are a lot more attractions that could be given, but I hope the above will be enough to go on with for this month. Perhaps Barleux would be good enough to state a few counter attractions.

ART.

Sweet Breath
and a Clean Mouth

Wrigley's sweetens the breath because it pushes out and flushes away particles of food from between the teeth, and cleanses the mouth by the delightful antiseptic action of its flavour.

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This is why so many people of refinement now use Wrigley's after every meal.

EGGA
WRIGLEY'S
P.K. P.K.—1° and SPEARMINT 3°

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, March 1st.

I must apologise for our non-appearance in last month's WIRE. My excuse is a most excellent one, but it will not bear the light of publication. We were also suffering from the after-effects of gathering in the annual subscriptions from subscribers.

On January 3rd, C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Simmonds entertained the H.Q. detachment of this Section to a dinner and social evening. This detachment possesses some very fine trenchermen, and Mrs. Simmonds took on a hefty job in feeding them. She however came out with flying colours, and the dinner was a great success. L/Corpl H. Horsey, complete with banjo, and other Section "stars," entertained us during the evening. I almost forgot Miss Mollie Simmonds on the piano! We take this opportunity to thank C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Simmonds for a most enjoyable evening.

I was, for a month, promoted "acting assistant lineman," and was able to see quite a lot of Bermuda during my tour of duty. Incidentally, I was introduced to our "Heath Robinson" line (H.Q. to Warwick Camp) quite early on, and had perforce to visit that district frequently. Whether I or the line suffered most from these visits, I refer you to Corpl Gale.

Sigmn Gilkes has returned to the fold from Boaz Island, where he spent three delightful months.

We have received from the South China Command Section a letter of greeting, for which we tender many thanks.

The finish of the soccer and hockey matches finds us in the middle of each league. We improved on last season's hockey, but have gone down on the soccer.

Before compiling these notes, I asked for news of our St. Georges detachment. They replied, "We have had a new indicator put in the switchboard." Oh! Chicko and Co., does nothing *ever* happen at St. George's; or is life just one darn day after another?

Notice to all R/T friends: At 6.30 p.m. (Bermuda time) look out for Station "B E R–Bermuda!—the land of the sky blue water, broadcasting on 210 metres" (using 15 watts power and complete with Yankee accent).

This Month's Agonies.

Sigmn Hughes would like to hear from Sigmn W. Denby, late of Spike Island, now believed to be in Cairo.

Sigmn Sayers would like to hear from Sigmn C. B. Johnson, late of E Company (I.R. "ilk.")

Sigmn Dusty Rhodes sends best wishes to G Section, Bulford.

Best regards to Sigmn Purcell, of Hong Kong, who was once in No. 2 Squad with

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Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, March 14th.

In response to clamorous appeals from all parts of the—I was going to say Empire, it sounds better—above units, I again commit myself to the burning of midnight oil and tobacco in performance of this task which the late correspondent has so successfully wangled on to me.

The article describing "Who, what and how we are," as demanded in last month' issue, will be published next month, so secure your copy early by registering your name with the sales manager to avoid disappointment.

To come back to ourselves and reality, everyone for a change seems to have something to do. The morning riders sally forth booted and spurred, but quite a lot come back with sore feet. The linemen classes have erected a network of lines that trap the unwary and garrot the unready. From the W/T class-room, where operators (line) such in knowledge thirstily, issue forth hoots, strange sounds, and wild-eyed instructors who seek solace.

For the benefit of the unwise, the party of n.c.o.s who recently gave weird exhibitions with long ropes were not rehearsing for a rodeo, skipping, or a Houdini performance, but merely solving the query "Why is a piece of string?" Their abrupt disappearance was not due to modesty, but owing to symptoms of brain fever on the part of the instructors. We look forward to their renewal.

The event of the day, of course, is the guard-mounting. We hope we shall have accommodation for the numbers who will undoubtedly visit us to receive a few tips on how it should be done. It is aptly termed "the horse-trough manœuvres," owing to the proximity of that useful article, around which the lads march to reach the desired point. To become familiar with the necessary movements entails much furtive swotting, and those concerned have been seen taking copious notes whilst pretending to read the fire orders.

The social functions are taking place with pleasing regularity, though we should like to see the concert party a little more forward. A little more pep, and assistance from those who *can* give it, would be welcome. Apropos the rehearsal hours, of what use will it be to attempt to give a show when the rehearsing can only be done during the institute opening hours (when the place is full).

In response to the request for the name of a horse from the Artillery Section (8th Brigade) stables for the National, enquiry has resulted in the information that each one is capable—but the cost of sending it and the fear of breaking its neck stand in the way, though the drivers have offered to subscribe to send *the lot.*

Senior N.C.O's Mess.

Up to the present the members have had little chance of entertaining. They gave a show to the Royal Engineers, who were so pleased with it that it was with difficulty they were persuaded to go home.

On the occasion of our football cup tie against the 1st Manchesters, they showed pleasing support and hired a charabanc in which the mess turned out strongly to give the team encouragement. Vile weather rather spoiled the outing.

The St. Patrick's Ball on the 17th promises to be everything that the mess has the reputation for in the Garrison.

PETRUS.

26th and 27th Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies.

97 Horseferry Road, Westminster, S.W.1.
March 16th.

The last month has been a very quiet one for us, our time having been taken up chiefly by lectures and practical training in preparation for the Trade Board.

We are looking forward to two week-end camps in May and June. Judging from the way the preliminary announcement has been received, we should have a good muster.

Annual Training.

The annual training will be held this year at Manston (in war-days a R.N.A.S. station) midway between Margate and Ramsgate—the 27th Company from July 25th to August 8th, and the 26th Company from August 22nd to September 5th.

Dance.

A very successful dance was held on Friday, March 12th, and all present had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Marriage.

We tender our heartiest congratulations to Capt. A. Hemsley on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Edith Potter. We sincerely trust that his new venture will not in any way interfere with his attendances at headquarters.

Birth.

Congratulations to Major H. Carter on being presented with his third son.

ACK ACK ESSES.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

The most important event during the past month has been the "n.c.o.s week," which took place here from the 1st to 6th March. The number mustered close upon thirty, and a most instructive and enjoyable week was spent.

On the Friday the usual dinner took place, and as usual it was a great success. If the n.c.o.s couldn't make a good "show" on an occasion like this, we should begin to wonder!

Speech-making was not such a feature in the proceedings this time as on former occasions, but it was quite evident that regret that the adjutant was in the last year of his time with us was widespread. We will not "write him up" yet, however, because we don't want him to break down before camp!

We hear that Weymouth will be the place this year for that, and the selection will undoubtedly be very popular with the boys.

The strength of the unit gradually increases. Nos. 1 and 2 Companies are doing well—the former is only five off full strength, and the latter still keeps at full strength notwithstanding the normal wastage. No. 3 is coming along, and steady progress is being made at Plymouth.

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

There is not much to write about this month, though we are still carrying on, and training is proceeding apace. Our weekly Saturday dances, as usual, are attracting a merry gathering, thanks to our energetic committee and the unit dance band.

We are spending Easter (from 2nd to 5th April) at Haywards Heath, and hope to have as pleasant and instructive a time as on our previous visits there.

On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, a grand carnival dance is being held by the unit in the drill hall.

On Friday, March 26th, a smoker takes place in the sergeants' mess, when we shall say farewell to our worthy R.S.M. B Brown, who will shortly be leaving us for civvy life. We all join in wishing him the best of luck, and trust his desires will be attained.

Our deepest sympathy is tendered to our adjutant (Capt. Firth) and his wife in the loss of their daughter.

A. C. A.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, March 15th.

All ranks are pleased to hear that our commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. W. Fox Bruce, D.S.O., M.C., has been granted an extension of his command for a further period of a year. We believe this creates a record, he having commanded the unit since 1916. We sincerely hope that he will continue to serve in this capacity for many more years.

We offer our congratulations to the following: Capts. R. G. Browning and A. E. Desmond, M.B.E., T.D., on passing their promotion examination for Major; 2/Lieut W. Rhind on obtaining his certificate "A"; and C.Q.M.S. Elms on adding a bar to his T.E. medal.

All ranks of this unit, and all members of the Corps, will be sorry to hear that we are losing R.S.M. Gray, M.M. This is a

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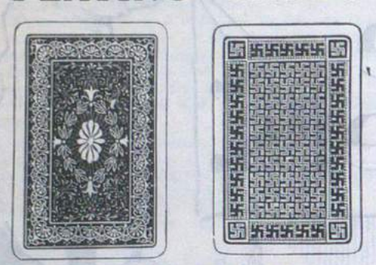

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great blow to the unit. We are certain that there has never been a warrant officer who has been held in such high esteem and respect by officers, w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men alike.

He has created a record for a regular soldier attached to a Territorial unit, having served with us for 18 years. He was the first permanent staff instructor the unit had on the formation of the Territorial Army in 1908. He nursed it through its infancy, trained it and fought with it during the late war, and was its backbone during the difficult period of post-war reorganisation. He has always been ready to help anyone at all times.

We all wish him the very best of health, luck, prosperity and happiness when he enters civvy street, and can assure him that he will always find a hearty welcome at these headquarters.

Annual Dinner.

The unit annual dinner was held at the Central Mess, Duke of York's Headquarters, on February 19th. It was well attended. The commanding officer and many other officers were present. The regimental dance band played during the dinner, after which there was a short interval, followed by an excellent concert. All ranks voted the evening a great success, and wish to congratulate the committee on their arrangements.

W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s Dinner.

The sixth annual dinner was held on Saturday, March 6th, and as usual was a great success. After partaking of a very excellent dinner, during which we were entertained with pianoforte duets by Miss Betty Marbowe and Mr. Reg. Cross, R.S.M. Gray, M.M., proposed "The King," which was received in the usual Signal way.

"The Officers" was proposed by Sergt Moorse, who said nice things about them and also told an excellent story (many n.c.o.s have taken this to heart, and several have turned up in the mess lately with their hair covered in brilliantine).

The president, C.Q.M.S. Elms, in proposing the next toast, extended a hearty welcome to the visitors, and invited mess members of the late 1st Middlesex R.E. Volunteers (whom we consider our mother regiment) and the 25th County of London Cyclists to become life members of the mess. On behalf of all members of the mess, he offered his thanks to the hon. sec. C.Q.M.S. Bolton, for the excellent arrangements for the evening. In conclusion, he mentioned that he enrolled in the 1st Middlesex R.E. Volunteers in 1904, and was very pleased to see their late R.S.M. (Mr. Eyles) present, coupling his name with the toast.

Mr. Eyles responded in a very spirited manner, and referred to old times when our present Colonel and R.S.M. first joined us, declaring that he had predicted that both gentlemen would reach the top of the tree. To-day his predictions were fulfilled.

The outstanding event of the evening was the presentation of a gold watch and chain to R.S.M. Gray by mess members. This was carried out, on behalf of the mess, by Col. Gilbertson Smith, T.D.—our honorary colonel. In a few well-chosen words he thanked R.S.M. Gray for the work he had carried out in the unit.

The R.S.M., responding, assured the n.c.o.s that without their assistance he could not have carried out his work, and thanked them all for the way they had pulled together.

During the evening the company were entertained by the "Irresponsibles" concert party under the able management of Mr. F. L. Meloy (and very nice, too!) The proceedings closed with "Auld lang syne" and "The King," after which all adjourned to headquarters, where a dance was in progress.

Shooting.

On January 12th we fired against the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, on the miniature range at Scotland Yard.

We lost by 21 points, the scores being 535 and 556 respectively. We later gave them a return match at our headquarters, and beat them by 5 points, the scores being 610 against 605.

Our team consisted of Lieut.-Col. Bruce, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut Joseph, R.S.M. Gray, M.M., C.S.M. Gillin, C.Q.M.S. Bolton, Sergt Marshall, and Sergt Dormon.

Birth.

We hear that our latest infant, who first saw the light of day at Greenwich on February 19th, is flourishing and getting quite a big boy—in other words, No. 4 Section of No. 2 Company.

LEMJAY.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and S.R.

Glasgow.

"Jug Beer" having been taken to task for sins of omission, two assistants (one from the T.A. and one from the S.R.) were appointed to supply him with suitable matter for these notes.

So far "not a sound was heard," and in the hope that the aforesaid "reporters" will get a jerk into it next month, the above heads this month's notes.

We welcome two new officers to the S.R. in Lieut. Anderson and 2/Lieut Rankin. May they be as happy with us as their welcome is hearty.

All ranks much regret the departure on March 2nd of 2/Lieut Ian Anderson, who has gone out to Nigeria to mine tin. At a farewell dinner held at headquarters, a suitable memento was presented to Mr. Anderson.

A hearty welcome is extended to Sergt Wyllie, from D Coy. From what we hear, he is an acquisition to our very excellent permanent staff.

Recruiting has been going on steadily during the winter, the S.R. now being at full strength, and the T.A. almost full. This is very gratifying, and there will be few dull moments when Spring training starts on April 7th. V/T and W/T courses now running are being well attended; and the riding school, of course, is full on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The training book for this year is just out. The amount of information, etc., contained therein reflects great credit on our adjutant, Capt. Beatson-Bell, and his permanent staff.

JUG BEER.

Edinburgh (G.P.O.) Detachment.

Training.

Training has now commenced, and it is to be hoped that everyone will do his best to attend regularly and become efficient in the various branches of signalling.

Signalling Course.

We have just completed a 60-hour course of general signalling, and all the men who attended show signs of general improvement.

Arrivals.

A steady stream of promising recruits is flowing in. We extend a hearty welcome to C.S.M. Dickinson of the permanent staff, who has taken up his abode in our midst. He has been stationed in the west of Scotland, and now comes east to teach the young idea to signal and to "sodger."

Departures.

Since camp a few men have left Edinburgh for pastures new. London, Leicester and the Argentine claiming one each. Good luck! au revoir!

AULD REEKIE.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff.

It is many months since the last notes from this unit appeared in THE WIRE. We proffer no excuse, except (of course) that we work so hard in the T.A. that we have little time to write! However, now we are back again we hope we have come to stay.

This training season has already seen a good deal of work put in. In fact, many of our keenest members have already exceeded the full number of obligatory drills, and are now putting in the work that counts more than anything else—because done for pride in the unit, and not because it is compulsory.

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The most successful innovation of the year has been that of voluntary rides for n.c.o.s held on Saturday afternoons. Many n.c.o.s have attended these rides, on which, in addition to instruction in horsemanship, lessons in map reading (and according to rumour, table skittles!) have been given by the permanent staff w.o.s.

A course of lectures on the organisation and administration of the modern Division and of Divisional Signals have also been arranged for n.c.o.s, the Adjutant and R.S.M. being the lecturers.

The first of our week-end courses was held on 13th/14th and 20th/21st February, and an attendance of over 250 of all ranks showed how such opportunities are appreciated. Some very useful work was carried out, but wave-meters are only mentioned when the W/T Section are out of hearing.

Certain changes in Company commands have taken place, and we now have Capt. Seel, M.C., as O.C. No. 3 Company, Capt. Trice O.C. of No. 2, and Lieut Arnold commanding No. 1.

Congratulations to Lieut. K. C. Cooper and 2/Lieut L. Howard-Jones on certificate A, and to the former also on that second pip!

The officers' annual dinner was held at the drill hall on February 13th, and despite the unlucky date there were no casualties.

After several changes and amendments, it seems fairly settled that Porthcawl is to be the site of our camp this year, and it is a popular choice. After our adventurous trip to the Isle of Man last year, we feel that after all there's no place like home. No doubt some of our "Douglas dandies" will miss the Lancashire lasses.

Our W/T Section has quite a lot to say for itself since it got into touch with Liverpool (55th W.L. Divl. Signals) and Birmingham (48th South Midland Divl. Signals), the other night. Wave-meters will soon be a thing of the past!

THE LEEK.

Athletic Doings at the S.T.C., Catterick.

Time draws on apace! Spring is now with us—the denizens of Catterick Camp—and it is to be hoped that the weather will become fairly fine. I think, under such conditions, Vimy, Kemmel, Baghdad, and Messines Lines will be very pleasant abodes of work and sport.

The new S.T.C. ground is now finished, and we hope to perform on it in the near future. If all goes well, May will see us using it very heavily. Perhaps a few words about it may interest "listeners-in" in foreign climes, and those who may shortly be coming to Catterick.

The ground is a beautifully level piece (made up, of course) 200 yards square. This gives sufficient room for two soccer and one rugby pitch, or one each for soccer, rugby and hockey. In the centre is a 30 yard square upon which that luxury, marl, has been deposited, and a good cricket wicket seems assured, which in time will no doubt excel the fine one on the village green at Maresfield. The only drawback to the ground is its very exposed position, situated as it is on the highest land in the S.T.C. lines, with absolutely no protection from the piercing winds experienced in this part of the world.

Congratulations to Signals, Egypt, on being runners-up in the Egyptian Command boxing tournament. Their opponents were the Royal Irish Fusiliers, old friends of the T.B. We know them to be a very hot team, and hope that now Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond have joined them boxing will flourish, and that 1927 will see Signals, Egypt, the champions in that part of the world. Congratulations to Wheeler on his early successes in Cairo! May he, like Tennyson's brook, go on for ever. Sigmn Richmond will no doubt come into his own shortly, and then look out, "ye Egyptian bantams."

BOXING.

In the fourth round of the Army inter-unit team championship, and also in the final of the Northern Command, as you know, the T.B. were victors. So for the fifth round, we are due to meet the winners of the 2nd Leicesters—3rd Tank Battalion, this affair being the final of the Eastern Command. The venue is not yet decided, but we are all hoping for Catterick.

The house for T.B. v. D.B. was very good, and the hall was filled to overflowing. A local firm of sardine packers had to be called in to get maximum effect. Our main difficulty is the lack of a suitable hall, and it is only owing to the kindness of the Y.M.C.A. that we can get any boxing at all. We owe them our heartiest thanks for each occasion of "la boxe." We put them to great inconvenience, which they smilingly put up with.

The better boxers are already making themselves known in Northern circles, and at Blackpool Sigmn Stuart was runner-up in the Northern Counties heavy division, and Sigmn Rodda was likewise in the light-heavy division. Congratulations to both, and a little bit more to Rodda on being selected as light-heavy weight representative of the Northern Counties to box against the Civic Guards of the Irish Free State at Dublin. By the way, Rodda is rapidly becoming a polished boxer, and will be really first-class shortly.

L/Corpl Smith, the well-known heavy (Smudger to all and sundry), has departed to the 'Shot—may he win many fights in his new sphere!

An interesting novices' competition has been held, and also an S.T.C. open show. The boxing served up was good, but the entries were decidedly poor. Oh, where? oh where are our noble professors of the fistic art? We want bags of entries, for let it be broadcast that all the stars have gone, and we require the Army trophy again—and this will not be attained unless more enthusiasm is shown in all quarters. Coming boxers are Signalmen Nash, Freeman, Simmonds and Cawfield.

Company boxing has been nil. In the fifth round of the Army team championship, we meet the 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps from Lydd, at Catterick.

CROSS-COUNTRY.

The Corps have already made themselves distinctly popular in this branch of sport amongst Northern fans. Major Cobb's enthusiasm and Cascara's seem to be infectious. The final run of the North York and South Durham Harriers League has taken place, and after the points were worked out it transpired that Darlington were first, with T.B. and D.B. second and third respectively. This is quite good, as Darlington are the 1926 winners of the North-eastern Counties 10 miles cross-country. Let us heartily congratulate them on their dual success—they are a very sporting crowd, and well worth competing against.

On February 13th the North-eastern cross-country championships were held, and we sent three teams—one for seniors (over 21), one for juniors (18 to 21), and one for youths (16 to 18). In the seniors Joe was first man home, and the team was placed second to Darlington. In the juniors the team was fifth, but Gosling dropped out owing to cramp, and Broadly also became "electrocuted"—and under these handicaps the team did well to get fifth. We rather expected to win the youths' race, but were placed second to Sunderland, who beat us by two points. Boy Beale was second, but his victor was a sturdy young boy who will no doubt go far in cross-country circles.

The Northern cross-country did not produce Joe as the winner: he ran fourth, and the team eighth. The Northern Command cross-country takes place at Catterick, and either the T.B. or D.B. will be winners. Anyhow, we hope that a team will be going to Windsor to compete in the Army cross-country, and let us hope that they may wrest the honour from the holders—the D.C.L.I.

The inter-Company League has now finished, and the final placings are: F Company 1st, C 2nd, D 3rd, School 4th, and E 5th. A and B Companies have dropped out of all Company Leagues, owing to their ever-changing population.

Congratulations to Joe, L/Corpl Richardson, and Sigmn Ayres on being selected to run for the Army.

On March 10th the Northern cross-country takes place at Catterick. There are only four entries, two of which are T.B. and D.B. The winning team of this run will pay a visit to Aldershot for the Army championship.

SOCCER.

The T.B. have struck a bad patch, and have lost four matches off the reel—bad luck, mainly due to injuries! Payne, Wooldridge, Hooper, and Morphew have all been out at one time. Wooldridge (or Johnny, to our soccer fans) is fit again, but the remainder are doubtful for some time hence. Enquiries have been made by the Army as to whether Ginger Payne will be fit for the Army matches v. Belgian and French Armies. We sincerely hope he will be fit to take his place on March 11th and 18th.

League T.B.

The first match after Christmas, against Croft, was a misfortune for the Signals in more ways than one. It was here that they experienced their first defeat of the season, and the game was but a few minutes old when Payne collected what at the time appeared to be an ordinary sprain, but which was to a large extent to account for the exit from the Army cup soon afterwards.

Playing away at Barnard Castle the following week, without the services of Payne or Wooldridge, the T.B. again fell. The game itself was one of the best experienced, and Jock has often enquired since, "What about another visit to Barny?" It can't be because he likes losing matches.

The other two matches, against Shildon and Darlington Wire Mills, were also lost after holding a lead upon each occasion. True, we fielded seven reserves, but that is not the whole cause of the trouble: interest in the League seems to have vanished with the interest in the Army cup. Come along, T.B.! don't let the team be called a one-man show. Some of the League teams are getting wonderfully perky to think that they can slip it across an Army cup fifth round team.

Company football is jogging along and results to date are as follows:—

Seniors.

C Coy. v. E, lost 3—0; v. F, won 4—2; v. School, drew 2—2.
D Coy. v. E, drew 1—1; v. F, lost 2—1; v. School, won 7—0.
E Coy. v. C, won 3—0; v. D, drew 1—1; v. F, won 3—0.
F Coy. v. C, lost 4—2; v. D, won 2—1; v. E, lost 3—0.
School v. C, drew 2—2; v. D, lost 7—0.

Juniors.

C Coy v. F, won 4—0; v. School, drew 4—4.
D Coy. v. E, won 8—3; v. F, lost 5—2; v. School, lost 15—0.
E Coy. v. D, lost 8—3; v. F, won 5—0.
F Coy. v. C, lost 4—0; v. D, won 5—2; v. E, lost 5—0; v. School, walk over.
School v. C, drew 4—4; v. D, won 15—0; v. F, scratched.

In the Garrison knock-out cup, School and E Company are still left in and meet in the second round. We are thus sure of one team in the semi-final.

RUGBY.

The fixtures of the T.B., D.B. and S.T.C. rugby teams are not very frequent. Mr. Danby, of course, has been a great acquisition. The T.B. have beaten Darlington by 17 points to 6, and the S.T.C. have beaten the 1st Border Regiment by 18 points to 6.

Congratulations to Lieut. Danby on being selected for the Army rugby team. The leading London papers have picked him out for special mention after several of the Army games, so we all hope he will be honoured by the Army Rugby Union when they select the team for the Navy and Air Force matches.

Company League results to date are as follows:—

Training Battalion.

C Coy. v. F, scratched; v. School, walk over.
D Coy. v. E, lost 14—0; v. F, lost 15—5.
E Coy. v. D, won 14—0; v. F, won 3—0.
F Coy. v. C, walk over; v. D, won 15—5; v. E, lost 3—0; v. School, won 6—5.
School v. C, scratched; v. F, lost 6—5.

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HOCKEY.

Hockey has been at a minimum owing to the bad weather and ground difficulties. The results to report are T.B. v. Redcar, lost 9—2, and Royal Signals v. Bradford, lost 4—1. The Company League has only just started, and there are only two results to date: E Company beat C by 4—2, and F beat D by 6—3.

"JIMMIES."

"Jimmies" for 1925-1925 have been awarded as follows:—

Soccer—

T.B.—Gibbons, Saunders, Corpl Wooldridge, Caple, Sergt Laing, Corpl Morphew, Payne, Lt Cole, Welch and Hooper.

D.B.—R.S.M. Anderson, Corpl Jackson, Corpl Hincks, Langton, Staples, Taylor, Mason, Cairns, and Manlove.

Rugby—

T.B.—Lieut Danby, L/Corpl Jones, Sigmn Richardson.

D.B.—Lieut Morrison, Lieut Burridge, Lieut Gordon, Corpl Cutlet, King, Lawton and Pearson.

Hockey—

D.B.—Major Phillips, Capt Elsdale, Lieut Wade, Lieut Watts, Corpl Brown, Addis, Batcheldor; honorary awards to Lieut Hatfield, Lieut Malpass, and Sergt Tovey.

Cross-country—

S.T.C.—Corpl Cotterell, L/Corpl Richardson, L/Corpl Iveson, Stibbs, Broadly, Gaston, Ayres, Turner, Boy Beale, Chadney, Moore, Dutton, Ryalls, Markham, Lloyd and Gosling.

T.B.—Corpl Cotterell, Ayres, Broadly, Stibbs, Boy Beale, Chadney, Dutton, Markham, Clarke, Lieut Newson, Smith, Barnett and Stenning.

D.B.—L/Corpl Richardson, Gaston, Turner, Moore, Ryalls, Lloyd, Palmer, Blades, Hammond, L/Corpl Morriss, Hendy, Croucher and Thompson.

SIGTRAINCEN.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.

On March 3rd E Company beat us by 4—2. It was a good game, and the best team won.

Soccer.

In the replay of the Garrison knock-out cup, when we met the School of Signals, we were very unfortunate to lose by the odd goal in seven. The wind had a great deal to do with the game, and I think the School were very lucky to win. Sigmn Staples played a great game at back; also Sigmn Taylor at centre-half. Sigmn Holmes was the pick of the forward line, and he had quite a lot of hard luck.

The juniors have done very well this season, as they have not lost a match. I think they would give the seniors a run for their money.

Tug-of-War.

We have commenced training for this, and hope to do as well as we did last year, as we have practically the same team. The Company hope to send a team to Olympia this year; so look out, Ginger!

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Our footballers have been doing great things. Eddy turned out six T.B. players against us, but we drew at 1—1, and had not one of our forwards (who shall be nameless) managed to miss an absolute sitter, we should have won.

This inspired the team with tremendous confidence and enthusiasm, and they sallied forth again a week or so ago to take seven goals from the School of Signals. We would have taken a few more, but the School side "packed in" before the end.

We would draw the attention of a certain scribe (who appears to spend more time in writing for the WIRE than in reading it) to the above result. We do this quite often.

We also possess a junior team, but we keep it a dead secret.

We have only had one game of rugger. E Company were too good for us and won by 14—0. Nevertheless our forwards put up a great fight. They may have lacked skill, but they had lots of grit. They only really gave way once—when Sigmn Stuart sat on them all collectively!

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Under the leadership of Lieut Beattie, a committee has been formed to deal with sports during the coming season. Each branch has its own representative, and at the weekly meetings all future events are discussed to the full. This system will probably be the most effective employed so far.

Naturally, cricket and athletics are the chief concern at the moment, and in the former Sergt Young has already taken the matter of away fixtures in hand; and we are quite confident that the interests of cricket fans may be left to him.

Before long the budding Abraham's and Osborne's will be getting down to preliminaries. Everything is already well in hand, in fact; all that remains now is for some of the younger soldiers to step forward and fill the vacancies of the departed "champs." At the moment it appears that the first and second strings in the relays will be formed by the old hands, and consequently the strength of each team is likely to be tested in its weaker links—the untried talent of one Company against that of another.

Last year we discovered Sigmn Ruffle, amongst many others. At the beginning of the season he knew nothing about the pole jump. At the conclusion he had been 3rd in the Army individual and 1st in the British games. What one can do, others can if they will only turn out and try. We sincerely hope that all men in the "athletic Company" will turn out and try their hand at something. They will find many who will be only too pleased to give hints or instruction in their particular line of sport.

School of Signals, Catterick.

Reports on what the School has been doing in sport have been omitted from our previous notes, but as there has been little doing, it will be quite understood.

Soccer.

Company soccer has been at a standstill more or less, our only games to date in this competition being with C, D and E Companies. We made draws with C and E. In the game with D, it was our misfortune to lose by 6—0. This result could not be helped, as most of our regular players were hors-de-combat owing to isolation and injuries.

In the Garrison knock-out we drew with C Company at 3—3, and in the replay we managed to force a win by the odd goal in seven. Luck and the wind were certainly on our side, but as we were playing practically a reserve eleven it was deserved. Our next opponents in this competition were E Company, with whom we played a goalless draw. The replay has not yet taken place, but we are optimistic and hope to win through.

The junior eleven have so far put up a good performance in their league, and have not yet been beaten, having won two of three games played and drawn in the other.

Hockey.

We have not played any Company games this season.

Running.

Signalmen Turner, Blades, Lloyd and Thompson are to be congratulated on helping the Depot Battalion to win the Northern Command championship, held on March 10th at Catterick.

Training Battalion Boys, Catterick.

Our football team, with one tragic exception, has performed with conspicuous success. Every match has been won except that against the Artillery College at Woolwich, which was a most distressing affair. We were two goals down at half-time, though the game had been very level up till then. Almost immediately after the interval both Hopwood and Hills (our leading lights as centre-forward and centre-half respectively) were crocked, and the Artillery College boys ran in and scored almost when they liked. The final result was 8—0 against us.

Our other matches have been with the Darlington boys, whom we defeated by 7—0 on February 20th, and the Richmond boys, whom we played on March 6th. This game was spoiled by a hurricane and a thorn hedge working in partnership. Each time the ball was kicked into the air the wind blew it into the hedge, the result being that at half-time the supply of balls ran out! Hopwood scored for us with the last gasp of the last expiring ball. The goalkeeper picked the ball out of the net and crumpled it in his hand in disgust.

Our runners, too, have been doing well. In the North-eastern Counties run, at Newcastle, we finished second to Sheffield United by one point. Beale finished second to Glendenning of St. Mary's, who beat him on the post.

In the Northern championships, a fortnight later, we were not so fortunate, finishing thirteenth out of twenty teams. Beale was rather groggy from 'flu. Ellison came in 26th, Berry 28th, and Jury 29th.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Cross-Country.

No. 3 Company represented the unit in the Command inter-Company competition early in March. In order to select the best fifteen runners to represent the Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot, in the Command inter-unit competition, an inter-Signal-unit competition was organised by Lieut. T. C. Thompson, M.C., Royal Signals, at Ewshot on February 24th.

Teams from A Corps Signals, 1st Divl. Signals, 2nd Divl. Signals, and five individual runners competed in the run of 5½ miles. The Chief Signal Officer started the 84 runners from Crookham Camp. A hard course led the runners over the race-course and across the Long Valley. The "pen" system was adopted for checking-in purposes, and proved a great success. The finishing point was well set out by Capt. P. Jennings, M.C. Airline poles topped with bunting and Corps flags gave it a very festive appearance. A large number of spectators were present to witness the finish.

The medals for the winning team were kindly presented at the conclusion of the race by the C.S.O.

The Start of the Royal Signals Inter-Unit Competition on the R.A.M.C. Depot Square.

We take this opportunity of congratulating the 2nd Divl. Signals on winning the competition and carrying off the engraved cross-country medals.

The composition of the team to represent the Royal Signals, Aldershot, was as follows: A Corps Signals, 2 runners (1 reserve); 1st Divl. Signals, 3 runners; 2nd Divl. Signals, 11 runners.

Rifle Club.

Our Rifle Club has re-opened this week with great vigour, and it is pleasing to report very good attendances. All the good shots are coming forward and displaying great skill in the silver spoon and the pool-bull competitions which are now being held nightly.

On March 14th the following will represent A Corps Signals in the Mackworth-Praed cup competition: R.Q.M.S. Edwards, C.S.M. Robertson, Sergts Dormer, Lane, Bevan, and Francis, Signalmen Larkham and Tyler. Reserves: Lieut. Thompson, Sergts Stevenson and Deyermond.

Football.

The unit A and B teams continue to maintain their positions in the respective leagues, and we have passed into the semi-final of the junior cup.

A Team results: v. Traction Company Reserve, won 3—2; v. 1st Divl. Signals, draw 2—2; v. Service Company R.A.S.C., won 3—0; v. Farnborough, won 3—1.

B Team results: v. Arcadeans, won 4—1; v. 3rd Pack Battery, lost 3—1.

Junior Cup, third round.—A Corps Signals v. 1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders Reserve. A good game, full of excitement up to the last kick, which enabled us to win by 6 goals to 4. Facing the wind and sun, we defended strongly, but two goals in quick succession put hope in the Seaforths. From a wing pass Sigmn Edwards was able to put in one of his usual shots, and the same player again scored before the interval. Half-time: 2—2.

With the wind slightly dropped we made for goal on the resumption, and amid great excitement Edwards scored again. The Seaforths then attacked and drew level. Sigmn Barker scored our fourth goal, followed rapidly by an equaliser by our opponents. Then it was A Corps only. Corpl Devey put in the fifth goal, and Sigmn Barker the sixth with the last kick of the game.

The team played exceptionally well on this occasion. If they continue that form in the semi-final, there is little doubt that we shall win this cup.

In the inter-Section knock-out competition, the results are: W/T B team 4, H.Q. Supernumerary 0. C Cable Section 4, No. 1 M.T. Section A 3. A Cable Section 10, No. 2 H.T. Section B 1. The draw for semi-final is: C Cable v. W/T A team, and A Cable v. W/T B team.

Hockey.

Some friendly games have been played with 1st Divl. Signals and No. 1 A.A. Signal Company. The team has improved very considerably, and in our last match with 1st Divl. Signals we won by 2 goals to 1.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.

Although there has been a marked absence of notes on this branch of sport, our team has been distinguishing itself, and we stand fourth in the Junior League with 20 points, our record showing 8 wins, 4 draws, and 4 losses. The results of our last four games were:—

v. A.S.C. Training College, won 8—1.
v. Farnborough, lost 4—1.
v. Royal Engineers, draw 4—4.
v. Cove, draw 4—4.

In the junior cup match against the Rifle Brigade, we lost by 8—3.

Hockey.

Our notes for February were overlooked. During that month we completed our inter-Company League fixtures and played A Corps Signals, but our match against the Royal Engineers had to be cancelled, the ground being out of play.

The inter-Company matches proved that Headquarters and No. 1 Company are the best of the bunch, No. 2 running second, and No. 3 at the bottom of the league. (Is it the Headquarter "three" that Nos. 2 and 3 Companies would like?) The results of the last three matches were:—

No. 1 Company v. No. 3, 7—1.
No. 2 Company v. No. 3, 7—1.
No. 1 Company v. No. 2, 5—1.

The match against A Corps Signals was played in a drizzle, which marred good play. We however managed to "put one over" on our rivals.

Our March programme included a match against the 2nd Dorsets, on the 3rd, and we lost by one goal, the game proving one of the best of the season.

A Corps Signals had their revenge on the 10th, when they beat us by the odd goal in three.

The R.E.s are to be entertained on the 17th.

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Cross Country.

The Command Company competition, 1926, is now a thing of the past. Although we ran 24th in the list, we are not in the least bit disappointed, considering the short time we were in training.

Ten days prior to the competition we had an inter-Company race to choose the best Company. No. 1 carried off the honours, and so represented the unit on February 16th over an excellent cross-country course. The team was: Sigmn Hutchins (captain), Sergt Smart, Signalmen Beck, Tillett, Williams, Orme, Marshall, Frape, Winter and Bowyer, Drivers Usmar and Bain.

Our Ewshot friends arranged a race with a view to selecting a team to represent Royal Signals (Aldershot) in the Command unit cross-country championship. We pipped A Corps Signals by the narrow margin of one point. The unit congratulates Dvrs. Usmar and Winch and Sigmn Beck on being selected for the Royal Signals team for the Command unit competition. Tea and baths were arranged by A Corps Signals, which were much appreciated.

The Command unit competition took place at Bordon on the 9th March over a very gruelling course. Congratulations again to Dvr Usmar in running in 32nd out of approximately 500 runners.

Our congratulations to Joe upon his running fifth in the National on March 13th. Well done!

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Cross Country.

In the Command race on March 9th, the Royal Signals (Aldershot) entered a team, and this unit supplied 13 out of the 15 runners.

The team finished 11th out of 25, which was not at all a bad performance. Our best runner, C.S.M. Bayliss, got crocked at rugby the day before the race, and finished 130th, whereas he could have been amongst the first twelve had he been fit.

No. 1 Company.

Rugby.

This sport has, through the efforts of a few "die-hards," become exceedingly popular amongst all ranks. In a comparatively short time we have succeeded in forming a team of eager and consistent players. In the trophy fixtures with Nos. 2 and 3 Companies, we secured valuable points by defeating each of them in clean and hard-fought games. Several of our players have secured places in the unit team.

Boxing.

Our boxing team which will take part in the trophy contests commence each morning with an hour's arduous training at 6.30. The O.C. B Section is in charge of training, and as a result of his physical "jerks" even old Porky is losing weight. Still, they have a lot to learn in a comparatively short time. Although we have no accommodation for a training room, by putting their shoulders to the wheel they should give a good account of themselves when the occasion arises.

Football.

The Company selection committee are too often criticised on their selection of an eleven to represent us in Company games. It is hard to find players of the same calibre to fill the places of those drafted abroad. The first trophy match was played on March 9th, when No. 2 Company were our opponents. The game proved interesting from start to finish. Play was very uneven, and good opportunities were missed by our wing men, who lacked initiative and finish. A slight misunderstanding by our goalkeeper caused us to be defeated by one goal to nil.

The following day we again met No. 2, fielding the same team with one exception in the forward line. There was much more excitement, and Vasey scored twice in five minutes after some clever individual play. McClelland also netted the ball once. There was much more combination throughout the game, which we won by 3 goals to nil.

Athletics.

The recent amendments to the trophy book of rules will encourage more individuals to display their abilities in the preliminary trials prior to the unit sports. Our enthusiasts have started field and track work. It is said that a dark horse, namely the Gunner, proposes to nip on his shorts for a "quarter" each evening. The rumour that he is a second Nurmi may not easily be dispelled.

No. 3 Company.

In the trophy football league we have played one game, versus No. 2 Company, with the result of 8—2 in our favour. About the return match, and against No. 1, we are optimistic.

The rugger matches have not proved so successful, for the Company lost to both Nos. 1 and 2 after playing (it is said) the better game. So apparently the best team does not *always* win. Circumstances and conditions play their part in determining the ultimate result.

Hockey is comparatively quiet. We have played one game, which we won, against No. 1 Company.

No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company, Blackdown.

Football.

A Company 1st A.A. Searchlight Battn. R.E. won the first round of the 1st Air Defence Brigade Association cup in beating us by 5—1. The game was not so one-sided as the score would indicate. In the first half our attack was always worrying the Sappers' defence, but the latter settled down towards the interval, and our forwards had to be content with the goal scored early in the game.

The Sappers' forward line, which included two Battalion players, were always on the mark, and their shooting was good. Our defence fought hard to keep them out, but our opponents would not be denied. Taking everything into consideration, it was a good game, our team putting up a very creditable show; and the best side won.

Hockey.

On March 8th we met the 2nd A.A. Battery in the 1st Air Defence Brigade hockey cup competition, and the result was a draw, there being no score. The replay takes place on March 15th, and it is hoped that a win will be recorded in our next month's notes.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Cross-Country.

Much has been done in the way of training for the past six weeks, all of which was carried out with the real Corps spirit. Every hour of training has taken place after 4 o'clock on four days a week. Saturdays have been given as a hard-earned rest.

We have met the Wilts in two friendly runs, resulting in our being beaten by 128 in the first and 76 in the second. The benefit of the training shows up in the second run.

The team created a record in the Southern Command meeting by earning a place in the Army run, the first time a Divisional Signal unit has had that honour. The result was:—D.C.L.I. 98; Wilts 346; 3rd Divl. Signals 528.

The position of the two latter teams might have been reversed if we had not overdone the instructions of "getting off" quickly. The pace would have done credit in a "220" at any athletic meeting. We shall be wiser in the Army run.

The course could have only been about 5½ miles, and we badly wanted the extra to make up the seven, the distance up to which we had trained.

The talkative bird that sits on Salisbury Cathedral is reported to have said: "Perhaps one of our teams from Catterick might have to take its place below us in the result of the Army run."

Football.

The football season is now drawing rapidly to a close, and only postponed matches will be played off after March 20th.

In the replay of the second round of the Bulford Garrison cup, No. 3 Company were defeated by the 5th Pack Battery R.A. by 5 goals to 3. The game was well contested throughout, and No. 3 Company are to be congratulated on their good fight.

No. 2 Company were dogged with bad luck in their match against the 9th Pack Battery in the third round of the cup, and suffered a rather heavy defeat by 6 goals to nil. During the course of the match Dvr Perry had the misfortune to break his leg.

The unit met the 14/20th Hussars in the second round of the S.P. Area cup on Wednesday, March 10th. A clean fast game ensued, and although the unit were superior in mid-field they failed lamentably in front of goal, the match being won by the cavalry side by 2 goals to nil.

Throughout the season we have been handicapped owing to the lack of a really good centre-forward, but we hope that before the next season begins this gap will be filled by postings from the S.T.C. or other units in the Corps.

Hockey.

We have now completed our programme in the Bulford Garrison senior hockey league, our complete record being as follows:

v. 2nd Pack Brigade R.A., won 4—3.
v. 9th Field Brigade R.A., won 6—3.
v. 5th Field Brigade R.A., won 8—0.
v. 3rd Divisional R.E., drawn 2—2.

As the Sappers have lost their match against the 2nd Pack Brigade R.A., Signals have once more secured the Bulford hockey championship.

Boxing.

On March 4th and 5th the Bulford Garrison team championships were held in the R.A.S.C. gymnasium. The draw for the semi-finals was:—

2nd Pack Brigade R.A. v. 5th Field Brigade R.A.
9th Field Brigade R.A. v. 3rd Divisional Signals.

Neither the 2nd Pack Brigade nor the 9th Field Brigade were able to put in a complete team, and the first evening resulted in a win for the 5th Field Brigade and our team.

On the second night we lost the cup to the 5th Field Bde. after some very spirited fighting and some very hard luck.

Sigmn Lapper, our feather-weight (whom we considered a sure win) received such a bad cut over his eye in the first round that the Medical Officer stopped the fight.

Sigmn Baker, our second light-weight, hurt his foot in the semi-final, and his place was taken by Sigmn Fee. The latter was fighting two places over his weight, and consequently, although he fought well, he lost on points.

Sigmn Charles again put up an excellent fight and the decision hung in the balance, but the referee gave his deciding vote for his opponent. With more experience Charles will make a first-rate boxer, and we look to him to go a long way next year in the Corps and Army competitions.

Sigmn Corcoran received his k.o. in the first round from Gunner Stoddart, a more experienced fighter with a strong punch.

Sigmn Panting also received his k.o. in the first round from L/Bdr Lee, who was distinctly above his usual form and never gave Panting a chance to get going.

French, our light-heavy, won on the first night, but on the second he ran into a man with a longer reach, and a nasty right which eventually connected with French's chin and finished the fight.

Among our winners Fields put up his usual first class performance, and McCarthy won after a good fight by a k.o.

West, another recruit to our team, although beaten the first night, came back strong and defeated his man after a game three rounds.

Result:—5th Field Bde. R.A. 15; 3rd Divl. Signals 12.

Although sorry to lose the cup after holding it for two years, we feel sure it will help boxing in the Garrison, and hope it will encourage other units of the Garrison to find full teams next year, when we will do our best to win it back.

Billiards.

On Friday, February 26th, a tournament was held between the w.o.s and sergeants and the men, in the men's recreation room, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

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The result was a win for the men by 207 points, but it is hoped that the sergeants will have their revenge in the near future.

R.S.M. Adams, who came in at the last moment to complete the sergeants' team, was the only one who won for them, and he gave them a very substantial lead, as the score will show.

Each game was of 150 up, the team with the highest aggregate to win.

R.S.M. Adams beat Sigmn Foley by 73 points.
Sergt Hall lost to Sigmn Boniface by 42 points.
C.Q.M.S. Sweeting lost to Sigmn Hall by 50 points.
Sergt Carter lost to Sigmn Wolfe by 96 points.
Sergt Boulter lost to Sigmn Beach by 92 points.

Result:—Men 677; W.O.s and Sergeants 470.

It is hoped that a unit billiard league will be commenced shortly, when each Company will enter two teams, the sergeants' mess and the corporals contributing one each. This, I am sure, will encourage the game in the unit, and many thanks are due to our commanding officer for his interest in the various games.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Football.

Although we have not published a great deal of football news this winter, it does not mean that we have done nothing in this sport. On the contrary we have had quite a successful season, and on March 6th we were at the top of the table in the Essex and Suffolk Border League. Our record for that league is: Played 13, won 10, drawn 1, lost 2; goals for 35, against 23.

As we are in the semi-finals of the Brightlingsea charity cup and Stopes charity cup, we hope to win at least one of them. In the Brightlingsea cup our record is unique. We have always got to the semi-final stage, and in the past two seasons we have reached the final only to fail—so I think it is our turn to win it this year.

I must say our team is held with some respect in this Garrison, not only beating the 11th Brigade R.A. and the 3rd/6th

Dragoon Guards, but putting up such a splendid performance against the 2nd Battn. The Leicester Regiment (Army cup finalists), who beat us in the military final of the Pearson's charity cup by 1 goal to nil, obtained eight minutes from time.

Cross Country.

We entered a team for the Eastern Command cross-country run held at Shorncliffe on Thursday, March 4th, but could do no better than finish 9th out of sixteen teams. It was fairly good, considering that many of the team could not train properly.

The course was one of 7 miles over the stiffest country that could possibly be chosen. Not content with the natural country, the officials thought to make it a little more difficult by forming a jump into which they dumped 250 gallons of that wet stuff. The last two miles were uphill and told on more than one runner.

Sigmn Ruff was our first man home. Sigmn Cornell created a surprise by finishing almost as fresh as he started, and no doubt he would have done better if he had had any previous experience.

The Tanks Corps were easy winners, and will want some watching in the forthcoming Army championship.

We must now concentrate on the Garrison championship, which is almost at hand. Providing the team can be induced to train at every available opportunity we ought to go far, so we must keep on hoping and wishing them the best of luck.

C Divisional Signals, Dera-Ismail-Khan.

Sports.

The District sports were held just before Christmas, and we were very much to the fore, as the results will show. It will be noticed that Sigmn T. J. Lane put up a very fine performance, with Sigmn Richardson of the W/T (attached) a very good second.

One mile—1, Sigmn Lane; 2, Sigmn Richardson.
880 yards—1, Sigmn Lane; 2, Sigmn Richardson.
440 yards—1, Sigmn Lane; 2, Sigmn Richardson.
100 yards—1, L/Corpl H. Smith; 2, Sigmn O'Leary; 3, L/Cpl Powell.
Long jump—1, L/Corpl Iddon; 2, Sigmn O'Leary; 3, Sigmn Richardson; 4, L/Corpl Powell.
High jump—1, Pte West; 2, Sigmn O'Leary.

Hockey.

Our team for the District tournament started very well by defeating Wazirdist Headquarters by 3—1, but they were beaten at Bannu in the second round by 2—1 by the S. and T. Better luck next time, we hope!

Football.

We have only had two games within the last month, and both were against H.Q., the results being lost by 2—1 and won by 5—1: the latter score being just a reminder that we *could* do it, though I must say that it was through this match that we found some new talent among our newcomers.

D Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Annual Sports.

At the Pindi Signals annual sports held recently, we were beaten by B Corps Signals for the Frere Benz cup by 12 points. Our placings were as follows:—

100 yards—British: 1, Lieut F. I. N. McOstrich. Indian: 1, Sigmn Jagannath; 3, L/Nk Sher Bahadur.
440 yards—British: 1, Lieut. F. I. N. McOstrich; 3, Sigmn Skipper.
880 yards—British: 2, L/Corpl McKay; 3, L/Corpl Bernasconi. Indian: 2, L/Nk Mohd Ali; 3, L/Nk Sher Bahadur.
One mile—Indian: 2, L/Nk Mohd Ali.
Three miles—British: 3, L/Corpl McKay. Indian: 1, Sigmn Chaman Singh.
Officers' race—2, Capt. G. W. Holland.
120 yards hurdles—British: 1, Lieut. C. W. Knight; 3, L/Corpl Bernasconi. Indian: 1, L/Nk Dewan Mohd; 2, L/Nk Sher Bahadur.
220 yards hurdles—British: 2, Lieut C. W. Knight; 3, Lieut F. I. N. McOstrich. Indian: 1, Sigmn Jagannath; 2, L/Nk Dewan Mohd.
High jump—British: 3, Lieut F. I. N. McOstrich. Indian: 1, Sigmn Jagannath.
Long jump—British: 3, L/Corpl McKay (in the heats for this event, Lieut McOstrich cleared 20 ft. 7 ins., but owing to a sprain he did not compete in the finals). Indian: 1, Sigmn Jagannath.
Tug-of-war—British won both light and heavy.
Relay—British: 2nd place. Indian: 1st place.
Putting the shot—Indian: 2, Hav. Major Jaggan Singh; 3, L/Nk Gulam Mohd Din.
Tent pegging, individual—British: 1, L/Corpl Watt; 2, Sergt Day; 3, C.S.M. S. C. Brown. Indian: 1, Sigmn Alla Ditta.
Tent pegging, Section—British: 1st and 2nd places. Indian: 1st and 2nd places.
Jumping, individual—British: 2, L/Sergt Galtress.
Topi Selling Plate (distance unlimited)—This resulted in a dead heat for the only two entries: "Pawnbroker's Assistant" (Corpl Ford) and "Sailor Laddie" (Sigmn Capp).

Football and Hockey.

An inter-Company League has been started for units of the Pindi Signals. Notes on same will be forwarded later.

E Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Hockey.

The British personnel beat the Indian ranks by 7—3 goals, after diagrams were brought into use and a replay fixed. This score altered to 4—3, so the British Army still holds up its head and smiles when hockey is mentioned.

We played the C.M.A., and just managed to beat them after a very hard game. Score: 2—1. A second game ended in our favour by 7—3.

K Battery R.H.A. challenged us, but were seen off to the tune of 3—0. The game was rather slow, and the referee the same (what about a moan, Bhoza?) In another game with the above the score did not alter, but the game was faster, and worth watching. The third game should be quite good.

Football.

We beat A Cavalry Signals by 4—3, but as they have only twelve men to choose from, we mustn't crow.

K Battery beat us by 2—1 after a good game. If the score had been a draw, it would have been fairer. Our return match with them *was* a draw (2—2), and as the teams were well matched, some good football was seen. They say "third time lucky," but in our third match with K Battery we suffered defeat to the tune of 5—1, and but for the skill of our goalie we should have suffered a far heavier defeat (good kid, Claude). Up, the Sigs!

No. 1 (Line) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

The combined Signals hockey team were severely beaten by the 60th Rifles in the District tournament. The Signals have the making of a fine hockey team, as well as for soccer and athletics, but never seem to do any good.

May I suggest that our combined teams are kept more together and play more often? By the time these notes appear Signal units will be in the hills, where there is plenty of football and hockey, and it is about time the Signals lifted a cup.

At the District athletic meeting the Signals did very well to get third place. Lieut McOstrich must be congratulated on his fine performance, as also must Lieut Brown on winning the shot putting.

It was very hard lines on Lieut McOstrich that he had to compete in three events in just over half-an-hour. He got second place in the long jump after jumping for twenty minutes; and almost immediately after he had to compete in the 440 yards, which event he won.

Then, after another short interval, he had to turn out for the most important event of the afternoon, the relay race. In this the Signals managed to get third place. Lieut McOstrich again ran a fine race, but it was obvious that he had done too much.

Sigmn Atkins must be congratulated on his fine performance. Our athletic team should be kept together for next year.

No. 2 (Wireless) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi

Football.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company 0; No. 1 (Line) Company 2.

Hockey.

Old hands 2; New draft 1.

Boxing (Novices).

About 26 entries have been received for the novices' boxing competition, and results will be sent later.

Athletics.

At the combined Signals sports, held at Rawalpindi on 5th and 6th February, the results of the Company were:—

One mile—1, Sigmn Wilby (4 mins. 55 secs.); 2, Sigmn Atkins.

Three miles—1, Sigmn Wilby (16 mins. 35 secs.); 2, Sigmn Atkins.

In the open mile at the K.R.R.'s sports, Sigmn Wilby was the winner.

The combined Signals team won the mile relay at the R.A. sports.

The Start of the 5-mile Cross Country Run.

Cross-Country.

The Rawalpindi District team championship was run on February 16th, and after a hard struggle over five miles of very rough ground, the combined Signals team only succeeded in securing fifth place. Very hard luck, but we hope to do better next time.

First Man Home in the 5-mile Cross Country Run.

Spratt Memorial Cup.

This trophy was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Spratt in memory of their son, the late Sigmn Spratt, to be awarded annually to the best all-round athlete in the Company.

The competition this year took place at Rawalpindi, and the cup went to Sergt Strickland with 19 points, Sigmn Wilby being runner-up with 16. The cup (with a medal) was presented to the winner at the close of the events by Mrs. Vulliamy.

Sigmn Wilby finishing in the 3-mile Event.

The results in the various events are appended:—

100 yards—1, Sergt Strickland (11 4/5 secs.); 2, Sigmn Wilby; 3, C.S.M. Saunders.
220 yards—1, Sergt Strickland (27 1/5 secs.); 2, Sigmn Wilby; 3, C.S.M. Saunders.
440 yards—1, Sigmn Wilby (1 min.); 2, Sergt Strickland; 3, C.S.M. Saunders.
880 yards—1, Sigmn Wilby (2 mins. 19½ secs.); 2, Sergt Strickland; 3, C.S.M. Saunders.
Mile—1, Sigmn Wilby; 2, Sigmn Atkins; 3, Sergt Strickland.
Three miles—1, Sigmn Wilby (17 mins.); 2, Sigmn Atkins; 3, Sergt Strickland.
Long jump—1, Sergt Strickland (16 ft. 6 in.); 2, Sigmn Garvie (16 ft. 3 in.); 3, Sigmn Atkins (15 ft. 5½ in.).
High jump—1, Sigmn Garvie; 2, Sergt Strickland; 3, Sigmn Jefferies.
Putting the shot—1, Sigmn Earl (27 ft. 10 in.); 2, C.S.M. Saunders (26 ft. 3 in.); 3, Sergt Strickland (25 ft. 8 in.).
Throwing the cricket ball—1, R.Q.M.S. Earwaker and Sigmn Garvie (tie); 2, Sergt Strickland.

C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

In spite of our sadly depleted numbers—our present strength being only 15—we are still keeping up the reputation of the Corps in the soccer line, and have opened the season in fine style.

The results of the games to date are as follows:—v. 27th Squadron R.A.F., draw 0—0; v. I Squadron 5/6th Dragoons, won 2—0; v. I Squadron 5/6th Dragoons, won 2—0; v. 27th Squadron R.A.F., won 3—0; v. A Squadron 5/6th Dragoons, won 7—3.

We hope to enter a team for the Moti Ram cup. The trophy is competed for annually by units in the station on the knock-out principle. Although the actual winning of it is beyond our wildest dreams, we hope to go a little further than last year, when we were knocked out in the first round.

Iraq Signal Section.

Hockey.

On February 23rd the Section met the 1/16th Punjabs in the "all Iraq" knock-out competition. A very clever game throughout, and intensely exciting—especially during the extra time played to settle the argument, as "time" came with two goals each. The Indians eventually won by 3—2. L/Corpl Wornham, at left back, played a very hard and skilful game until the final blast of the whistle, although badly "chopped" about at the commencement.

Boxing.

Sigmn Denton fought L.A.C. Ward, R.A.F., in an exhibition six-round contest during the novices' competition, and lost on points—a very hard fought encounter, which Denton was very unlucky to lose.

It may interest boxing enthusiasts to know that Denton won the bantam weight championship of this country last year by defeating Ward after an extra round.

Ward is improving "U.G.," so we hope to see the pair in a "third time fair" clash.

Billiards.

Sigmn Rafferty won the Section billiard handicap, defeating Sigmn Jarvis in the final. The highest break (35) was made by the latter.

Football.

Sigmn Jarvis was chosen to play outside left for the Army against the Air Force eleven. The Army won by 3—1, and our "Archie Buchan" played a rattling good game.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Cricket.

The Royal Engineers team is strengthened with three of the Signals: Capt. Bridgland, D.F.C., L/Corpl Holland, and Sigmn Durand. All are doing very well in their positions, especially Capt. Bridgland, whose batting is worth seeing. He is at present at the top of the batting averages, and we hope he is a fixture at that position. Herewith league results to date:—

v. Hong Kong Police, lost by 6 runs.
v. University, won by 99 runs.
v. Hong Kong Club, draw.
v. Kowloon, won by 126 runs.
v. Royal Navy, won by 117 runs.

In the first match of the Garrison knockout cricket competition, we defeated the 12th Heavy Battery R.A. by 73 runs.

Football.

The R.E. and Royal Signals football team caused a sensation last week by defeating South China A to the extent of 3—1. This is the Chinese team's first defeat this season. It is well to note that Sigmn Blanco White had the greatest of pleasure in scoring twice. The other Signals in the team are L/Corpls McBride and Holland and Sigmn Durand. The matches played recently are too numerous for publication.

Tennis.

In the final of the Company tennis handicap, Sigmn Purcell lost to C.S.M. Pitt, R.E., by 2 sets to 1.

Billiards.

The juniors lost to the seniors in a match played on 18th January. Sigmn White won by 28 from Q.M.S. Turner, R.E., and L/Corpl McBride lost by 4 to R.S.M. Goddard, R.E.

Chess.

Sigmn Purcell is still swotting this up, and if anyone would like to put a problem before him, I sincerely hope he will be able to furnish an answer. Now then, Sid! don't let us down.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Cricket.

Congratulations to Major R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C., Royal Signals, on being appointed captain of the Singapore Cricket Club XI.

The season opening next month will, in all probability, find our eleven somewhat weaker than last season. We do not, however, mean to let the Garrison cup leave us, in spite of our losses.

Both Capt Brownjohn, R.E., and Sapper Mills, R.E. (bat and ball specialists respectively) will be leaving us, making two gaps which will be hard to fill unless Major Vyvyan and Sigmn Lomax find their form, which will compensate us a lot.

Football.

Our last match in the Garrison league resulted in a draw of 1—1 with H.Q. 1st Royal Sussex Regiment, giving us seventh place in the list.

We are now awaiting the commencement of the Singapore Football Association league fixtures.

The Corps in Egypt.

Army Team Boxing Championship.

The first round of the Command championships was decided in Red Barracks ring on February 13th, and we burst forth in full war-paint, determined to lower the colours of the Royal Irish Fusiliers; but alas! our dreams were shattered, for the "Faughs" walked away with six fights and left us standing with three to our credit.

Each one of our representatives put up brilliant fights, and it is the general opinion that had any other team in the Command opposed us we would have seen them off, as it were. I would like to comment on the Irish team: they possess the true sporting spirit, and their boxing is clean in every respect.

In the second round the Fusiliers beat the 15/19th Hussars at Kasr-el-Nil, winning every fight. We wish them the best of luck in the future stages of the competition.

Col. H. L. Mackworth (Chief Signal Officer) entered the ring at the conclusion of the contests and congratulated the Fusiliers on winning. He said he was sorry to see the Signals lose. The Corps had met the R.I.F. three times; the first time they beat us, the second we beat them, and now they have secured the verdict again. He hoped that next year we would be able to draw level again.

The attendance was 1200. A summary of the fighting is given below:—

Fly weight—Fus. McCarthy, R.I.F. v. Dvr Cauldwell, Royal Signals. This fight was fairly even, and it was hard to tell who had won at the end of the third round. McCarthy was awarded the referee's verdict.

Bantam weight—Fus. Faulkner, R.I.F. v. Sigmn Smith, Royal Signals. In the first round Faulkner seemed to outbox his man, and scored well with his left leads; but at the interval it was discovered that Smith's arm had been dislocated, and the fight went to the Irishman.

Feather weight—Fus. Williams, R.I.F. v. L/Corpl Matthews, Royal Signals. The first round was fairly slow, neither man appearing to be very anxious to score, but the second round was much livelier, Matthews coming in with a dash. The Signalman seemed to be very strong, and at the end of the round both men seemed to be sharing the points. In the third session both contestants seemed to be very tired, and the exchanges were fairly slow. Williams received the verdict after a well fought contest, and I think I am right in saying that Matthews was very unlucky to lose.

Light weight—Fus. McClachy, R.I.F. v. Sigmn Richmond, Royal Signals. Owing to Richmond not being able to turn the scale at feather weight, he elected to enter the ring as a light. The opening round was very fast, the Signalman forcing the pace; he dealt some telling blows to his opponent's body and face, and it was plain that the Irishman was feeling the effects at the conclusion of the round. The two succeeding rounds found Richmond leading well on points, thus registering the Signals' first win.

Welter weight—L/Corpl Preston, R.I.F. v. L/Corpl Solomon, Royal Signals. The first round was very brisk, both men dealing some telling blows to the body. The next round was just as fast, and at the end neither of the men seemed to be very much weakened. In the last round Solomon's eye was cut and he lost a lot of blood, and from that time seemed to grow very weak. Preston was awarded the fight on points, and the loser was congratulated by the referee on an extraordinarily good fight.

Welter weight—Corpl Mahoney, R.I.F. v. L/Corpl Wales, Royal Signals. This proved a fight in which grit played the leading part. Mahoney is not the sort of boxer to suit Wales' tactics, and he ran out a fairly easy winner. Wales was floored repeatedly by the Irishman, until he received the deciding blow which compelled him to stay down for the count. The referee congratulated him on putting up such an exceedingly game fight.

Middle weight—Corpl Mansfield, R.I.F. v. Sigmn Williams, Royal Signals. Williams seemed to have the best of the exchanges during the opening round, during which he received a cut over the right eye. In the second round the Signalman's nose was cut rather badly and he lost a lot of blood, but for all this he fought back very gamely. Mansfield received a points decision. The referee congratulated the loser on having fought one of the best fights of the evening.

Light heavy weight—Sergt Guy, R.I.F. v. L/Sergt Wheeler, Royal Signals. The first round proved to be fairly even, both men getting in some good hard blows. The second round was very fast, and at the conclusion it was still hard to decide who was the leader. Wheeler made sure of things in the last round, scoring freely with his left and right leads, and was awarded the fight on points. The loser was congratulated on a very good fight.

Heavy weight—L/Corpl Burrows, R.I.F. v. Sigmn Richards, Royal Signals. This proved a fairly easy thing for Richards, and he knocked out his man in the first round.

Final points—R.I.F., 6 fights (15 points); Royal Signals, 3 fights (12 points).

There were also three special contests arranged, all of which were very good. Immediately before the interval the M.C. (C.S.M. Jeffry) announced the following: "Owing to the speed at which fighting is usually carried out, many spectators are unable to see and appreciate all the finer points of the art, and as a result are often dissatisfied with the judge's decision. In order to demonstrate to you some of the more complicated methods of attack and defence in such a way that they may be fully understood, two of the slowest movers in the Garrison have kindly offered their services, and will now give three exhibition rounds in slow motion. . . On my right, Lightning Lenard (Corpl Vignaux) Q Branch champion for 99 years, 3 months, 21 days. On my left, Quiksilver Bill (Corporal Tich White), mosquito-weight champion, 1924, 25 and 26." This proved to be a real laughter-maker, and was loudly applauded by the onlookers. The fight consisted of three 1-minute rounds; there were no judges, but Sergt Norcross refereed the struggle.

Football.

There has been a marked improvement in the team since the rendition of last month's notes—not that they have carried away the honours, but the play on the whole has improved. Training has affected us during the past month, there being one or two of the members away at Helwan, but the committee have managed to bring them in for the week-end league games, so it *might* have been worse. Results to date are as follows:—

February 6th—v. 15/19th Hussars, 0—3.
February 13th—v. 5th Pack Brigade, 0—2.
February 20th—v. Royal Irish Fusiliers, 3—3.
February 27th—v. 3rd Hussars, 1—2.

Played 22; won 8; drawn 1; lost 13; goals for 66, against 57—16 points. Position in league table, 9th.

Hockey (Pritchard Cup).

The annual hockey match, which counts towards the much-coveted trophy, was played between Nos. 1 and 3 Companies on the Heliopolis Sporting Ground on February 19th. Neither unit fielded their strongest team, No. 3 being without Lieuts R. C. Woodbridge and W. J. Pearce, who were on detachment duty. It cannot be described as an interesting game, because No. 1 were by far the stronger side, and eventually won by 14 goals to 1. No special comment need be passed on the players of No. 1, but for No. 3 Major G. G. Rawson (who scored their only goal) and Corpl Coleman are certainly deserving of mention.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Boxing.

We wish to congratulate all ranks of the unit who took part in the first round of the Command boxing championships on the splendid performances, and the true sporting spirit shown. Each fight has been fully detailed under the Corps Notes, so no further remarks are required here.

We congratulate No. 3 Company Egypt Signals on their fine performance in reaching the final of the C. of E. small units cup competition. Although they were beaten in the final by a better team, they were certainly not disgraced. Better luck next time, No. 3!

The Sweets that Men Like

Rowntree's, the Pastilles with the delicious fruit flavours, can now be obtained in protective cellophane packets—just right for the pocket. 6d. per packet in the following varieties—"Mixed," "Lime" and "Dessert Fruit."

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We also congratulate Sigmn Batten and L/Corpl Jeffers, of No. 2 W/T Company, Palestine, on the fine performance they put up when competing in the National Sporting Club sport. In the race around the island, a distance of approximately 6 miles—which was an open event for Egypt—they finished 5th and 20th respectively.

Cross-Country Running.

At the annual inter-Company cross-country run held on 4th February, 18 members of this unit competed. Our star runner, Dvr Cauldwell, having only just recovered from an injured knee, was unable to do himself justice, but under the circumstances did exceedingly well in finishing second to Sigmn Beeton. The event was won by this unit with a total of 131 points as against 169 by No. 3 Company.

Dvr Stillwell was awarded 3rd place, while a lucky number prize was won by Sigmn Hunter of No. 3 Company.

The C.S.O. B.T.E., Col. H. L. Mackworth, presented the prizes in No. 3 Company recreation room immediately after the run.

The whole of the Corps runners are now under strict training to defend their title as the champions of Egypt. The championship takes place next month at Alexandria, and we hope to have the Corps name engraved on the shield for the second time.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Athletics.

The National Sporting Club, Cairo, held their annual sports at Gezira on February 25th and 26th, and a few members of this Company entered in some of the events. Sigmn R. Brown and Sigmn J. Brooker put up a good performance in the 5000 metres open walk, to finish 3rd and 5th respectively. The mode of progression of some of the walkers was a sight to see, and it was only after the spectators enquired of the judges whether it *was* a walking race, that the latter realised their job and disqualified the delinquents—in each case an Egyptian.

Football.

The Company football team distinguished itself during the past month by reaching the final of the Church of England Institute football competition out of an entry of about thirty teams. Our opponents in the final, played on the Slade Ground, Abbassia, were C Company King's Own Scottish Borderers, and they defeated us to the tune of 6 goals to 1. After the match the cup and medals were presented to the winners, and medals were awarded to our Company team as runners-up.

Cross-Country Running.

The Corps in Egypt's cross-country championship and inter-Company team race took place at Abbassia on February 4th, over a 4½ miles course of sand.

The individual race resulted in Sigmn Beeton repeating his last year's success by about 100 yards from Dvr Cauldwell of No. 1 Company, in 27 mins. 40 secs.

The team competition ended in a win for No. 1 Company by 131 points to our 169. The placings of our team were:—1, Sigmn Beeton; 4, Dvr Ratledge; 9, Sigmn L. Clark; 12, Sigmn Chaloner; 13, Sigmn Backhouse; 14, Sigmn Hunter; 16, Sigmn Jeans; 18, Sigmn Silverstone; 19, Sigmn Milsom; 20, Driver Pitman; 21, Sigmn A. Powell; 22, Sigmn J. Stone.

The prizes were afterwards presented to the winners by Col. Mackworth. A special lucky number prize was awarded to Sigmn Hunter, who finished in the 14th position.

Boxing.

The Corps team fought the Royal Irish Fusiliers in the Command team boxing championships at Abbassia on February 12th, and we were defeated by 6 fights to 3. L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond, of this Company, were winners of the light-heavy-weights and light-weights respectively.

Rhine Signal Units, Wiesbaden.

Football.

We have made our exit from the Rhine Army cup contest after *nearly* reaching the semi-final. We defeated the Royal Engineers by 3—1, and then lost by the odd goal to the 1st Manchester Regiment on their ground. It was played in a snowstorm, and we were very unlucky in that the winning goal was scored by one of our own team.

The thanks of the units are due to the team for their gallant struggle, and to the spectators who bravely faced the discomforts of the weather and long journey to give much appreciated *support*.

Rugby.

We are in the semi-final, and praise is due to the team for their persevering spirit in training and play. We are to play the Berkshire Regiment on March 15th, and we *shall* be there. The difficulties our men have had to overcome would have disheartened a less sporting team, and we shall be greatly elated if they lift the coveted rugger cup.

Running.

The team is in training, as the Rhine Army run is due early in April. We have some of last year's team, and the cup we so narrowly lost will, we hope, soon resume its former place.

To the new runners we offer advice: When your legs feel like lead, and you are gasping like a fish, and you would give worlds to stop, stick it! the man in front is very likely feeling worse than you.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, Glasgow.

Our football team still top the Glasgow T.A. League, which they won last year, but they had to admit defeat in the cup competition at the hands of our friends the Glasgow Highlanders. Good luck to the Hielan' men; may they succeed in winning the final.

We offer our congratulations to the Corps football team on reaching the fifth round of the Army cup—a great performance. But of course they ran against it when they met the R.S.F., who are stationed in Glasgow not a mile from our headquarters. Nuff sed.

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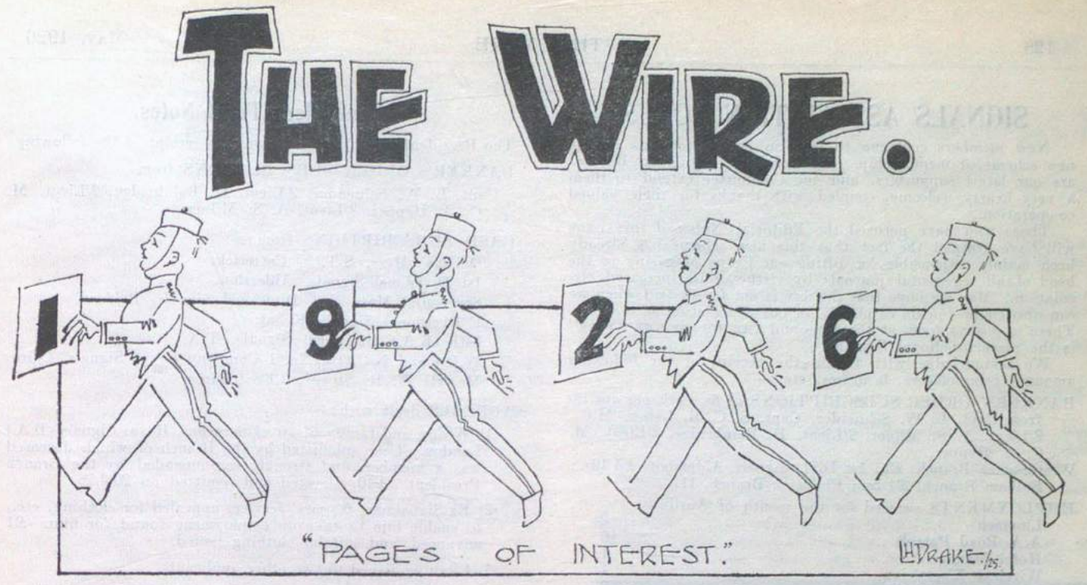

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All communications on Signals Association business should be addressed to The Secretary, Signals Association, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

and if reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Editorial Notes.

The issue of our May number is another landmark in the history of our Corps Magazine. It gives us great pleasure to announce that our circulation during the past six months has grown so consistently that we at last head the list of sales for all Regimental Journals.

That a Corps so newly formed as Royal Signals should achieve this distinction says much for the spirit of esprit-de-corps and the co-operation of all ranks which has been the means of bringing this to pass.

The Publications Committee desire me to thank those unit correspondents and others who, by their untiring energies and resources, have assisted in this achievement.

The Committee further hope, with every confidence, that the publication of this announcement will inspire those helpers to even greater efforts to maintain and improve our present standard of excellence, and so enable us to produce a Magazine worthy of "The only Corps that matters," and permanently hold our proud position—not only from the point of view of quantity, but also of quality.

❀ ❀ ❀

We have to thank F Divl. Signals at Kohat, and the Signal Training Centre at Jubbulpore, for the interesting collection of photographic side-lights on a Signalman's life in India which comprises our Pictorial Supplement to this issue—and especially F Divl. Signals, who, appreciating the additional cost entailed by the publication of a Supplement of this description, have most generously signified their willingness to assist financially in its production.

Photographs of this description are of paramount interest, not only to those already serving in India, but also to those who may anticipate being drafted there later; and our readers generally will, I am sure, pass a hearty vote of thanks to F Divl. Signals for their enterprising contribution to this month's magazine in the shape of

"THE INDIAN PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT."

❀ ❀ ❀

Referring to paragraph 1 of Editorial Notes for April. With the heavy accumulation of matter for publication, and the increasing influx of unit notes, etc., we have had to provide additional pages this month to cope with it.

This is conceded, however, as a "red letter occasion"; and we again remind all unit correspondents of the necessity of condensing their notes as much as possible in future, and by so doing enabling us to provide a sufficient space for everybody. (One very valuable correspondent's determination to "risk it in the June number" is *not* to be commended as a general practice.)

❀ ❀ ❀

We are asked to announce that the "Royal Engineer Quarterly Journal" is now publishing a complete list of Battle Honours for all R.E. units. Application for copies of this publication should be addressed to Col. F. E. G. Skey, Secretary R.E. Institute, Chatham.

THE EDITOR.

Late Editorial.

Unit notes received too late for publication:—

No. 1 Section, No. 2 (W/T) Company, Sarafand, Palestine.
D Divl. Signals, Rawalpindi (with photograph).
No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signals, Blackdown.
26th and 27th A.A. Signals (T.A.) Chelsea.
No. 2 Coy. 44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals (T.A.), Brighton.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

New members continue to pour in as participants in the new scheme of membership. The 3rd Divl. Signals at Bulford are our latest supporters, and the Committee extend to them a very hearty welcome, coupled with thanks for their valued co-operation.

Those who have perused the Editorial Notes of this issue will have grasped the fact that this new scheme has already been mainly responsible for lifting our Corps Magazine to the head of all regimental journals by virtue of its increased circulation. May we hope that the day is not far distant when we can also claim "pride of place" for our Association as a whole. There is always room at the top—and THE TOP OF THE "POLE" is the place for Royal Signals!

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from officers, branches, etc.:—

BANKERS' ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS of 5s. each per annum from Capt. L. W. Schneider, Capt. S. C. R. Usher, M.C., 2/Lieut. A. S. Milner, 2/Lieut. H. Bainbridge, 2/Lieut. M. C. A. Hepper.

Westminster Branch, £1; 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot, £3 19s.; Fulham Branch, £1 3s.; Chiswick Branch, 11s.

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of April:—

Linemen	2
A.A. Road Patrols	10
Hotel Manager	1
Wireless Electrician	1
P.O. Telegraphists	2
Clerk	1
Labourer	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

Capt. L. W. Schneider, 2/Lieut. H. Bainbridge, 2/Lieut. M. C. A. Hepper, 2/Lieut. A. S. Milner.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.
F Divisional Signals, Kohat.
54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals, T.A.
W.O.s and N.C.O.s, No. 1 Company Egypt Signals, Cairo.
Mr. R. W. R. Stovey, Christchurch.

APPEALS dealt with:—

(1) Widow and family of an ex-Sergeant, Royal Signals (T.A.) London. Case submitted by the Branch of which deceased was a member, and strongly recommended by the Branch President. £10 allocated and remitted on 20/4/26.

(2) Ex-Signalman, 6 years' service, appealed for clothing, etc., to enable him to take up employment found for him. £1 advanced, and suitable clothing issued.

(3) Clothing issued to two other applicants.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

To be C.Q.M.-Sergeant—

1857137 Brown, G. 21/11/24

To be Sergeant—

2306401 Reade, A. 21/11/24
2306900 Chumbley, W. 22/5/25
1850302 Pearson, C. 22/5/25
2306239 Foot, C. 1/8/25
2306738 Harrison, B. 3/8/25
2311582 Potts, W. 8/1/26
2311583 Lowrie, J. 17/1/26
1856116 Bond, W. 19/1/26
2308542 Limb, F. 19/1/26
2311506 Overington, L. 27/1/26
2311719 Hillman, J. 29/1/26
2310446 Bradbury, E. 1/2/26

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—

2309347 Gibbs, J. 14/2/26
2308511 Gregory, G. 15/2/26
2308803 Pout, A. 15/2/26
2311430 Naylor, A. 16/2/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—

2306713 Walker, C. 19/1/26
2308815 Washford, B. 14/2/26
2311535 Bellringer, H. 15/2/26
2308253 Wylie, J. 15/2/26
2306759 Griffiths, C. 15/2/26
2306764 Medway, W. 15/2/26
2306780 Hall, H. 15/2/26
2310575 Richardson, J. 16/2/26

To be Corporal—

5562760 Rice J. 21/11/24
1859048 Parsons, S. 11/3/25
1857433 Claber, A. 15/5/25
1850370 Conway, C. 22/5/25
2311115 Brett, T. 22/5/25
2310363 Lake, A. 28/5/25
2311491 Hobby, H. 28/5/25
2306519 O'Donnell, J. 28/5/25
2312555 Fox, T. 28/5/25
2309537 Nelson, C. 28/5/25
2311433 Smith, E. 28/5/25
2309458 Lay, G. 28/5/25
2309775 Bell, H. 28/5/25
1857330 Watford, R. 28/5/25
2312054 Dawson, W. 28/5/25
2310994 Stather, R. 28/5/25
2311016 Applegate, W. 30/7/25
2309353 Schofield, J. 14/10/25
2306645 Turner, A. 20/10/25
2309327 Lewis, S. 22/12/25
2313905 Heath, C. 7/1/26
2313884 Fish, A. 8/1/26
2556764 Corbett, W. 8/1/26
3515942 McDowell, A. 8/1/26
2314810 Ayling, E. 12/1/26
2311450 Finn, V. 13/1/26
2314883 Austin, A. 15/1/26
2308407 Smith, J. 19/1/26
2312593 Perryman, G. 19/1/26
1856731 Cosham, A. 19/1/26
2311669 Berry, H. 19/1/26
6193431 Davies, C. 19/1/26
2310963 Searle, L. 19/1/26
2308484 Thatcher, A. 29/1/26
2314243 Wright, F. 1/2/26
2314025 Ibbs, G. 3/2/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—

1857433 Claber, A. 15/5/25
2306749 Peck, H. 22/5/25
2311115 Brett, T. 22/5/25
24453 Lloyd, E. 13/2/26
2306662 Palmer, S. 13/2/26
2315289 Rockall, G. 13/2/26
2314047 McAdie, J. 14/2/26
2312878 Dietrich, V. 15/2/26
2314451 Percy, G. 15/2/26
2309342 Jeffers, W. 15/2/26
2313977 Hall, T. 15/2/26
4962358 Ramsdale, F. 16/2/26
2312097 Gladwell, T. 16/2/26
2312321 Ryan, P. 16/2/26
2309429 Foley, P. 16/2/26
2306806 Catchpole, E. 20/2/26
2310586 Bosley, G. 2/3/26
2307290 Halls, E. 2/3/26
2309022 Marcham, E. 2/3/26

Discharges.

2306135 F/S/Sergt J. Brown, 24/3/26
1860329 L/Sergt J. Donnelly, 5/3/26
2310938 Corpl W. Morris, 19/3/26

Transfers to Army Reserve.

1856730 Corpl G. Curtis, 8/2/26
2309333 Corpl S. Blogg, 8/2/26
2309855 Corpl M. Macintyre, 16/2/26
2310739 Corpl H. Allen, 17/2/26
1850477 A/Cpl C. Templeman, 22/2/26
2310590 Corpl L. Hadler, 1/3/26
2310609 Corpl V. Tubb, 2/3/26
2310723 Corpl F. Carter, 7/3/26

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS OF OFFICERS—
Capt. J. R. Carter, from Catterick to Bulford.
Capt. G. G. Glanville, from Catterick to Wiesbaden.
Capt. J. G. Deedes, from Egypt to War Office.
Lieut. W. Scott, from Palestine to Aldershot.
Lieut. E. S. Heffer, from Bulford to Catterick.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 16/3/26

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut J. C. Anderson, late Royal Scots, to be Lieut., 17/3/26.

War Office, 19/3/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Sigs. Capt. T. T. J. Sheffield, from the 49th Divl. Train, R.A.S.C., T.A., to be Captain, 20/3/26.

War Office, 23/3/26

REGULAR FORCES—MEMORANDA.
Lieut.-Col. K. E. Edgeworth, D.S.O., M.C., h.p. list, late Royal Signals, retires on retired pay, 24/3/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut.-Col. K. E. Edgeworth, D.S.O., M.C., retired pay, to be Lieut.-Colonel, 24/3/26, with seniority, 8/4/17.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Capt. G. Pitt, late Indian Army, to be Lieut., 24/3/26, and relinquishes the rank of Captain.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. J. G. Hopkins, late Officer Cadet Durham Univ. Contgt. Sen. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 12/3/26.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—GENERAL LIST—
Royal Signals—Officer-Cadet W. A. S. Perring, Birmingham Univ. Contgt. Sen. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 24/3/26.

War Office, 26/3/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. J. St. C. Ruthven resigns his commission, 27/3/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. J. G. T. Hiley, late R.E., to be 2/Lieut. 27/3/26, and relinquishes the rank of Lieut.

War Office, 30/3/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—2nd Cavalry Divl. Signals. 2/Lieut N. B. Lawrie resigns his commission, 31/3/26.
51st (Highland) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut A. T. Wood to be Lieut., 25/3/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. J. P. Appleby, late R.E., to be 2/Lieut. 31/3/26, and to relinquish the rank of Lieut.

War Office, 6/4/26

REGULAR FORCES—
School of Signals—Lieut.-Col. P. R. Bald, D.S.O., Royal Signals, relinquishes the temporary appointment of Officer Commanding, 8/3/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Capt. A. K. Murray resigns his commission, 7/4/26.
2/Lieut. R. S. Smith, M.C., D.C.M., to be Lieut., 5/4/25.
2/Lieut. F. P. Wills to be Lieut., 1/9/25, with seniority, 11/2/25.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals. 2/Lieut. T. M. Pryke to be Lieut., 1/2/26.

War Office, 9/4/26

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Signals—Capt. W. R. C. Penney, M.C., is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 22/3/26.
Capt. G. H. Plummer, M.C., is restored to the Establishment, 22/3/26.

ESTABLISHMENTS—
School of Signals—Capt. W. R. C. Penney, M.C., Royal Signals, to be Instructor (Class CC) 22/3/26, vice Capt. G. H. Plummer, M.C., Royal Signals.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Signals—Lieut. K. W. T. Bodfield, from the T.A., to be Lieut., 10/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals. Capt. A. H. Read, from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Captain, 10/4/26, with precedence as from 5/3/25.
48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals—S. V. Lancaster, late Cadet-Sergt. Rossall School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C., to be 2/Lieut., 10/4/26.
226th (F.A.) Signal Section—Lieut H. M. Rand to be Capt., 10/4/26.

War Office, 13/4/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Signals—42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals. Capt. R. S. Newton, M.C., from T.A. Res. of Officers, to be Capt., 16/3/26.
Capt. R. S. Newton, M.C., to be Lieut.-Col., 16/3/26.
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut. W. J. E. Gammage to be Lieut., 11/3/26.

T.A. RES. OF OFFICERS—REGIMENTAL LIST—
Royal Signals—42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals. Lieut.-Col. W. Monks, from Active List, to be Lieut.-Col., 16/3/26.

The Late Lieut.-Col. A. F. Thomas, D.S.O.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Felix Thomas, D.S.O., Royal Signals, Chief Signal Officer Western Command, who died suddenly of pneumonia at Chester on the 30th March, 1926.

Colonel Thomas was born on the 4th November, 1879, and was educated at Rugby.

During the South African war, he volunteered in 1899 for service with the Frontier Mounted Rifles, and later transferred to Montmorency's and Driscoll's Scouts and the Imperial Yeomanry, being granted a regular commission in the Manchester Regiment in 1902.

After five years' service with the Manchester Regiment, he was seconded for duty with the West African Frontier Force, proceeding to Sierra Leone in 1907. He returned to the 2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment in 1911, and proceeded to France in 1914 as Battalion Signalling Officer. He was severely wounded during the retreat from Mons on August 26th, 1914, in the battle of Le Cateau, his right shoulder and forearm being permanently injured; and he was not able to return to duty until May, 1915.

At this time, officers with Signal experience were badly needed for the Army Signal Service, and Colonel (then Captain) Thomas was seconded to the Army Signal Service in June, 1915, and appointed Chief Instructor at Bedford. Early in 1916 he proceeded to Egypt and was appointed O.C. H.Q. Signals West Frontier Force, Egypt, and later became successively Chief Instructor in Signalling at Zeitoun, O.C. 75th Divl. Signal Coy., and O.C. 54th Divl. Signal Company.

In 1919, Colonel (then Major) Thomas went to South Russia as an Instructor with Deniken's Force, returning to England in 1920, when he was appointed C.S.O. London District and transferred as a Major to the Royal Corps of Signals. He was promoted Lieut.-Colonel on February 22nd, 1925, when he became C.S.O. Western Command, Chester. He received the Queen's South African Medal with four clasps and the King's S.A. Medal with two clasps, and during the Great War was twice mentioned in despatches and received the Distinguished Service Order in 1918.

The death of Lieut.-Colonel Thomas is a great loss to the Corps. He had great charm of manner and a most cheerful disposition, and we tender our heartfelt sympathy to his relatives.

NOTICES.

The War Office, London, S.W.1.
February 16th, 1926.

19/Emplyt/142 (A.G.8.b.).

SIR—With reference to Chapter VII. "Educational Training, 1923," and Army Council Instruction 630 of 1925, I am commanded by the Army Council to draw attention to the importance of soldiers serving overseas getting into touch with possible sources of employment in the district they intend to settle in on leaving the Colours.

In this connection, and with the object of inducing soldiers to make efforts on their own behalf, it is essential that the objects and activities of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, and of Regimental or Old Comrades' Associations, should constantly be brought before them, and more particularly during the closing phases of their Colour service.

It should be realised that employers of labour seldom, if ever, engage an applicant without a personal interview; but if the soldier is known in the district in which he intends to settle, and advises some interested person that he will return to civil life in that district within a certain period, it might be found possible to earmark a situation for him. In this connection, I am to say that Regimental and Old Comrades' Associations should generally be able to assist soldiers if they register with them as soon as it is definitely known when they are to embark for the United Kingdom.

Soldiers should therefore be encouraged to register with their Regimental Associations while still serving overseas, and on reaching the United Kingdom to follow up such registration by getting into touch with a representative of the Association concerned. Further, on arrival in the United Kingdom, soldiers who have not secured a promise of employment should at once register with the branch of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, in the district in which they intend to settle.

It is requested that you will make such arrangements as will ensure that this matter is brought to the notice of all concerned before the trooping seasons commence.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
B. B. CUBITT.

The General Officers Commanding-in-Chief,
and General Officers Commanding, Abroad.

Amalgamation of the Indian Signal Corps with the Royal Corps of Signals.

In accordance with Army Order No. 384 of 1925, the whole of the British establishment of the Indian Signal Corps will in future be found from personnel of the Royal Corps of Signals.

The following notes are published in order that all interested may understand the general effect of this order.

The Indian Signal Corps has for a long time past comprised two establishments—British and Indian—the former consisting of British, and the latter of Indian personnel; and since the war, the British establishment has been formed partly of Royal Corps of Signals personnel on loan, and partly by attached British personnel from various other arms, infantry, cavalry, artillery and engineers.

Units consist of a British and an Indian portion, the main units and their stations being:—

Army Signal School	Poona
Signal Training Centre and Depot	Jubbulpore
Corps Signals	Karachi
(No. 1 Line Coy. and No. 2 W/T Coy.)	
Ditto	Rawalpindi
Divisional Signals	Peshawar
Ditto	Quetta
Ditto	Dera Ismail Khan
Ditto	Rawalpindi
Ditto	Meerut
Ditto	Kohat
Ditto	Jubbulpore

We understand that the arrangements whereby there is a British and an Indian establishment of the Indian Signal Corps is now to continue, but that in future it is intended that the British establishment shall be found wholly from Royal Signals, and that there will be no attached personnel from other arms. The Indian Signal Corps will, we believe, continue as a separate corps, and the units will be units of the Indian Signal Corps and not of the Royal Signals, owing to the fact that a large part of the personnel will continue to be found from Indians of the Indian Army.

The provisional British establishment required for the Indian Signal Corps consists of 156 officers, 3 warrant officers Class I., 12 warrant officers Class II. (Q.M.S.s), 18 warrant officers Class II., 17 Company-quartermaster-sergeants, 229 sergeants, 338 corporals, 169 lance-corporals, and 1321 signalmen; and it is understood that these numbers will, as soon as possible, be found in future from the Royal Corps of Signals—the personnel being posted to L Company, Royal Signals, Simla, up to the above numbers, and then distributed under arrangements made in India to the various units of the Indian Signal Corps as required.

It is of interest to note here that the present establishment of the Royal Corps of Signals, excluding those in India, is approximately 280 officers and 4900 other ranks, and it will readily be seen what an important and large part of the Corps the L Signal Company will become.

At the present time the Royal Signals are represented in India by 35 officers, 10 warrant officers Class II., 85 sergeants and staff-sergeants, 224 corporals, 121 lance-corporals, and 1058 signalmen, so that there is a large deficiency to be made up before the full required establishment is provided. At the same time, as already exp'ained, there are personnel attached from other arms to the Indian Signal Corps, and it is intended to permit all such personnel who are desirous, and recommended, to transfer to Royal Signals with a view to making good the deficiency as far as possible.

The attached personnel under consideration for transfer consist of some 60 officers, 3 warrant officers Cl. I., 18 warrant officers Class II., 137 sergeants, 59 corporals, 8 lance-corporals, 111 privates, etc., who have served for considerable periods with the Indian Signal Corps, and possess Signal qualifications similar to those of the personnel of Royal Signals.

The officers are at present seconded to the Indian Signal Corps. Some are British Service, and some belong to the Indian Army. The conditions regarding offers of transfer for officers were contained in Army Order No. 384 of 1925. As regards the other ranks, they are at present held on the Indian Unattached List (Signals); and this really means that they have been struck off the strength of their own arm of the Service, and are seconded more or less for permanent service with the Indian Signal Corps.

Hitherto, as regards the Indian Signal Corps, all promotions have been made in India on the Indian Unattached List (Signals), and this has been the case both for the personnel of Royal Signals and for those attached from other arms. In the case of the Royal Signals personnel, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers posted to India have been held supernumerary to the ordinary Corps promotion roster, which only provides for the warrant officers and non-commissioned officers required outside India. They received their promotion on the Chatham roster when their turn came as supernumeraries, but no promotions were carried out by Officer i/c Records to provide for the requirements of the Indian Signal Corps—promotions only being given by the Indian authorities on the I.U.L. as required for the Indian Signal Corps, the I.U.L. ranks being dropped when the personnel returned to the home establishment.

It is now proposed that when the amalgamation is complete, all promotions required for the full British establishment of the Indian Signal Corps shall be controlled by the Officer i/c Royal Signals Records, that is to say, the full establishment of the British portion of the Indian Signal Corps will be added to the establishment required for the corps outside India, and substantive promotion will be made from Chatham to provide for both—the old method of promotions under Indian arrangements on the I.U.L. (Signals) to cease.

As regards the offers of transfer to the Royal Corps of Signals for the attached other ranks now serving with the Indian Signal Corps, we are informed that details are still under consideration, but broadly speaking, it is understood that warrant officers and non-commissioned officers will be offered transfer with rank and seniority calculated according to their service as non-commissioned officers, as compared with the normal flow of promotion in the Royal Signals.

We also understand that warrant officers and non-commissioned officers who do not accept the offers of transfer will be permitted to retain their present I.U.L. (Signals) rank, and to continue to serve with the Indian Signal Corps until such time as they either complete their army engagement or revert to regimental duty with their regiments, but that from the date of amalgamation no further promotions on the I.U.L. (Signals) roster will take place. It is also proposed that Royal Signals personnel now holding higher I.U.L. (Signals) rank than their substantive Royal Signals rank may continue to hold their I.U.L. rank whilst they continue to serve in India.

As regards the date on which the amalgamation is to take effect, when the new arrangements for promotion will start, we are told that this will depend on the way the work of preparing offers of transfer progresses.

This article will, it is hoped, help to give a general idea of the position of the Indian Signal Corps with regard to Royal Signals. It must not, of course, be considered in any case as being official.

Finally, it should be noted that there is a special unit of the Indian Signal Corps called "T" Company, which is not being considered as part of the establishment of the Indian Signal Corps so far as the amalgamation with Royal Signals is concerned, and the establishment of this unit is not therefore included in the figures previously given. This Company is not a part of the Field Army, and provides military telegraphists for various duties with Indian Posts and Telegraphs. We understand that this Company will continue to be found under arrangements made locally in India.

KESTREL.

The Eclipse of the Sun, 1926.

The British Government Expedition sent out to observe the 1926 eclipse has a certain interest to readers of THE WIRE, as its membership of six included two C.S.O.'s, one W/T officer, and one officer who had just vacated the adjutancy of an O.T.C. with a very active Signal Company. The other two members of the expedition were both leading astronomers not connected with the Corps.

Besides this, one of the American Expeditions was drawn from the Reserve of the American Signal Corps and drew a considerable part of its equipment from it.

The place selected for observing the 1926 eclipse was Benkoelen, in Sumatra. Here were assembled the Expeditions from America, Dutch East Indies, Germany, Australia, and ourselves. In addition in Sumatra, in other parts, the American Naval and Dutch Expeditions were established. An Italian Expedition was sent to East Africa.

The British and Australian astronomical camp was established in the old Fort Marlborough at Benkoelen. This fort was built by the British East India Company with bricks and materials which were brought out as ballast to Sumatra by their ships trading in those districts. The fort was handed over to the Dutch in 1825 on the re-arrangement of territories carried out at that time.

The leader of our Expedition was billeted with the O.C. troops of the fort, and this officer could not do enough to help us.

All the British photographs were to be taken by means of coelostats, that is, large silvered glass mirrors, which were driven by clockwork to rotate round the polar axis, reflecting the object photographed on to fixed cameras. In addition, for all except three of the photographs, prisms were used which broke up the light from the sun into its elements, and so enabled the search for knowledge of the component parts of the outer atmosphere of the sun to be studied.

Our Australian confrère brought an independent set of instruments to study problems slightly different to but closely allied with those which we were studying. His apparatus included a beautifully prepared grating for spectroscopic purposes, and also apparatus for direct photographs of the corona through a series of colour filters,

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The work of preparation was very strenuous. Electric power was required for special arcs, and had to be arranged for and wired from the harbour supply. Concrete pillars had to be very carefully orientated and built to carry the telescopes, coelostats and clocks. "Attap" shelters and huts had to be erected to protect the instruments from the severe rays of the sun, when not actually working with them, and from the drenching tropical rain. All these had to be planned and built with moveable roofs, which could be removed to enable the direct rays from the sun and the corona to fall directly on to the various instruments whenever the work required this.

The difficulties in getting all the work done were increased by the fact that the workmen only spoke Malay, whereas the members of the Expedition spoke neither Malay nor Dutch.

In due course our camp grew, and the 40 ft. camera, the 20 ft. camera, the Quartz spectroscope for the ultra-violet, and the Flint spectroscope for the infra-red, were duly erected, each with its own coelostat and clock.

In addition, a cinema camera was erected with a prism to photograph the changing spectrum of the flash, that is, the beginning and end of totality.

The chronometer was very carefully checked twice daily with the wireless time signals sent out from Nauen in Germany and Malabar in Java. The admirable new British wireless station at Rugby was also listened to. This station was so beautifully clear that it was very much regretted by all the Expeditions that, owing to the short time this station had been working, arrangements could not be made to broadcast a reliable time signal.

The work of erecting, testing and orientating all the apparatus went on steadily. Time was none too long. We worked from 7 a.m. till late every evening. The last instrument was only fixed in position at 11.30 a.m. on the actual day of the eclipse.

Three days before the fateful day, the leader issued his orders to each member, detailing him to his instrument and giving each exact instructions as to the number and length of exposures. In the event of doubtful weather, the whole programme was to be carried out in every detail.

The percentage of clear days at eclipse time since the Expedition had arrived had been 50%; but the rainy season was overdue. Would the weather favour the astronomers? Would they win in the great gamble—8000 miles, five months from home, and heavy expense—for 3½ minutes of total eclipse? A far finer gamble than any racecourse or casino can provide, and much more exciting!

The gamble is well worth it! It is impossible to foresee the deep scientific results which may accrue from this or some other observation of the eclipse of the sun. They may lead to developments which will affect the whole conditions under which we live.

Helium was discovered many years ago by means of observations made at eclipses of the sun, and this led to its being discovered in due course on earth. This discovery will have far-reaching results on the safety of airships when they are ready for commercial use, and when a supply of helium on a commercial basis is available.

The eclipse day dawned, and all were on duty early. All was quiet in the fort so as to ensure no disturbing noises. It was a moderate morning; clouds rolling up in the distance. Would they keep off long enough? The sun shone, the wind dropped, and the clouds seemed to stand still; could it last?

First contact, the start of the eclipse, was carefully watched for by the astronomers as the hour approached. Then, in the silence, "It's begun."

All now watched the sun through instruments or smoked glass; steadily the shadow advanced, making the sun a crescent such as is seen in the normal phases of the moon. Gradually it became cooler and darker like twilight in northern climes. The shadows thrown by the gradually diminishing sun changed shape; and the sun shining through the leaves of the trees on to a sheet of paper reflected its own eclipsed shape.

A little light cloud came up and passed. Excitement was intense. About twenty minutes before eclipse time, dark-slides were issued, every one took up his appointed station, a last look was taken at focus and adjustments, and clocks were wound.

About five minutes before the schedule time for totality, the counter (whose metronome was monotonously ticking off its seconds) announced that the clouds had passed and that the sun was absolutely clear.

Suddenly the astronomer, whose instrument best enabled him to watch and measure the disappearing sun, shouted "60," and the counter took up his count, "59, 58, 57, 56, 55, etc."

The click of closing cameras and opening dark-slides was the only sound heard besides the counter.

About "40" the observer checked his observation; either he was late at first, or the shadow was moving a little faster than had been calculated. The observer shouted "35"; the counter taking up the correction, "34, 33, 32, 31, etc."

Another astronomer now took up the watch (this time, as it happened, the most experienced eclipse observer of the party); he watched for the second contact, the actual beginning of totality. Suddenly he shouted "Go!"; totality had begun; simultaneously the click of all the cameras exposing for the flash could be heard, and the counter took up his count, "2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc."

Tense silence except for the counter and the clicks of the cameras as they were exposed and closed, and slides were changed.

Everyone at different times had long exposures to make, varying from 30 seconds to two minutes. This enabled all to see the most marvellous and wonderful phenomenon possible to behold, and the actual eclipse to be watched through glasses.

The observed sun with the corona shewing around the moon's black disc, and two wonderful horns projecting into the darkness, were all clear and cloudless.

The colour of the corona—a wonderful pearly grey, with flames of fire red on the sun's limb—baffles all description, and excels in wonder and beauty anything the writer has seen published as a picture of this extraordinary phenomenon.

The sky was the colour of a very fine moonlight night, and the light about as one gets at night with half moon.

The counting was going on—"170, 171, 172, 173"—"185, 186, 187, 188, 189"; suddenly the observer shouted "Over!" Click went the cameras, and the last photographs were taken. The eclipse of 1926 was over!

Dark-slides were closed and taken to the dark-room.

The British Empire Expeditions had had luck, and a perfect eclipse as far as weather was concerned.

Five minutes afterwards the returning sun was lost in cloud.

The plates have been developed, and are on the whole very satisfactory from a cursory examination. What will be the scientific results will take months of careful study and measurement to settle.

This will be reported in due course to the Royal Society and the Royal Astronomical Society in England.

Eclipse of the sun has a special interest to the S.T.C. at this moment, as the next total eclipse (in 1927) will be visible in the North of England, and may be watched from the Camp in the early morning on June 29th.

The last total eclipse visible in England was in 1724; and the next one after 1927 will be in 1999.

Plain Tales.

Overseas Opinions.

Many thanks to "Art" for his information re life in Egypt. I regret that I am not in a position to speak of counter-attractions. I had quite enough bother when my wife found out about the barmaid at the "Golden Lion."

* * * *

Tender Hearts.

We have no special prize for humanitarians. If we had, it would surely be awarded to the kindly soul who drowned three surplus kittens *in warm water*.

* * * *

An Alarming Possibility.

When I have read my WIRES I do not, like some people, sell them for 4d. or throw them away. No! I like to stack them on a shelf for reference purposes, and I like them to look tidy. It is, therefore, with some exasperation that I regard the first three issues of 1926, for the February number is distinctly taller than the others. Having recollections of the wonderful colour schemes of 1924, I am beginning to feel uneasy. Don't dare tell me we shall have our magazine appearing as a triangle or a rhomboid.

* * * *

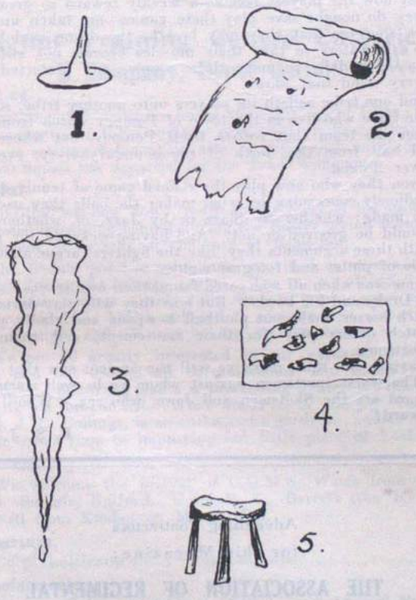
Salesmanship.

Every single copy of THE WIRE was sold in the 3rd Divl. Signals on April 1st. The salesman was R.S.M. Adams, and the "posted" copies did *not* arrive several days before the others. Need I say more? Yes; I hope to be able to say the same about *this* month's WIRES.

* * * *

Plain History.

Since becoming a resident in this district, I have revised my geographical knowledge. Having chugged up a 1-in-7 gradient for a few miles and swooped down the other side for a few more, I must say that if this is Salisbury Plain, I have been blissfully unaware of the meaning of "plain" for a number of years. However, the Plain simply shrieks with historic interest. I have been fortunate in enlisting the assistance of a very talented artist, who has kindly furnished sketches of some interesting articles unearthed near the Beacon recently. Whilst I was drawing these—Oh! sorry! of course, these things must be handed in to the proper authorities in due course.



1—Ancient hob-nail from the armoured sandal of a Roman Foreman-of-Works.

2—Original MSS. of "The Druid's Prayer."

3—Icicle: undoubtedly a relic of the Ice Age.

4—A few fragments: probably the bust of a Roman nose.

5—Stool used by King Alfred on Cook's Course.

* * * *

REFUSE ALL IMITATIONS.

Masters the Hair!

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ANZORA
MASTERS THE HAIR

Literary Note.

The chief editor of the now defunct Headquarter Gazette, who it will be remembered was posted from Catterick to Bulford in December last, regrets to report that his man-of-all-work, known as "Uncle Alfred," has been dismissed. To "Uncle Alf's" questions he replies:—

1—No! don't do it.
4—Barleux never communes with himself.
5—Put yourself on a B.256.

Alas! that Plain Tales should degenerate into this sort of thing. My conscience smote me even after I had posted this, and I ran after the postman, but it was too late!

BARLEUX.

Musings in Mufti—No. 3.

The time has come, the Scribe has said,
To speak of many sports—
Of golf and talks of tennis courts;
Of goals and boxing rings;
Do "heavies" lay and dream o' nights
Of fights and selling big film rights?

1—There be many people, my brethren, who raise their voices and scoff immoderately whenever they hear talk concerning the good old days. Nevertheless, in those same good old days, sport *was* Sport.

2—Think ye not, because I speak after this manner, that my beard is white with years, or that I gaze on life with eyes that are dim and therefore see not things as clearly as of yore.

3—Have ye not read how the fighters of those ancient cities, even the cities of Carthage, Rome, and Athens, to make a public holiday, fought the one with the other until ears were torn off, and noses, fingers and wrists broken?

4—All this they did, and did gladly for the sake of the cheers of the populace and a crown of laurels for the victor.

5—And how in later times sturdy Britons, after toiling all the previous day at plough or forge, betook themselves unto

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some quiet place, and there with bare hands fought for six, eight and even ten hours, until one of the twain no longer had strength to stand erect?

6—And this they did for a golden guinea, or mayhap five.

7—But now the fighters go forth into seclusion like hermits, and eat strange foods containing many vitamines, drink strange drinks, and practise their blows upon sundry of their weaker fellow-men, the while their managers argue at great length as to whether the winner shall receive twenty-five or thirty hundred pounds and the loser a paltry ten or fifteen hundred pounds.

8—And having settled the question of the division of the spoils, they commence to argue again as to the sale of permission to philm and fotograf the fight, whilst the fighters sit themselves down and write notes on "Why I shall win" for sale unto the Sporting Jurnals.

9—Now these affairs occupy much time, so that ere the fight is fought many moons have waxed and waned, yet it is by such means that the interest of the Great Sporting Publik is held, and a goodly concourse of people at the fight is assured.

10—And when they fight they do so with padded hands, and rest for a minute after every two or three minutes' fighting.

11—And when the fight is over each fighter again sitteth him down to write, the one on "How I won," and the other on "Why I lost."

12—And having fought one such fight, they purchase an inn, or go to Kanns or Neece and there retire under the age limit.

13—It was at one time the custom of tribes in certain towns and villages to vie the one with the other in certain games, they that represented their tribe playing without reward and deeming the honour of playing for their side sufficient recompense.

14—But now the players receive a weekly reward so great that they do nought save play these games—are taken unto the sea shore so that they may breathe the ozone, and bathed in salt waters so that their muscles become not stiff—are massaged daily to make them supple, and protected from every wind that blows.

15—And one tribe selleth its players unto another tribe, so that the tribe who live in the town of Pompey watch from time time the team that *calleth* itself Pompey, but whose men all hail from the north of the boundary river, even the river Tweed.

16—Even they who now play the refined game of tennis dispute endlessly concerning by what maker the balls they use shall be made: whether by Slazz or by Jazz, or whether they should be grooved or not. And having sickened the publik with these arguments they, like the fighters, argue about the sale of philm and fotograf rights.

17—Time was when all who cared found their own sports. Think of Drake and his bowls! But now they who play darts, who back horses, make out phutball kewpons and gladly pay to watch others play for their amusement, call themselves sportsmen.

18—Having said thus, mark ye well the ancient saw that saith, "The worst sportsmen against whom ye be well warned to guard are the Skotsmen and Jews, who cry, 'Who'll have a card?'"

E. S. J. H.

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Signal Training Centre, Catterick.
B Company, Depot Battalion.

Training.

Training still continues under the eagle eye of Lieut. Brown. The majority of the Company proceeded on Easter leave, but are now settling down again after a short spell in civilisation. No. 30 Squad has departed for the Trade Companies.

General.

The flu' has now flown, much to the relief of the staff. The personnel remaining behind during the Easter period found much enjoyment in basking in the rays of King Sol.

The Bedale point-to-point races provided us with a welcome change during the holiday period. The n.c.o.s attended in full force, with pockets *nearly* full. Sad to relate, some returned empty, and their health suffered in consequence. I have heard that Younger and Co. are taking up the matter.

We are all greatly interested in our gardens. Plots have been laid out around all barrack-rooms, and the planting of shrubs and flowering plants is proceeding apace. In this respect I think we top the list. What about it, A and C? Our O.C., Capt. J. L. Collings, is an enthusiastic gardener, and is devoting much spare time to improving our little piece of Yorkshire.

Arrivals.

We welcome the arrival of C.Q.M.S. Watts from the 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford. Corpl R. C. Barrett (the Hon. Bob) arrived from Ewshot on March 19th.

Departure.

Corpl Lofthouse to A Corps Signals.

Appointments.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Griffiths and A/Corpl Palmer on their recent appointments.

LIMPET.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

Baghdad Lines, April 9th.

About 45 per cent. of the Company went on Easter leave, and strange to say, they all came back without escorts. The bracing air and exquisite scenery must appeal to them, or perhaps they were hungry. Who knows? who cares?

The Company lines are now surrounded by wonderful gardens and orchards. Orange blossoms, dahlias, pinks and roses relieve the monotony of endless rows of huts, and transform the place into Utopia. These gardens are not ours. We shall get busy now that we have picked up all the tips we required from A and B Companies. It is a pity we haven't a few squads of spare recruits.

Sigmn Goldberg returned from the R.A.O.C. School on March 8th, after being attached there for a year. He successfully passed the C.3 test for saddler.

I am enclosing a "snap" of our riding school. The interior is as good as the outside, but I thought I was going to hit the roof when I had a few jumps there.

The Riding School, Catterick.
Photo by Corpl. Deamon

The Royal Tournament at Olympia commences on May 20th, and the following entries have been forwarded from this Depot:

Team jumping competition (other ranks)—Sergt Young on "Chance"; Corpl Butler on "Billy"; Cpl Searle on "Liza"; Dvr White on "Baby." Reserve rider: Corpl Sullivan on "63."

Sword, lance and revolver competition (officers)—Captain J. Crowley, M.C., Royal Signals; Lieut W. E. G. Hemming, R.A.

Sword, lance and revolver competition (other ranks)—Sergt Young on "Alp"; Dvr Whyte on "76." Reserve: Corpl Cutler on "Ada."

Dummy thrusting competition (officers)—Capt. J. Crowley, M.C., Royal Signals; Lieut W. E. G. Hemming, R.A.

The above jumping team is not necessarily the final selection, but may be taken as probable.

Major Fladgate goes on leave on April 12th, leaving Lieut Hemming in charge of the jumping team and their training; while Capt. Crowley, with his valuable cavalry experience, is coaching the competitors for the skill-at-arms events.

Arrivals.

Corpl E. F. Cooper from 1st D.S.C., L/Sergt Burr from 2nd D.S.C.

Departures.

Corpl A. Brundell to 1st D.S.C.; F/Corpl V. Townley to 3rd D.S.C.; Corpl V. E. Deamon and Sigmn S. W. Back to 2nd D.S.C.; L/Corpl W. D. Moggridge to E Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth; Sigmn J. Laurie to A Corps Signals; Sigmn J. J. O'Bray to B Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Sigmn H. W. Kemp, Dvr G. A. Brooks, and Dvr E. F. Phillips, discharged.

In addition to the above, C.S.M. Caulfield has been posted to No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Blackdown, w.e.f. 21/4/26; and Corpl Cogswell has been posted to the 3rd Divl. Signals, but is being held on command pending the arrival of his relief.

Promotions.

Congratulations to Sergt Limb, A/Sergt Gregory, and A/Cpl Lloyd on attaining their respective ranks.

Extensions and Re-engagements.

L/Sergt Baker re-engaged to complete 21 years. Corpl F. E. Farmer and Dvr E. C. Best extended to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Correspondence.

Sigmn Wain would like to hear from Sidney Snook, who was last heard of somewhere out East.

FIFI.

Training Battalion Headquarters.

Greeting.

Yes, the heading is *quite* in order! Notes from these Headquarters have not previously been submitted for publication in the Corps magazine, but recently we've been continuously reminded of our negligence, and finally persuaded into making our début. We're edging our way into the limelight in as unobtrusive a manner as we can, in a humane effort to keep the rate of mortality as low as possible. Uncle Roberto and Auntie Alfreda, please refrain from caustic comment!

Departures.

On March 19th, the office staff wept copiously! Our chief clerk, Sergt Strange, departed for the south on posting to A Corps Signals, Ewshot, where he will doubtless be welcomed with open arms (especially, we imagine, by the female fraternity of Fleet and district). We all greatly regretted losing him, and in unison we wish him every success for the future. His concluding discourse to the office staff held us spell-bound, and was heartrending in its pathos; even the C.O.'s orderly furtively wiped away a tear. Don't forget us entirely, Freddie (pardon nez-moi!)

Our overworked (!) stoker and general help, Sigmn Ruffle, sought fresh pastures on April 1st, in the neighbourhood of Larkhill. The battalion has thereby lost its best exponent of the pole jump, and No. 2 M.A.B. Signal Section acquired a prospective Army champion. Good luck from the staff, "Ruff"; don't forget that it's the little daily dose of Cobb's mixture that does it!

We bade farewell to Sigmn Johnson, who was lucky enough to be swopped for another clerk from the 4th Divl. Signals. We've always thought it was better to be born lucky than rich! Sure you wouldn't like to return to Catterick, Jack?

Arrival.

We extend a hearty welcome to Sergt Deptford, who arrived from A Corps Signals to assume the duties of chief clerk, T.B. Headquarters, and trust that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

General.

Dame Rumour, the fickle jade, has proceeded apace at Catterick. For instance, the other week we overheard a heated argument as to the eventual disposal of the battalion. From what we have deduced, D Company was to be distributed amongst various outside units (good guess, that!); E Company was bound for Chatham (heaven help the sailors!); and F Company was due for Colchester (possibly for an extensive course of oyster farming?)

The fun started when the Depot Battalion had perforce to take over a portion of our lines to accommodate the influx of recruits lately arrived. As a matter of fact, we'd be only too delighted to confirm the news; but no, it is not to be! How many forlorn hopes have we thus ruthlessly dashed to the ground? Sorry, profusely so!

By the way, if anyone would take a rancorous delight in avenging himself on the genius who started the ball rolling, Indian clubs may be borrowed from this office. All bloodstains, however, should be removed from the clubs before returning 'em.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess.

For the evening of St. Patrick's Day, a whist drive and dance had been organised by the mess committee, who spared no effort in making the affair a success. Among those present were Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Lloyd Owen, Miss Lloyd Owen, the Adjutant and R.S.M. of the Training Battalion, and numerous officers of the S.T.C. The whist drive was held in the mess, which was appropriately decorated for the occasion. The prizes, which were very kindly presented by Mrs. Lloyd Owen, were distributed as follows:—

Ladies—1st (silver epergne), Mrs. Jackman; 2nd (silver tea tray), Mrs. Skinner; hidden number (two silver vases), Miss Hurrall.

Gentlemen—1st (chiming clock), Mr. Trinder; 2nd (hall set), C.Q.M.S. Hill; hidden number (silver cigarette case), Mr. Firth.

After the prize-giving, the party adjourned to the Vimy Lines Institute, where the dance was held from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The "ticket" dance caused endless amusement, but a little more time could have been allowed for the dancers to find their partners. However, it was really funny to watch "Oscar Asche" searching for "Lily Brayton," "Hot" getting very warm in his abortive quest for "Bothered," and so forth.

Later, a facsimile of a rugby scrum was seen when the balloons were released during one of the dances. Some of the balloons hung suspended from the beams, and frantic efforts were being made to reach them. Above the clamour, a stentorian voice (sounding suspiciously like that possessed by a certain red-headed sergeant) was heard: "Come on, you're 'not trying.'"

The entire entertainment was voted a huge success by all who participated, and the organisers are to be congratulated on the able manner in which everything was conducted.

Marriage.

Congratulations to our "Claims" fiend on being promoted to the rank of benedict. It is rumoured that the individual in question insisted upon having two paragraphs of allowance regulations read out during the service, but W.H.C. emphatically denies the allegation.

Meteorological.

We must congratulate Elaitchdee on his weather forecast of Catterick in the summer (?) which appeared in the March WIRE. Verily, Elaitchdee, your scribe has forsaken you, forsooth. Nay, we've had a tip from an authentic source, by no less a person than the eldest inhabitant of Scotton Village, assuring us with all solemnity that swallows always arrive at Catterick in the summer, but only stay for a week-end.

March winds—the sort of warm breezes that gently lift the roof off and deposit it in some one else's back garden—have made their unwelcome presence known in no uncertain manner. Anyway, to come to the point, we've been in the throes of a devastating wind, reminiscent of an Eastern typhoon. We think, though, that this was but a dress rehearsal of the wind that will be prevalent prior to an exalted personage's visit in the near future!

LEE CROS.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

D Company, Training Battalion.

We have recently come to a fuller understanding of the feelings of the Gilbertian ladies who "wondered what this world might be." We, too, have wondered many times during the last few weeks. We totter up and down the roads, and in and out of our offices and lecture huts, with that vague expression that says more plainly than words, "Am I, or is it?"

And why are we thus stricken? Because all around us is chaos—a waste of churning recruits and vanishing drafts—postings and arrivals—new names and new faces. Some of them belong to us, and others don't—some feed with us, whilst others are boarded out.

Drill instructors are budding in the Company nursery gardens, ready to burst into full bloom with the summer sun. Visual instructors are beginning to wither; their first pristine glory has departed. Only on the Company parade itself is the old-time atmosphere of calm and peacefulness retained. For here are so few men, that chaos is impossible. Each man has three-quarters of an n.c.o. to look after him!

Even the sanctity of the Quartermaster's store has been violated, and now a new C.Q.M.S. has joined us. Long may he live to fit out another two hundred recruits.

The state of chaos has, perhaps, been enhanced by the coincidence of the Easter leave period and the flood. May both be forgiven for electing to start on April 1st.

We welcome Capt. F. S. Straight and also C.Q.M.S. Ansell, who has taken over the duties of quartermaster at a singularly arduous time.

Our best wishes to Capt. Glanville, who has gone to the Rhine, and to C.Q.M.S. Johnstone, who has left for Leeds.

Congratulations also, and the best of luck, to 2/Lieut Burdett on the occasion of his marriage.

DON.

E Company, Training Battalion.

We deeply regret the untimely death of No. 16290 Sigmn J. Stainer, as the result of a motor-cycle accident at Catterick Bridge on the night of 25th March.

Considerable activity on the part of Records has resulted in a drastic change in the Company. We extend a hearty welcome to Capt. G. Plummer, from the School of Signals, as our second-in-command. May his stay be long and happy.

Though it was due, we were not quite prepared for the posting order which caused such a flutter in the sergeants' mess and which resulted in Sergts Strange and J. Squirrell and L/Sergt Chenery leaving us for A Corps Signals. Their places will take a lot of filling. We wish them the best of luck in the future.

We welcome in their stead Sergts Stevenson and Deptford and Corpl Nokes from A Corps, and Corpl Morgan from the 1st Divl. Signals.

Although it was his own wish, we are sorry to lose Sergt J. White, who left us this week for the 4th Divl. Signals. The best of luck, Jim!

We have a welcome and a place in several teams waiting for his successor—Sergt J. Dempsey.

Our heartiest congratulations to Sergts Wilcox and Bond and Corpl Gladwell upon promotion to their respective ranks.

Corpl Geer (Reg.) has left us for good, and is now guarding the interests of the population of Hastings. We wonder who is guarding him! Perhaps the worthy "John Bunney," late of the old C Company, who is also a member of the police force in that village.

Corpls Rice and Gardner have left us for the North Ireland Signal Company, the latter after recovering from the effects of a motor-cycle accident. No. 2 M.A.B. have collected a very useful pole jumper from us in Sigmn Ruffle. The best of luck to them all!

Joe is back from his P.O. course, and has again commenced training. We offer our heartiest congratulations to him upon his recent successes, and trust that he will continue the good work.

Egypt Signals may rest assured that there is no truth whatever in the report that our Scottish half-back treated himself to a ginger pop after the R.A.S.C. match. It took something far stronger to enable him to recover from the remarks of our "Pompey" back to whom he turned to say, "Hoch, Johnny, I can't hold them!"

With a scratch and incomplete team we managed to defeat C Company in the replayed semi-final of the inter-Company knock-out football competition, and we now meet the School in the final.

Apparently our greatest handicap this season in the athletic line will be the lack of training grounds. However, "where there's a will——" With the Company day due in about three weeks time, and the first inter-Company fixture on the 3rd May, we look to all men to turn out at once and do their utmost.

THE PARSON.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Easter has come and gone. We have no tales to relate, and everyone is settling down for forthcoming events.

We extend a hearty welcome to all the new arrivals. They have certainly brought some southern weather with them; let's hope it continues.

The old saying that Catterick has the sun on one Saturday afternoon a year is wrong. All those departed, please note.

We send our best wishes to all old F-ites abroad, and to Bob, Goody, Steve, Shiner and Cole Vic, who have left us for the Divisional Signals.

MON AMI.

Training Battalion Boys.

Easter leave has come and gone, and we are all back again at Catterick-on-the-Hill. We must pass a vote of thanks to Jupiter Pluvius for giving us a spell of extra special weather during the leave period. Those who went on leave—the railway fares deterred quite a number from going—returned on Easter Tuesday and appeared on Wednesday

"With shining morning face,
Creeping like snail unwillingly to school."

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It clings to teeth, gets into crevices and stays.

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It removes that film And Firms the Gums

It accomplishes two important things at once: Removes that film, then firms the gums. No harsh grit, judged dangerous to enamel.

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1962

However, we are all back to the old routine again now—equipment to be cleaned—rooms to be swept and garnished—and all the hundred and one oddments that go to fill up the daily round.

F Company are at their early morning "jerks" again, and consequently the rotundity of leave is slowly but surely disappearing. In addition to this, the boys march *en masse* to the central gymnasium every Thursday afternoon, when they practise getting over all sorts of obstacles in every conceivable way.

Before long we expect to have the next batch of recruit boys coming along to be initiated into the mysteries of turning to the right by numbers.

The following boys have joined the ranks: Whitehead, Hills, Parsons, Stevens, and Smart.

Congratulations to Boys Cassidy and Beaumont on their lance-stripes.

Boys Dean, Lewis, Hills and Parsons have passed their B3 test; and Boys Ross, Bartlett, Simmonds, Hall, Cox, Henning, Ellison and Broom have passed their first test.

It was with the deepest regret that we said good-bye to Sergt Taylor, who was posted away a few weeks ago. Of his long stay in the Training Centre a large proportion was spent with the boys, in whom he took a truly paternal interest. We one and all wish him the very best of luck in his new station.

LURKON KA BAP.

School of Signals.

The Easter holidays having vanished, everyone is settling down and looking forward to Whitsun. In the interim, the prospect of a little muscle exercise and five rounds, rapid, is making the hearts of young and old beat abnormally.

Nothing exciting has happened except the Catterick Bridge races, which caused a considerable number of passes to flutter into the office. The eagerness with which a certain section of the Company rushed to the bookies with their money was amazing. One would think they were going to get it all back with their "cert. 10–1" shots; some did, but the majority returned to camp sadder and wiser men. The bookies always seem to receive large donations from the School when the horses come to the Bridge.

By the time these notes appear in print, the 87th Signalling Course will have departed, and our staff will be engaged in imparting instruction to the 88th Course.

Departures.

Capt. G. H. Plummer, M.C., departed from the School on March 22nd to join the Training Battalion. Sigmn G. R. Cripps was posted to 1st Divl. Signals on April 6th, and our good wishes follow him.

Arrivals.

We welcome Capt. W. R. C. Penney, M.C., from India, who joined this School as an Instructor on March 23rd. Sigmn W. Clark arrived from 1st Divl. Signals on April 6th.

A MESSIN SIGNALLER.

Sergeants' Mess.

We welcome Capt. W. R. C. Penney, M.C., Royal Signals, and trust his sojourn here will be happy. Old members of the S.T.C. will probably remember him in his capacity of staff-captain at headquarters. Another clever addition to the Rugby team!

Once again the School loses a valued member of the staff. Sergt H. S. May, R.A., left us on April 15th to rejoin his brigade at Shoeburyness, on completion of a tour of duty as an Artillery A.I. Popularly known as "the Guv," his cheery face will be much missed by all. It is understood that messing shares slumped considerably on his departure.

A farewell dinner took place on April 14th, to the departing members of No. 87 Regimental Signalling Course. We think that, in spite of local conditions, they were genuinely sorry to leave us, which in itself speaks volumes. Every endeavour has been made to make the School more popular with regiments, and judging from reports, we imagine there will be quite a rush of senior n.c.o.s to get on future courses.

Several nights spent with a wet towel have failed to get much light from the paragraph of Barleux in the WIRE of last month regarding "star footballers leaving the S.T.C." The obvious inference is that the S.T.C. "jew up" star turns. For the benefit of all units we offer the following figures regarding the most popular sports. A comparison of successive seasons' teams gives the following information:—

1925 members of 1924 teams included: Soccer 6.
1926 members of 1925 teams included: Soccer 3, boxing 2, cross-country 50 per cent.

This, anyway, proves that no great upheavals are originated to retain anyone, and compares very favourably with any unit. Still, these junior reporters must be given certain allowances.

UNCLE ALFRED.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals.

Unit Headquarters, Ewshot.

Preparation for the forthcoming King's review is now taking place, and by the time these notes appear the event will be close on our heels.

Section training proceeds apace. The Ewshot–Rushmoor–Crookham–Fleet area is scattered daily with Sections undergoing training.

Excitement has been rife throughout the unit, occasioned by the appearance of A Corps Signals in the final of the junior cup played last week. Owing to the result—a draw—the game has to be replayed on April 22nd. A report of the first game is given under Sports News.

No. 1 Company.

We are now on the eve of the second spasm of training, the period known as section training. The oil-coating that has for a considerable time covered the precious metal portions of the cable wagons and limbers is now being speedily removed by expert hands, and the glitter and shine increases daily.

Everybody seems to be eagerly looking forward to the more interesting period, with the exception perhaps of the "skins"—if quadrupeds of the type such as we possess may be termed "bodies." Some of these show signs of requiring heavier loads laid upon them, but others—especially the "old-timers"—are beginning to look with distrustful eyes upon their caretakers, and to turn quite pale at the jingle of harness.

There is a well-known saying that "men may come and men may go." This is not only true of men.

Airline poles of all types have of late come to possess the property of appearing and disappearing in a remarkably short space of time—"here to-day and gone to-morrow." The Lines Officer has undoubtedly been very thorough in his first period of training, and parties of his men, armed with climbers, strainers, and other similar contrivances, have for some time past been scattered far and wide over the country-side. Now they are called upon to prove to the world the efficiency of this training, in the preparation of all the lines necessary for the forthcoming searchlight tattoo. It is well known how much hard work this entails, but without doubt they will find it as easy as slipping down a pole.

Arrivals.

We welcome to the Company Sergt Gambrill from Colchester, and Sigmn Laurie from Catterick.

Correspondence.

Sigmn R. Frazer would like to hear from Sigmn E. Harman, last heard of in Iraq. Sigmn J. Glynn would like to have news of Sigmn G. T. Perry, who left for Jubbulpore last December.

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

Still we grow in strength, and are now stronger than we have ever been before. Sections are now up to strength, and are in the throes of section training. Every day 72 ft. and 48 ft. wireless masts can be seen scattered about the countryside—No. 3 Company is in evidence wherever one may go in this district. The open-air life seems to produce healthy complexions; but recently the weather has been none too kind for this sort of training.

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BEACH'S

Jams

and

Marmalades

and Wonderful

Lemon Curd

On several recent occasions April showers have swamped Headquarters Section and the five W/T Sections, and they have been returning to camp thoroughly soaked, but nevertheless content with the day's outing and the experience gained.

Great excitement has been aroused by the success of the unit in football cups and leagues. The cup final in which we played the 1st Pack Brigade Reserves has been the sole topic of conversation, for it provided thrill after thrill, and is acknowledged to be one of the most exciting games on record in the history of the junior cup. The game is reported elsewhere.

Last month we lamented the loss of Sergt Deyermond, on being posted to the Training Battalion. We still miss him in the sports line, and wish he could have been present at the cup final.

Arrivals.

We welcome into the fold the following from Catterick:—Sergeants Taylor and Squirrell, L/Sergts Chenery and Donaghy, L/Corpl Goode, Signalmen Tucker, Kelly, Addis, French, Parrack, Tindle, Harcourt, Battine, C. Simpson, Biggs, Gillatt, and MacDonald.

Departure.

We were sorry to lose a good sportsman in Sigmn G. Adams, who left us on the 13th inst. We wish him the very best of good luck in his venture into civilian life.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

The Merrie Month of Maye.

Days of warm sunshine and clear blue skies.
Long evenings.
Trees clad in the abundancy of early summer's foliage.
A delicacy of beauty in form and colouring.
Hooray! subber is cub!
Dab! where's by hadkerchief!

Arrivals.

A warm welcome is extended to the following, who have joined the unit during the last month:—

Sigmn E. C. Goode from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 15/3/26.

Signalmen A. E. Airey, G. Armstrong, F. Andrews, H. Andrews, R. Beminster, J. Bethell, F. Blake, A. Brown, A. Banks, S. M. Cooksey, F. J. Clayton, H. Coles, W. F. Cox, G. A. Clark, R. Catt, H. Cleaver, J. Davies, E. G. Fisher, H. Knight, and J. Langridge, from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 29/3/26.

Sigmn N. R. Kettridge, from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C., on 1/4/26.

F/Sergt T. O'Sullivan, from 2nd Divl. Signals, on 2/4/26.

Sigmn G. R. Cripps, from School of Signals, S.T.C., on 2/4/26.

Signalmen C. T. Smith and D. J. Davies, from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 6/4/26.

Sigmn R. H. Hughes, from No. 1 A.F.A. Signal Section, on 6/4/26.

Sigmn G. D. Scotland from T.B., S.T.C., 7/4/26.

Departures.

Corpl E. Cooper to Depot Battalion, S.T.C., on 23/3/26; Corpl A. E. Morgan to Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 30/3/26; Sigmn W. Clark to School of Signals, S.T.C., on 2/4/26. Best wishes to all!

Discharges.

Tptr. E. Adams on 22/3/26, and Sigmn H. Loadsman on 26/3/26. We wish them all they could wish themselves!

Appointments.

Congratulations to the following upon their respective appointments:—L/Corpls F. Ramsdale and G. A. Rockall, to A/Corporals. A/U/L/Corpls J. Donahue and J. Grocott to L/Corporals.

G.P.O. Courses.

Corpl J. Brotherton, L/Corpl J. N. Hunt, and Sigmn T. Keneally, have re-joined the unit, literally bursting with dots and dashes after their six months' course with the G.P.O.

Signalmen R. Jardine and G. Stretch have repaired to Oxford, there to study C.O.D. and the weird trousers of that district.

My Alib'.

I wish to apologise for the brevity of this month's notes. The Firstdivsigs are represented, and that is about all. But perhaps I err on the safe side after all, for the Editor, in our April publication, called upon correspondents to condense their subscriptions, thus obviating the necessity of an application of the editorial "axe." However, I am going to risk it in the June number!

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, April 15th.

No. 2 Company's representative being in hospital, our notes this month are confined to Nos. 1 and 3.

Ceremonial parades in preparation for the visit of H.M. the King have commenced, and our first unit scheme is due for next week; thereafter we shall get one a week, I presume, to harden us up a bit for the Divisional training in September.

We are to have attached to us, from the beginning of May, a Mechanicalised Artillery Brigade Section. It will be interesting to see how the work of this Section compares with the present horsed Sections. I am sure most of us hope that the experiment will prove successful, and that the time is not far distant when we shall be handing our spurs in to stores.

No. 1 Company.

During the past month both the Wireless and Cable Detachments have been training in the Mytchett and Pyestock areas. A series of lectures on electricity and magnetism are now combined in the weekly programme of work. These are a material help to future aspirants for higher ratings.

The Cable Section welcome the return from Post Office courses of Sergts Johnson and Penfold, L/Corpls Anderson and McCullough, and Sigmn Simpson. No doubt the C.S.M. will now be able to crack once more with the "tent peggers."

Signalmen Stubbs and Whittaker commenced a six months' course with the Post Office on March 5th.

Sigmn Walton, from the Depot, joined the Cable Section on March 9th.

The Wireless Section welcome back Sergt Hoare and Sigmn Powell from fitter's courses with the R.A.S.C., and Sigmn Osgood from the 3rd Divl. Signals.

Easter leave was granted to 50 per cent. of the Company's strength. The clerk of the weather was in his best humour during the whole period. Perhaps this was the cause of the bevy of smiling faces returning by the 9.50 p.m. train from London on Easter Monday. Many who journeyed to Brooklands to watch the expected performance of the "motor cycle fiend" were disappointed, as he preferred a day's fishing at Mytchett. "Algy" suspects matrimonial complications.

Quite a few reduced their holiday "extra" in endeavouring to bring the horses up to scratch for the G.O.C.-in-Chief's inspection on Friday, April 9th.

Personal.

L/Corpl A. Ellis would like to hear from Sigmn Cottingham, Egypt Signals.

B. Eyes informs Nutty that the return of Corpl Charley from Egypt is eagerly awaited.

The wireless fiends are pleased to hear that Lofty is removing to more congenial surroundings on the N.W. Frontier.

HAMO.

No. 3 Company.

During April we have been strengthened by many new arrivals from Catterick and elsewhere. We hope they will find Aldershot better than they had been led to believe.

Training is still the order of the day. Section schemes take place daily, while the Divisional schemes will commence soon.

In Training?

KEEN on winning the Regimental 440, one or more of the Sprints, or a distance race? Then it's essential to restore the tissue broken down by the strenuous exertion of training, otherwise there will be a danger of staleness and strain.

• • •

One of the great secrets of success in Athletics lies in this building-up process, and nothing does it half as well as Horlick's—the Ideal Training Diet.

• • •

Why not follow the example of many of the leading World's and British Sports Champions and let Horlick's build up for you that superlative degree of fitness which wins Championships?

HORLICK'S THE ORIGINAL MALTED MILK

Made in England.

SERVED AT MESSES & CANTEENS

May also be kept for use in Training Quarters.

Ask for and see that you get Horlick's.

Appointment.

Congratulations to A/Corpl E. Marcham on his appointment. Several people are "sweating" on promotion to the dizzy heights. Some will "sweat" in vain, while others attain their ambitious goal. Good luck!

THREECO.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, April 15th.

Wembley.

A jovial band of football enthusiasts, numbering some 70 in all, will set out for Wembley on the 24th inst. to get their money's worth out of the cup final.

We hope they will have a high old time.

No doubt we shall have something to record on their return.

"Breezes, 1926."

This popular concert party terminates a successful season with a big show in the recreation room to-night, April 15th. Being in possession of inside information, we can confidently predict that this show will be their crowning effort.

No doubt there will be several changes by the time "Breezes 1927" get into shape, so we take this opportunity of thanking Lieut. Oliver and his hardworking party for all they have done.

The Combine.

Mr. W. Butler, secretary of the Signals Association, paid us a visit on Thursday, April 8th. He set forth the advantages of belonging to the Association to such effect that the unit unanimously adopted the 9d. per month scheme, thereby coming into line with the remainder of the Corps.

As this unit numbers over 380, we have decided to allot a small portion of pity for the poor postman.

Men's Recreation Room.

There were great doings here the other evening: let us hear what Sigmn Boniface has to say about it.

The new price of ENO's "Fruit Salt" is an invitation to better health. You can make no wiser purchase at this time of the year than a bottle of ENO's "Fruit Salt."

On Friday, March 19th, we entertained our old friends the Liberal Club, from Salisbury, to a games tournament, which included billiards, cards, etc., and a very enjoyable evening was spent. About 30 of the Liberal Club visited us, and I hope that next time will see more of them coming along.

By the kind permission of our commanding officer, we were allowed to remain in the room until 11 p.m. Many thanks are due to the individuals who helped in arranging the various games, and to those who made the Liberals at home. The billiard scores were:—

Sigmn Boniface beat Mr. Jeffrey	100—67
Sigmn Hall beat Mr. Shaw	100—74
Sigmn Wolfe beat Mr. Norton	100—85
Dvr Tisbury beat Mr. Barnes	100—67
Dvr Mason beat Mr. Conduit	100—60

The Liberals easily beat us at cards, both at whist and crib.

After the games had concluded, a bright and enjoyable concert was given by members of both clubs. Our old favourites "Harris and Shiner" kept the audience in roars of laughter with their songs, and I am afraid that they were worked a little too much; but a little drop of "tonsil varnish" kept them going, and many thanks are due to both of them.

Sigmn Boniface welcomed the Liberal Club, and the men of the 3rd Divl. Signals endorsed his words with "For they are jolly good fellows."

Mr. Bryant, the secretary of the Liberal Club, in reply, said that any n.c.o. or man of the Signals was always welcome at the club, and the evening closed with "The King."

Training.

The second period of individual training will terminate on April 18th. Results are not yet to hand, but a number of students (?) are sweating on the top line.

Of this more anon, and we do hope of a cheerful nature.

Arrivals.

Sigmn W. J. Cooper from Depot Battn. on 15/3/26. Sigmn J. Patience from Training Battn. on 15/3/26. Sigmn P. Pipe from 2nd M.A.B. on 18/3/26. L/Sergt Wright from Training Battn. on 22/3/26. F/Corpl Townley from Depot Battn. on 22/3/26. L/Corpl Cole, Signalmen R. Hall, Wren, Seward, Wesselby and Turner, from Training Battalion on 22/3/26.

Departures.

Sigmn Bowell to 2nd M.A.B. on 18/3/26. L/Sergt Murray, L/Corpls McDonald and Frost to Training Battalion on 22/3/26. Sergt Austin (A.E.C.) to Royal Warwick Regt. Depot on 22/3/26. Sergt Scrivens (Southern Command Signal Company) to Training Battn. on 19/3/26. F/Corpl Webb to Depot Battalion on 27/3/26. C.Q.M.S. Watts to Depot Battn. on 26/3/26. Sigmn Osgood to 2nd Divl. Signals on 6/4/26.

Promotions.

A/Corpl L. Searle to be Corporal w.e.f. 19/1/26.
Sigmn Norcup to be A/L/Corpl. on 9/4/26.

Marriage.

Sigmn A. Jones to Annie Fannie Victoria Lucas, at Uckfield, Sussex, 3/3/26.

Service—Re-engagement.

Sergt R. Purseglove re-engaged to complete 21 years with the Colours, 22/3/26.

Transfers.

Sigmn A. W. Ball to the Royal Engineers, 12/4/26.
L/Corpl C. W. Smith to the Army Reserve, 18/4/26.

Discharge.

Sergt E. Coates, 3/4/26.

Birth.

To L/Corpl A. Sayers, a daughter (Joan Frances) at Married Families Hospital, Tidworth, 2/4/26.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

"Once more into the breach, dear friends"—but better late than never! Heaps of excuses could be put up to account for the absence of notes last month, but we refrain, and hope to fill the breach continuously in future.

Training in the unit is proceeding apace, riding school and trade training being the order of the day. From appearances our equestrians will soon reach that stage of proficiency that will allow of our competing against the cavalry in mounted sports, and perhaps add a few more laurels to the already large collection of the Corps. We have started well, for our O.C. obtained second place in the light-weight race of the Tidworth Hunt point-to-point and third place in the Signals race of the R.E. point-to-point.

Departures.

L/Sergt Pye, L/Corpls Bryant and G. A. Browne to S.T.C.

Arrivals.

L/Corpls Abraham and Moggridge and Sigmn Meech from S.T.C.

Greetings.

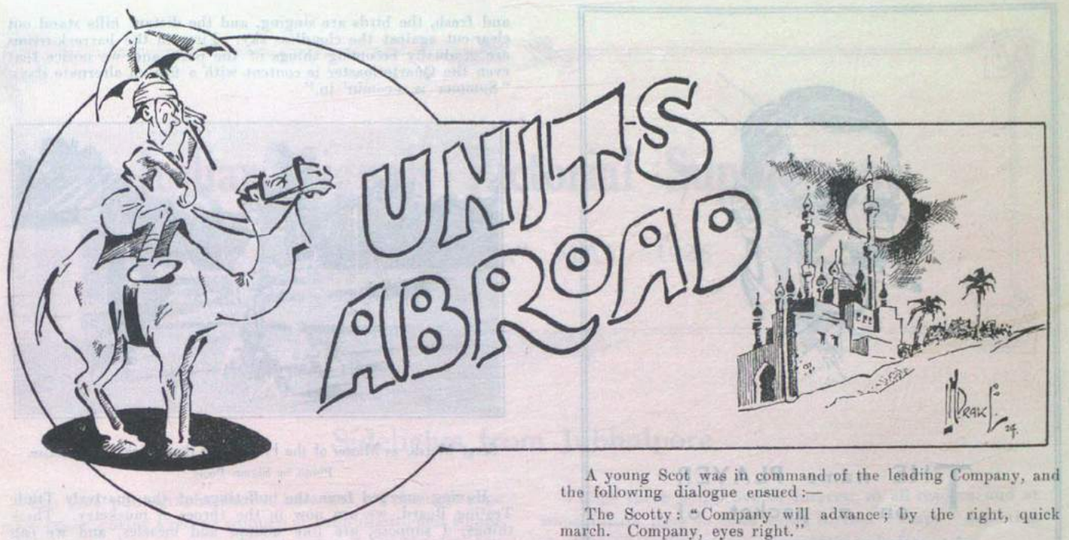
Alf Howlett and Harry Butcher of the P. and R.T. staff convey their salutations to all old friends of the Rhine and Silesian Signal Companies, especially Laurie, Andy and Jack. How's the battle raging, Hardy?

The author of these notes hopes to spend a night with these two old friends, and no doubt we shall revive pleasant memories of days that have gone.

Entertainments.

That jolly little concert party, the Bulford Breezes (3rd Divl. Signals) are giving their final performance on Thursday night, April 15th. As this closes their season, we hope to roll up in force and give them a right royal "curtain."

SANDY.



Signal Training Centre, India.

Jubbulpore, February.

Officers.

The following officers reported their arrival on the dates shown, for a tour of duty with the Indian Signal Corps: Lieut. J. W. Kenny, R.A., 6/1/26; Lieut. W. Gracie, I.A., 8/1/26; Lieut. R. V. de S. Walters, 2nd Battn. York and Lanc. Regt., 9/2/26.

General.

The proposed Royal Signals-cum-Indian Army officers' seniority roll is out, and has given rise to expressions of joy and sorrow in various quarters.

It is to be hoped that this question will soon be settled, and that the majority will be able to wear the same uniform and really become a Corps in the proper sense of the word. One effect of the new proposals will be the changing round of a good many officers among the Signal units in India.

Congratulations to R.S.M. B. Capel and R.Q.M.S. J. Wassell on their long service medals, and to the latter on his promotion from C.S.M. as well.

At the Jubbulpore Horse Show held this month, Capt. M. T. L. Newington, I.A., S.T.C. (India), won the second prize in the British officers' open jumping.

Another hundred B.O.R.s have arrived from the United Kingdom, and our transfers from various units are increasing. We still endeavour to carry on, with some very amusing little incidents, such as the following:—

Guards—Gun Carriage Factory.

For the benefit of non-Easterners, "Ram-ram" is a Hindu greeting meaning "good morning." One of our latest arrivals from U.K. was posted on an important post at our "arsenal," and being new to the country was given implicit instructions regarding his duties, not of course forgetting Grand Rounds. This is what happened.

Sentry—"Halt! who goes there?"
?—"Ram Ram."

The sentry, thinking the ? said "Grand Rounds," immediately turned out the guard, much to the guard commander's disgust. I am not certain whether the individual concerned "salaamed" or not.

Ceremonial Parades.

The battalion was on parade, the A/Adjutant commanding, and the command to march past was given.

A young Scot was in command of the leading Company, and the following dialogue ensued:—

The Scotty: "Company will advance; by the right, quick march. Company, eyes right."

Voice from the rear: "Carry your sword, sir; carry your sword."

Young Glasca: "Na thanks, I can carry it ma sel."

Sergeants' Mess.

We are still going strong at billiards, having recently beaten the Gun Carriage Factory by a big margin.

A successful tennis "at home" was held on Wednesday, 24th inst., and since then I am given to understand that some of our "pro.s" have come to the conclusion that they cannot play.

A dance followed at nine o'clock. I am sorry to say that very few put in an appearance, although our famous jazz band was at full strength and made us enjoy ourselves. The M.C. informed me later that he would *never* put on another dance as long as he lived. He's quite a youngster, too! I believe that Sergt Foote has come to the conclusion that he is going to shut down the mess.

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, March 18th.

Apart from the Saturday morning's little relaxation, interest has centred around the Command championship, of which a detailed account is published in the Sports Notes.

Promotions.

Congratulations to the undernamed: C.S.M. H. J. Berry to be R.Q.M.S., Royal Signals. Corpls Tully, Conyers and Wintermere to be L/Sergeants, I.U.L. L/Corpls Greenwood, Crichton, Cheverton, Barnes, Murphy, Andrews, Wedgebury, and Pierce to be Corporals, I.U.L. U/L/Corpl J. Lee to be L/Corpl (paid) I.U.L.

Postings.

We welcome Corpl Hobby, Signalmen Townsend, Lewis, Craggs, Chamberlain, Teenan, Tupper, Waite, Walker, Taylor, Webber and Willis, from the Signal Training Centre (India). C.Q.M.S. Draper from D Divl. Signals, Rawalpindi. Sigmn Almond from G Divl. Signals, Jubbulpore.

A Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, N.W.F.P., March 15th.

After some days of heavy rain we are once more basking in the glory of brilliant sunshine. Indeed, to-day is typical of a fine spring day in England. The trees and shrubs are green

THE name PLAYER on a packet of cigarettes guarantees the quality and purity of the contents. It is more than a name—it is a *reputation and a tradition.*

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Navy Cut
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(Medium Strength)

10 for 6D. 20 for 11½D.
WITH or WITHOUT Cork Tips.

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P.1243

and fresh, the birds are singing, and the distant hills stand out clear-cut against the cloudless sky. Fires in the barrack-rooms are gradually becoming things of the past, and we notice that even the Quartermaster is content with a fire on alternate days. "Summer is a-comin' in."

Sergt Marsh, as Master of the Hunt, takes the "pack" on exercise.
Photo by Sigmn Poole

Having emerged from the buffetings of the quarterly Trade Testing Board, we are now in the throes of musketry. These things, I suppose, are like mumps and measles, and we can only grin and bear them. The targets are provided by the Sappers and Miners, but we let them off as lightly as we can, doing as little damage as possible.

Our new R.Q.M.S. has arrived. In honour of his coming, the parade ground has been surrounded with a hedge of rose trees. If he *should* fail to appreciate this delicate compliment, we propose that he should pay the irrigation fee of Rs. 2 per month which the cantonment authority has imposed upon us in this connection.

Apropos certain paragraphs in recent editions of home papers, the G. of I. also provides American typewriters for use in army offices. The machines supplied to us experienced considerable difficulty in spelling English words, so nice new tables were provided with a view to giving them English "understandings." A slight improvement has taken place, but the machines still refuse to put commas in their correct places. Enquiry shows that this is directly attributable to the inclusion of local purchases of Indian materials in the construction of the tables. Tut! tut! workshops!

A very successful billiard tournament has just been concluded. The final took place in Peshawar, the players being L/Sergt Luff and Sigmn C. T. Cope. After an exciting game the latter won.

"120 degrees in the shade."—How we keep cool in this delectable land.
Photo by Sigmn Poole

[*Continued on page 163, after the Supplement*]

Indian Signals Pictorial Supplement

TO

"THE WIRE," MAY, 1926

Sidelights from Jubbulpore

The nine photographs shown here and on the next page were taken during a recent sojourn at Jubbulpore, and I hope they may be of service in our esteemed and delightful publication, which in India is always looked forward to as a blessing by all "Corps" men.

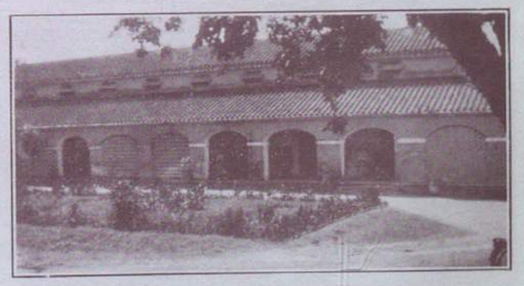
I hope these will prove of interest to all readers, and at some future time to send along further "snaps" depicting the life and environments of a soldier in India.

Ernest R. Bowles, Sigmn.
B Cavalry Brigade Signals, Sialkot.

The Regimental Institute

Indian Signalmen at Helio Practice

The Main Guard Room, Hugh Rose Barracks
D.R.'s Cycle outside



Pay Parade on the Verandah of No. 9 Bungalow
Uncle's motor bike just shows on the right

Sidelights from Jubbulpore

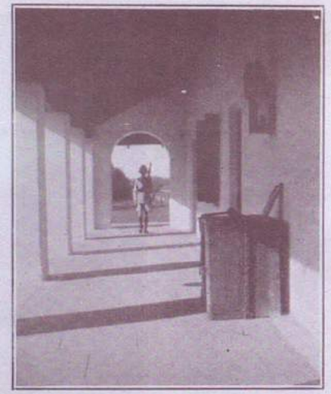
A daily scene: Changing Guard at the Depot

This is done with a precision worthy of our Corps. The buildings on the right are the Married Quarters, and the famous "Von" is in the background

A View of Jubbulpore

The famous "Pepper-box Hill" is on the right, with its memories of our Visual heroes. The "Twin Sister Hills" are in the distance on the left.

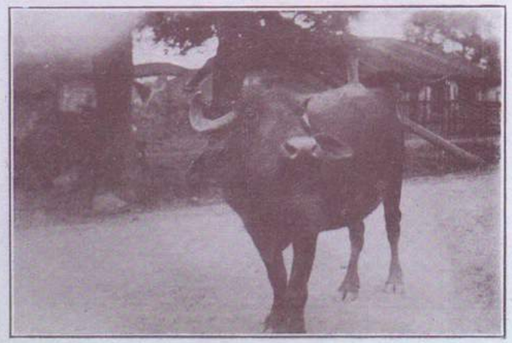
No. 1 Post, Main Guard, S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore, so well known to hundreds of young Signalmen as their first "sentry go" abroad.



The iron box is the treasury, and the hammer is for striking the hour gong on the left of it. How many of us remember surreptitious "squats" after the O.O. had been round.

The "Gateway" of the Indian Signals

Typical Countryside in direction of Madan Nahal



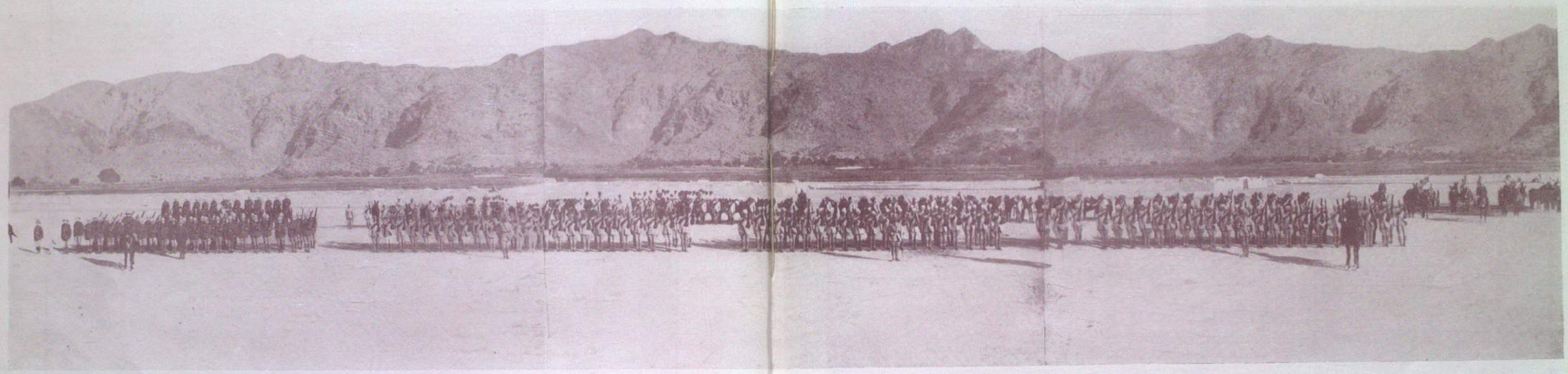
A Native "Cart-horse"

F Divisional Signals, Kohat

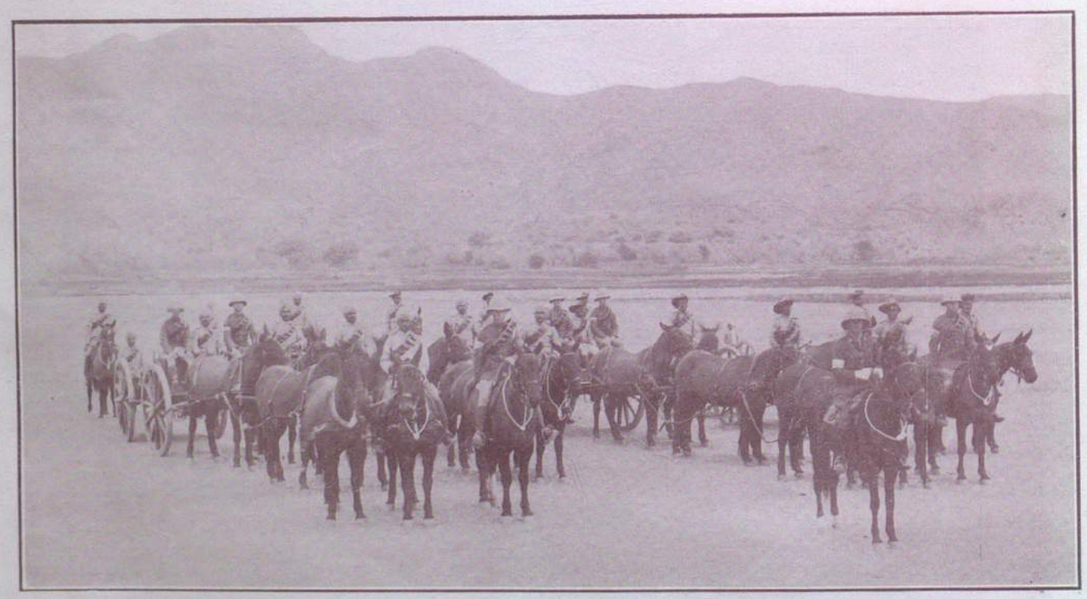
The Sergeants' Mess, F Divisional Signals, 1926

The Corporals' Mess, F Divisional Signals, 1926

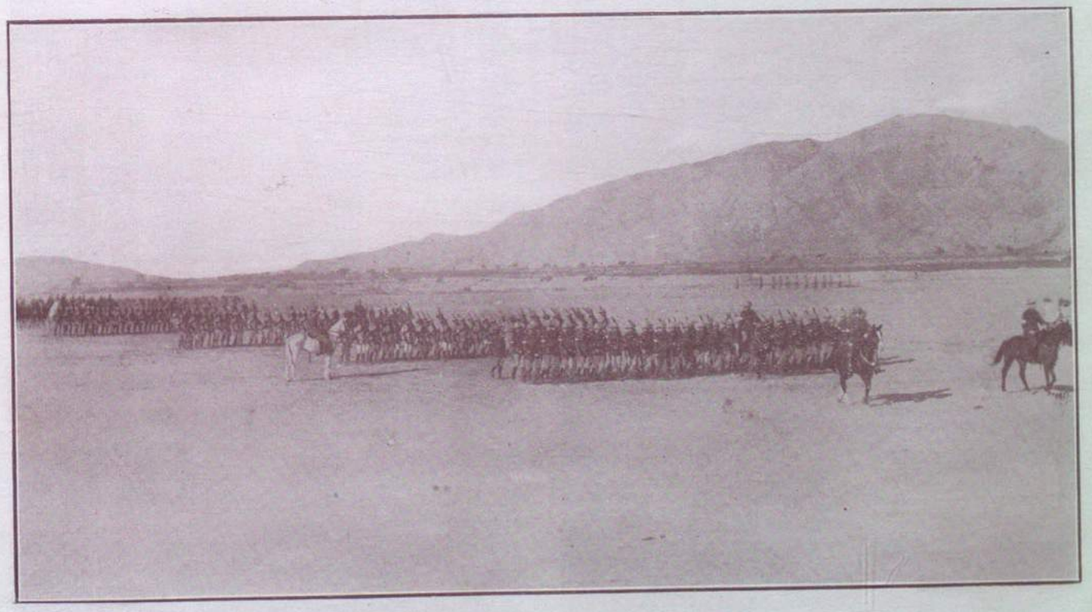
F Divisional Signals, Kohat



The Unit on Parade



Draught Cable Detachment, F Divisional Signals
Lieutenant R. J. N. Solly, Royal Signals, in command



F Divisional Signals Marching Past

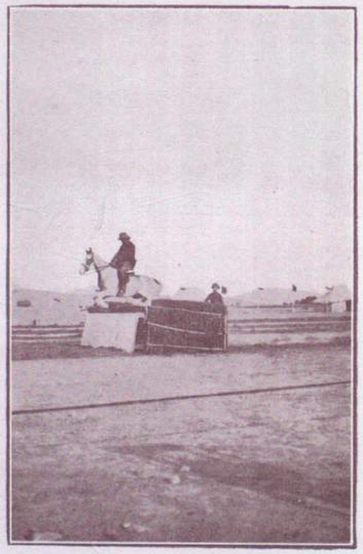
Start of the One Mile Race

Wrestling on Mules

B.O.R.s Jumping
Corporal L. Wallace clearing the Triple Bar

Annual Sports
of
"F"
DIVISIONAL
SIGNALS
Kohat, N.W.F.P.

1926



Officers Jumping
Captain E. M. Pyster, M.B.E.

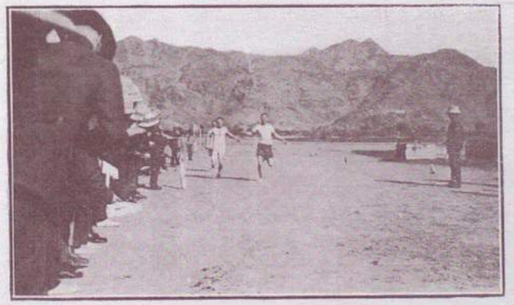
Tug-of-War

F Divisional Signals Football Team
January 1926

F Divisional Signals Annual Sports, 1926

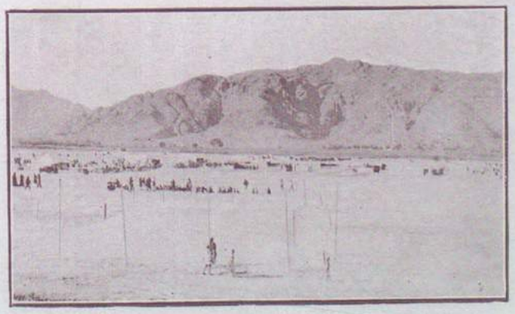
Final of Tug-of-War

B.O.R.s Jumping. Corporal T. Madeley



100 Yards Final. Corporal P. Hammond

Wrestling on Mules



General View of Sports Ground

Rugby Tournament
F Divisional Signals *versus* Kohat District

F Divisional Signals, Kohat

No. 2 Company, F Divisional Signals, 1926

The Dance Band, F Divisional Signals, 1926

[*Continued from page 162*]

For this month the tournament consists of draughts, ring board and darts. A large number of entries has been secured, and some interesting evenings are anticipated. The prizes are given by an interested spectator.

We note with approval the action taken at Catterick regarding the funds of the Signals Association. We also have under consideration a somewhat similar scheme, modified of course for India. Once more we appeal to all ranks of the Corps for their whole-hearted co-operation in placing the financial affairs of the Association on a basis of such stability that the worries of the Council of Management will vanish into thin air. Our first object in this vale of woe should be to "help lame dogs over stiles." Here is our opportunity.

Extract from a bill received this week: "We receive English papers and magazines up-to-date by every English mail direct from all parts of Europe and America."

Departures.

During the past month, Signalmen W. J. Wood and G. R. Charlton have left us with a view to taking up second division clerkships at Army headquarters. We wish them all success in their new sphere.

Arrivals.

R.Q.M.S. Wassall, D.C.M., M.M., from the S.T.C. (India). Sergt./Instr. T. C. Osborne, A.E.C., from U.K. Sergt Disbrey from A Corps Signals, Karachi. Signalmen Nolan, Richards, Roberts, Robertson, Small, W. A. Smith, L. H. Smith, and Stringer from the S.T.C. (India).

Promotions and Appointments.

Corpls Child, Clark, Holland, Luff, Masters and Talling to be L/Sergts. I.U.L. L/Corpls Baldock and Marshall to be Corporals, I.U.L. Sigmn Olley to be U/L/Corporal.

ALASDAIR.

E Divisional Signals.

Meerut, U.P., March.

I learn with apprehension and curiosity of a national calamity over which Army headquarters at Simla is sparing no pains to preserve absolute secrecy. The Commander-in-Chief sits in solitary state, gazing into space with tired eyes to which the soothing touch of sleep is denied, whilst his staff move about him with silent tread and bated breath, waiting with patience an answer to the all-important question: Can India possibly survive the loss of L/Sergt Grayston and Signalmen Reeves and Thorpe, of ours, who have proceeded to the United Kingdom for transfer to the Reserve?

Having unburdened myself, I turn with a lighter heart to speak of things less disturbing to my peace of mind.

Following the cycle of seasons and the perceptible rise in temperature, preparations are now in progress for the annual move to the hills. A surer indication than the reading of a barometer or calendar, or even the orders of District Headquarters, is found in the sergeants' mess daily sale sheet, for with a marked increase in heat there is a corresponding rise in sales.

All ranks join in extending a cordial welcome to our new Commandant, Major F. O. St. John, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Signals, on his assuming command of the unit.

The annual tournament for the sergeants' mess tennis cup was played off last month. C.S.M. T. Rendell hit 'em oftener, harder, and with greater accuracy than the others, and thereby earns the right to have his name handed down to posterity by the record of his praiseworthy achievement on the cup.

Our inter-unit ten-a-side tournament resolved itself into a knock-out competition soon after it started, owing to the approaching move to the hills. Although this was ostensibly the reason for the change, I am firmly of opinion that it was altered to give the tournament players' hurts a chance to heal, and permit them to march to Ranikhet, thereby saving the expense of ambulance cars for a large percentage of the unit. In truth, Englishmen do "take their pleasures"!!!

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L/Sergt Wheeler, having been accepted for transfer to the Indian Army Ordnance Corps, proceeded to Ferozepore Arsenal. We wish him success in his new sphere.

ZOZIMUS.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat, March.

Our notes for last month were unavoidably delayed, and thus we have to cover two months.

February was essentially an "inspection month." We started with the visit of the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India, Col. H. C. Hawtrey, who inspected the unit in Kohat, and then flew to visit Parachinar. Four days later the G.O.C. Kohat District carried out his annual inspection of the unit. Then, on the 15th, we had the C.S.O. Northern Command with us. After inspecting the unit on parade, and the unit lines, Major Heymann carried out a tour in the Kurram Valley. We believe that on all three inspections we gave a good account of ourselves, and kept up the best traditions of the unit.

In conjunction with the visit of the C.S.O. Northern Command, the concert party gave a cabaret show in the theatre on the 13th. We were again glad to welcome the District Commander and a large party from the cantonments, together with the C.S.O. and Mrs. Heymann.

The party did well, and kept up a lively programme of music and songs. Sigmn Garner again gave us a first class stage with some excellent lighting effects, particularly in the Hawaiian scene, which drew well-merited applause; and the singer (Mrs. A. G. Elmes) well deserved the encore demanded. Altogether it was a very cheery and jolly show, and a great credit to the

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hard-worked members of the party, who manage to produce such excellent shows out of so little material.

The 16th was another red-letter day for us, when we held our annual sports. The 15th also was a holiday and a day of preparation. Fortune favoured us with a glorious day, and the unit was "at home" to the station. A lengthy programme was got through, the detailed results being reported in the Sports pages. The enclosures were crowded, and the band of the 2/12th Frontier Force Regiment played throughout the afternoon. At the conclusion of the sports, Mrs. F. A. Heymann presented the prizes to the successful competitors.

Talking of sports, we must record that at the Brigade assault-at-arms, F Signals, competing with the R.A.F. in British events, captured six out of the seven events. In fact, one might say it was our day out, and our athletes came home laden with spoils. Earlier in the month, at the R.A.F. sports, Corpl W. Wagg won the open mile.

Another sports honour also fell to us in the selection of Capt F. J. Matthews to represent the Europeans in the quadrangular cricket tournament at Lahore. In the last match, we read in the Press, Capt. Matthews made the most brilliant catch ever seen on the ground.

At the moment the unit is very busily engaged in Brigade schemes, field days, and annual musketry and revolver courses.

During February, we lost another batch of eight men, who left for home and civilian life.

Last night four "fortunates," in the persons of Sergt A. E. Smith, Sergt H. Lewis, L/Sergt C. Nelson, and Sigmn F. Brown, started off for six months' rest cure in England. Are not some people lucky?

We have despatched with these notes a number of photographs, which we hope will find their way into the May issue. [See the Supplement, in which we have incorporated some Jubbulpore illustrations to complete the sheet.—ED.]

G Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, March 12th.

An apology is due to our readers for the absence of our notes during the past couple of months or so, although no blame can be attributed to any particular individual for this state of affairs. Endeavours will be made to ensure that such mishaps do not occur in future.

We have to thank Sigmn Rigden for the accompanying snapshots, taken at Dhana Camp.

The same old plea exists, that owing to the unit being a very sadly depleted one, very little can be done as regards the entertainment of its personnel.

A short while back, some whisperings led one to believe that the members of the w.o.s' and sergeants' mess had formed an entertainment committee, and this committee is getting to work to provide amusement for their mess and the families of the unit. It seems to be their intention to arrange whist drives and dances, and also picnics to take place periodically. May their efforts be successful!

Several inspections have taken place recently, among them being visits from the Signal Officer-in-Chief, the Chief Signal Officer Southern Command, and the General Officer Commanding Central Provinces District. On the 26th February the unit was represented at a review parade held by the latter.

It seems highly probable that quite a number of changes are likely to come about when the amalgamation of Royal Signals and Indian Signal Corps takes place.

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations are extended to the undernamed: L/Sergt Hinchley to be Sergeant; Corpl Bennett to be L/Sergeant; L/Corpls Dill, Earl and Bonnor to be Corporals.

Arrivals.

We have been very pleased to accord a welcome to C.S.M. Hamilton from B Divisional Signals, and Signalmen Bates, Semmence and Singleton on their reposting from the Signal Training Centre. May their stay with the unit be long and enjoyable.

Departures.

The past month has seen the departure from our midst of a few of our good friends and sportsmen. As the majority of them have left for either discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, we wish them the best of luck. We shall be expecting to hear from some of them as to how they are getting along in civvie street.

For those who have proceeded on furlough, we wish a happy and enjoyable time, hoping they will feel better for the change when they return to our midst.

H. D.

C Divisional Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Bannu, March.

Our late scribe ("Coir") having been repatriated to U.K., it has fallen to my lot to write these monthly notes.

Departures.

We bade farewell to the undermentioned, who left us with many smiles for U.K.: Corpl A. Rowe, L/Corpl F. Tyler, Signalmen Webster, Hawkes, Cox, Stagg, Cole, Beavon, T. Smith, Kirkman and Watson.

The cheery "moon-face" of Sigmn Fry will be greatly missed in Bannu, as he has left us for the home establishment. We hope that he keeps Catterick as lively as he did Bannu with that hearty laugh of his. What about the Chinese pegs, Pot?

Sergt and Mrs. Dilley, and Sergt Spracklin, have left us temporarily for six months' leave in England. We wish them a very happy time!

CRANK.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, March 24th.

During the past month it has been very encouraging to note the increase in WIRE sales, and that 27 new applications for Signals Association membership were received in two days from this Company.

The usual changes due to the trooping season are taking place, and we shall be saying "au revoir!" to a few who will be leaving for Blighty. Capt. C. H. H. Vulliamy, who commanded this Company for some considerable time, has left us to join the home establishment; and Capt. H. Smitherman, who has also been with us for a good while, and is at present officer commanding this Company, is proceeding on leave during April. We welcomed the arrival of Capt. Bailey ex Sarafand, but regret to say that he has been re-posted to D Divl. Signals.

Since our last notes we have received another couple of drafts, and this Company is assuming the importance of F Company of T.B. fame, both in men and sports.

A photograph of a "happy group of isolated men at Larkhill" appeared in the January number. I wonder if the contributor ever thought of the "unhappy" men isolated in India?

Technical.

The training of wirelessops commenced on March 1st, and we have quite a large number of students aspiring to reach the B.3 standard. An n.c.o.s course has recently commenced under Lieut. Hughes, who by the way has been approached on the subject of contributing an article of interest to all wireless operators, and has kindly consented to do so. I hope to forward this at a very early date for publication in THE WIRE.

Congratulations.

Hearty congratulations are extended to all n.c.o.s of the Company who have recently been promoted in the I.U.L., and to those who have recently received corps promotion; also to Sigmn Gray on winning the "middles" of the Northern Command boxing championships and being runner-up in the "middles" of the All India boxing championships. (Jimmie, please note.)

TRUMPETER.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Nothing very exciting has happened this month. Work for linemen is slowly approaching in the form of a 14-mile route which has to be erected.

An exciting billiard match took place on Sunday, February 21st, between Corpl Bowler and Sigmn Gough. Bowler started with 50 up (a present by Gough, as an act of kindness). After some two hours' play, Gough missed a poke, thus giving Bowler an opportunity of starting on his own. At this period both contestants retired for lunch, the score at the interval being:—

Corporal Bowler (in play)	51
Sigmn Gough	49

On the resumption, Gough missed 47 times in succession, thus giving Bowler a real good lead. The latter then went on to make a grand score of 2 (please note, a *cannon*), and becomes champion (of these two *only*). Never mind, Goughy bhoy! don't look for snips next time.

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Overheard.

Gunner to Signalman: "How do you spell 'Fawt,' mate?"
Signalman: "F–O–R–T, of course."
Gunner: "Naw! 'Fawt,' I mean."
Chorus of Signalmen: "F–O–U–G–H–T."
Gunner: "Naw! the 'fawt' yer fink wiv, I mean."

Notices.

To Singapore and the Rhine.—Please account for the non-appearance of notes in the February issue. Owing to the above units not entering notes, I regret to inform all concerned that THE WIRE sales in Hong Kong decreased rapidly. I'll excuse Ferdinand; but Olive! oh, you naughty girl!

CAN DO.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo,
March 7th.

Collective Training.

"Cease fire!" Manœuvres are at an end, and the units are now having a well-earned (?) rest. Looking through the Companies' notes, I think they have written quite sufficient about the war, so I shall refrain from boring you with further news on the subject. The G.O.C. has directed that April shall be devoted to educational and recreational training. What did I hear you say? "Not too bad!"

Departures—Officers.

Capt. J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., Royal Signals, left us on March 22nd to take up an appointment as G.S.O.3 at the War Office. Our best wishes go with him and Mrs. Deedes.

Capt. H. G. Henderson, Royal Signals, vacated his appointment as staff officer to C.S.O. on April 1st, and relieved Capt. Deedes as second-in-command of No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Appointment.

Congratulations to A/Sergt Bawden on attaining that rank. Keep it up, Alfred!

Apologies.

In last month's notes, I should have included the following, but somehow I forgot (sorry, Taffy, if it has caused you pain). At the meeting of the Signals with the R.I.F. in the Command team boxing championships, we were honoured with the company of Mr. Emblem, father of the renowned "Jimmy." This gentleman was on holiday in Egypt, and witnessed the combat. He was the guest of the w.o.s' and n.c.o.s' mess, and he spent a very enjoyable time.

Tournament.

The C.S.O.'s directorate (attached to No. 1 Company) opposed H.Q. Section of that Company in an all-round tournament of billiards, snooker, table tennis, whist and darts. There are only three of us to pick a team of three from, but we did remarkably well, being beaten by a very narrow margin. Yimken!

Obituary.

The Corps in Egypt profoundly regret the death of Lieut.-Col A. St. J. Yates, O.B.E., M.C., Royal Signals.

R.A.O.B.

The Signals opened a "Buff" Lodge of their own at Heliopolis, Cairo, on Saturday, March 13th.

Agony.

There are a good many of old F Company stationed out here, and all of these would like to hear more from their old unit. Now what about it, my dear "Parson"?

Congratulations to Corpl H. P. Hall. What about a line? This is for the second time of asking. Coll' speaking!

BEN.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Red Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.

At last all detachments have returned from manœuvres, and it is understood that all concerned thoroughly enjoyed their sojourn in the desert, in spite of the bad weather and the unusual experience of the detachment at Helwan, who were flooded out and had their rations delivered daily by aeroplane.

We have heard quite a lot about the climate of Egypt affecting the memory of some people, but it is really beyond us to understand why a certain n.c.o. considered it necessary to take his Crossley out for *exercise*. We did not know that it was a part of a Crossley's daily routine to take exercise: we thought that was peculiar to our long-faced friends of the stable.

On March 5th a farewell smoking concert was held in the n.c.o.s' mess on the departure of Corpl Prior and Sergt. Smith (R.A.M.C. attached). A very enjoyable evening was spent by all, and after continuing the ceremonies on the following day, the mess members turned out en bloc on the morning of the 7th to bid them bon voyage.

We have to tender congratulations to the following: L/Sergt Norcross promoted Sergeant; L/Sergt Naylor appointed A/Sgt.; Corpl Barnham appointed L/Sergt.; L/Corpl Corbett promoted Corporal; and L/Corpl Ryan appointed A/Corporal. May their shadows never grow less!

A. E. B.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Main Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo,
April 2nd.

Congratulations to the Training Battalion on winning the Northern Command boxing team championship, and to the Depot Battalion on being runners-up in the finals. We are sorry the T.B. was unable to repeat this in the Army team finals at Aldershot, and had to go under to the Middlesex Regiment, who were in turn defeated in the final by the Loyals. Better luck next year, T.B.

The Corps have a good welter-weight in Sigmn Wheeler, who seems to be following in the footsteps of his more famous brother Charles, who is now with us.

Manœuvres were completed on March 19th, and the Signal Section returned to barracks on that date. They looked fit and well, and agree that they had a good time under canvas. Several of them have put on weight, particularly a certain well-known feather (?) weight boxer, who put on at least a couple of stones.

The weather on manœuvres was not all that could be desired; it rained heavily on two or three days, a very rare occurrence for Egypt, and one night, during a gale and rainstorm, some of the tents were blown down. The final day of the operations was almost as bad, it being very hot, and a sandstorm rendered conditions very bad for all.

On the occasion of the All-Egypt cross-country race at Alexandria, on March 28th, several of the Company went with the Corps team, and a most enjoyable week-end was spent. The day following the run was spent in a general wander round Alexandria, several of the runners and supporters having their first swim of the season in the Mediterranean.

Capt. J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., left this unit on March 22nd, being appointed to the War Office. His place has been taken by Capt. H. G. Henderson, late of the C.S.O.'s directorate, B.T.E.

L/Sergt A. Weaving and A/Corpl W. H. Clark left here on the 7th March for U.K., having completed their tour of service abroad. Nobbie will be sadly missed in the sports line, being a particularly good cross-country runner, footballer, and track runner (half mile).

L/Sergt A. Trayner has also left us for U.K., sailing on March 30th. It is rumoured that Busty was in tears when he learnt of his departure, though it is hard to believe.

Sigmn J. McCormick proceeded to U.K. on two months' leave on March 8th. Mind you don't lose your way in the Waterloo Road, Paddy!

We welcomed the arrival of C.S.M. A. H. Britton, from Colchester, on March 16th. He has taken over the duties of C.S.M. of this unit.

Sigmn W. C. Beedle proceeded on fourteen days' local leave on April 1st, in order to get married. Oh! Cyril, you've done it now! Still, "nil desperandum."

A certain M.T. driver of this unit has taken a great liking for mutton cutlets (M.T. drivers of A Corps Signals, please note). Beware, Geordie! we know you have a voracious appetite, but one can have too much of a good thing.

Sigmn E. Jager and Dvr W. Townsend would like to hear from Sigmn Ashpool (last heard of in A Company) and Sigmn P. Raymond (late D Company) respectively.

ART.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, March 30th.

This has been a very uneventful month for us, the most exciting incident being the installation of a "Queen" stove in H.Q. Exchange, Prospect, to protect the switchboard (and incidentally the T.S.O.) from the inclement weather which we have been experiencing lately.

Sigmn Piper, our tame futurist artist, was turned loose in the exchange after the workmen had finished, to cover up the mess as much as possible with whitewash. His patent brush would have saved much time and labour had it worked, and his assistant on the job (no names this time, but he runs the messing book!) was a very cheerful helper until his chewing gum dropped into the whitewash bucket, when he retired in high dudgeon.

Fishing is once more coming into vogue, and so far we have lost four hooks, one cap (S.D.), three or four reputations, and the same number of tempers. The fish, being better educated (most of them have got their 1st's) get more sport out of this than we do, and so far they are the winning side, for one of us has been in the sea but no fish have come out of it.

I have nothing to report from the horticulturist section, but we are still "living in hopes" of something growing one day.

The T.S.O.s have been presented with a pup. After careful inspection (being a son of the noble "Wurzel," late of this Section and now of the 2nd Green Howards), we have decided to name him "Heinz," for he is also of "57 varieties." His appetite is as varied as his breed, anything from Command orders to lineman's safety belts being considered good food for pups.

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We have some news from St. George's at last! Our hearty congratulations to Mrs. Sands on walking off with a few prizes from St. George's Garrison whist drives lately. We would like to have her recipe. Has it anything to do with a certain lucky bean?

L/Corpl Chikko Leath thanks Nobby, the corporals' mess correspondent, for his kind remarks in the March WIRE.

Sapper Bennett, of the 27th Co. R.E., St. George's, would like to hear from Corpl Lank Cowan, whom he knew in Sierra Leone in 1922.

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

Signal Section, Sierra Leone.

March 16th.

We wish Staff-Sergt Harris bon voyage on his return to England per R.M.S. "Abba" on the 31st inst. We are very sorry to lose him.

We are pleased to welcome Staff-Sergt McSwinney, and trust his twelve months' tour of duty here will be pleasant.

Congratulations to Signalmen Mizen and Graves on receiving a letter of thanks from H.E. the Governor, and also a nice little sum of money for services rendered during the recent railway strike.

We also congratulate Sigmn Westley on having the courage to enter for his 1st class certificate. May he get it.

Sigmn Ramsden has been presented with a motor cycle for services rendered to a friend of his. Of course it goes, but sometimes it forgets to bring him back.

There was great excitement here on the 15th inst., owing to the March draft of R.E.s and R.A.s arriving per R.M.S. "Abba," and a welcome and farewell concert was given on the night of the 15th inst. Our Ernest was very much to the fore with his musical turns, especially with the xylophon.

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The R.E.s and other friends are proposing to start a fund for the purpose of providing a pair of stilts for Titch (Sigmn Gavins), as the S.M. always has to look twice for him when he attends morning parade.

Sigmn Gavins would like to hear from Sigmn F. W. Chapman, at present in Malta.

WINKLE.

Malta Signal Section.

Valletta, April 4th.

Items of interest from this Section have been conspicuous by their absence for the past two months. Since our last contribution, very few incidents worthy of publication in THE WIRE have presented themselves.

Those outstanding are the promotion of Corporal Baines to his substantiated rank, and L/Corpl Davies to be Corporal. The congratulations of the Section are extended herewith in "black and white."

Musketry.

The above has come and gone, and very satisfactory results were obtained. Sergt White (Blanco) divulged a few secrets gleaned from Hythe, and behold! the improvement upon the previous year's results was exactly 100 per cent.

Billiards.

During the month of February the preliminary heats for the *News of the World* billiard competition were played off amongst the 24th Co. R.E. and attached personnel.

This Section surprised the Sappers by supplying two semi-finalists in Signalmen Horton and Davey, the former losing his game by two points, and the latter qualifying for the final by a comfortable margin. Jim met his Waterloo after a plucky attempt to lower the colours of Sapper Grist, whose victory was received with great enthusiasm.

The winner was presented with a *News of the World* silver medal, and the runner-up with a billiard cue. We have every reason to believe that the wearing of a posh cardigan by James during the final put him off his stroke on more than one occasion.

We hope to forward at an early date a descriptive and interesting article, dealing with the work of the Malta Signal Section and life in the Island in general.

ALGY.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, April 14th.

We regret the departure of Lieut. J. S. Shields, M.C., Croix de Guerre, Royal Engineers, who has been with this unit so long. An exceedingly popular officer, he will be greatly missed. In an effective little speech he offered his best wishes to all who knew him, and hoped to keep in touch with them through the medium of this magazine. We understand that he returns to his former employment, and the whole unit wish him well.

With the advent of Spring quite a change has taken place. Many who sighed for the times in Cologne have quite altered, and are now wondering how they can persuade the wife to go home and see her mother.

Training has commenced with musketry, W.T. schemes, defence schemes, and multitudinous others that cause a soldier's life to be anything but dull.

The Line Section is working at full pressure on the numerous communications to be established to the outlying stations. They have put in an enormous amount of work, and are to be congratulated on their achievements. Infantry signallers attend for courses of instruction in W/T, and leave with a headache and a bulging notebook. Meanwhile the W/T operators assume a lofty strained look, borrow pencils and cigarettes, and talk vaguely about a kilo-what? waves metres and the Eifel Tower.

The surrounding places are very interesting. Mayence, occupied by the French, is a favourite spot. To get a pass to go there, one has to prove that he knows all the ranks in the French army from a poilu to Foch, the French for beer, the history of the Revolution, and the rate for the franc. We chuckled when we heard of an officer who asked all these questions, and then himself saluted a lance-corporal in our allies' forces.

As a unit of an occupying army, we hold a unique position in the corps. Not for us the placid uneventful routine of a home station, for we are still "W.O.A.S."—at least, we find so when on the mat; for we are still in an enemy country, whose fetish was the Army, and who watch us with keenly critical eyes.

The reputation of being the neatest-dressed troops in the garrison, we note with pleasure, is still in our keeping. Custard grips and white-washed puttee tapes are strictly taboo.

Social.

The excellence of the jazz band has gained them numerous engagements. The dances are becoming more popular each time, owing to the tireless energy of Signalmen Whyte and Williams, to whom thanks for the pleasant evenings spent at these functions are due. "Etienne C" is in himself an embryo band, and fun is always at its highest when he is present. The attendance of the C.O. is much appreciated.

Arrival.

Capt. G. G. Glanville, M.C., to command the Signal Company.

Obituary.

The units extend their sincere sympathy to C.S.M. Burgess in his bereavement.

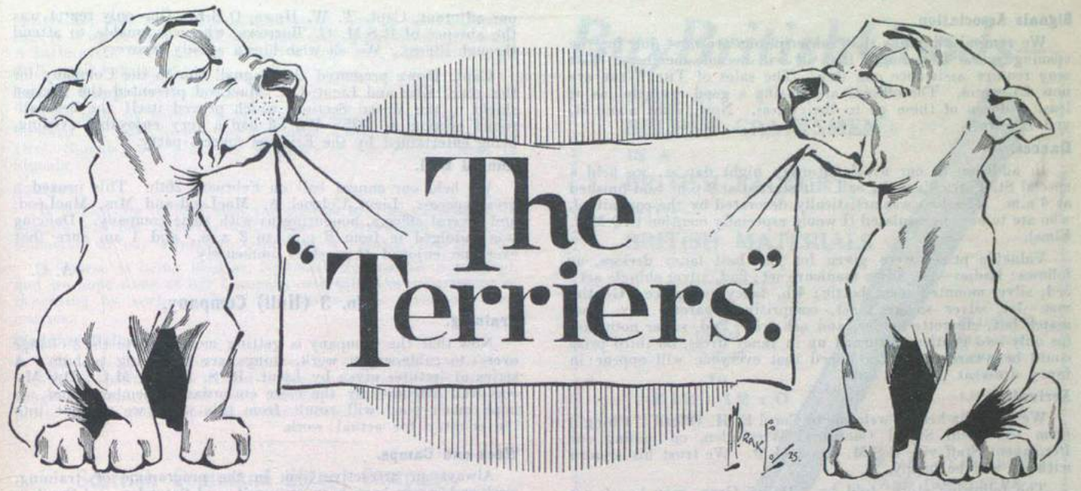
Birth.

To Sergt and Mrs. Sandey, a daughter. Congratulations!

O.C.A.

It is with satisfaction that we record the unanimous re-election of Capt. Williams, O.B.E., as president, and the 100 per cent. membership. That this is to be a live branch of the association is pretty evident.

PETRUS



44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

Memorable events have occurred since last we went to press. R.S.M. B. Brown and C.S.M. W. Tyler have left us for civvy life, and in their places we heartily welcome R.S.M. J. Lovell and Sergts Gilbert and Bartlett.

On Friday, March 26th, a smoker was held in the Sergeants' Mess to bid farewell to R.S.M. Brown, as reported under the Sergeants' Mess notes. Another takes place shortly, when C.S.M. Tyler (Watty) can find time to honour us with his presence.

The enthusiasts of the unit spent the Easter holidays at Haywards Heath, where, favoured by lovely weather (though slightly damp on Sunday) a most enjoyable and instructive time was spent.

Training is proceeding apace, a growing attendance proving the interest of all ranks in the lectures, practical and office routine work.

Our weekly dance is now well established, and continues to attract large numbers, the carnival dance held on St. Patrick's Day being so well attended that the floor space was hardly sufficient to accommodate the party.

A. C. A.

Sergeants' Mess.

Last month we visited the 47th Divl. Signals at Putney and engaged in a friendly shooting match, which we won by a very small margin. We are hoping to have a return match shortly, when the tables may be turned. We thank the members of the 47th sergeants' mess for their hospitality.

On March 26th we held a farewell smoking concert to R.S.M. B. Brown, who has left us for civilian life after 23 years' service. The concert proved a great success, and we thank the visitors for their valuable assistance.

Amongst those present were our adjutant, Capt. C. R. H. Firth, Major Keogh, R.A.M.C., and Capt. F. Reid, M.C.

R.S.M. Adams (complete with his cornet) delighted the audience with a solo ("The Lost Chord"), and C.S.M. C. J. Sharpe rendered that pathetic little ballad entitled "Two fingers, two thumbs, keep moving," and had everyone moving their arms and legs about like a one-man band.

C.S.M.s Currie and Gillin, from Putney, rendered valuable assistance by their vocal efforts. R.S.M. Ted Shepherd (from A.A. Signals), C.S.M. Lacri Wood (of Don Company fame), C.Q.M.S. Allan, Sergts Forest and Dymock, also came forward and gave of their best.

About 10 p.m. C.S.M. Jordon (our president) rose steadily to his feet and in a few well-chosen words conveyed the sentiments of the mess to R.S.M. Brown, and presented him with a mahogany clock. Capt. C. R. H. Firth spoke briefly of the manner in which the sergeant-major had carried out his duties whilst with the unit. The latter briefly replied, and after singing "He's a jolly good fellow," etc., the concert went merrily on—and everyone voted it a huge success.

We extend a hearty welcome to R.S.M. Johnnie Lovell, who is well known to most of the old hands. We hope that his stay will be a pleasant one, and we assure him of our whole-hearted support.

We also extend a hearty welcome to Sergts Gilbert and Bob Bartlett, who have just arrived to complete the establishment on the P.S.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, April 15th.

Easter training was held at Ditchling, near Brighton, and was attended by 10 officers and 50 other ranks. We were sorry to see so few men, and I feel confident that if they only realized the interesting work and amusement that can be had at this pretty Sussex spot, many more would attend.

The catering was all that could be desired. Two eggs and hot rolls per man for breakfast! The training consisted mainly of visual, wireless, cable-laying by man-pack, and lineman's duties. A great deal was learned, as the men had practically individual attention.

After tea the majority went into Brighton. The n.c.o.s, whilst there, made many of their arrangements for the annual training, including the reserving of seats in the Bodega. By the way, who is the n.c.o. who managed to get free ski ball practice, and how did he manage it? We hear "The Mug" paid for it again.

Annual training will take place at Rottingdean, near Brighton, instead of in the New Forest. This news has been received with general satisfaction.

Officers' Dance.

The first annual dance took place at the Criterion Restaurant. It was preceded by a dinner, and was voted a great success. The organisers are to be complimented.

Signals Association.

We remind all ranks that subscriptions are now due for the ensuing year. It is hoped that all will become members. You *may* require assistance one day! The sales of THE WIRE are now 25 copies. The officers are setting a good example, as at least a dozen of these go to their mess. Now, what about it, you fellows?

Dances.

In addition to our usual Saturday night dances, we held a special St. Patrick's night ball. It started at 9 p.m. and finished at 4 a.m. The hall was artistically decorated by the committee, who are to be congratulated (I would especially mention C.Q.M.S. Elms).

Valuable prizes were given for the best fancy dresses, as follows: Ladies—1st, silver manicure set; 2nd, silver shingle set; 3rd, silver-mounted scent bottle; 4th, fancy timepiece. Gentlemen—1st, silver smoker's set, comprising cigarette box, case, match box, cigarette holder, and ash tray; 2nd, silver note case (as only two gentlemen turned up in fancy dress, no third prize could be awarded). It is hoped that everyone will appear in fancy dress at the next ball.

Arrivals.

We extend a hearty welcome to Corpl E. H. Offord ("Ching") from the Field Signal Company, Wiesbaden, on joining our Permanent Staff vice R.S.M. Gray, M.M. We trust his sojourn with us will be happy.

The following story, told by "Dolly" Gray, may be of use to tired drill instructors:—

Dolly (to rather dense recruits): "I'll tell you fellows a little story. When I was young, I had a box of leaden soldiers given to me. I loved those soldiers, and played with them whenever I could. One day I annoyed my father, and in a fit of temper he threw them on the fire and they melted. I was very upset, and cried my eyes out. My mother tried to comfort me, and said, 'Never mind, sonny; one of these days you'll get some more.' I have waited many years, and at last my mother's words have come true!"

LEMJAY.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Gateshead-on-Tyne) Company.

There is not much to write about this month, though we are still carrying on. The indoor social activities have now drawn to a close—at any rate until later in the year.

All ranks are very keen on training, and the new recruits, especially, are very anxious to learn and to make good at this year's annual training at Catterick in June.

Musketry is being held at Whitburn on Sunday, the 18th inst., and by the time these notes appear we shall know whether or not we have any B.B.M. (budding Bisley men) in our midst.

A week-end camp is being held at Gateshead on the 24th/25th April, and all ranks are looking forward to this with much anticipation.

Annual Ball.

This was held in the Beaconsfield Hall, on March 26th, and was a tremendous success. Great credit is due to the organising committee for the excellent evening's entertainment provided.

Wedding Bells.

We extend our very best wishes to our popular P.S. Instructor (Sergeant-Major Smith), who joined the ranks of the benedicts on April 7th. We trust the happy couple may enjoy every success.

I hear that the "moral support" which is evidently necessary on these occasions was provided by the presence of R.S.M. Burrows and C.S.M. Williams.

A. C. S.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Annual Smoker.

We held our annual smoker on February 19th. We had a very good attendance, including Lieut.-Col. A. MacLeod and our adjutant, Capt. T. W. Howe, O.B.E. Our only regret was the absence of R.S.M. G. Burrows, who was unable to attend through illness. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Capt. Howe presented the Bagnall cup to the Company for the year 1925; and Lieut.-Col. MacLeod presented the Section shield to the Visual Section, which proved itself the best all-round section in 1925. We all had a very enjoyable evening, being entertained by the Erismus concert party.

Annual Ball.

We held our annual ball on February 26th. This proved a great success, Lieut.-Colonel A. MacLeod and Mrs. MacLeod, and several officers, honouring us with their company. Dancing was indulged in from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., and I am sure that everyone enjoyed themselves immensely.

A. C.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Training.

Now that the Company is getting more used to the "change over" to cable-wagon work, things are beginning to hum. A series of lectures given by Lieut. R. S. Smith, M.C., D.C.M., was well attended by the more enthusiastic members, and we hope much good will result from this when we get out into the country for actual work.

Week-end Camps.

Always an attractive item in the programme of training, week-end camps have been arranged, and Saturday and Sunday, April 17th and 18th, will see us holding our "first of the season."

Musketry.

Hornsea—a delightful seaside place, 18 miles from Hull, is the chosen place once more for the Company to shoot their annual course.

The first date arranged is April 25th, when we hope to have a good number at the targets to put in some practice in readiness for the competition for the Saville cup later in the summer.

Sergeants' Annual Ball.

This was held on Monday, March 20th, in the Balmoral Room, Metropole Hall, one of the finest dance-rooms in the city. The function, which was a great success, was very much enjoyed by over 400 people. Officers, warrant officers, and n.c.o.s from all the East Riding Territorial units were present.

The Sheriff of Hull was also present, and apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Lord Mayor (Coun. Frank Finn) owing to important Council work demanding his attention at the last moment.

A large party from the East Yorkshire Regiment Depot, Beverley, came over.

Sergts J. Wright, M.M., and F. Cross, were joint ball secretaries, and with the M.C.s (R.S.M. G. Burrows and C.S.M. R. G. Williams, M.M.) they are to be congratulated on the success of the whole affair.

Company Dances.

These were held fortnightly throughout the close season, and some very enjoyable evenings were spent by the good numbers attending. The men's committee were responsible for the organisation, and the success of the dances reflects great credit on their efforts.

Social Evenings.

Held in the men's recreation room at regular intervals throughout the season, these functions were also a success, and resulted in some very excellent attendances.

Co-operation Results.

As a result of splendid backing up by the members of the Company in all affairs arranged for their benefit during the winter, a first class billiard table has been installed in the men's recreation room, where it is now possible to have some pleasant games during the week.

In our notes a few months ago we remarked that it was the intention of Capt. R. E. Petch to do all that was in his power to keep up the interest in the Company during the winter. This has been done to an extent little expected by even the most optimistic, and we would remind those now in the Company that it is up to them to do *their* best during the training season. A little extra work put in will go a long way, and that "extra drill" will help a lot!

Annual Camp.

This is to be held at Catterick in June, and we are looking forward not only to meeting the other Companies of the 50th Divl. Signals, but also the Regulars of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Courses.

It is pleasing to hear that the courses held at the School of Signals will not interfere with those at Newcastle under the command of our adjutant, Capt. W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

A course is being held at Newcastle for recruit Signalmen, and we hope some of our Company will take the opportunity of benefiting by such excellent instruction as is given on these courses.

Wedding Bells.

Considerable interest was created by the recent marriage of C.S.M. G. Smith. We extend to him and his wife our heartiest congratulations, coupled with the hope that they may enjoy much success and happiness in the future.

Scottish Command Signal Company.

Edinburgh, April 7th.

Our annual rush into print takes place this month as a result of the annual Company dinner, held on March 29th. Our new Chief Signal Officer, Lieut.-Col. P. R. Bald, D.S.O. (recently arrived from the School of Signals) occupied the chair. We had a number of distinguished guests, and included in the number were Lieut.-Col. A. A. Jayne, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Supp. Reserve Royal Signals (Controller of the Edinburgh General Post Office), Lieut.-Col. James Stevenson, O.B.E. (C.S.O. of both 4th and 17th Corps during the late war), and Lieut. L. D. Goddard, O.C. No. 2 A.F.A. Brigade Signal Section.

Lieut. W. G. L. Kennard, O.C. Company, acted as croupier. An excellent musical programme was served up, Mr. H. J. Brodie (civilian clerk to the Company) being responsible for the musical arrangements.

SCOTIA.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

The members of No. 3 Company sergeants' mess, Bruce Street Drill Hall, Dunfermline, held their annual whist drive, supper and dance in Dick's Rooms, Bonnar Street, on Thursday, 4th March.

All members of the mess attended, with the exception of two who have never recovered from the shock they received when 12s. 6d. (the amount charged for a missing blanket) was withdrawn from their hard-earned £3. Our sympathy is extended to them, but we hope they will get their money's worth out of the party who benefited at their expense.

After an hour at whist, at which Sergeant-Majors Mackay and Cooper acted as M.C.s, Lieut Dick and his lady friend (Dr. Walker) were called upon to present the prizes. A vote of thanks having been accorded to them for doing so, the sergeant-major invited the company to retire to the supper room.

The supper having been duly enjoyed, the company returned to the dancing hall, where the "light fantastic," to the strains of our pipe and string bands, was carried out until the early hours of the morning.

The evening, long looked forward to, was a great success—so much so, that a special request for a "repeat" has been received from the R.A. officers.

It would be encouraging to see representatives from Nos. 1 and 2 Companies at such functions. At the present time we only meet at the annual camp, and these conditions make us feel we belong to another unit altogether. Perhaps next year we may have the pleasure of entertaining each other.

No. 2 Company, Stirling, held their annual dance, etc., on January 26th, and from accounts received it was a huge success.

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53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, April 14th.

Like all who had anything to do with him, we heard with the greatest possible regret of the death of Lieut.-Col. A. F. Thomas, who was our C.S.O. We feel we have lost a real friend.

The month of May has been a busy one. Training in riding and technical subjects has gone steadily on, and two week-end courses have been held.

The first, for the whole unit, was well attended. Some very good work was put in, but No. 3 Company are nearly as sensitive about super-imposing as the W/T Section were about wavemeters.

The second was a voluntary unpaid one for No. 3 Company personnel, held on Sunday, March 21st. This was very well attended, over 60 per cent. of the Company turning out. Work was carried out near Cowbridge, the high ground and open down above the village affording excellent facilities for training. It is not true, however (as stated in a local paper), that No. 3 Company carried out wireless experiments with new single current sounder sets!

The social side—so important in a Territorial unit—has not been neglected, and the w.o.s and n.c.o.s' mess have run a number of most successful dances and whist drives, particularly during the Easter holidays.

It is hoped shortly to send some ten of our n.c.o.s for attachment to Companies of the Training Battalion at Catterick; and next month I hope to have something to say about their experiences in the wilds of Yorkshire.

The latest song at our H.Q. is "Where do maps go in the summer time?" No. 3 Company can possibly supply the answer!

THE LEEK.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

This is by way of a re-introduction to THE WIRE, for it is a long time since anything in the nature of notes from these H.Q. made an appearance.

We start by patting ourselves on the back—not undeservedly, however—for four officers and 110 men turned out for Easter training at Colchester. I am asked to convey the thanks and compliments of the commanding officer on the excellent turn-out and steadiness on parade, especially on the return and dismissal at Liverpool Street, and also to everybody for their keenness during camp, and to the junior n.c.o.s on their section control. The riding was generally good, and it was very nice to receive compliments from our hosts, usually most critical of everything and everybody.

Will the 4th Divl. Signal personnel please accept our best thanks for everything they did, and our assurance that they will always receive a very hearty welcome if any of them turn up at our H.Q. when in London.

We could do with much more support at the regimental dances in future. The present season has been run on experimental lines of one dance a week, but it has by no means proved a success. All members of the unit will have an opportunity at camp of putting forward their suggestions for a better and more profitable scheme, so please get your thinking pieces burnished up by then.

THE ROBBER.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Training is now in full swing, and some good work is being put in by the wirelessops preparatory to outdoor work when the summer comes. The linemen are also very busy overhauling cable wagons for forthcoming line-laying on Wanstead Flats.

A very good day's work was put in on Sunday, March 28th, on the Flats. A Cable Detachment from No. 1 Company (under Lieut Riggs) and two Wireless Detachments from No. 3 Company (under C.S.M. Hooper) were turned out. A small scheme was carried out under the adjutant, Capt. J. McConville, M.C., the work proceeding very smoothly and efficiently. During the time the stations were open, the drivers gave an exhibition of riding under R.S.M. H. L. Adams, M.M. The Cossack riding was much admired by an excited crowd of onlookers. Without boasting, we consider our drivers can quite hold their own with the Regulars. With "Tich" in the School, what more need be said?

We regret the retirement of Sergts Clark and Murphy, and Corporal Sisson. These n.c.o.s have been unable to re-engage owing to changes in their civil employment. We trust they will not lose sight of us altogether, and they may always be sure of a welcome at the Green.

Another change in the permanent staff has taken place. Sgt Coates (Southend Company) returned to corps duties, being posted to the 3rd Divl. Signals. In relief, Sergt Inman was posted. Being a single man, it meant that either he found a wife "toute de suite" or a married instructor would have to be posted to Southend. He chose the latter alternative, and Sergt Leckie was ordered to Southend, Sergt Inman remaining at headquarters.

In future, No. 2 Company at Southend will be known as No. 3, and No. 3 Company at Stratford will be designated No. 2.

The writer and the R.S.M. came back from Aldershot with pleasant memories, and were glad at meeting so many old Signals at the R.E. Mess, especially C.Q.M.S. Foster, late P.S. of this unit. Cheerio, Arnold! and don't forget to look us up when passing through London.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

April 16th.

Since our last notes the "event of events" has undoubtedly been the Company's first annual dinner, but by the time this appears in print the affair will probably be almost forgotten by quite a number who thoroughly enjoyed themselves on that occasion. The gathering, referred to in the local press as "A landmark in Southend history," was so pleasant and successful that we make no apology for reviving welcome recollections.

To R.S.M. Adams and ex-S.M. Kenyon, who came down from headquarters—the Company's thanks. Their contribution to the musical programme was by request, and the pianoforte and cornet selections were popularly received.

Space will not admit of a lengthy account of the dinner, but before we leave the subject it should be mentioned that the evening's outing garnered "cups and funds"—both very useful.

"Pepys," the local diarist, commented on the dinner characteristically. He wrote:—

"This evening to Garon's Banqueting Hall, and there sat to dinner with the new Signal Company of this borough, and very merry all were with drinking of toasts and gossip, and with hearing songs, we having colonels and captains and not a few amongst us, and indeed it was a very good company that sat down, and a most brave dinner was served, mighty civilly. Pretty to see the card tricks done, presently, by Mr. Oldland, past belief almost, and to hear all said at table, to the very great content of the rest, who do look there shall be a good work done amongst 'em presently, if they do but live and be well."

Training is progressing in great style. All are digging deep into the new procedure. Old signallers are scratching their heads and murmuring "Why the ——did they change from the good old style of signalling? This blinking ink-monkey-ink is getting me down." But on the whole the lads are gradually mastering the intricate problems and mysteries of up-to-date signalling. A novel competition, arranged by the officers, has made the work more interesting. Corps whips are offered to the first five who succeed in reading the test message set by the adjutant. In addition to this, a cup is to be given to the n.c.o. or man who completes the highest number of drills for 1926. In consequence of these attractions, all are very keen to come to the fore on drill nights.

In spite of the attractions of work, sport is not on the wane. Quite the reverse in fact. Our boxing team sallied forth to headquarters and grappled with their giants to no mean advantage. The affair was organised to enable the committee to select the best team to represent the unit at the Divisional meeting at Chelmsford. We hope to make things hum there on the 17th.

Our boxing representatives who visited the drill hall of D Company, Essex Regiment, and put up some sturdy fights at various weights, with fair success.

Before leaving boxing, I should like to point out to the person who accused W. Sawford of having a horse-shoe in his glove that he was mistaken. It was a brick!

Football must not be left out. Our team has been doing very well of late, so much so in fact that it was rumoured at a recent match that a director of the local "pro" team was watching our players with a view to obtaining their signatures for the Town team. Sigmn Holder is untiring in his efforts to get the best team in the field.

To Sergt Coates, who has now left the army and hopes to settle down in civilian life at Westcliff-on-Sea, we must say that we are very sorry to lose our first permanent staff instructor, and wish him the best of luck. To his successor, Sergt Leckie, a hearty welcome. We hope that his sojourn amongst us will prove beneficial to all concerned.

Birth.

We take this opportunity to congratulate C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Smeeton on the arrival of Derek Peter. Another "flag basher," we hope!

Personal.

Sergt W. P. Leckie wishes to be remembered to all at Wiesbaden and Bulford. Anybody who would like to write, please note the change of address. "Good old bogey boy."

DREITER.

Athletic Doings at the S.T.C., Catterick.

The winter games season is drawing to a close, and all the Company leagues have been completed with the following results:

Soccer Senior League—E Company.
Soccer Junior League—C Company.
Rugby League—E Company.
Hockey League—School of Signals.

The soccer and hockey knock-outs have been started, so cricket and athletics this year will start with a clean board.

Now for a short résumé of the various games.

Cross-Country.

The Northern Command cross-country was run at Catterick on March 10th. The D.B. were winners, with the T.B. second. Joe was 1st, Richardson 2nd, and Broadley 3rd.

This result meant that T.B. and D.B. were to proceed to Windsor for the Army cross-country, but our hopes were rudely shattered: the T.B. were 5th, and the D.B. 6th. Joe was 1st, and the star turns were all well placed, but both teams carried a long tail; but as the new runners are quite young, we expect to lift the Army cross-country championship in the near future. Anyway, here's congratulations to the 1st Battalion D.C.L.I., who cantered home with their 12 scoring members in the first 24.

An Example of Team Work.

In the National cross-country Joe was 5th, and the papers say that he ran better than at any time during the season. He has been very handicapped this winter with the training facilities.

On Easter Monday, Major Cobb saw another trophy at Elswick, and the team took a great liking to it. Result: it was "borrowed" for twelve months. Congratulations to all concerned!

Next we come to "La Boxe."

The T.B. disappeared from the Army team show in the semi-final. Their opponents, the 1st Middlesex at Aldershot, gave them the k.o. after some keen hard fighting, except in one case, where both opponents were disqualified for holding ("Come and cuddle me"—an old song). This will not do!

In the Army individual championships, all the boxers concerned upheld the reputation of the Signals, but except in one case they were not clever enough. However, there is no need for alarm; they are all coming boxers, and next year will bring more grist to the mill. L/Corpl Jones was the one successful boxer; congratulations to him on his fine performance. It is a good show to win an Army event these days—particularly boxing, where the standard is very high.

Soccer.

The T.B. and D.B. teams in their respective leagues are making headway, but I don't think that either has the slightest hope of topping its division.

The School of Signals were our representatives in the semi-final of the Garrison knock-out cup, and they played the 59th Field Company R.E.s in this tie. They lost by 5—1 after a keen game, in which the Sappers played some very fine football.

Hockey.

Except for the hockey league, in which the School have literally squashed all the Companies, hockey has been at a discount. Over Eastertide a team was sent to Tynemouth to participate in a tournament there. Although only one match was won (v. Tynedale, 8—0) the three other games were lost by the barest of margins.

Athletics will soon be on the go; also cricket. More anon.

SIGTRAINCEN.

Cross-Country, Catterick.

The Army cross-country championship was won by the holders, the D.C.L.I., who have a particularly fine team.

T.B. were fifth, Depot Battalion 6th, and 3rd Divl. Signals 7th. Fourteen teams got through their Command championships, and the Corps did well to have three in the Army run.

Signals had six in the first eleven home: Corpl Cotterell 1st, L/Corpl Richardson 4th, Sigmn Broadley 6th, L/Corpl Ivisen 7th, Sigmn Ayres 8th, and Dvr. Gaston 11th. The next two were Sigmn Turner 29th, and Boy Beale 45th.

The new runners did not quite come up to expectations, due chiefly to the majority having been down with "flu" during the previous month, which naturally greatly interfered with their training. Another point which sometimes escapes notice is that Signals, owing to the nature of their work, do not get so much physical exercise during working hours as the infantry.

The course was very hard and dry, mostly over grass. About half of the field had to climb a 7 ft. wall, while the remainder went through a big gate. The marking of the course was in other respects not very satisfactory, owing chiefly to the n.c.o. riding in front not knowing the exact route.

Hearty congratulations to Corpl Cotterell, who by running 5th in the National again got his cap for England; his 12th in the International was not up to his usual form. He only had one month in which to train after he finished his G.P.O. course at Oxford. This is not long enough for a race of this description. Next season, I have no doubt that we shall see him back to his old form.

The season on the whole has been very satisfactory. Signals (Catterick) have won the Heaton road race, the Clive Cookson cup, and the McConachie cup. The Depot Battalion and Training Battalion were 1st and 2nd in the Northern Command, and we have six men in the Army team.

The following table shows what our best runners have done to uphold the name of the Corps during the season in important races :—

Name	Clive Cookson Cup	Heaton Harriers Road	S.T.C. Championship	N.E. Counties C.C.C.	Northern C.C.C.	Northern Cmd. C.C.C.	Army C.C.C.	McConachie Cup	National C.C.	International C.C.	Boys v Darlngtn Jnrs & Darlngtn Gram Sch	Boys v Drlgtn Gm Sch	Boys N.E.Coun.C.C.C.
Corpl. Cotterell ...	—	2	—	1	4	1	1	1	5	12	—	—	—
L/Cpl. Richardson...	26	4	—	20	—	2	4	5	—	—	—	—	—
Sigmn. Ayres ...	3	13	—	—	—	4	8	10	—	—	—	—	—
,, Broadley ...	4	7	1	—	—	3	6	4	—	—	—	—	—
L/Cpl. Ivison ...	29	—	3	18	25	6	7	25	—	—	—	—	—
Sigmn. Gosling ...	5	12	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Turner ...	12	14	5	26	—	5	29	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dvr. Gaston	—	—	2	36	—	10	11	15	—	—	—	—	—
Boy Beale	—	—	6	—	—	7	45	—	—	—	1	1	2
L/Cpl. Stibbs ...	—	—	4	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Chadney ...	—	—	7	37	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sigmn. Moore ...	—	—	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Dutton ...	—	—	9	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Ryalls ...	—	—	10	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Markham ...	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Lloyd ...	—	—	12	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Clarke ...	—	—	13	—	—	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corpl. Palmer ...	—	—	14	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sigmn. Blades ...	—	—	15	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boy Ellison ...	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	16
,, Berry ...	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	17
,, Jury ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	5	—
,, Dixon ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	13
,, Saunders ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
,, Walters ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—
,, Brice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—
	80 A	52 B		138 C		D	E	60 F			45 G	26 H	48 J

A. Won by 2 points. B. Won by 28 points.
C. 2nd ; beaten by 19 points.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.

On March 23rd we met D Company in the league and knock-out, and beat them by 5—3. Corpl Brown scored three, and 2/Lieut Thuillier netted the other two.

We met F Coy. in the league on March 30th, and after a fairly good game we won by 2—1.

The semi-final of the knock-out, which should have been on March 29th, was played on April 8th, when we beat E Coy. by 3—0. It was a very good game, and the result was always in doubt, but I think the best team won. Corpl Brown scored all three goals. We now meet the School of Signals in the final, and although they trounced us when we met them in the league, we have hopes!

Soccer.

We have done fairly well this season. The seniors finished second, and the juniors won their league without having lost a match.

Great interest was taken in the match in which No. 2 Stable met No. 3. Some lovely passes were seen, and the combination was amazing. The praise for this is largely due to the section sergeants, who patrolled the touch lines and issued the requisite instructions. I overheard one of these gallant gentlemen threaten his goal-keeper with a week-end "stableman" if his opponents scored.

On April 7th we met E Company in the semi-final of the knock-out. The play was never brilliant. We should have scored thrice in the first ten minutes of the game, yet we lost by 2—1. I think E had a reserve eleven out, too. Why do they play matches so soon after the holidays? The troops need a couple of months' rest to recuperate.

Rugby.

On March 19th we met D Company and out-classed them. The score finished at 25—nil.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.

We congratulate L/Corpl R. P. Jones on his fine win in the Army boxing. Bravo, Jonah! let's see you return with the Imperial Services title, and then we will get out the fatted calf.

Soccer.

We had hopes of adding yet another pot to F Company's collection when our team managed to "trot out" the School for two hours in the first round of the knock-out; but alas, the replay saw F sadly defeated. Until then, I had always thought a rugby player's hands were as safe as the proverbial row of houses, but now—!! It may be true with a "long pill," but with a soccer pill—well, the poor chap still lives, and at present hides amongst the smaller "pills," where deft hands are not so much needed. Awfully sorry, Bob, old man! but Jacko and his merry men were too good this time.

The second team fought bravely, and after a good game won by the odd goal in seven.

Rugby.

The four men's platoons and the two boys' platoons have had great inter-platoon battles, and a great improvement was shown in the last few matches.

Each platoon played under the name of a famous club: the men were Blackheath, Bristol, Harlequins and Richmond, and the boys were Oxford and Cambridge. Blackheath and Richmond are equal at the top of the league, and will play off for the championship directly rain comes.

The boys' platoons put up real good fights, but weight told, though they only *just* lost several of their matches.

The Company can turn out 120 reasonably good rugger players, who should be a great help to outside units next season.

We congratulate E Company (who beat us by a try to nil) on winning the rugger cup. We were not at all pleased when we heard that the School had scratched to E Company, as if the former had won, F Company would have been able to play both teams for the championship.

Hockey.

The final for the Phillips cup is between F and C Companies, to be played in a day or so. C Company are always notoriously difficult to beat in a final, but the game should be very close.

Cross-Country.

Heartiest congratulations to Sigmn Broadley, L/Corpl Ivison, and Sigmn Ayres, who ran 6th, 7th, and 8th in the Army championship, and so gained their Army colours. Boy Beale was 45th—a pretty good performance for a boy who had only recently recovered from "flu."

Athletics.

Inter-Company athletics will soon commence, and F Company is going to make a bold bid for the championship. Captain Courtenay-Thompson will be a great asset.

Training Battalion Boys, Catterick.

The football season has passed, and we look back on a season of many successes.

Of six outside matches, we have won five and lost one. C team have carried off the boys' league, just as everyone expected they would.

Since the last budget of results, we have played the Darlington boys again. This time we beat them by 4—0, despite the fact that some of them were well over 18.

In the cross-country department we have had a run against the Darlington Grammar School, whom we beat easily; Beale, Berry and Ellison distinguished themselves.

Beale and Berry represented the T.B. in the Army cross-country championship run, Ellison being a reserve.

The various indications that Spring is with us, and that summer is not far off, have tempted our bats and balls from their hibernatory seclusion. Our opening cricket match took place on April 14th, when the D boys met those of F Company and won by 34 runs to 26. Since most of these runs were byes, it will be realised that the batsmen were not in evidence. This

was due partly to lack of skill and partly to the pranks of the pitch. However, no one was killed, so why worry? Boys Smith, Hopwood and Jerram showed promise as bowlers, and Boy Snow *would* be promising if he would try a little slow stuff for a change.

School of Signals, Catterick.

Soccer.

In the first round of the inter-Company knock-out competition we were drawn against F Company. The result of this match was a draw of 2 all. At half-time we were two goals down, but in the second half two goals were obtained for us by Corpl Jackson—one from the spot, and the other by a brilliant solo run. We won the replay fairly easily by 6—2, our opponents' goalkeeper being very much out of form. Lieut. Rance scored three goals, for which he worked very hard.

Our next opponents were D Company, whom we defeated after a great struggle by the odd goal in seven, thereby avenging the defeat they inflicted on us in the Company league. Ginger Payne was the scorer for D Company, his goals being shots for which he got full credit. We meet E Company in the final.

Our progress in the Garrison knock-out competition came to an abrupt conclusion when we met the 59th Company R.E. It was our misfortune to suffer defeat by five goals to one.

Hockey.

All matches in the inter-Company league have been played, the result being that the School hold the hockey shield for a year. Their record was: v. F Company, won 6—2; v. E Company, won 8—2; v. D Company, won 12—1; v. C Co. won 7—2.

Lieut. J. Watts, our centre-forward, has been chiefly responsible for most of the goals in the above matches.

A Corps Signals, Ewshot.

Football.

The unit has done exceptionally well in both leagues, and while it is yet too early to give the final placings, it is justifiable to assume that both teams will finish third in the chart. Recent results are as follows:—

Junior League—v. Traction Coy. won 2—1; v. Rifle Brigade Reserves, lost 7—2; v. Training College, R.A.S.C. won 3—1; v. Training College, R.A.S.C. draw 2—2; v. Service Coys. R.A.S.C. won 3—1; v. R.W. Kents Reserves won 3—1; v. R.E. Reserves won 7—4.

Wednesday League—v. 1st Company R.A.M.C. won 6—5; v. 3rd Pack Battery, lost 4—1; v. 4th Pack Battery, won 5—2; v. R.A.F. won 3—2; v. Arcadeans, won 4—1.

Junior Cup Semi-Final.

In this match we met the 2nd Rifle Brigade Reserves (holders) and we managed to win, by a stroke of good luck, by 2 goals to 1. It was a typical cup-tie, and play was rather of a scrambling nature, although at times both teams served up some clever touches.

Our first goal was the result of a scramble in the goal-mouth, and the ball appeared to have been deflected into the net by a defender. We maintained our lead until just before the interval, when the equaliser came from a splendid shot.

For about fifteen minutes in the second half we were on the defensive. Then Sigmn Barker scored for us with a terrific shot. After that it was all "Signals" to the end, but there was no further score.

Cup Final.

In the final we met the 1st Pack Brigade Reserves. The Pack Brigade are quartered in the same camp with us, and the match therefore attracted a good number of spectators, in spite of the fact that the Aldershot races were held at the same time. The attached extract from the *Aldershot News* gives a good description of the match.

ALDERSHOT JUNIOR CUP FINAL.

1st Pack Brigade R.A. Reserves 3
A Corps Signals 3

Thrill followed thrill when these teams battled—that is the best word to describe the game—for possession of the junior cup on Wednesday, on the Recreation Ground. Two hours' play failed to decide the contest. For 89¾ minutes the Signals, thanks to a goal scored for them by an opposing back, had a grasp on the cup—not a tight hold, certainly, because the Gunners were always threatening to hold the other side, and they did so in the last quarter of a minute. In the extra time the Pack Brigade took a real hold of the cup by securing a two goals lead, and then the Signals made a fine recovery and drew level. That was as it should be, for neither side deserved to lose.

Plenty of enthusiasm and vigour were put into the game, but play was very scrappy, and for the first half hour neither goalkeeper touched the ball. The only goal in that time followed fifteen minutes' play, when a defender of the Pack Brigade turned the ball into his own net. The Pack Brigade had more of the game in the second half, and their belated goal, scored by Kelly from a corner, was deserved. It was actually the last kick in a period of 90 minutes' strenuous football, in which both forward lines missed a number of chances.

In the first half of extra time three goals were scored, Kelly from a penalty for hands and Peckham with a fine drive putting the Pack Brigade two up, and Clarke scoring for the Signals. Midway through the second half Clarke equalised the scores with a terrific drive, the ball entering the net at lightning speed.

The replay takes place on April 22nd, and we feel sure that A Corps will have its name engraved on the plinth of the cup for one year at least.

Hockey.

Several friendly matches have been played, and we have quite a useful team. Unfortunately there is no hockey league, and we have been compelled to play only friendlies this season.

Rifle Club.

The inter-Section team competition is now finished. In all 26 teams entered, and the competition has proved a great success. We congratulate No. 1 M.T. Construction Section A team on its win with a score of 297. Unit H.Q. A team with a score of 296 were close behind; and H.Q. Section No. 3 Company, with a score of 294, were a good third.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Cross-Country.

There is nothing to report as regards unit cross-country running.

The best traditions of the unit and Corps are being upheld by Dvr Usmar. He has become a member of the Loughton Athletic Club, and running for them he gained the victory in the *News of the World* novices' 5 miles cross-country race in the excellent time of 32 min. 27 secs., and also finished second in a 3½ miles club race. Well done, Usmar!

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.

The unit team has completed its fixtures in the Aldershot junior league, and finished top with the following record:—Played 18, won 16, drawn 1, lost 1. They play off for the championship with the winners of the other section on April 28th.

The results of unit trophy matches were as follows:—

No. 1 v. No. 3 ... 1—4.
No. 3 v. No. 1 ... 6—1.
No. 2 v. No. 3 ... 2—8.
No. 3 v. No. 2 ... 2—1.
No. 2 v. No. 1 ... 2—0.
No. 1 v. No. 2 ... 3—0.

No. 3 gained 3 points, and Nos. 1 and 2 1½ each.

Points for the trophy to date are as follows:—

	No. 1 Coy.	No. 2 Coy.	No. 3 Co.
Cross-country	1	2	3
Hockey	1	2	3
Rugby football	3	2	1
Association football	1½	1½	3
Total	6½	7½	10

With boxing, swimming and athletics yet to be decided, it is still an open question as to who will be the ultimate winners.

No. 1 Company.

Boxing.

The inter-Company boxing contests take place on April 19th. We have had two casualties since the commencement of training, and it is believed they will be unable to perform in the contests. However, we hope for the best in the endeavour to keep up to last year's record.

Swimming.

Our swimmers propose strict training in a few days' time. It will go a long way towards the formation of a good Company team for the forthcoming polo matches and other events.

No. 3 Company.

Football.

As we so optimistically predicted last month, we were successful in all the remaining trophy matches, and thus came out on top without a defeat. Our goal average is comparatively good, too: in four matches we scored 20 goals against 4.

The unit team have done well, inasmuch as they are leaders of B Section Aldershot junior league. Their record is worthy of note:—Played 18, won 16, lost 1, drawn 1; goals for 131, against 31; points 33.

The chief goal-scorers were: Sigmn Girdwood 58, Sigmn Mc Clelland 48, Lieut Odell 14, Sigmn Welch 10.

Cricket.

As no grounds are available until May 2nd, the Dust Heap (of great renown) has to suffice as a practice ground. The pitch is not in the best of condition; still, given a little enthusiasm, difficulties of this sort are easily overcome. In any case, the bowlers find it very helpful. Many fixtures have been arranged, and we anticipate some good games.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

No football has been played this month, owing to the completion of the Garrison league fixtures.

We are entering Company teams for the Salisbury six-a-side tournament which is to be played on May 1st. The Signals should give a good account of themselves.

Hockey.

The season just completed has been quite successful, though unfortunately a number of matches have had to be scratched owing to weather and other causes.

The unit won the Bulford Garrison league for the third year in succession. The final result is:—Matches played 21; won 11, drawn 4, lost 6; goals for 75, against 54.

The season is being finished with an inter-Company league, the results of which to date are:—

No. 1 Company beat No. 3 ... 5—1.
No. 2 Company beat No. 1 ... 3—0.

The result is therefore still open, and as there is practically nothing to choose between the three Companies, anything may happen in the last match.

Cross-Country Running.

Our team did extremely well in the Army championship, finishing 7th out of fourteen teams competing, being placed immediately below the two S.T.C. teams. Had the team had a little more experience, they would have done much better.

If the men are not posted away during the next trooping season, we should have a very useful team next year.

E Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth.

We are holding our own in football, though difficulty is encountered in arranging our fixtures; but we hope to ginger things up.

A match was played between D Troop and ourselves on 17th March at Aldershot. It was a very fine game, and showed the spirit that prevails between the two cavalry troops. D won by the only goal scored, but we hope that the return match on April 28th will bring a victory for us.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

Football.

v. 26th (F) Brigade R.A., lost 1—0.
v. 70th Battery R.A., draw 0—0.

Hockey.

v. Indian ranks, won 4—0.
v. Gun Carriage Factory, lost 2—0.
v. Gymkhana Club, draw 2—2.
v. Gymkhana Club, won 3—2.

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Hockey.

With the choosing of a team to compete in the Army championship in view, numerous inter-Corps and outside matches have been played.

The results were decidedly favourable, as in the first round a victory was gained over the crack team of the Northamptonshire Regt. by 1—0, scored after extra time. In the semi-final, five goals were scored against the 13th (M) Battery R.A., Manora, in the first half. The final result was 8—0. The final was a very keenly contested match, and the Corps were again victorious against the R.W. Fusiliers by the only goal scored.

Having qualified to represent the District in the Command championships, and as the Baluchistan District winners did not appear, the Corps team thus became Command champions, and qualified to represent the Western Command in the Army championships at Rawalpindi. No news as to their progress has been received up to the time of writing, though the match between the Western and Northern Commands was billed for the 17th inst.

Credit is reflected on the hockey committee for their hard-working efforts throughout the season.

Football.

The season being nearly over, a last effort is being made to finish the season as winners of the Shivaji challenge cup football tournament, 1926.

Rugby.

Two outside matches were played, against Karachi Gymkhana and Northamptonshire Regiment. Both matches were lost.

In the inter-Corps matches, the Wireless Company won the rubber by a very narrow margin.

Whilst on this subject, I have been requested to thank those who, though not knowing the game, turned out and assisted in making rugby the short-lived success it undoubtedly was, and to commend them on their unprejudiced attitude in supporting the game while still remaining all-round Corps sportsmen.

Cricket.

Net practice has commenced, but with the exception of the breaking of a few window-panes by wristy leg strokes, nothing is yet discernible to induce the Corps to pit a team against the Australian touring eleven.

Boxing.

Sigmn Podger, a recent arrival from the Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore, after two hardly-contested fights, won the District individual lightweight championship, defeating the All-India (1924) champion in the first fight.

Swimming

Owing to the alarming rumours in circulation regarding the 1926–1927 trooping season, a few are in training for proceeding home via the overhand stroke.

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Annual Sports—Results.

Signalling relay race—Corpl Madeley's team.
High jump—1, L/Sergt E. Smith; 2, Corpl L. Wallace.
Long jump—1, Sigmn Lloyd; 2, Corpl L. Wallace.
100 yards—1, Lieut R. J. N. Solly; 2, L/Sergt E. Smith.
220 yards—1, Corpl L. Wallace; 2, L/Corpl P. Hammond.
880 yards—1, Corpl W. Wagg; 2, L/Corpl H. Scott.
1 mile—1, Corpl W. Wagg; 2, Fusilier Scade.

880 yards (open)—1, Corpl W. Wagg; 2, Sergt Huggard (R.A.F.)
Bun and treacle race—1, Mrs. Claber and Sigmn Tracey; 2, Mrs. Peerless and Sigmn D. Jones.
Ladies' race—1, Mrs. Huggins; 2, Mrs. A. G. Elmes.
Children's race—1, E. Hanson (R.A.F.); 2, Paddy Conway.
Relay race—1, No. 2 Company; 2, Headquarters.
Tug-of-war—1, No. 1 Company; 2, Headquarters.
Wrestling on mules—1, No. 2 Company; 2, Headquarters.
Officers' jumping (open)—1, Capt. Davidson (Probyn's Horse); 2, Lieut R. J. N. Solly.
Officers' jumping (unit)—1, Lieut F. P. L. Gray; 2, Capt E. M. Pyster, M.B.E.
B.O.R.s jumping—1, Corpl T. Madeley; 2, Corpl T. Oadell.
Tent-pegging, officers—1, Capt Somerville (Probyn's Horse); 2, Lieut F. P. L. Gray.
Tent-pegging, B.O.R.s—1, Corpl L. Wallace; 2, Corpl P. Hammond.
Cable laying competition—1, Dogra detachment, under Sergt Small; 2, Gurkha detachment, under Corpl L. Wallace.

The unit challenge cup for the highest number of points won by Companies went to No. 2 again, with Headquarters second.

The challenge cup for the best individual athlete went to Corpl W. Wagg, of No. 2 Company.

Football.

B Corps Signals were our opponents for the Signals shield, Northern Command, and after a good hard game, necessitating extra time, proved too good for us by the only goal of the match.

Rugby.

The District rugby shield for the season 1925–26 has been won by the Kohat Gymkhana team. We did very well, and managed to keep off the bottom of the table, without being top! The following shows the final table:—

Gymkhana—Played 4, won 3, lost 1. Points—for 30, against 19. Percentage 75.
Signals—Played 4, won 2, lost 2. Points—for 19, against 27. Percentage 50.
R.A.F.—Played 4, won 1, lost 3. Points—for 17, against 20. Percentage 25.

Hockey.

In the competition for the Signals shield, Northern Command, the unit were drawn against D Divl. Signals. The first game resulted in a draw of 2—2, after extra time, our points being notched by Capt Willoughby and L/Sergt Page.

The replay on the following morning failed to bring a definite result, the score on the conclusion of the game being 0—0. Extra time was again called for, and a good goal by Lieut Morgan made things appear bright for F. Nothing daunted, D kept pegging away, and just before the whistle went their patience was rewarded, so once more, after extra time, a draw was the result.

A third meeting was therefore necessary, and this took place on the Gymkhana ground. This produced a more exciting game than the other two. On time being called the teams were again "all square," and extra time was the order of the day. There being no score at the end of the first ten minutes, yet another replay seemed possible, but following some pretty play in D's 25, L/Sergt Page scored with a good shot. The final result, after 6 hours' hockey, was: 2—2, 1—1, and 2—1.

The final took place on the following day against B Cavalry Troop, who ran out winners by 3—1. Taking into consideration the hard games our team had with D, this result was only to be expected.

G Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.

There is very little to record in the sports line at present. The majority of our shining lights, both as regards football and hockey, have seen fit to leave our ranks with a view to trying their luck elsewhere, with the result that we find it very difficult to raise a team for either of these games.

Those remaining who have a tendency toward outdoor games are at the moment confining themselves to cricket, but even of this we do not hear a lot.

A match was played between the Signal Training Centre and the unit on March 1st, resulting in a win for the unit. Capt J. N. A. Harris retired without completing his innings, and had then registered 59 runs. Other valuable batsmen were Signalmen Casten and Cook, with 37 and 16 respectively. The latter was unfortunately out lbw. Credit for the securing of wickets went to L/Corpl (now Corporal) Earl, Signalmen Cook and Castell.

No. 2 (Wireless) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi

Sports.

A number of games of hockey, football and cricket have been played during the last month between the Company old hands and the new drafts, and it is hoped that we shall be able to improve our Company teams.

Football.

February 25th—Old hands 1, new draft 3.
February 27th—Trial match: No. 2 (Wireless) Company v. No. 1 (Line) Company resulted in a win for [?—ED.]

The team of No. 2 (Wireless) Company consisted of: Signalmen Elledge, Mullinder, Garvie, Atkins, Price, Clackett, Stevenson, L/Cpl Dickenson, Corpl Drudge, Sergts Stickland and Charlton.

Hockey.

Two teams were selected for a series of matches, to enable us to choose a Company team. The first match, played on 24th February, resulted as follows: A team 3, B team nil. The result of the second match on Feb. 26th was: A team 4, B team nil.

Cricket.

We have been fortunate in securing a number of good cricketers from the new draft, among whom are Signalmen Price, Clackett, Bennett, Tomkinson, Fenwick and Livemore, ex-F Company.

On Sunday, March 21st, a match took place between No. 2 (W/T) Company and No. 1 (Line) Company. We won by an innings and 17 runs.

Boxing.

Sigmn Gray, of this Company, was the winner of the middle weights in the Northern Command championships, and was runner-up in the middle weights of the all-India championships.

The Combined Signals novices' competition takes place on April 1st, 2nd and 3rd, and we are entering about ten men. Results will be sent in next month's notes.

C Divisional Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Rugby.

We have only just started this form of sport, and have played two games, versus the Officers' Club. Results: lost by 13—0 and won by 5—0. This is not too bad, considering the number of novices we have.

Football.

This is where we shine! We have played five games, winning four, while the other was a draw.

Hockey.

As the majority of our hockey team do not now reside in Bannu, we have to play scratch teams, and have not done quite so well in consequence.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Billiards.

In the R.E. w.o.s and n.c.o.s' mess tournament, Q.M.S. Roberts was wheeled out in the second round. Sergt Seymour was more fortunate, and lasted to the semi-final. Better luck next time!

In the R.E. and Royal Signals junior social club tournament, Sigmn Gough (the dark horse) came to grief in the semi-final. You nearly got the cue, Goughy bhey, but nearly got the "bird" also.

The combined R.E. and Royal Signals six-a-side billiard team are confident of retaining the Volunteer's cup.

Cricket.

Since our last notes, we have played the semi-final of the Garrison knock-out, and very unfortunately lost to the Ordnance by 7 runs.

We have also played another league match and defeated the Indian R.C. by 9 wickets, thus placing us at the top of the league. We are hoping to win our last match against the Civil Service, as it will make us sure champions. According to form, we should win.

Hockey.

A trial match took place to choose a team for the Garrison knock-out. We play the 38th Heavy Battery R.A. in the first round.

Football.

Since our last notes we have played two matches. The first, versus H.M.S. "Tamar," ended with no score. Secondly we lost to a selection of Navy men by 1 goal to nil. Come on, Mac and Blanco! where's your shooting boots? or has someone reclaimed them?

The Corps in Egypt.

Football.

There have been no league matches during the past month, owing to manœuvres and various other reasons. There are three outstanding games to be played, one with the 9th Lancers, another with the K.O.S.B., and the third with the Argylls.

Swimming.

The season is about to commence. The baths at Heliopolis were opened last Sunday (April 4th), and judging by the enthusiasm, they should be well patronised by the Signals. Let's hope that the Corps team will put in some practice, so that they can enter the baths as sound a team as last year, when we carried away so many trophies. Come on, Signals; let them see we're just as good as ever!

Command Cross-Country Championship.

The annual run took place at Abbassia on March 24th, and there was a fairly large field. The Royal Irish Fusiliers secured first place, all their team (12) reaching home within the first thirty. Bandsman King, 9th Lancers, was the first man to finish the course. The Signals were awarded third place. Sigmn Beeton had trained for this particular event for a long time, but could only get into sixth place. Hard luck, Art! The position was as follows:—

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 1st, 214 points.
K.O.S.B., 2nd, 253 points.
Royal Corps of Signals, 3rd, 362 points.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

On March 31st we held our annual athletic meeting on the Slade ground, and some very keen competition was shown for the points to go towards the inter-Section challenge shield.

It was pleasing to note the numbers who entered the heats to back up their Sections. In this connection it should be noted that Corpl Bland entered for the 100 yards, and did so well that it was considered necessary to prefer a charge against him "for loitering between the tapes, thereby delaying the next heat." After very keen competition in the heats, run off in the morning, the following are the results of the finals:—

100 yards—1, Corpl Jennison; 2, Corpl Rushworth; 3, Sigmn Dunn. Time, 10 4/5 secs.
220 yards—1, Corpl Jennison; 2, Corpl Rushworth; 3, Sigmn Dunn. Time, 26 1/5 secs.
440 yards—1, Corpl Jennison; 2, L/Corpl McFrommel; 3, Sigmn Andrews. Time, 1 min. 5 3/5 secs.
880 yards—1, L/Corpl Wales; 2, Sigmn Collins; 3, Dvr Cauldwell. Time, 2 min. 23 4/5 secs.
120 yards hurdles—1, Sigmn Walsh; 2, Sigmn Connauchton; 3, Sigmn F. F. King. Time, 20 1/5 secs.
1 mile—1, Dvr Cauldwell; 2, Dvr Stillwell; 3, Sigmn Collins. Time, 5 min. 30 secs.
3 miles—1, Dvr Stillwell; 2, Sigmn Collins. Time, 18 min. 54 secs. In this race Dvr Cauldwell got the stitch very badly and had to retire.
High jump—1, Sigmn Burnham, 4 ft. 10 in.; 2, Sigmn Perry, 4 ft. 9 in.; 3, Corpl Jennison, 4 ft. 8 in.
Long jump—1, Corpl Jennison, 19 ft. 2 in.; 2, Sigmn Connauchton, 18 ft. 2 in.; 3, L/Sergt Barnham, 17 ft. 10½ in.
Putting the shot—1, Sigmn Burnham, 30 ft. 4½ in.; 2, Sigmn Adams, 30 ft. 3 in.; 3, Corpl Rushworth, 26 ft. 10 in.
Section relay (two laps of 220 yards, one of 440 yards, and one of 880 yards)—1, B Cable Section; 2, Nos. 1 and 2 Sections; 3, No. 3 Section.
Tug-of-war—In the preliminaries, Nos. 1 and 2 Sections defeated Headquarters Section by two straight pulls, and No. 3 Section defeated B Cable Section by the same margin. In the final, amidst great excitement, Nos. 1 and 2 Sections defeated No. 3 Section by 2 pulls to 1.

The points gained in these events towards the inter-Section challenge shield were as follows:—

Nos. 1 and 2 Sections, 42.
No. 3 Section, 21.
B Cable Section, 30.
Headquarters Section, 6.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Cross-Country Running.

The past month has been a very active one for the runners. The Command championship took place on March 24th, and for the first time in four years the Corps had to give way to better teams—the Royal Irish Fusiliers winning the trophy, with the K.O.S.B.s second, and the Corps team third.

Sigmn Beeton of this Company finished sixth, after leading for the greater part of the journey and over-running the course. Dvr Ratledge and Signalmen L. Clark, Milsom, and Hunter, of this unit, were also in the Corps team, and ran very well to finish in the forward positions they occupied at the end.

Sigmn A. H. Beeton being "chaired" after winning the all-Egypt cross-country race at Alexandria for the second year in succession

On March 28th the all-Egypt cross-country race was held at Alexandria, over a course of about 8 miles, and several runners of this unit competed. Runners of all nationalities turned out, and again the Corps teams lost a trophy, as the team shield was won by the Royal Air Force, though only by the small margin of two points. Sigmn Beeton was the individual winner of the race, finishing a minute in front of the second runner. This is the second year in succession he has won this race.

Athletics.

The Company sports were held on the Slade ground, Abbassia, on March 31st, and some fine competition was witnessed in the various events. In the inter-Section events H Section were the winners, with J Section runners-up and H.Q. Section third. The results of events were as follows:—

100 yards—1, L/Corpl Matthews; 2, Sigmn Harmsworth; 3, Sigmn Gratwick.
220 yards—1, L/Corpl Matthews; 2, Sigmn Harmsworth; 3, Sigmn Gratwick.
440 yards—1, L/Corpl Matthews; 2, L/Sergt Wheeler; 3, L/Cpl Fleet.
880 yards—1, Sigmn Beeton; 2, Sigmn Milsom; 3, Dvr Ratledge
1 mile—1, Sigmn Beeton; 2, Dvr Ratledge; 3, Sigmn Chaloner.
3 miles—1, Sigmn Beeton; 2, Dvr Ratledge; 3, Sigmn Chaloner.
High jump—1, Sigmn Harmsworth; 2, Sigmn Elliott; 3, Dvr Cheal.
Long jump—1, Sigmn Harmsworth; 2, L/Corpl Matthews; 3, Sigmn Elliott.
Shot putting—1, Sigmn Williams; 2, Sigmn Jager; 3, L/Sergt Wheeler.
Hurdles—1, Sigmn Harmsworth; 2, Sigmn Rose; 3, Sigmn Gratwick.
Relay race—1, J Section; 2, H Section; 3, Signal Troop.
Tug-of-war—1, Signal Troop; 2, H Section.

Malta Signal Section.

Soccer.

The Sappers first and second elevens have both been doing very well of late, especially the second team, whose undefeated record has created no little interest amongst soccer enthusiasts.

On February 10th, the Florids, a powerful professional team, paid a visit to the Island and delighted the football "fans" with a series of exciting fixtures, meeting representative teams of the Army, Navy and Air Force and the pick of the Maltese clubs.

Corpl Baines must be given credit for his clever mid-field play which, but for a slice of bad luck, might have given the Service the lion's share of the spoils. A fast and thrilling game ended with the score of two goals each.

A little bird tells us that Geordie will be filling his old position in the Depot Battalion eleven next season. We shall see what happens when a trooper calls here in June next.

Cross-Country.

At a recent inter-Company meeting, Sigmn Walters (Taffy) ably assisted the Sappers, and after running a fine race he finished second for the 24th Company R.E. team. With a little more training, he should do better in the next outing.

The Section heartily congratulate Corpl Cotterell on retaining his title in the Army cross-country championship.

We are also expecting great things in the future from Boy Beale, whose rapid advance to the foremost rank of the Corps cracks has been watched with wide interest. Keep it up, laddie!

Rhine Signal Units, Wiesbaden.

Football.

Owing to the cessation of league football, caused by the evacuation of Cologne, inter-Section football has been organised and has proved highly diverting, shorts and shirts being donned by those whose previous efforts in this line were vocal.

The semi-finals are still to be fought out, but training has been taking up all our days. One match had half-a-dozen postponements before it was played, so we expect to have the final by August. Those left in are the 1st, 2nd, 8th Brigade, and W/T Sections. The latter have offered to broadcast their winning score!

Cricket.

Having seen the football burst and knowing that there isn't another, we have laid down the mat, fixed the nets, put a crease in the canvas slacks, read the Test articles, bought some brilliantine, and so prepared for a record season.

All we want is somewhere to play, someone to play, something to play with, and a little bit of sunshine. There will be several vacant places in the team this year, so roll up to the nets and swipe the "diddlers" and "diddle" the swipers.

We have always had a fine record in Rhine cricket, and we hope, this season, to emulate the past.

Cross-Country.

The Rhine Army cross-country run took place on April 15th, and resulted as follows: 1, Royal Signals, 39 points; 2, R.A.O.C. 106; 3, Royal Tank Corps, 120.

L/Corpl Hibbs, Royal Signals, was first man home, having completed the 5¼ miles in 32 min. 13 1/5 secs. This makes his third successive victory. The Signals had nine in the first eleven, and ten in fifteen. "Another cup!"

The team selected comprised: L/Corporal Hibbs (individual winner for the last two years), Signalmen Irving, Millar, S. Chapman, Orpwood, Gill, Beswick, Westmore, Cowell, and Corpl Berry. They are very confident of adding to the list of victories, and deserve praise for the way they have stuck the gruelling training runs in the hilly district around. They are very keen on lifting the trophy, to avenge last year's narrow defeat.

Tennis.

This is eagerly awaited, but there is a dearth of courts. The number who started to play last year was surprising. They quickly became skilful and keen on the game, and this year ought to be a record one. We hope to get a court constructed, and then a club is to be formed. The tournament last year was a great success, and we can organise many others.

Whilst waiting for the real thing, a table tennis set has been bought and erected in the regimental institute. The waiting list for a game is generally about a mile long!

No. 3 (Hull) Coy. 50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Sigs.

We have broken all records in raising teams in so many branches of sport. Billiards, rifle shooting, and football have been the leading items in our programme, and the sports committee, although faced with many difficulties, have pulled through in a way which reflects great credit on their endeavours.

Billiards.

The team have now completed this season's fixtures in the Hull and District Service billiards and sports league. Unfortunately the hopes that they would finish in the first three did not materialise. Chiefly owing to the "flu," some of our best players were not available at a critical period, with the result that, though the reserves played better than was expected, we were only able to finish on the 50 per cent. mark.

With regard to the domino league, "the least said the soonest mended." Our boys had spots knocked off them, and finished the season in the last three!

Rifle Club.

Commencing the season in a very shaky way, it was many weeks before a capable team was got together; but after some excellent coaching by Sergt Jack Coutts, they are now holding their own with the best.

Football.

The Signals A.F.C., with Capt. R. E. Petch as president, have done remarkably well during the season. The latest league table is not yet to hand, but the team is certain to be near the top when the final reckoning takes place.

In their last nine matches they have only been defeated once, and that was at Easter, when our three leading lights were obliged to stand down owing to injuries.

Saturday next, April 17th, will see the team in opposition to the E.R. (H.B.) R.A., in the knock-out competition for the cup kindly presented by the East Riding Territorial Association. The winners of this match will be in the semi-final against the 25th A.C.C.

54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

Boxing.

The first annual boxing tournament between Stratford and Southend Companies took place at unit headquarters on March 25th. The boxing was generally of a high order, and some very good fights were put up. Southend are to be congratulated on the fine lads they have got together. We were especially pleased to welcome C.S.M. Albert Turner to headquarters.

The official duties were ably carried out by the following:—Referee, Capt J. McConville, M.C., adjutant 54th Signals; timekeeper, R.S.M. H. L. Adams, M.M.; M.C., C.S.M. W. Hooper; judges, Sergt Z. Pettitt (Metropolitan Police) and Mr. A. E. Kenyon (late 54th Signals); stewards, C.S.M. C. J. Sharp, D.C.M., C.S.M. E. J. Bailey, and Sergt J. T. Simons.

Special 3-round lightweight contest—Sigmn Detenon (Stratford) beat Dvr A. W. Scott (Stratford).

Feathers—Dvr J. C. Scott (Stratford) beat Sigmn Johnson (Southend).

Lightweights—Sigmn Leaver (Stratford) beat Sigmn Hay (Southend).

Middleweights—Dvr Middleditch (Stratford) beat Sigmn Barratt (Southend), who threw in at the end of the first round. Sigmn W. Salford (Southend) beat Sigmn Frith (Stratford).

Welters—Dvr Markham (Stratford) beat Sigmn H. Salford (Southend).

Aggregate points: Stratford 9; Southend 6.

On Monday, April 12th, a boxing tournament was held with the R.A. units of Artillery House, The Green. A well-attended meeting and some excellent bouts were provided. The officials were: Referee, Lieut Blair, 6th Battn. Essex Regiment; judges, Sergt Z. Pettitt (Metropolitan Police) and Mr. G. Lanham; timekeeper, R.S.M. H. L. Adams, M.M.

The results of the various events were as follows:—

Bantams—Dvr Bennett (R.A.) beat Sigmn Ratchford (Royal Signals). Boy Langley (R.A.) beat Dvr J. C. Scott (Royal Signals), disqualified in the first round for holding.

Feathers—Sigmn P. Clark (Royal Signals) beat Dvr Bennett (R.A.).

Lightweights—Gunner Morriss (R.A.) beat Sigmn Leaver (Royal Signals).

Welters—Sigmn H. Salford (Royal Signals) beat Bombdr. Putland (R.A.). Dvr Middleditch (Royal Signals) beat Bombdr Bray (R.A.), the referee stopping the contest in the third round. Gunner Bloomfield (R.A.) beat Dvr Frith (Royal Signals).

Exhibition spar—Sigmn Johnson v. Dvr A. W. Scott, both of Royal Signals.

Aggregate points: R.A. 11; Royal Signals 10.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Football.

The football section of the sports club has now overcome the slackness that existed, and a fairly representative team is now available.

They recently met the Highlands F.C., whom they defeated by 3 goals to 0 after a well contested game (the net rattlers were Hume 2, Godward 1). St. Anne's F.C. were accounted for by the odd goal in nine. The latter was a hard game, the Saints getting on level terms each time the Signals scored until Hume scored the winning goal.

Lieut Lilley, who has done a great deal for the sporting side of the Company, was very conspicuous in both games, especially the latter. He got through a lot of work as centre half-back, using fine judgment throughout.

We shall be ready for all comers next season, and hope to go "all out" for the Essex junior cup. The shield looks very lonely at present.

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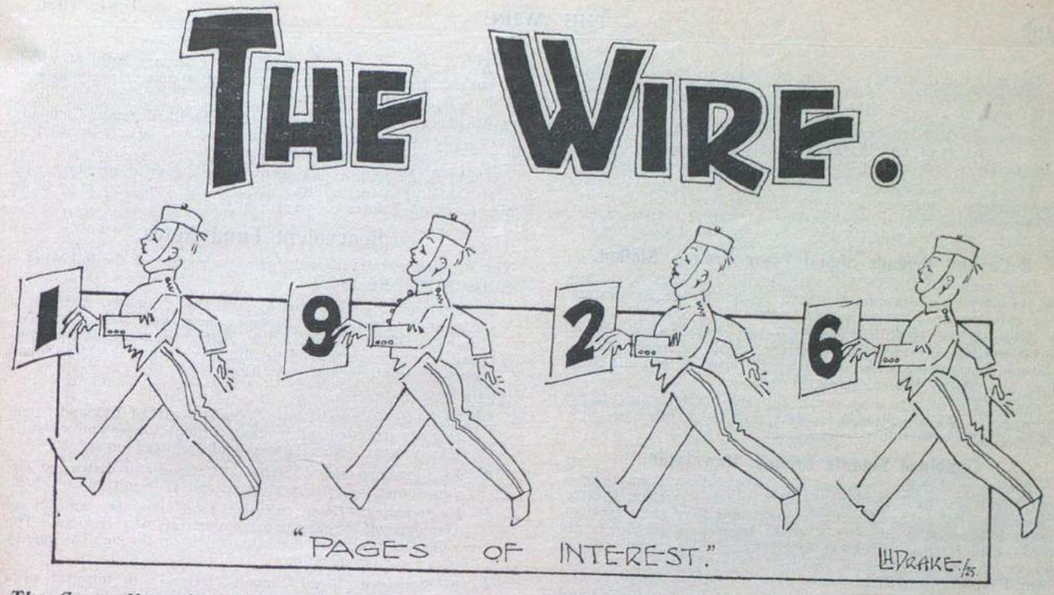

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All communications on Signals Association business should be addressed to The Secretary, Signals Association, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

and if reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Editorial Notes.

We regret any inconvenience which may have been caused by the unavoidable delay in the delivery of last month's issue of this magazine, due to the recent industrial upheaval, and trust that our readers will appreciate the fact that they were despatched at the first possible opportunity.

Numerous enquiries are being received concerning emigration to the Colonies. We hope to publish an article on this subject in the July issue, and invite readers contemplating such a move to anticipate the article in question and apply in writing to this office for further particulars should they require them. A stamped addressed envelope should accompany all such enquiries.

Unit Correspondents are again reminded that the latest date on which unit notes, etc., can be accepted for publication in the following issue of the magazine is the 15th of each month. Any contributions received after that date will, in future, be held over for the next publication unless instructions are subsequently received to cancel them.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Committee extend a hearty welcome to those new members who are participating in the "all in" scheme of membership, and trust that the remaining units of Royal Signals who have not yet done so will give this matter their kind consideration and support.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from officers, Branches, etc.:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from—
Lieut. J. C. McDonald, M.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Capt. J. G. Deedes, M.B.E.	£5	0	0
Capt. C. A. Bridgland, D.F.C.	1	0	0
B Divl. Signals, Quetta Branch	8	3	0
Stratford Branch	1	10	6
Bulford Branch	0	9	8
Chiswick Branch	0	12	9
Belfast Branch	6	7	0
Bannu Branch	14	1	0
Colchester Branch	3	18	8

EMPLOYMENTS SECURED for the month of May:—

A.A. Road Patrol	1
Wireless Operators	11
Clerks	2
Labourer	1
Assistant Wireless Inspector	1
Telegraphist	1
Switch Board Operators	2
Railway Employee	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Hong Kong Branch.

A meeting of the Royal Signals Association took place on April 3rd, and judging by the suggestions forthcoming, the entertainment of the unit during the summer is to be well catered for.

The first entertainment will be an outing to Stanley Mound on Sunday, April 11th, of which details next month. This will be the first of a series of fortnightly stunts.

It was also decided that the subscription of 9d. per month, to cover the cost of THE WIRE, subscription to Association, etc., —suggested by Association headquarters—be agreed to.

With a view to forming a branch at the Hong Kong Volunteer headquarters, a meeting has been convened in their drill hall for April 6th, when it is hoped to enrol at least twenty members; and their "doings" will be duly chronicled in THE WIRE.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop Branch, Sialkot.

Last week our O.C., Capt. Orr, kindly convened a meeting for the purpose of forming a branch of the Signals Association. The outcome was extremely satisfactory.

A branch was established, and officials elected: Capt. Neale, Royal Signals, president; L/Sergt Brett, vice-president; Sigmn Mayson, hon. secretary and treasurer; L/Corpls Mitson and Manning and Sigmn Brown, committeemen.

At present we are busy organising and straightening things in general. We are pleased to state that the number of applications for membership is encouraging.

Combined Signals Branch, Rawalpindi.

A successful dance in aid of the Signals Association Benevolent Fund was held on January 29th in the Garrison theatre, Cambridge Barracks. The Corps jazz band gave their services, and the financial result was a credit balance of 60 rupees, 10 annas, 8 pice. Sergt McEwan and L/Corpl Richardson were in charge of the refreshments, while L/Sergt Ketteringham performed the duties of M.C.

On February 13th another successful dance was held, and the financial results were on the credit side. The corps jazz band again attended. Sigmn Freeman was M.C., and Sergt Chivers and L/Corpl Richardson were in charge of the refreshments. A certain amount of excitement was caused by the raffle for a box of chocolates, which was won by a gentleman.

A committee meeting was held on February 26th, at which it was decided to secure the services of a concert party to give a show to O.C.A. members.

Members have increased lately, and No. 2 (Wireless) Company have been well to the fore in this direction, having secured 57 new members during the last month.

Corpl A. F. Lake is taking over the duties of secretary, and is also sending notes to THE WIRE. Next month we hope to be able to forward notes of greater interest.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

B Divisional Signals, Quetta; 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Sergeants' Mess, Rhine Signals; Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Divl. Signals; Officers' Mess, S.T.C.; Brightlingsea Charity Football Cup; Sergeants' Mess, 4th Divl. Signals; Area Signal Section, Chatham; Mr. A. Floyd.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1.—Ex-Lance-Corporal Royal Signals (north of England), temporarily stranded and in want through illness and a family bereavement. £5 allocated and remitted on 3/5/26.

2.—Ex-Signalman Royal Signals (Scotland), in distressed circumstances. Case investigated and £3 remitted on 3/5/26.

3.—Ex-Signalman Royal Signals (Yorkshire), thrown out of employment through local industrial disturbances. The sum of £4 remitted for administration through the agency of a local organization.

4.—Ex-Signalman Royal Signals (Ireland), in hospital as a result of illness originally contracted whilst on active service. £5 allocated and remitted 25/5/26.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association
Benevolent Fund.

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Corps News—Officers.

APPOINTMENTS—

The following have been approved:—

Col. H. Clementi Smith to be Commandant, Signal Training Centre, Catterick, 6/5/26.

Col. C. H. Prickett, D.S.O., to be Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command, 6/5/26.

Brevet-Major H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., to be G.S.O.2, S.D.6, War Office, 26/4/26.

Capt. J. D. Deedes, M.B.E., to be G.S.O.3, S.D.6, War Office, 26/4/26.

Major F. A. Drayson, M.C., to be Chief Instructor, School of Signals, Catterick, 1/5/26.

MOVEMENTS—

Lieut.-Col. Orange-Bromhead from Aldershot to Chester.

Major F. A. Drayson from Belfast to Catterick.

Lieut. R. H. O. Coryton, Lieut. J. Gardner, Lieut. A. E. Morrison, Lieut. H. E. Rance, 2/Lieut. T. W. Boileau, 2/Lieut. H. H. C. Burdett, 2/Lieut. D. W. Burridge, 2/Lieut. W. D. Horniman, 2/Lieut. C. H. Lyddon, 2/Lieut. W. D. Weir, from Catterick to Aldershot.

Lieut. C. A. H. Chadwick, 2/Lieut. F. R. Booth, 2/Lieut. E. F. Maltby, 2/Lieut. F. J. Wall, from Catterick to Bulford.

2/Lieut. J. W. Gordon and 2/Lieut. H. Gough, from Catterick to Colchester.

Lieut. E. J. H. Moppett, from Catterick to Rhine Army.

Lieut. C. F. Newson, from Catterick to Blackdown.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 16/4/26.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Corps of Signals—The commissions, dated February 2nd, 1926, of the undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the Royal Military Academy, notified in the "London Gazette" of February 2nd, 1926, are antedated to September 3rd, 1925, but not to count for retired pay, or pay and allowances, prior to February 2nd, 1926:—

Nicolas Gambier Newell.
Wilfred Montague Ponsonby.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. Capt. G. Bell to be Major, 17/4/26.

52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals—Lieut. W. M. Smith, from Dundee (Fortress) Engineers, to be Lieut., with precedence as from July 17th, 1925, 17/4/26.

War Office, 20/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals. Lieut. A. Swindale relinquishes his commission on appointment to the R.A.M.C., 21/4/26.

239th (P.A.) Signal Section—Capt. (Prov.) J. Macarthur is confirmed in his rank, 11/2/25.

War Office, 23/4/26.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Corps of Signals—The undermentioned Majors to be Lieut.-Colonels, 31/3/26:—

Brevet-Lieut.-Col. E. A. Osborne, D.S.O.
F. A. Heymann, O.B.E.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals—Capt. and Adjutant W. Solly, M.B.E., resigns his commission and retains his rank, 23/4/26.

War Office, 27/4/26.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Corps of Signals—Major W. E. Pain, M.C., is restored to the Establishment, 26/4/26.

War Office, 30/4/26.

REGULAR FORCES—COMMANDS AND STAFF—

The undermentioned appointments are made at the War Office:

G.S.O. 2nd Grade—Major H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Signals, from G.S.O. 3rd Grade, War Office, 26/4/26, vice Major W. E. Pain, M.C., Royal Signals.

G.S.O. 3rd Grade—Capt. J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., Royal Signals, 26/4/26.

ESTABLISHMENTS—

The undermentioned appointment is made:—

School of Signals—Officer Commanding, Lieut.-Col. E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., Royal Signals, from Instructor (Cl. Z), 31/3/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Corps of Signals—Major F. S. Morgan from the T.A., to be Captain, 1/5/26.

2/Lieut. J. Anderson resigns his commission, 1/5/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals. John Melluish Molland to be 2/Lieut., 1/5/26.

49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut. C. Bray to be Lieut., 31/3/26.

T.A. RES. OF OFFICERS—REGIMENTAL LIST—

Royal Corps of Signals—55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals. Lieut. T. H. Wadsworth from Active List to be Lieut., 1/5/26.

Continued on next page.

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

Appointed Q.M.-Sergeant—

1855251 Berry, H. 18/1/26

To be Farrier-Staff-Sergeant—

2307467 Holloway, A. 25/4/26

To be Sergeant—

1850300 Giles, T. 22/5/25

To be Sergeant (Farrier-Sergeant)

2308776 Preston, J. 25/3/26

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—

2306523 Squirrell, A. 15/2/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—

1858964 Tilling, F. 11/8/25
2306660 Eynott, C. 7/1/26
2308904 Coomber, E. 19/1/26
2306277 Batchelor, P. 19/1/26
2308854 Atkinson, F. 8/2/26
2311489 Coleman, M. 8/2/26
1002550 Norman, A. 6/3/26

To be Corporal—

2314005 Brown, G. 22/5/25
2306763 Dadson, F. 22/5/25
2310939 Crowhurst, H. 28/5/25
2306829 Storey, C. 28/5/25
2312077 Addison, L. 28/5/25
1850114 Male, J. 28/5/25
2308411 Pack, E. 16/9/25
2312332 Bromwich, H. 15/12/25
2306624 Hall, F. 15/12/25
2310399 Andrews, D. 18/12/25
393482 White, A. 20/12/25
2308430 Clarke, W. 29/1/26
2312900 Elford, H. 8/2/26
2314183 Irving, J. 10/2/26
1854520 Napier, R. 13/2/26

To be Corporal (Farrier-Corporal)—

5150 Dobson, W. 25/3/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—

2312139 Broadhead, H. 15/12/25
2313849 Waldock, C. 12/1/26
1857071 Shaw, R. 27/1/26
2308430 Clarke, W. 29/1/26
2311826 Walker, A. 13/2/26
2311015 Wornham, C. 13/2/26
1662353 Elphick, W. 13/2/26
2313963 Anderson, J. 8/3/26
2314110 Taylor, T. 8/3/26
2306621 Sayers, A. 8/3/26
2306627 Walker, H. 8/3/26
2309615 Perry, G. 20/3/26
2312512 Sykes, F. 30/3/26

Discharges.

1854157 Sergt E. Coates, 3/4/26
2306107 C.S.M. B. Brown, 26/4/26
2306091 C.S.M. A. Gray, 29/4/26

Transfers to Army Reserve.

1857354 Corpl P. Barker, 3/4/26
1857015 Corpl R. Grayston, 5/4/26
2309458 Corpl G. Lay, 5/4/26
1856731 Corpl A. Cosham, 6/4/26
1850155 F/Corpl J. Walpole, 6/4/26
1857930 F/Corpl F. Gates, 6/4/26
2310586 A/Corpl G. Bosley, 7/4/26

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ANZORA

MASTERS THE HAIR

War Office, 4/5/26.

REGULAR FORCES—ESTABLISHMENTS—
School of Signals—Capt. J. R. Carter, O.B.E., Royal Signals, relinquishes his appointment as Instructor (Cl. CC), 15/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals. Lieut. C. J. Johnson resigns his commission and retains his rank, 5/5/26.

War Office, 7/5/26.

MEMORANDA—
The undermentioned Colonel on ceasing to be employed is placed on half pay:—
W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

War Office, 11/5/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals. F. S. Lodder (late Cadet-Sergt., Uppingham School Contgt., Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 26/4/26.
50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals—Lieut. J. F. C. Park, from 49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals, to be Lieut., with precedence as from 19/7/21, 12/5/26.
53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals—Major F. S. Morgan relinquishes his commission on appointment to the Supplementary Res. of Officers, 12/5/26.
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Lieut. Robert Compton Hutton (late Royal Gloucester Hussars), to be Lieut., 7/1/26.
42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—The King has been graciously pleased to confer the Territorial Decoration upon the undermentioned officer under the terms of the Royal Warrant dated 13/10/20:—
Capt. (Prov. Major) Alfred George Jameson.

War Office, 14/5/26.

REGULAR FORCES—COMMANDS AND STAFF—
Col. C. H. Prickett, D.S.O., to be Chief Signal Officer (Cl. X), 6/5/26.

The Staff Ride

(in conjunction with the Cartoon on opposite page)

Ten daring horsemen
Formed up in line,
One lost his Weedon seat,
And so there were nine.

Nine dashing jockeys
Riding at a gate,
One masticated dust,
And that, I fear, left eight.

Eight prancing cavaliers
Doing some super revvin',
One blew out his small end bush,
And that, you'll find, left seven.

Now, seven hot stuff jockeys
In a dreadful fix,
Had to cross their stirrups,
Thereby leaving six.

Six dejected horsemen,
Only just alive,
One went underneath the jump,
And that, of course, left five.

Five perspiring riders
Feeling rather sore,
A tree decapitated one
And now we're left with four.

Four tired equestrians,
All of them "at sea,"
One swore he'd sprung a leak,
Thus there were but three.

Three panting jockeys,
Feeling mighty "blue,"
One developed girth gall—
This leaves us two.

Horsemen in duplicate
Tried, just for fun,
To race o'er Laffan's Plain—
Roll call left but one.

The one remaining jockey
Imitating Jill,
Fell down and broke his crown,
So that leaves nil.

L. H. D.

[LATE NEWS.]

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, May 20th.

Births.

Congratulations to Sergts J. C. Atkins and W. Thomas, L/Corpl F. S. Andrews, and Signalmen A. Blank and N. T. Llewellin, each of whom has lately been presented with a son; and to Corpl J. Packman and Sigmn J. Elliott, whose gift is of the gentler sex.

Social.

The Signals weekly ball still maintains its position at the top of the ladder of social fame in Colchester. Week by week dance halls are closing, but not so "494 Canteen."

General.

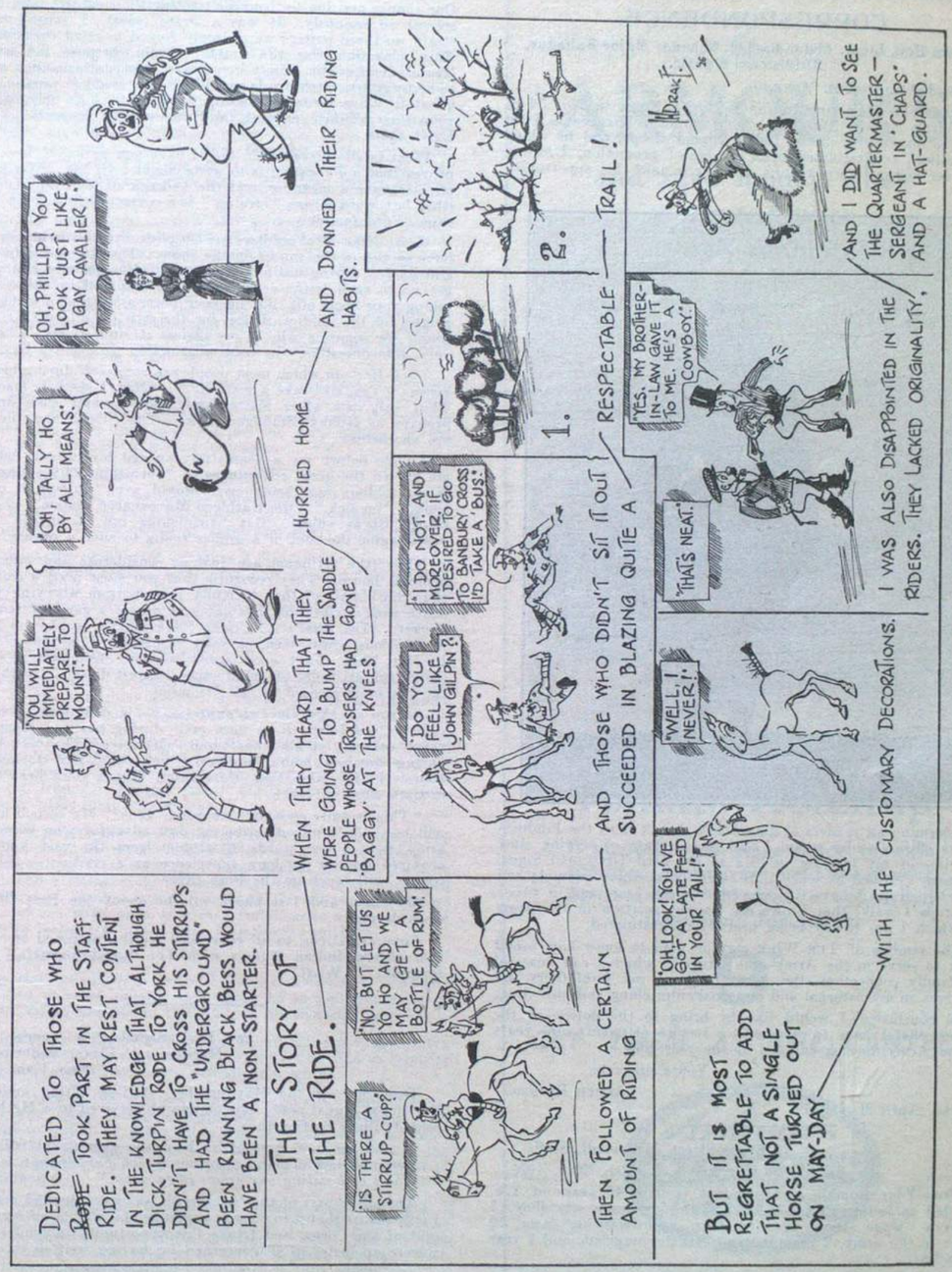
Hearty congratulations to Corpl S. T. Cozens on passing his 1st class education examination. (Away-we-go now, Jane.)

C.Q.M.S. (Taffy) Wills returned from Egypt and spent a few days with us before finally abandoning the sword after 22 years' service. All the best!

The Reed Hall Hunt Club held its first meet of the season on Monday last, and in spite of the inclement weather a record attendance was registered. It speaks well for the sporting instinct of the unit that every member of the sergeants' mess turned up. I understand that the afternoon was most successful.

THE B.B. SYND.

[NOTE.—The above notes have been compressed to fit this space, but the Sports Notes have been held over.]



CORRESPONDENCE.

From Hon. Lieut. Abdur Rashid, Subadar Major Bahadur, BDivisional Signals.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR—Referring to the Editorial Notes in No. 74 of THE WIRE (April, 1926), in which a kind reference has been made to my service in the Indian Signal Corps, and in which I have been congratulated upon my recent promotion, I hasten to tender you my warm thanks, and beg to take this opportunity

of informing all readers of THE WIRE that it is to the kindness of the officers under whom I had the pleasure of serving since the time of my transfer in 1911 to the 35rd Divisional Signal Company (formed by Col. L. H. Queripel), whose example and valuable advice I have still treasured in my heart and in whose footsteps I walk, that I owe my present position in the Army on which I am to-day being heartily congratulated.

The readers of THE WIRE may be glad to know how proud I am to serve in the Army—the Army in which I can boast of my family connection—the Army to which my forefathers and relatives on my paternal and maternal sides clung and still cling.

In conclusion I would like to bring to the notice of the readers that I have to my credit a service of twenty-nine years in the Army, having enlisted in the year 1897.

Yours sincerely,

ABDUR RASHID.

Quetta, April 21st, 1926.

---

8 Evans Street, Willenhall, Staffs.
Feb. 10th, 1926.

SIR—Your humble correspondent is now 40 years of age, divided as follows: 6 years an infant, 5 years a schoolboy, 7 years a "wage slave" in a northern manufacturing town, 19 years in the army, 2 years a quartermaster-sergeant, and 1 year a civilian.

Now, during the war the expert soldiers of one year (sometimes more) were the most prolific writers about military life. Our thanks are due to them for treating their subject (and themselves) so seriously. It was a grate (great, I mean) mental strain, so these writers were simply forced to relax occasionally. This relaxation was the country's gain, because the scribes' (plural) mother-wit simply overflowed, and gave us such never-to-be-forgotten catch-words as "Blighty," "cushy," "rootie," and about fifty-five more all ending in "pore." The only misfires were "sarge" for sergeant, and "corp" for corporal. Ugh! Ugh! again.

What is all this about? Silly! have you *no* logic? It simply proves that *my* vocation is to write about civil life. Words and phrases have a meaning, and the bedrock of all deep erudition (that last word means "larning") is a correct definition in every case. For example:—

Army life—Most soldiers are absolute lunatics, whether they have served in the sun or in the snow. They are usually harsh and *uncivil* during business hours, and after business hours they get up to such tricks as giving you a bed and breakfast (even taking your boots off), buying your beer, arranging presents and parties for the kiddies, dances for the girls (of all ages), a whip-round for someone who is up against it, and so on. They are very unbusinesslike. In contradistinction to this we have

Civil life—in which most people are *very civil* during business hours: "Yes, sir! take a seat, sir!" "May I send it, madam?" They call each other Mister and Esquire, and such uncouth prefixes as Nobby, Smudger, Lakri, Tug, Tich, and the like, are anathema.

I have before me a beautifully-worded brochure in which I am shown the great advantages of "furnishing out of income." Now, soldiers (not being civil) would say "putting it on the book," "on tick," "the Kathleen Mavourneen system," or something just as vulgar. But "furnishing out of income"! Can you imagine the soul of a soldier rising to such a phrase? No!

They (the civilians) are just as considerate and civil after business hours. They recognise that you must need a rest after your day's toil, so they tactfully refrain from worrying you to death with invitations to a dance, a binge, a game of tennis or cricket. (Yes, that's it! Cricket!!—a famous word, you know! A notorious word, even, in some respects. It means—cricket!) In fact, they don't even speak to you. Compare this most delightful attitude of mind, this "esprit-de-ego," with what the soldier is pleased to call *his* mind!

So you see that the two expressions—in definition—are opposites. *Civil life:* to be very civil during business hours, and very "correct" at all other times. *Military life:* very uncivil during business hours, and very unbusiness-like during civil hours. I only wish that Mr. Milton Hayes were here to put it more clearly.

"This is quite enough," sez you! It is! My second attempt will be to faithfully describe my own adventures on leaving the army, with a few words of wisdom from the vast knowledge acquired during my long experience as a civilian. This, of course, will touch on the Post Office.

My third and last paper will be about the Post Office in more detail.

Congratulations to all concerned on the proposed amalgamation of the Indian Signals with The Royal Signals. "Quis separabit!" What!

MAC.

2nd Divl. Signals, "A" Lines,
Marlborough Lines, Aldershot,
May 17th, 1926.

Dear Sir,—In the May number of THE WIRE, under 2nd Divisional Signal notes, one paragraph referred to a Mechanicalised Artillery Section thus:—

"I am sure most of us hope the experiment will prove successful, *and that the time is not far distant when we shall be handing our spurs in to stores.*"

The latter part of that paragraph was not intended seriously. I now realise that it in no way expresses the opinion of a mounted unit of the Corps, and I take this opportunity of tendering my sincere apologies to all concerned for having written it.

Yours faithfully,
N. GRANT, Sergeant.

Plain Tales.

Confessions.

Orderly! Bring me all the paper in the office, if there is as much. I see it is the umpteenth of the month, and this stuff is due in by when-is-it? But that, of course, is only swank, for one never leaves these things until the last moment. Myself, I have too many "moans" on to let a pencil lie idle, especially on Wednesdays and Thursdays, when, as is usual with those days, it is too cold to go out. One Thursday it was *very* cold, and the wife wouldn't tell me where the cash box was, so I set to and produced a scream of a play. All about happy days in the S.T.C.

We had instructors, quarter-blokes, despatch riders, policemen, N.A.A.F.I. girls, corporals and Signal schemes; in fact, everything necessary for a first-rate revue. There were no sergeants in it, because I can't see anything funny about sergeants, in spite of Uncle Alfred's efforts.

Well, I read it through ten times, laughed very heartily (as I had a perfect right to do), and tore it up, because I said to myself, I said: "Barleux, if old What's-is-name sees this, he'll think you are having a tilt at him."

I should hate to think that anyone received that impression about my writings. So, as I say, I tore it up. But only into two pieces, because my ambition is to start a magazine of my own one day, and that play will be the very mildest of the things that will appear within its pages.

A Number of Things.

I am told (usually by people whose opinion I do not value) that I make a lot of false statements! I feel awfully sorry for those people. I stay awake at night and worry about them.

Look at the number of mistakes I have made in connection with libraries and books. Remember how I called "Twinkie" a retriever, whilst all the time she was a cocker spaniel, or an Alsatian or something. Did I ever say Courteney-Coles exceeded the limit on his "Brough Superior"? What do I care? I apologise for all these things, but I shall make similar errors in future. I apologise for those as well.

What I wanted to talk about was books, or at least the books of one particular author. I do not remember the name of this author, and if I did I shouldn't mention it.

I feel I want to shriek when I find him trying to be cynical over people who have stuffed birds and wax fruit under glass cases in their houses. Now I preserve an open mind about these positively frightful things, these old-fashioned monstrosities, these absolutely—but to continue.

Why does he make such a fuss about them? Not only in one book, but in all of them. There is a reason for everything (as the sergeant-major said when a man wanted to scrub out the bunk); and I cannot help thinking that this author has stuffed fruit and wax birds, I mean—you know, in *his* house, but goes in fear of his wife, who is rather enthusiastic about them. I am not to be lightly turned from this theory, so there!

Local Entertainment.

The most imaginative person I know is a Group E man who wears two pairs of puttees and thinks he is well-proportioned. Even he would hesitate to call Bulford an exciting place.

I don't say there is nothing to see or do down here. We have our football, hockey, rugger, cricket, etc., dances (similar to rugger), and whist drives (usually draughty).

Then there is the man with the hot-stuff o.h.v. motor cycle, who makes some minor adjustment to his head-lamp and proceeds to test it by going all out in bottom gear for a couple of hundred yards, glancing the while at the place where the exhaust pipe would be had he not removed it for the benefit of his audience.

We must not forget the cinema. Indeed, after last night, I personally find it well-nigh impossible to rid my mind of the hearty laughter of about three hundred people. Had the producer of the film been present, he would probably not have been so full of merriment as these soldiers; for the story was "A Great American Drama: a Thrilling Cowboy Masterpiece." The

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thicker the sentiment, the more we laughed—which only goes to show that were the troops not blessed with a keen appreciation of the ridiculous, they would regard such films as an insult to their intelligence. As it is, the majority consider their shillings very badly spent.

Two Garages.

I know where there are two garages next door to each other. Whether they are two distinct concerns, or a sort of syndicate, I cannot say. I do not feel impressed when I see these places. The thirty square yards of mud fronting these havens for old iron are usually occupied by a curious assortment of motor buses. Here we have "Bill's Bus" (though it is difficult to understand why he should boast about it). Then, if one be patient, comes a screeching and grinding which heralds the approach of "Harry's Bus," or maybe George's. It doesn't matter. They did splendid work during the great industrial upheaval. However, I have reason to believe that, back in the dark interior of these garages, there are some efficient workmen. I've never been inside.

Stonehenge.

A young man of my acquaintance, whose family crest is a thistle, couchant, in a field of hops, went to Stonehenge last week. He said he couldn't see much from the road. I was about to ask him why he didn't go in, when I remembered that I had been there myself. Awfully expensive place, Stonehenge, you know. I also had a topping view from the road, but then, all I had on me at the time was a pound note, and that wasn't really mine. There is a sort of fascination about this historical old place. One feels that one would like to go back again, some time. That's my impression, anyway. I lost a perfectly good King Dick spanner there.

Live and Learn.

Some years ago (when I was very young) I had the good fortune to be stationed in Ireland. Whilst there, I was told that in certain remote villages they allowed chickens to roam around inside the cottages. Of course, I was properly shocked, and remained so until the other day. We had some friends to tea, and they brought their little boy, aged two. Such a dear little chap, too; but someone gave him a cream horn, new and flaky, and allowed him to walk about with it! I developed a fuller understanding of those Irish people and their chickens when my wife thrust a broom into my unwilling hands!

Camouflage de Luxe.

I take off my hat to the individual in Arras Lines, Bulford, who burns a sheet or two of newspaper in the kitchen on Sunday mornings, and leaves the door open in the hope that the neighbours will think he has a chicken for dinner!

Cattle News.

Uncle Sam, having broken in all the unruly horses of the 3rd Signals, has now handed over to Uncle Robert, whose raucous voice no longer disturbs the tranquillity (?) of the unit orderly room, but may be heard adjuring K Section horses to "Come up, yer ——."

An increase in cattle news may be looked for in the near future, especially if Uncle Sam starts again. This won't be just yet, though, because he has worn out his spurs!

BARLEUX.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

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PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

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Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

Headquarters.

On May 5th, Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant of the Signal Training Centre, completed the four years' tenure of his command. He has been succeeded by Col. H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., who has come to us from the post of Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command.

Col. Newbigging has passed temporarily to the half-pay list, and by the time this number of THE WIRE appears he will have entered into retirement. The close of a career of such distinction cannot be allowed to pass without comment, and the following short account and appreciation of his service is written with the hope that it will be read by every member of the Corps.

Col. Newbigging was gazetted to the Manchester Regiment from the Militia as Second Lieutenant in March, 1892. He was appointed adjutant of his battalion in 1898, and in the following year was promoted to the rank of Captain. He served throughout the South African war of 1899–1902 with his battalion and with the Mounted Infantry. He saw much fighting and was severely wounded. He was twice mentioned in despatches, was awarded the Distinguished Service Order and gained the Queen's medal with five clasps and the King's medal with two clasps.

Returning from South Africa at the end of the war, he was appointed adjutant of a Volunteer battalion of his regiment. In 1912 he joined the School of Signalling, Bulford, as an instructor, subsequently becoming Chief Instructor at the Army Signal School, Aldershot, which latter appointment he held till the outbreak of the Great War.

He went to France as Assistant Director of Signals of the Third Corps, and was present at the battle of Le Cateau and the subsequent operations of the Mons retreat. At the battle of the Aisne he was selected to return home to train the Signals of the Third Army, which was then in process of formation. In June, 1915, he returned to France as Deputy Director of Signals, Third Army, having in the meantime been gazetted Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel. He continued to hold that appointment till the Armistice, and was promoted successively to the brevet and substantive rank of Colonel.

His distinguished service in France and Belgium was recognised by six mentions in despatches, and by the award of the C.B. and the C.M.G., in addition to the two promotions to brevet rank previously mentioned. Further, the French Government conferred upon him the Croix de Guerre in recognition of his services.

He was appointed Signal Officer-in-Chief of the Rhine Army, with the temporary rank of Brigadier-General, in April, 1919, and a year later returned home to take up the appointment of Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command. In May, 1922, he was gazetted as Commandant of the Signal Training Centre, with the temporary rank of Colonel-Commandant.

The period of Col. Newbigging's command of the Training Centre has been marked by two outstanding events—one, the re-organisation of the Training Centre, whereby the Depot Battalion came into being; the other, the move of the Centre from Maresfield Park to Catterick. We venture to express our thought that, when he comes to look back upon the years 1922 to 1926, Col. Newbigging will consider that these two events gave wider scope to his powers of organisation than any other job that he was called upon to tackle in the whole of his career.

From the earliest days of his command of the Training Centre, Col. Newbigging set before himself certain ideals which he strove throughout to attain, one of which was to secure the establishment of the Headquarters of the Corps in a permanent home where close association with the other arms of the Service would be possible, where the best conditions of sport, games and athletics would obtain, and where the customary amenities of camp life would be enjoyed by every soldier and his family.

It must have been particularly gratifying to him to have seen his ideal so near to achievement before handing over his command. None more than he, however, realised that the goal for which he was striving is yet to be reached. In his own words, we are doing pioneer work for those who are to follow us; but if we keep our shoulder to the wheel as he would have us do, the ultimate attainment of his end is assured.

From the day that the Corps first came into being, Colonel Newbigging applied all his energies towards the advancement of its welfare; his personal considerations were second to those of the Corps from the outset. During his four years at the Training Centre, his influence among all ranks in the promotion of Corps spirit has been remarkable. There can be few who have passed through the Training Centre during the period of his command whose sense of esprit de corps has not been strengthened by his example.

He realised fully how far the playing of manly games and participation in all forms of sport go towards the development of Corps spirit, and to his direction is chiefly due the successes obtained in recent years by teams from the Training Centre in

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the various Army sports competitions. He was in his younger days an athlete of considerable repute, a thoroughly good cricketer and rugger forward, and (his most characteristic attainment of all) a most accomplished horseman and an ardent rider to hounds.

The whole of the Training Centre turned out of its own accord to bid him goodbye on the evening of his departure from the camp. The road from the Headquarters offices to the Depot Battalion guard-room was lined by all ranks of the three units, and cheering and the waving of caps went down the line as he and Mrs. Newbigging drove slowly away from us.

With them they took our very best wishes for a long, peaceful and happy retirement.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

Absence of notes in the last issue is regretted. To those many correspondents who have written after my health, etc., I am deeply grateful for their solicitous regard, and make haste to assure them that an omission of this sort will not happen again.

Much water has flowed under the bridge since the last publication. All the senior squads have proceeded to D Company to allow us to cope with the large influx of recruits experienced since the beginning of the year. However, they still come under our wing for training, so that we keep in touch with them. Cries of "good old A Company" have to be heard to be believed.

Gardens.

A great improvement is shown in the appearance of the Company lines by the conversion of what were once waste patches into attractive gardens. Their soothing influence tends somewhat to obliterate the spectre of "Catterick." Sergt Eastes is to be congratulated on the effect produced. It seems a great pity, however, that the labour of certain dark wintry evenings on "——'s playground" should have come to nought. A well laid out lawn now covers that rocky cantonment.

Strike.

Great excitement and many rumours pervaded the Company at the outbreak of the strike. Had half the rumours materialised we should have travelled all round England by now. Work continues apace, and the British Gazette and wireless bulletins keep us informed of the general trend of events. Suitable replies to "What did you do in the great war, daddy?" may be obtained in any barrack-room now.

Messing.

The new system of messing which came into force at the end of March never became popular—at least, with n.c.o.s. The golden rule appeared to be "he gets most who eats quickest." For those n.c.o.s who presided over messes, "Harlene" is recommended. The old order now prevails.

Flag Competition.

Congratulations to No. 53 Squad on their achievement in winning the flag in the first competition of this year. We should, however, like to see other squads more highly placed than was the case in this competition. If results and enthusiasm were synonymous, there is no doubt they would occupy a position a little more in the limelight.

Moves.

Nos. 31 and 33 Squads have proceeded to their Companies for technical training. Both squads maintained the high average set by their predecessors at musketry. Sigmn E. A. Ward is to be congratulated on the magnificent score of 107 on the open range. Is this a record?

Education.

Those recruits who have gained 3rd class certificates of education are congratulated. Space forbids insertion of their names.

Agony.

Nat! How are the burning plains?

ENOB.

B Company, Depot Battalion.

Training.

Training continues as usual, the latest squad to "pass off" being No. 38. The band now attends at the "pass off" of squads, the latter performing a miniature Trooping of the Colours before being dismissed.

Recreation.

Recreational training is now going strong, two afternoons a week being given up to this pastime.

An inter-squad shield competition has been instituted in various kinds of sport, and it has proved a great success. The winners for April were No. 53 Squad of A Company, the next six positions being filled by B Company squads. We congratulate No. 53!

General.

Work is proceeding apace on our new gymnasium, and we are all looking forward to its completion. It is hoped then to resume the weekly battalion dances which became so popular at Crowborough.

The strike so far has affected us but very little, an extra guard and the lack of newspapers being our only hardships.

Casualties.

2308430 Corpl W. Clark arrived from Egypt Signals, 20/4/26.
2311126 Corpl W. Wigzell transferred to 3rd Divl. Signals, 26/4/26.

LIMPET.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

"U" Lines, May 9th.

Musketry.

We are now in the final stages of our annual musketry course. Half the Company fired on April 26th and 27th, and the remainder will fire on May 10th and 11th. Sergts Waller and Terrell have tied for the present highest score of 91, and the lowest, 23, was scored by Dvr (I won't mention his name). The average for the first party is 63.12, which is good, considering we have new rifles and half the men have not fired on an open range before.

Billiard Tournament.

On May 6th a billiard tournament—C Company junior n.c.o.s versus drivers—was held in the men's billiard room. The conditions were 6 a side—125 up. This match evoked quite a lot of interest. Both sides were confident of victory. Opponents were drawn for, and they came out fairly evenly.

Corpl Farmer v. Dvr Cox. This game was looked forward to with much interest, as Cox was considered to be the best of the drivers' team. After five minutes' play Farmer made a break of 15. From then onwards, although the balls were rolling very poorly, he maintained the lead, and increasing it, ran out victor by 45 points.

Corpl Francis v. Dvr J. Jones. Jones, who is well known for his lucky play, caused great amusement by getting home shots that even Inman or Reece would not have attempted. I don't think that he anticipated them, either. Francis was not up to his usual standard, but succeeded in beating Jones by 12 points.

Corpl Burchinshaw v. Dvr Hawley. Burchinshaw played much below par. Hawley, however, rose to the occasion and played very well, winning by 25 points. He shared the honour of the highest break (22) with Dvr Dickenson.

L/Corpl Webber v. Dvr May. Webber played a very nice game and won by 23 points.

Corpl Cutler v. Dvr Dickenson. Cutler was hopelessly outclassed and lost by 74 points. Dickenson's best efforts were 20 and 22.

Corpl Miles v. Dvr Best. Dvr Vaney should have played instead of Best. Both players realised that the result of the tournament depended upon them, as the corporals had won three events and the drivers two. Miles, however, won by 13 points.

This is the first match of its kind, and it is hoped that similar contests will be arranged weekly.

Concert.

A very enjoyable concert was staged in the Y.M.C.A., "U" Lines, on April 29th, under the management of Lieut. R. M. Carr, R.A. (attached C Company). The enthusiastic applause tendered to the artistes by a very critical audience leads us to hope for a repetition in the near future. Although timed to commence at 7.15 p.m., the tactful handling of a huge crowd by Sergts Battersby and Seabrook enabled the hall to be filled (even to the window seats) by 7 o'clock.

An exceptionally good programme was commenced by Sigmn Pitt with selections at the piano, during which time a few latecomers endeavoured to squeeze themselves into spaces that weren't there.

Miss Morritt with "Susie" at once took the audience by storm, and with the backing of a wonderful chorus party, she revealed that there was a vast amount of unknown talent concealed in the body of the hall.

"A chip of the old block," with "Capt. Mac" as an encore, was very ably rendered by Sigmn Ternent, whom we hope to hear again in the near future.

"My Word," by Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming, R.A., was really magnificent; his life-like impersonation of the dashing cavalry major created an impression on our young soldiers that will take years of practical experience to dispel.

"Fiddle and I," followed by "Camel's hump," by Captain Penney, Royal Signals, was heartily acclaimed. The latter song was, I believe, taken to heart by a few of our D.I.s who occasionally suffer from that disheartening complaint.

"The Sheepfold Song," by Miss Morritt, was vociferously received by her appreciative audience, whom she had undoubtedly captivated from the first.

"The motor car" now appeared on the stage, to the great mystification of those who were "not in the know." This humorous sketch by Lieut. T. A. R. Scott, Royal Signals, revealed many of the pleasures (and not a few of the pains) of motoring in the days when motors *were* motors (and not Fords), and is understood to be responsible for the recent increase in push cycles in the vicinity. Following this with "There's only one thing" (from the Co-Optimists), this talented artiste succeeded in bringing the pleasures of civilisation much nearer our ken.

"Danny Boy" by 2/Lieut. D. St. J. Hoysted, Royal Signals, with "Sheiling song" and a violin obligato by Lieut. Ewbank, made an extremely appreciable number.

Sigmn Wain, a well-known tenor, gave an exceptionally good performance in "For you alone" (O'Reilly), and followed this with "Where my caravan has rested," receiving a great ovation.

"What 'cher," by Lieut. R. M. Carr, R.A., created feelings of home-sickness in those of the audience who hail from the vicinity of the Old Kent Road, and feelings of envy in those who don't. How does one cultivate that natural homely East-end atmosphere, I wonder?

"The Bandolero," by Sigmn Ternent, was well rendered and received the applause it merited.

"The Bargee," by Mr. Hugh Herring, was a humorous recitation of the adventures of a skipper of an "inland liner" of 1-horse power. This kept the audience on tenterhooks, not knowing whether they were to laugh or cry. In the end I think the tears won, if the faces near me were any indication.

Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming, ably accompanied by Mrs. Hemming at the piano, gave a very well rendered song, "Little Irish Girl."

For the last item of the evening Miss Morritt again came forward with "Susie" and chorus, after which her insatiable audience, like Oliver Twist, demanded more—and unlike Oliver, they got it.

In congratulating the artistes mentioned above we must not forget Sigmn Jones, of B Company, to whose untiring efforts as accompanist a large measure of the success of the evening was due.

Before the audience dispersed Lieut.-Col. E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., Royal Signals, on their behalf, thanked all who had

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assisted to make the evening the success it undoubtedly was, and called for three hearty cheers, which were given with that vim for which all ranks of the Signal Training Centre are famous. Miss Morritt, of course, received an extra one for herself after.

The Royal Tournament.

Training of horses and riders for the other ranks' team jumping competition at the Royal Tournament has been going on steadily. The complete course of jumps at full heights was jumped on Saturday, May 1st, for the first time. The results were, on the whole, very satisfactory. With a little luck we shall go further in the tournament this year than we have ever done before.

The skill-at-arms mounted events are being thoroughly practised, but both officers and other ranks competing must reach a higher standard of accuracy if any prizes in these events are to come to the Signal Training Centre.

Arrivals.

Corpl H. Wilmot from 1st Divl. Signals. Corpl T. A. Tunnicliffe from 3rd Divl. Signals. L/Corpl G. A. Browne from E Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals. Dvr F. C. Abel from 4th Divl. Signals.

Departures.

C.S.M. Caulfield to No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Blackdown. Corpl Cogswell to 3rd Divl. Signals. Sigmn Jukes transferred to Army Reserve. Sigmn A. H. H. Rogers discharged. Dvrs. Coglan and Treen to 2nd Divl. Signals.

Sergt F. Limb has been posted to the Permanent Staff of the 56th (1st London) Divl. Signals, T.A., with effect from 10/5/26. He *must* have been born on a Friday.

Marriages.

Dvr Garvey at East Grinstead on April 5th.
Sigmn E. A. Ward at Brough, Richmond (Yorks), on May 1st.

Births.

Congratulations to C.S.M. W. H. Horner on being presented with a daughter on April 1st, and to Sergt W. Hore on a similar gift a few days ago.

General.

An occupier of married quarters in "J" Lines is bewailing his fate. His wife is eligible to ride on the United, and he isn't.

A well-known sergeant of this Company was on main guard, and asked one of his sentries to hand him the board of orders. The relief handed him the boxing shield. They are both recovering!

Corpl C. Marshall successfully passed the course at the R.A.V. School, and obtained a percentage of 73.75.

FIFI.

Training Battalion Headquarters.

A sarcastic occupant of the office suggested that, by way of a pleasant change, we should send THE WIRE a breezy article—something after the inimitable style of those emanating from the mighty pen of such scribes as Profs. Barleux and E.S.J.H.; but after deep pondering as to the ways and means thereof, we decided that we'd not risk the worthy editor contracting pneumonia. Our tame contributor, you see, has yet to be initiated into the idiosyncracies pertaining to journalism, but we're relying on a philanthropist to send him a few jars of rat poison before he goes *too* far. In anticipation, can anyone send us a couple of B.2090's?

Our greatly depleted staff has once more been the unwilling victim of the inexorable axe wielded by the powers-that-be. Our registration expert, Sigmn Sell, left us for a course as D. and M. Instructor with the Depot Battalion. We've now heard that Robert's venture was crowned with success. Congratulations from the staff, Bob!

Sigmn Crossley, whose erstwhile occupation was delving into the sedentary depths of officers' claims, made a bee-line for A and Q Branch, Headquarters, S.T.C., on 15/3/26, for a permanent change. We had noticed a minute cloud of dust disappearing at excessive speed in that direction, but we've only just learned that our ex-claims fiend was in the middle thereof.

We welcome into our midst Sigmn Taplin, who was posted from the 4th Divl. Signals, in relief of one of the staff here. A humorously-inclined person would have appreciated Records' little joke, but our latest arrival refuses to be comforted, and maintains that Catterick and district is about as interesting (to him) as an advertisement for a Chinese laundry. And we were consoling ourselves that we were settling down very nicely! These new arrivals continually disturb one's equanimity (or whatever it is that's usually disturbed).

We were going to broadcast a few phrases about the strike, but we hardly think readers will be interested. Besides, "sufficient unto the day, etc.!"

LEE CROSS.

D Company, Training Battalion.

The state of chaos in which we found ourselves last month has now become an established fact—so much so that the general mix-up appears almost orderly.

More and more of our old-time bunting flappers have been leaving us, until now we have very few more than the cadre of the Company left.

On the other hand, there are 200 recruits posted from the Depot Battalion, who go off training on their own, far away from the stern eyes of their own Company, and only return to the fold when they hear rumours of pay or food.

The great seed rush has begun again in earnest. The March hurricanes failed to discourage the inhabitants of our allotments, and they are now beginning to throw back the blankets, rub their eyes, and stretch themselves. By next month we expect to see them in full bloom. Our n.c.o.s' gardening class has undertaken the job of lining our gardens with turf—good luck to it! The old stone borders are now reposing on the parade ground awaiting the arrival of the local steam roller.

DON.

Training Battalion Boys.

For the first time for many moons the boys have all paraded together again. F Company left Catterick for an unknown destination, and left their boys behind to keep the home fires burning. They found themselves fatherless, orphans of the storm, and adrift in an unsympathetic world, so, turning to D Company, they said, "Adopt us, if it pleases you—for three weeks or the duration of the strike"—and D Company did so.

And so once again the clans foregathered. Our superstitious nature suggests that this is an omen foretelling the formation of a Boys' Company, but then superstitions are dangerous things to rely on!

Some of the F Company boys have been feeling the burden of work of national importance for the last week. They have been working on the Area H.Q. wireless station, and, we gather, have been doing it very well.

D Company is looking after the latest batch of fledglings. They have just got their feathers and are fearfully proud of themselves. Before long we expect to be very proud of them. They are a most promising lot. Their names are Kerr (from Egypt), Clarke (from Ireland), Denbow and Boyd (Duke of York's School), McDougall, Brett, Stratton, Matthews, Lewin, Lewis, Carn, Cullen, Glanville, Stevens, Cox and Round. The last-named is running Boy Broadbent pretty close in the altitude stakes.

We shall shortly be losing L/Corpl Boy Lambert, who is joining the ranks on May 22nd. His departure will be a great loss to the boys' platoon, although some of the boys may have disliked his occasional Prussianism. Without any flattery we may say that he is one of the best lance-corporal boys we have ever had.

Others joining the ranks are L/Corpl Boy Vine, a good athlete and all-round sportsman, Boys Harvey, McKillop, and Fox. Boys Lewis, Dean and White preceded them at the end of last month. Good luck to all of them!

First class certificates of education have been awarded to Boys Kilpatrick, Sherwood, Golding, Wilcock, Barnes, Barlow, Henning, Kelly, Millhouse, and Turner.

LURKON KA BAP.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

A "Live Wire."

Our Corps Journal.

Congratulations.

The sales of THE WIRE exceed those of any other regimental journal. This is indeed "some" achievement, for after all the Corps is only six years of age!

The Indian Supplement in the May publication received the welcome it deserved, and nobody can grouse about the tariff offered by the latest WIRE.

Departures.

Sergt A. Sherwood to the Permanent Staff, 42nd E. Lancs. Divl. Signals, T.A., Manchester, on 26/4/26. Corpl V. Hoyland to the Permanent Staff, 53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals, T.A., Cardiff, on 26/4/26. Our best wishes for the future!

Arrivals.

Sigmn B. Brunton from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 3/5/26.

Transfers to Army Reserve.

Good luck to the following, who have left us in search of fresh pastures: L/Corpl S. Whiteman, 5/5/26; Sigmn W. Bennetton, 14/5/26; L/Sergt E. O. Norris, 23/5/26.

Further Congratulations.

This time to Sigmn S. Barge, upon his appointment to U/L/Corporal, with effect from 23/4/26.

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Staff Ride.

No! I think that I have already said sufficient on this painful subject!

Meteorological Gem.

A report informs us that the month of May was cold and wet. It will be recalled that a rumour to this effect received considerable credence at the time.

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 3 Company.

Aldershot, May 18th.

The national emergency did not affect us to any great extent, as only about thirty of the Company proceeded on strike duty, and they will soon be returning.

Sectional training is now the order of the day, and the pleasant days spent away from barracks help greatly to relieve the monotony of our general routine.

Arrivals.

We welcome the arrival of Lieuts. R. E. Rance and W. D. Horniman from the S.T.C., and also Lieut. G. K. Morton, who has joined us from No. 1 Company. We trust their stay with us may be long and pleasant.

Appointments.

Congratulations to Sigmn William Skitt on his appointment as L/Corporal on the Corps roster; also to Signalmen Gow, Rogers and Leary on becoming U/L/Corporals.

Birth.

Congratulations to L/Corpl H. Noon on becoming a father.

Personal.

Would Sigmn McFarlane, of X Company, 1920, kindly communicate with L/Corpl W. W. Savile of this unit?

THREECO.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Aldershot.

This being the first appearance of "The" Troop, we have, needless to say, umpteen announcements to make. Realising, however, the amount of work entailed in the publication of this excellent journal, we are compelled to be brief, and therefore our entry into the limelight will of necessity be gradual.

A few main points will be sufficient to introduce us to those as yet unacquainted with this unit, and further news we must spread over future contributions.

Lieut. E. L. Ridley-Thompson, of that notable regiment, The Queen's Bays, officiates as officer commanding. C.Q.M.S. Walsh, late from a period of activity among the Terriers, is affectionately termed "Pop." Sergt ('Arry) Spencer holds the responsible position of troop sergeant, and also n.c.o. i/c equitation. Sergt Colley, late from Egypt Signals, is i/c wireless, while several efficient corporals and lance-jacks help in the maintenance of our already good name.

Our activities are confined to cavalry communication (barring accidents and individual training), although with fast moving cavalry, the W/T operators do not get much chance of showing off, except as mounted D.R.s, but that is where they shine (ahem!)

Several V/T operators have joined of late, but they have not yet had adequate opportunities of proving their worth.

We enclose a photograph of the Troop, which was taken at Aldershot some time ago.

Several changes have occurred since the photograph was taken. Sergt Piercy to Bulford; Corpl James (Taffy) to Ewshott; L/Cpl Bigg (Slosh) to Depot Battalion (Classes-sssz T-a); Sigmn Lane, with Couperthwaite, to India (both appropriately named "Busty"); Goodwin (Len) with Sigmn Lee, to Egypt; and Signalmen Wood and Welch to civvy street. Neither of the last-named two have returned for any rations or sleep, and consequently we must admit the fact that there must be some places better than the Troop, even if only slightly so.

Several of our notorious (oh! *notable*) characters are worth mentioning. Russoleum (famous for his Cossack riding), popularly called Freddie, and late of Karachi, India—a person who demonstrates to us how it is possible to "take" a jump even should one's nag refuse. "Bonny" MacCarroll, of rodeo ranch (with a twang). "Cally," who guarantees *even a Crossley* to side passage. Butlerconi—the clothes-line aerial expert. Nutty—the thinker. "Buckskin Hayley," of "Noo Yark." The Count Cornelius-de-Freeze, of Uckfield estate. And others who must wait their turn to find their names in these pages.

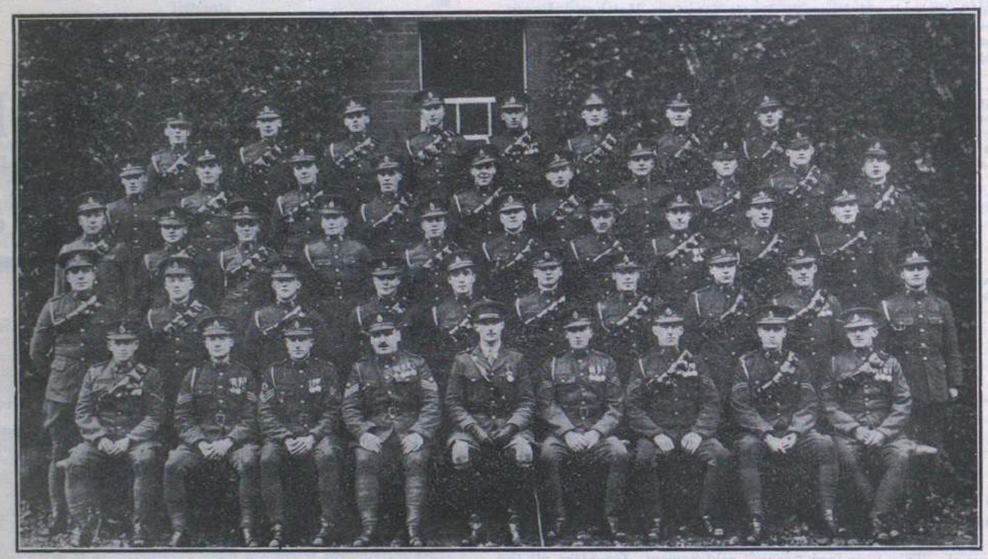
Congratulations.

To Jimmy on being posted to the "United States." Blessed is he who is single, for then shall his coffers ring with much music. To Smudger on obtaining his 2nd. To Sigmn B. Bryant on attaining the giddy heights of W/T B.ii. To L/Corpl Steed and Sigmn Forrest on becoming "dada's" for the third time of asking. L/Corpl Steed looks worried, while Sigmn Forrest certainly looks thinner. Advice to those, etc.: "Look before you leap."

Moves.

At the time of writing we expect the following moves: Sergt Wells from Depot vice "Pop," to V.T. course; and Sigmn Adkins to Depot. We take this opportunity of welcoming the former, and wishing the latter every prosperity.

'OWDAM LAD.



No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

Blackdown, April 15th.

It is very pleasing to record that the new scheme of paying 9d. per month has been accepted by 35 other ranks of this unit, and it is hoped to increase the number.

Our very best thanks are due to the Secretary for the prompt attention given to our first application under the new scheme. The roll of acceptors was posted to him on March 29th, and copies of THE WIRE were received on April 1st.

We have during the past week occupied our new quarters, and there are a lot of gadgets which make for the greater comfort of all ranks. All conveniences are on the premises, which is a great improvement on previous arrangements.

For the last three or four months, the substituting of permanent lines for other routes, erecting new routes, and substantially augmenting the whole system of searchlight position communication in the Command, has been carried out. The work has been hard, as there was such a great area to be covered, and the numbers employed relatively small. The end of our labours is at last in sight, and we are looking forward to the period of the summer practice camp with pleasurable anticipation. It will not be the usual holiday by the sea this year, as the unit has to provide working parties at four different pla[illegible] Watchet (Somerset), Biggin Hill, and Manston (Kent), with a maintenance party at Blackdown.

Arrivals.

We welcome the following who have recently joined us: Corpl C. G. Adams, from Singapore; L/Corpl Elphick and Sigmn Norman from Ceylon; Signalmen Peuleve, Hunt, Beddingham, Stock, and McAndrews, from Catterick.

Corpl Adams has returned to the fold which he left during October, 1924.

Courses.

L/Corporals Betts, Gough and Jackson rejoined the unit from a Post Office course.

Signalmen Durston and Hawksworth left the unit for a Post Office course, and L/Corpl Barrett left for the School of Education, Shorncliffe. The best of luck to them.

Education.

Eleven n.c.o.s and men have commenced studies for 1st class certificates, and four aspirants to 2nd class certificates are swotting hard for the next examination on April 26th and 27th. We wish them all success.

ACK ACK.

Aldershot Anecdotes.

No. 33—The Parable of the Sore and the Seat.

1—And there were numbered among the warriors of the First-divsigs those who tended not the flocks by day, neither stood they watch over the tents by night.
2—Neither drew they water from the wells, nor were their faces familiar in the places of assembly.
3—And they were the Staph.
4—And behold, there was of the Tribe a centurion who marketh these things, and marvelled he thereat, saying:—
5—"Who are they that are suckled in this wise? Is it meet that this thing comes to pass as each day grows old and the new day is born?"
6—And he was greatly wroth.
7—And lo, in the fulness of time there went throughout the land a message which called a great assembly of the Staph.
8—And the scribe put aside his tablets, yea, his parchments put he aside.
9—And he was come with his brethren unto the meeting-place. Even unto the stablez was he come.
10—Then spake the centurion unto the gathering, saying: "Behold, is it not written that unto every man shall be given a portion?"
11—And they answered him: "It is so written."
12—Wherefore the centurion sayeth unto one, "Take thou thy portion"; and unto another, "Take thou, also, thy portion"; and unto yet a third sayeth he, "Hast thou thy portion?"
13—And he who was questioned answered, saying, "Verily, I've got mine."
14—And their portions were horses.
15—And when each had received his due, then did the centurion come into their midst.
16—And he sayeth unto them, "Preparetomount."
17—And lo, they were sore perplexed.
18—Then spake one unto his neighbour, saying: "For three talents will I sell thee my portion."
19—But he was answered not.
20—And behold, the riders went forth to ride.
21—And as they rode some fell by the way-side, for they lacked the Weedonseat.
22—Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth; and forthwith they sprang up lest they should have gravel rash.
23—And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up and choked them.
24—Verily, I say unto you, place not thy trust in horses nor thy feet in stirrups. For if ye fall upon good ground, thou shalt not bear fruit sixty-fold nor an hundred-fold. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. For verily I say unto you, tares will be thy lot.

L. H. D.

Bringing up Reinforcements

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3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford.

General Strike.

The far-reaching effects of the recent great strike touched our unit in spots, with the result that several lucky wights clicked for posh jobs in various parts of the country. We are wondering whether they are glad to get back.

It is significant that the weather also came out in sympathy with the miners. Now that the strike is over, we may look forward to some sunshine. No harm in looking forward, anyhow.

Unit Dance.

Another unit dance was held in the recreation room on April 28th. As usual, it was a highly successful function, and although Mrs. Robinson performed very efficiently on the piano, we miss our Corpl Sayers. There is some controversy raging as to the exact nature of the new instrument played by Corpl Barlow, but we are able to state officially that although it looks like a saxaphone and sounds like a cornet, it *really* is a "Saxie."

Our Highbrows.

Sigmn Blank: "Do you know the difference between single file and Indian file?"

Sigmn Blanky: "Of course I do. In Indian file men walk one in front of the other, but in single file they walk one behind——"

Sigmn Blank: "Idiot."

The New Scheme.

Several die-hards are still holding out, and decline to come up to scratch. They are unable to give adequate reasons. On the whole, the unit responded very well to the idea, and the dissentients are only a very small crew. The Secretary and the Pay Corporal are endeavouring to anticipate possible "snags," of which there will be quite a few when the sections commence to drift away during the summer.

Departures.

Sigmn A. Ball to R.E. Depot, Chatham, on transfer, 12/4/26.
Sergt E. Coates, discharged on 3/4/26.
L/Corpl C. W. Smith to Army Reserve on 18/4/26.
L/Corpl A. Sayers to Training Battalion, on 28/4/26.
Corpl W. Fortes, on leave pending discharge, 5/5/26 to 18/5/26.

Arrivals.

Sigmn F. Abbott, on 9/4/26, from Training Battalion.
Sigmn Perkins, on 7/4/26, from Training Battalion.
Corpl W. Cogswell, on 12/4/26, from Depot Battalion.
L/Corpl L. Humphrey, on 26/4/26, from Training Battalion (to 2nd M.A.B. Signal Section).
Corpl W. Wigzell, on 27/4/26, from Depot Battalion.
Signalmen Young and T. Worthington, on 27/4/26, from Training Battalion.
Signalmen R. Harry, H. Funnell, and R. Macauley, from Training Battalion, on 26/4/26.
Corpls W. Lewis and H. Brown, and L/Corpls J. Lemon and F. Harding, rejoined from Depot Battalion, on 19/4/26.
The whole of the 2nd M.A.B. Signal Section, posted, w.e.f. 15/4/26.
Signalmen J. Johns and H. Warren, from Training Battalion for duty with 2nd M.A.B. Signal Section on 19/4/26.
Signalmen W. Atkins, B. Callaghan, and A. Cowan, from Training Battalion, w.e.f. 3/5/26.

Promotions and Appointments.

F/Sergt Holloway, promoted F/Staff/Sergt., w.e.f. 25/4/26.
Sigmn J. Norcup, appointed L/Corpl on Corps roster, 8/4/26.
Signalmen F. Harding and J. Robertson, and Dvr W. Franklin, appointed L/Corporals on Corps roster, w.e.f. 19/4/25
L/Corpls T. Taylor and H. Walker, appointed A/Corpls, w.e.f. 8/3/26.

Marriage.

Sigmn E. Higginson to Beatrice May Parkes at St. John's Church, Tipton, Staffs, on 6/2/26.

Births.

To L/Corpl A. Sayers, a daughter (Joan Frances), on 2/4/26, at the Married Families Hospital, Tidworth.

To L/Sergt S. Rose, a son (Gordon Sydney Douglas) on 6/4/26 at the Married Families Hospital, Tidworth.

Education—Award.

Sergt R. Purseglove was awarded a 1st class certificate at Bulford on 14/10/25.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

First and foremost let us apologise for the absence of notes from last month's issue.

Quite a lot of things have happened since our last appearance in THE WIRE. At the present we are preparing for the G.O.C.'s inspection, which takes place on May 17th, when we hope to keep up the credit of the Corps. Our present G.O.C. has not long taken over the command, and has not yet seen the Company on parade.

Capt. P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., assumed command of the Company on Major F. G. Drayson, M.C., being posted to Catterick. A photo of the Company was taken while we had as many in from out stations as possible, to make a representative group. Our only regret is that our late C.O. was unable to be present owing to an attack of influenza.

Arrivals and Departures.

We all welcome Corpl Gardner to the fold, and trust he will enjoy his stay. After a brief sojourn at Belfast he was sent to the wilds of Ballykinlar. Corpls Heath and Rice are also welcomed from Colchester and Catterick respectively.

We had a very trying ordeal on April 30th, when we bade goodbye to Major F. G. Drayson, M.C., who left us to take over the post of Chief Instructor at the School of Signals. We all felt we were losing someone more than a C.O.: someone who was with us on parade and at play, in several branches of which he excelled. We are sure there will be a couple of "Jimmies" finding a new home.

We also said goodbye to Sergt Gilbert, who left us for the permanent staff of the Territorial Army after a very long stay in the Company, through some of its worst times in Ireland.

We have sent Corpl McIvor to the A.V.T.C. and Sigmn Manning to the G.P.O. on courses.

Trades.

We congratulate the following on getting higher rates:—Corpl Shirley, fitter signalman, A.i.; L/Corpl Toogood, Signalmen Stansfield and Edwards, operator W/T, B.ii; Signalmen Cheel, Donnithorne, and Greening, operator W/T, B.iii.

Education.

Our 2nd class results are not yet published. We tender congratulations to those who obtained the 1st class certificate of education: Sergt Gilbert, L/Corpl Simpson, and Sigmn Healey.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following on getting a lift up in the roll of honour: Corpl P. Hall to be L/Sergt (Spread, Keen, Barl and Co., please note); A/Corpls Rice and Irving substantiated in that rank; L/Corpl T. Hall to be A/Corporal.

Extensions.

Sergt E. Bradbury and Sigmn S. Kerr, to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Marriages.

Congratulations to the following on joining the benedicts, and wishing them the old, old wish: "May all their troubles be little ones."

L/Corpl W. Simpson to Miss Mary Stockton at Haslingden.
Sigmn H. W. Smith to Miss Lilian Geer at Scarborough.

CHIPPY.

Signal Training Centre, India.

Jubbulpore.

The heat increases and leave decreases, and still we persevere.

Since writing last the S.T.C. (India) has begun working on the new system.

The Signal Training Battalion is now commanded by Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C., Royal Signals, who came out at the beginning of March, and the Signal Training School by Major E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Signals, who came out in April. Lieut.-Col. P. Paulson, O.B.E., Royal Signals, is the officiating Commandant vice Col. H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., officiating Signal Officer-in-Chief in India.

Major Firth, we understand, is leaving almost at once to take up the appointment of Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, at Quetta, much to everyone's regret here.

The following moves of officers have taken place during the last two months:—

Capt. G. W. Holland, I.A., posted to the S.T.C. (India), from D Divl. Signals, Rawalpindi.

Capt. E. Humphries, M.C., D.C.M., posted to the S.T.C. (India), from the Army Signal School, Poona, after leave in England.

Capt. R. H. Wall, I.A., posted from the S.T.C. (India) to No. 2 (W/T) Company A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Capt. C. A. Murray, Royal Signals, posted from the S.T.C. (India), to G Divl. Signals, Jubbulpore.

Lieut. A. C. Cottell, 1st Battalion The Welch Regiment, reported his arrival on 3/3/26 for a tour of duty with the Indian Signal Corps.

Lieut. A. J. G. McNair, 2nd Battalion The Royal Scots Fusiliers, left the S.T.C. (India) on 9/4/26 on posting to D Divl. Signals, Rawalpindi, after preliminary attachment.

Another fifty B.O.Rs reported their arrival from the United Kingdom. They wish to express their thanks to the Signal Training Centre band at Catterick, who apparently gave them a good send off as far as Richmond Station. According to reports, the sea voyage was satisfactory, especially whilst they were conversing with the Atlantic swells.

Who was the individual who lost a sovereign in endeavouring to get a cup of tea on the Bombay-Deolali express?

I am asked to report that Curly is now holding 'em back at Peshawar.

Arrivals from various units continue to increase, and at present we are a very strong unit.

The last Indian Draft aboard H.M.T. "Neuralia."
Sigmn Collins (late Rhine Signal Co.) winner of the Light-weights.

Sergeants' Mess.

We still continue to exist, and the price of living is still the same, with the exception of some sample stuff which is slightly cheaper. There is every hope of our usual brand going *down* during the hot weather.

SIGTRAIN.

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, April 22nd.

The inter-Section football and hockey matches have commenced, and up to date they have been played and attended most enthusiastically. Details will be found in the sporting columns.

There are at present about 30 lately-joined reinforcements (who are to take the place of our 1926-27 time-expired men) putting in many extra hours at technical training, with a view to becoming fully fledged wirelessops. Although they may think their present lot is hard, it is hoped they will shortly be consoled when they attend the pay table to draw Class II. pay.

We have this month said goodbye to our O.C., Capt. J. A. Pocock, and his wife. Capt. Pocock has been with the unit for the past six years, and is leaving us to take over the post of Chief Instructor at the S.T.C. (India), Jubbulpore. It is whispered that this move is to be followed closely by promotion. All ranks of the unit will be very sorry to lose such an excellent O.C. His efforts to improve conditions generally throughout the unit, and the personal interest which he took in all ranks, deserve tribute. We take this opportunity of wishing him every success in his new sphere.

To Whiten dull teeth

A new way, based on advanced scientific principles, that lightens cloudy teeth; that restores off-colour teeth to charming clearness

IF you want whiter teeth, please make this remarkable test. It will prove your teeth are not naturally "off-colour" or dull.

It will give them clear and beautiful whiteness. It will firm your gums to a healthy colour.

You are hiding your teeth with a film coat . . that is all

Dental science now tells us that most tooth troubles have a potential origin in a film that forms on your teeth.

Run your tongue across your teeth and you will feel it . . . a slippery, viscous coating.

It clings to teeth, gets into crevices and stays.

Mere brushing won't do

Ordinary dentifrices and cleansing won't fight film successfully.

Now new methods are being used. A dentifrice called Pepsodent—different in formula, action and effect to any other known.

Largely on dental advice the world has turned to this method.

It removes that film And Firms the Gums

It accomplishes two important things at once: Removes that film, then firms the gums. No harsh grit, judged dangerous to enamel.

Test Pepsodent. A few days' use will prove its power beyond all doubt. Get a tube from your canteen . . . . to-day.

Pepsodent MARK TRADE

The New-Day Quality Dentifrice

Sold in large and small tubes at all canteens

Send postcard for free sample to:—

THE PEPSODENT COMPANY
42a, SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1.
1962

We welcome Capt. R. H. Wall, I.A., as our new O.C., and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Obituary.

It is with great regret that we record the death of Corporal E. E. Eaton, who was accidentally killed on March 25th, as the result of a motor accident. He was popularly known as "Brummy," and as the drummer he was the life and soul of our popular jazz band. His local popularity was shown by the large number of friends in the station who attended his funeral, and the number of floral tributes sent. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his family in their bereavement.

Arrivals.

We welcome the following from the S.T.C. (India), Jubbulpore: Sergt J. Robertson, Signalmen R. Farmer, E. Kuell, W. Turner, E. Almond, F. Goodfellow, A. Harwood, F. Perkins, L. Radford, J. Raftery, J. Smith, W. Symonds, S. Usher, D. Henderson, L. Miller, J. Norton, T. Boyle, W. Watson, W. Henderson, C. Coaten, H. Denison, W. Holden, D. Golding, D. Ward, and L/Bdr W. Eckersly.

Birth.

To F/S/Sergt and Mrs. F. Rainbow, a daughter, on 5/4/26.

Promotions.

L/Sergts A. Biggs, S. Worlock, A. Hann and A. McIntosh to be A/Corporals (Royal Signals). U/L/Corpl J. Lee to be L/Corporal (paid) I.U.L. Sigmn E. Almond to be U/L/Corpl., I.U.L.

Departures.

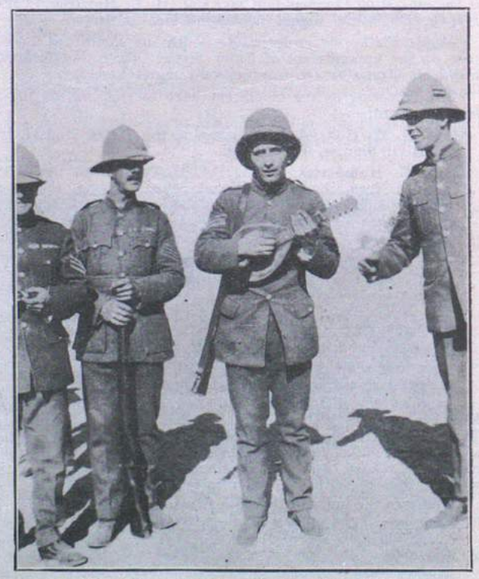
We have said goodbye this month to five pioneers of the unit: Corpl F. Greenwood and Sigmn J. Cummings to the U.K., on probation to the Army Educational Corps. Corpl E. Harrison, Signalmen J. Miles and L. John to the U.K. on medical grounds. We wish them the best of luck.

MOLLY.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi, March 27th.

We welcome Capt. W. J. Bailey, M.C., Royal Signals, from No. 2 W/T Company B Corps Signals, and say au revoir to Capt. G. W. Holland, who has left us for duty with the S.T.C. at Jubbulpore.



'Pindi Sergeants' Mess Shooting Competition.
"A little soft music."

We congratulate Lieut. F. K. Morton, Royal Signals, on joining the order of the noble benedicts.

Individual training for the current year has commenced, and at present a topography course for n.c.o.s and D.R.s is in full swing under the commanding officer, whilst several visual operators have commenced an O.L.'s course with a view to obtaining an additional qualification.

We have entered a cable wagon and team for the North of India horse show which takes place next week; and for the Command Signals boxing tournament, which also takes place during Easter week, we have several entrants. Talking of boxing, all ranks of D Signals congratulate Sigmn Gray of No. 2 W/T Company B Corps Signals, on being runner-up in the middle-weights of the Army in India, and wish him the best of luck next year.

We congratulate B Corps Signals and B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop on winning the Northern Command Signals football shield and hockey cup respectively.

Capt. G. M. B. Burt and L/Sergt Rand have been respectively granted eight and six months' leave to the U.K.

Appointments and Promotions, I.U.L.

Congratulations to the following on their recent promotions and appointments:—

To be Sergeants—L/Sergts J. Law and W. Weeks.
Appointed L/Sergeants—Corpls J. Greenall, B. Hayles, E. Peeke, and E. Stalley.
Promoted Corporals—L/Corpls G. Benfield, E. Bernasconi, J. Humphrey, W. Murphy, W. McKay, H. Ockenden, W. Parsons, H. Sharples, and R. Stanley.
Appointed Paid L/Corporals—Signalmen A. Liggitt, H. Mott, W. Martin, W. E. Matthews, C. Simmons, A. Smalley, A. D. Smith, G. H. Young, and E. Nobbs.
Appointed U/L/Corporals—Signalmen R. Frankcombe, A. Owen, and W. Shaw.
Corps Roster—L/Sergt T. Galtress to be Corporal.

Departures.

C.Q.M.S. E. Draper, reposted to Line Company A Corps Signals, Karachi. Sergt C. M. Edwards to I.O.D., Rawalpindi. L/Sergt C. V. Hutley to I.O.D., Allahabad.

Extension of Service.

L/Corpl H. Mott has extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

D SIGS.

Danger threatens your teeth

Modern Dentists say Guard them with Gibbs Dentifrice

Dentists everywhere still acclaim Gibbs Dentifrice ideal.

Nothing so penetrating, searching, thorough as its fragrant foam. It reaches danger spots denied to the toothbrush. Crevices, where food deposits cling and decay starts, are cleansed and purified.

Gibbs Dentifrice removes all "film," but cannot scratch or wear the enamel.

It is death to germs, new life and beauty to the teeth.

Do as Dentists do and advise; use Gibbs Dentifrice thrice-a-day; visit your Dentist twice-a-year. So will you come to Health — Beauty — the many good things that depend upon sound teeth.

Gibbs Dentifrice

Large size, 1/-; De Luxe, 1/6, Refills for above, 11d. *Popular size, 7½d. Tubes, 6d. & 1/-*

D. & W. GIBBS, LTD. (Dept. 69EQ) Cold Cream Soap Works, LONDON, E.1

The Officers, W.O.'s and Sergeants, D Divl. Signals, Rawalpindi, March, 1926.

Upper Topa, April 27th.

We congratulate Corpl R. Isaac on winning the unit efficiency shield (presented by the officers) for 1925–26; also Corpl G. Benfield and Sigmn E. Hurn on running him closely.

The rules have been drawn up for the inter-Company efficiency shield (presented by the w.o.s and sergeants), the competition for which commenced on the 1st inst. Several of the old 'uns have already begun a course of monkey-gland treatment, with a view to enhancing their prospects of gaining a few points for their Company. The most difficult item appears to be the six mile cross-country race, but still, that should not worry any "angel of Mons."

A few notes dealing with our entrants in the Command Signals boxing tournament are forwarded for the Sports pages.

We were greeted with a snow-storm on our arrival in Topa, after having had a perishing lorry-ride from Pindi in sleet and rain. We appear to be very unfortunate with our annual move to the hills, this being the fourth year in succession that we have received a drenching; but still, a few dry days soon enable us to settle down to it.

Queer noises are floating around the khuds whilst some of the local lads are to be seen performing that graceful pose, "hopping to eternity with both eyes shut!" But one needn't worry: it is only a drill and P.T. course in progress for the n.c.o.s.

The remainder of the Company are on station leave prior to individual training, which commences on May 23rd.

Arrival.

Lieut. A. J. G. McNair, 2nd Battn. Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Appointment.

A/L/Corpl E. Nobbs to be paid rank. D. SIGS.

No. 1 (Line) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, April 22nd.

There is very little of general interest to report this month. The married families have moved to the hills for the summer months, and that means the cessation of general social functions.

We welcome to the unit seven more arrivals from the U.K., and trust their stay here will be as pleasant as possible. (A pair of them certainly are very fond of tennis, and are getting all the enjoyment possible from our court.)

We also extend a hearty welcome to a number of n.c.o.s and men from other units who have come here for a lineman's course, and we hope they all get the higher ratings they deserve (after digging plenty of pot-holes).

At the Northern India horse show, one of our cable wagons carried off a second prize. The R.A. managed to beat us.

The people of Catterick who have talked of snow may be interested to know that last week, such of our people as were in the hills experienced the pleasure (?) of a snow fight. And this in this hot country India, in the month of April. I may add that such a thing, to say the least, is abnormal.

Bayeux's remarks re a young man were much appreciated. The general appellation of our previous correspondent is "Pop."

Would Corpl Bill Newman, of Alexandria fame, please write to Corpl Bill Hodges of this unit?

B LINE SIGS.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, April 27th.

The arrival of THE WIRES for April caused great satisfaction to those who have just recently become subscribers. I think the post corporal got wind of the fact that the postbag would be greatly increased in weight, so he fought shy over going to the Post Office at the usual hour. He gave as an excuse that he was suffering from toothache and was going to the dentist. I suppose it *was* true, because next day he was seen to have quite a mump-like look on one side of his face.

The married families proceeded to the hills on April 15th, and were escorted by their bold knights. It is understood they had a very cold reception, as it was snowing when they arrived.

Talking about cold weather, it is none too warm even in Pindi for the time of the year, and we feel it all the more, as we are now wearing khaki drill both day and night. It is advisable for those who are ordered to India to stick to their khaki serge, because it is needed during the winter months.

During the next trooping season there will be a large number of n.c.o.s and men returning to Blighty for discharge, and it would be of interest to them if someone would kindly write an article in THE WIRE, dealing with the routine through which they must expect to go after arriving in England.

Congratulations.

To L/Corpls Taylor, D. Hawkins, and Masters on their appointment to that rank with pay, and to L/Corpls F. Beckett and Gumbley on getting the stripe *without* the pay.

Departures.

Our good wishes go with R.Q.M.S. Earwaker and family, who are leaving us for Blighty on May 5th. May they have a "bon voyage."

C.S.M. Saunders is leaving us for Peshawar after having been with the Company for a very short time. We regret his departure, and wish him the very best of luck in the future.

Musketry.

The following is the result of the 1925–26 musketry course: 1st class shots, 49; 2nd class, 32; 3rd class, 1. Corpl Drudge had top score (104 out of a possible 115).

In the annual revolver course there were two 1st class and fifteen 2nd class shots. C.S.M. Saunders secured 108 points out of a possible 110.

Enquiry.

Sigmn Stevens of this Company would like to hear from Sigmn Barnes, who hails from Catford and was in D Company at Maresfield in 1922.

TRUMPETER.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, April 22nd.

In the past, owing to several difficulties, we have made no contributions to the columns of THE WIRE. These obstacles have now been removed, and we hope to furnish a regular account of our activities.

We are half-way through our annual musketry course. We welcome diversions of this kind. The horse is our pride and joy, but we are beginning to dread the eternal arguments which crop up when we gather at mess. Readers will understand and sympathise when we state that we are training a new batch of remounts.

B.O.M.

Iraq Signal Section.

Arrivals.

We welcome to our fold the following from U.K.: L/Sergt French, Corpls Bloodworth and Minion, L/Corpls Golder and Andrews, Signalmen Allsop, Audsley, Barratt, Brinkhurst, Deradour, E. Dunbar, G. S. Dunbar, Feltham, Gafga, Gurling, Harrad, Hill, Johnson, Killian, E. King, W. King, Ling, Mac Kinlay, Osborne, Payne, Phillips, Ridgley, Sheridan, Symane, Tebby, Wallis, Wilkins, Wyman and Probet.

The above relieved the "dear departed" who have proceeded home (or rather, doing their best to)—but enough of troop movements. "Happy days" is the wish from all the Section to the lucky ones.

Departure.

Sigmn E. G. Taylor to U.K. and civvy street. We wish him all the best.

Promotion.

Sigmn F. Brudenell promoted L/Corporal. Congratulations!

General.

Derry sends his best to the "plough plodders" of the 3rd Divl. Signals for their performances at Tidworth and Windsor.

Owing to the overflow of the Tigris, sports at the present are at a standstill, but we hope to do well at cricket with Sigmn MacKinlay as captain.

The enclosed snaps, taken by Lieut. C. D. Hinds, Royal Signals, may interest some readers. "Everlasting fires" are composed of pitch and sulphur, and thousands of them abound in Iraq, Persia and Syria. In the snap "Disputed Iraq Frontier," the subject of the recent controversy, there are three countries shown: Turkey, Iraq and Persia.

Agony Column.

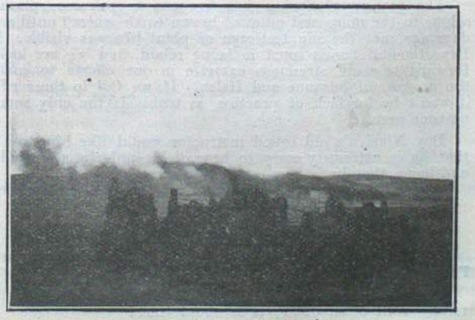
To Rhinelanders: Best regards from Corpl Bloodworth. Congratulations to Petrus!

Signalmen Feltham and Osborne, late of the Rhine Command Company, wish to be remembered to the younger generation.

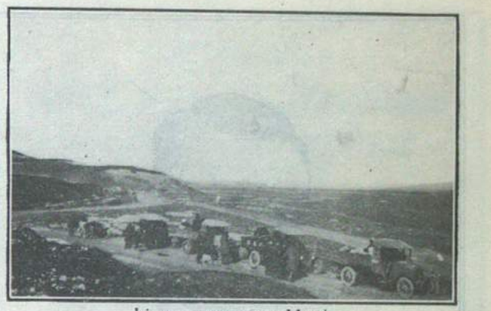
Sigmn Gurling is here, Olive. POZZY.

The Kurdistan Hills.

A Construction Gang.



"Everlasting Fires."



Linemen en route to Mosul.

The Zakko Pass, Mosul.

The Disputed Iraq Frontier.

Bitumen Wells.

THE name PLAYER on a packet of cigarettes guarantees the quality and purity of the contents. It is more than a name—it is a *reputation and a tradition.*

PLAYER'S
Navy Cut
Cigarettes
(Medium Strength)

10 for 6D. 20 for 11½D.
WITH or WITHOUT Cork Tips.

Reg. No. 154011.

P.1242

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

April 5th.

It is with pleasure I report that on March 30th the G.O.C. (Major-Gen. C. C. Luard, C.B., C.M.G.) inspected the Signal Section as a unit for the first time. He expressed his appreciation of the turn-out, works and barrack-room. A point of interest is that our first inspection as a Signal unit was carried out by a Signal Officer of the old school—Major-Gen. Luard having taken his visual course in 1887.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Elphick, Royal Signals, whom we notice (through the pages of "The Sapper") has been "pot collecting" with a rifle at Colombo. A small section ourselves, we realise that to keep in touch with other small sections, we must do so through "The Sapper" as well as THE WIRE—sport, etc., being nearly always shared with the R.E. It affords us pleasure to see the Signals man with a copy of either journal.

Q.M.S. Roberts wishes to state that, although "wheeled out" in the second round of the R.E. w.o. and sergeants' mess billiard tourney, he took with him a fountain pen prize for the highest break. Apologies have been tendered in the usual manner.

Us.

The linemen have been busy of late, cable-slashing being the order of the day; but as the journey from "zero" to "infinity" is progressing, they work, perhaps (?) later to rest on their laurels. Though called upon for countless tests, the temper of the S.B.O.s still remains unruffled.

Now that the artillery practices are over, and the W/T sets are in for overhaul, the instrument repairers repair.

There remains only the clerk who, covered with cobwebs, still hunts for that C.R. file. Who makes him hunt?

Notice to Singapore.

Your Rummy fiend has at last been defeated, and by a woman!

Results: Round 1, Up for none, Bill 69; Round 2, King Rummy, Bill goes home. No flowers! Colonial papers, please copy.

Personal.

Will Sigmn H. Cook, last heard of in Sierra Leone, please communicate with L/Corpl Holland of this section.

JOINT BOX.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

Once more we are in the throes of civil war, and fighting is in progress outside the city. Our telegraph line to Tientsin was cut nearly a fortnight ago, and wireless is again the order of the day. What a life our old 120-watt has! "Stand-to" has been almost a nightly order for the Yorks, as a precaution against disturbances caused by looting on the part of the National Army, which is retiring "according to plan."

The last two days have been reminiscent of war-time, as each morning an aeroplane has appeared and dropped bombs on the Chinese city. Total casualties reported: one injured. Bad shooting! as anti-aircraft guns are "non est," and one looks in vain for those feathery puffs of smoke which used to indicate that a raider was having a warm time.

The coming of Spring has brought a welcome splash of colour to the miles and miles of brown earth where, until a few days ago, not the slightest sign of plant life was visible. The Departmental tennis court is being relaid, and we are looking forward to some strenuous exercise in our efforts to emulate the prowess of Suzanne and Helen. If we fail in these efforts it won't be for lack of practice, as tennis is the only summer pastime here.

Boy Nicklen's old squad instructor would like him to know that he is extremely sorry to hear of his unfortunate accident, and hopes that he is now completely recovered.

PAICHING.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani.

Promotion.

Congratulations to A/U/L/Corpl R. Davis on obtaining that rank. Well done, John; it is about time!

Johore Outing.

The members of the Signals Association and friends had an outing to Johore on the W.D. launch "Moonstone" on Easter Sunday. Starting at 8 a.m. we had a very pleasant trip, arriving at Johore about noon. The party then proceeded to the one

Longpop—The Live Wire!

and only hotel for tiffin (lunch). The people at one table were highly amused in watching our Quartermaster eating ice cream; it disappeared like magic. After tiffin everybody went their own way in sightseeing until 4 p.m. The return trip was better for some, as on the homeward journey they were not frightened of neck oil. Arriving at Pulau Brani about 7.30 p.m., the party dispersed—everybody well pleased; at least, we hope so.

Query.

Sigmn Jerry Keneally would like to know if Bill Hotchkiss is still thinking of taking the great leap? If so, please don't forget "Vera," Bill.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo,
May 4th.

Training.

It was the wish of the G.O.C. that April should be devoted solely to recreational and educational training. Now, don't go and develop a strong jealousy, you fellows at home! because it hasn't been a case of rising at 10 a.m. in the morning, strolling up to the Slade ground to watch a cricket match, or entering the schoolroom and walking out with a "special" under your arm. Oh, no! far from it. Up to the beginning of April we had not been disturbed from our slumbers and placed on garrison fatigues, so you can guess it *was* a shock when the order came round for a party to be detailed for digging trenches on the ranges. Perhaps the Cavalry Brigade was under the impression that this counted towards the "best all-round unit" competition.

A Better 'Ole.

I think I am justified in saying that the move into our new barracks at Polygon will take place during this month. A full description of the move will be given in next month's issue of THE WIRE. The personnel now stationed in Red Barracks will be greatly relieved when the time comes to take up their new quarters, because now half of them wake up in the morning with a mouthful of plaster, and on glancing up to the ceiling they discover that another hole has formed during the night.

Departures.

We bade "au revoir" to one of our oldest and most valuable friends, C.Q.M.S. Wills, who sailed for Blighty on April 12th in H.T. "Nevasa." This n.c.o. had completed 22 years with the Colours, and has gone home for discharge. He was an exceptionally hard worker, both in the technical and sporting sides of the Corps, and was liked by all who knew him. One and all join in wishing you every success and happiness in civvy street, "Taff."

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Corporals' Mess.

There is to be a junior n.c.o.s mess in the new barracks, and all concerned are looking forward to having some jolly times. A general meeting was held in Main Barracks on May 3rd; various points were discussed, committees were formed, and one and all look to them to do their best to make the mess a success.

Postings (Officers).

Lieut. W. J. Pearce, Royal Signals, has been posted from No. 3 to No. 1 Company, and has taken over duties as O.C. B Cable Section. Lieut. R. C. Woodbridge took over the duties of O.C. K Section (No. 3 Company) at Moascar.

Leave (Officers).

Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O. (O.C. No. 1 Company), proceeded to the U.K. on four months' leave on April 14th. Lieut. P. H. Owens also left for England on May 3rd on three months' leave.

Leave (Other Ranks).

Leave to the U.K. is granted to other ranks during the individual training season, and quite a number of Royal Signals personnel are taking advantage of this privilege. Indulgence passages will probably be available on H.T. "Assaye," sailing from Port Said on June 13th, so it will cost very little as far as passage money is concerned.

News of Interest (?)

A Scottish band on the Slade ground was heard to play "The old rustic bridge by the mill." Never before have we heard such beautiful strains burst forth from the bagpipes.

Why does a Scotsman always walk about whilst playing the bagpipes? Because it is much more difficult to hit a moving target.

BEN.

ABDULLA

SUPERB

CIGARETTES

TURKISH EGYPTIAN VIRGINIA

TRY

BEACH'S

Jams

and

Marmalades

and Wonderful

Lemon Curd

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Red Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.

There are still a few men in the Company who are not full subscribers to THE WIRE, the Signals Benevolent Fund, and the Signals O.C.A. It is hoped that these few will soon join the ranks of the majority. After all, it is only 9d. per month, and we guarantee that not only will you get full value for your money in THE WIRE, but you will have the pleasure of knowing that, by subscribing to the Benevolent Fund and the O.C.A., you are assisting some comrade or his dependants who are not in such fortunate circumstances as yourself. What about it, you fellows?

During the absence on leave to the U.K. of our C.O. (Major Sampson, D.S.O.) our second-in-command (Capt. Bagnold) is carrying on, and our sympathies rest with him during this period of annual inspections and the proposed removal to our new quarters.

We are now enjoying (?) bi-weekly drill parades in preparation for the forthcoming inspections. Not only is the barrack square air laden with dust for three hours afterwards on these days, but there is a decidedly blue tint about the said air for *days* afterwards.

In connection with the above, T——y H——t, of riding school fame, will have to look to his copyright, as quite a number of persons nightly sink by their bedside and pray for—well, it depends upon their military status.

Since the facilities for leave to the U.K. have been considerably increased, we are looking forward to the time when we can visit the canteen without being followed by the envious eyes of the Leave-ites. We admire their fortitude in denying themselves chars and wads for the last two years to enable them to visit *England's sunny shores*, but we hope they won't miss the summer by staying in bed on the second Thursday in August—as we hear officially that that will be *the day*.

We have to tender our congratulations to L/Sergt Norman, L/Corpls Moore, Lee and Soloman, on obtaining their respective ranks in the Corps roster; also to Sigmn Dunn on being appointed A/U/L/Corporal.

Concert Party.

The Morse-Key-Toes concert party are going great guns in preparing a new programme, which they hope to produce during the next month. Come on, Tich! don't let the heat (?) get you down!

The Lighter Side of Things.

Who is the person, only domiciled in Egypt a few months, who takes sun baths daily? Is he expecting to go home soon? Why doesn't he buy some Sun-Brun?

Who was the educational instructor who taught his class that there were only three kinds of tobacco grown, viz., Players, Gold Flake, and Woodbines?

An argument was overheard in the barrack-room. Driver A asked Driver B how to spell "trousers." B replied, "trowsis." A said that he thought it was "trowses." Sigmn C butted in and said, "You're both wrong, you iggorant blighters; it's spelt with a double ess."

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, still occupy Red Barracks. This information is given to some of our old 'uns who are now enjoying the pleasures of Blighty. Those left behind can always spare the time to answer any letter sent to the above address.

B.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Abbassia, Cairo, April 30th.

Great excitement was caused recently by the appearance in Daily Orders of a list of names of n.c.o.s and men due for return to U.K. during the next trooping season, and there was quite an "old sweat" touch about the barracks the same evening. In fact, the last draft to arrive in this unit from U.K. had quite a dog's life of it from these old sweats.

"Tell you, when I *first* came out," says one.

"When *I* was up in Constantinople," says another; until one really began to think they had been out here quite a long time.

It won't be so very long now before we get the daily "Roll on, that boat."

On the occasion of the Corps sports on April 13th, a whist drive and dance was held in the n.c.o.s mess, and a large attendance from outside units resulted in a very enjoyable evening being spent, dancing continuing until the early hours.

Our "Shoey" (Don Q.) had an enjoyable five days' leave to Palestine during the past month (no, it wasn't on a course!), and visited the various places of interest around Jerusalem, Jericho, etc. On return, he related some of his thrilling experiences to us, and of how, on one occasion, after swimming in the Dead Sea, he came out a block of salt and nearly got dished up with the soup at the local hotel the same evening.

Sigmn W. C. Beedle took the plunge into matrimony at the British Consulate, Cairo, on April 3rd, when he was wedded to Miss Marie Ohanessian. May all their troubles be little ones!

Sigmn G. Hardman wishes to congratulate Sigmn Manlove (Varzy) on gaining his "Jimmy."

L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond, having been chosen to represent the Army in the inter-Services boxing championships, were attached to the Royal Irish Fusiliers for a final touch-up prior to competing.

Sigmn Richmond is nearly back to normal size once more, and has now decided to cancel his intention of competing in the heavy-weights next season. The amazing change took place on manœuvres during March. He went out a featherweight and returned a genuine heavy! By dint of very careful training, he has passed back through the light heavyweight stage (sighs of relief from Charlie!), panted through the middles, a tremendous struggle got him through the welters, and at the time of going to press he has shrunk into the lightweight class. All this was no "light" matter, either, the changes meaning alterations to clothing, etc.: you can't be a heavy weight one day and a light another, without needing a refitting of clothing on each occasion.

The Camera Club had another enjoyable outing on Sunday, April 18th, the party proceeding to Maadi by boat on the Nile, cameras working overtime the while.

ART.

With the Camera Club at Sakkara.

Under the able generalship of L/Corpl Wales and staff, the Camera Club had a very successful Easter outing to Sakkara. It was by far the best yet; the only regret was that it should have been three days instead of three weeks (yet think of manœuvres).

The party, numbering twenty-five, left Red Barracks early on Good Friday morning, just as good soldiers should, literally shining and complete with blob sticks, belts, and topees. But what a difference there was on disembarking at Badrashien Station, where a more weird and wonderful collection of hats has never been seen. There were large hats, small hats, round hats and flat hats, and even now discussions are rife as to whether the "Lever trilby" or the "Wales sombrero" caught the public fancy most.

Leaving the station, we commenced to walk towards Memphis (which has been described before), all glad to leave Badrashien village, which is by no means a garden city. Our lorry, kindly lent by the Major (thus dispensing with the proverbial gyppo carriage) was able to take our tent, camp equipment, and personal belongings right to our headquarters at Marriette's House, the gentleman of that name having excavated many of the interesting relics to be seen.

Naturally, the inner man had to be satisfied first, and the dinner that Peter served up was enough to make anyone join the C.C. Even Yankee tourists with a few "akkers" gazed with longing eyes at our repast. The remains were carefully stowed away by the gyppos for "feed away" time, the Ramadan being on at the time.

We managed to secure a guide for our complete stay at a price that would make Yankee tourists swallow their gum. It was fortunate for us that the Bishop of Ash was with us to act as interpreter (?).

The first tomb to be visited was the sacred sacrifice tomb of Thi, which consists of two sections, the first containing a well some 12 feet deep. Steps have now been built into the well, and the party with the guide went down, and crawling on our hands and knees along a passage we came into the actual burial chamber, where some flashlight photos were taken. The reason of the name "sacrifice tomb" puzzled some of the members, and the guide after much explaining told us that the well and tomb were originally filled with water, so that anyone attempting to disturb the tomb sacrificed his own life. The other section was evidently the temple, containing the usual sacred altar and plenty of hieroglyphics, which our two Egyptologists (Dave and the Bishop) explained fully to us.

Leaving this tomb, we next visited what is perhaps the most curious of all in Egypt: the tomb of the sacred Apis bulls. Some 3500 years B.C. these bulls were worshipped in the ancient capital of Egypt (Memphis), and on reaching a certain age they were drowned in a lake, mummified, jewelled, and then buried with full kingly honours at Sakkara. The tomb consists of a long underground tunnel, with deep recesses on each side, each recess containing a sarcophagus of a bull. There were originally twenty-four bulls, but when Marriette Pasha discovered the tombs, he found only one left intact, the remainder having been removed by thieves many years ago. The remarkable part about these tombs is that each coffin is made of solid granite, weighing 65 tons; where it came from, and how it was put into place, is to be wondered at. Even the "Great Umbasha" had to scratch his head and think.

After more photographs had been taken we emerged into the sunlight again, and decided to pay our compliments to Ra-hoteph and his son. This temple is lit by ordinary glass fanlights installed by the Egyptian Government, for the convenience of tourists; therefore photography is easy. There is not a great deal to be seen in this tomb and temple, but the Bishop and Dick (and, without blushing, myself) paid compliments with many salaams at the sacred altar, though the caretaker heaped maledictions in Arabic upon us for doing so. That concluding the tour for the day, we returned to Marriette's House for tea; then, "every man for himself."

The majority of us, much against warnings from guides and notices, climbed the Step Pyramid, which the "South African mountaineer" says was like walking upstairs; but being a Lon-

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E.G.12A

WRIGLEY'S

P.K. P.K.—1d. and SPEARMINT 3d.

doner myself, I would sooner have gone up in a lift, and I was mighty glad to return to Mother Earth, to make a tour round the more recent surface excavations.

Returning to the House, lamps were lit, and the party settled down to reducing the size of the Pyramid—not the Great Pyramid, but the "Pyramid in bottle," Don and the Bishop setting the remainder a good example. The usual sing-song then started, and later we persuaded the gyppos to sing for us; and I think we can rightly claim to have heard the shortest gyppo song on record, it taking only eleven minutes to complete. Then for a little "shut eye" on the sand; and during the night I realised that the person who wrote "Till the sands of the desert grow cold" had never been to Egypt or slept on the sand.

With morning came the problem of a wash, and this was solved quite to our satisfaction. It is surprising what a good wash one can have with a lather brush. Try it, and see. After breakfast we again went a-roaming, the guide taking us to the temple of Queen Helmira, which is more beautiful than the rest owing to the hieroglyphics being in colours, but somewhat defaced by Roman soldiers.

In this temple is a small prison of about eight cells, with only one place in them where a normal man can stand upright, this facility being provided by a slightly higher roof; otherwise the prisoner had to sit down or keep a bent back (thank goodness, the worst we have is Dartmoor).

Next we descended the Temple of King Zozar, the builder of the Step Pyramid. This temple must have taken some building (County Council builders were not known in those days).

From this temple we went through the remains of a Roman palace and colonnade, where several relics were procured (I won't say "pinched," or I might have a guilty conscience).

Sleep again became necessary, and some hours later water was in the same demand; but no! "Marfeesh moir" was the cry, and all eyes were turned on the horizon for the camels to arrive, and then we actually had a real wash. Don was especially pleased, as his dream girl arrived from Mena, from whence it's "sure some hike."

The tomb to be visited first on Sunday was the Starred Tomb of Sinu-Fru, and any of you who wish to visit this tomb had better get some practice up the Great Fire Monument. The guide said there are 119 steps down; if he had said there were 1119, we should have believed him. All we saw were two of the plainest of tombs, those of the king and queen, though we proved that the Bishop was exactly the same build as Sinu-Fru.

Returning to daylight and fresh air again, thoughts were turned to getting home; and upon arrival of the lorry it was found that more of the "Pyramid" had arrived, and naturally had to be removed—which did not take long, once the two had started.

Our goods and chattels being loaded, goodbye was said to Sakkara. We were entertained to tea by an English dentist in Memphis, on the way, only leaving him when he had to resort to "tea."

Having some time to wait for the train, we spent our time giving plenty of sayedas to effendis in Badrashien and serenading the stationmaster, later returning to Cairo tired but happy.

Now, all you Depot men and young soldiers, if you would have these joys and experiences, put in applications for drafts to No. 1 Company E.S. (then perhaps we can come home), join the C.C., and you are made. So hurry up, and roll up with your "akkers."

F. H. D.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF REGULAR SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN (under Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry Authority) 119 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 3671.

The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at the United Service Institution, Whitehall, on Monday, June 7, at 12 noon. H.R.H. Field-Marshal The Duke of Connaught, K.G., K.T., K.P., etc., has graciously consented to preside.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

No. 1 Section.

"East is east, and west is west," but we're not quite certain whether Sarafand is drifting Catterickwards or not, for the introduction of "summer time" last month (oh to be an office boy!) was heralded by a terrific storm, which has been followed by most dismal weather up to the time of writing. We only hope that we don't take over the 'flu epidemic from D Company, though no doubt by the time these notes appear we shall be busy dodging hornets all days.

A draft of twelve left us towards the end of February for Baghdad, and have now no doubt settled down quite comfortably. ("Jinnie" sends her love, Car.) Five O.R.s arrived from the U.K. during March.

On March 5th we bade farewell to the wife and two kiddies of C.S.M. T. W. Harrison, who have unfortunately been invalided home. We sincerely hope they will soon mend.

With the close of the football and hockey season, we are eagerly awaiting the completion of our cricket pitch and tennis courts, while the introduction of that ancient trophy the Bomonti shield (as a trophy to be fought for between the officers and men versus the n.c.o.s of the section) will keep sport going in all its forms.

Departures.

Sergt A. Carmichael, Corpl T. Paterson, L/Corpl R. E. Tucker, Signalmen Aitken, J. Brown, J. A. Brown, Chaplen, Dodson, Kennedy, Laws, Negus, Underwood, Wailen, and L/Cpl Collier to Baghdad. L/Corpl L. Baker to U.K., invalided home. Signalmen Mackenzie, Wilcox and Finn to India.

Arrivals.

Signalmen Hancock, Harrison, Holford, Macnab and Wort, from U.K.

Promotions, etc.

Congratulations to C.S.M. F. Bramley, L/Sergts Bremner and Wright, and Corpl Jeffers, on their respective promotion or appointment.

Postage.

We are somewhat late in remarking on the subject, but it is perhaps not generally known that the ordinary postage to Palestine has been reduced from 2½d. to 1½d. What about those long delayed replies?

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, April 30th.

The thirty-fourth annual rifle meeting was held at Warwick Camp ranges on April 21st and 22nd, and thereby hangs a tale, or rather two tales.

First, we must congratulate L/Corpl Chicko Leath on being runner-up for the Pitt cup. This event is open to all Corps serving in Bermuda, the B.V.R.C. and Police Force. As L/Corpl Leath had never fired from that particular rifle before, and no sighting shot was allowed, his performance was all the more worthy.

Another member of this section also fired (not to mention any names, Jack!) and we hear a story of the markers sitting on the targets for safety! The advice "Stand up and throw 'em; you'll have a better chance," was received with cold disdain.

Yet another one to congratulate this time is Sigmn Hughes, who obtained his Army running colours this season. His remarks on intensive training have to be heard to be believed. Anyway the Padre took him well in hand, and cut the smokes down to five per diem!

We were very unlucky in not having two representatives in the Army team. Sigmn Mitchell was leading all the way in his race, but unfortunately got disqualified at the hurdles. Better luck next time, Mich! For the benefit of the old hands, the Army won this year by one point, so avenging last year's defeat.

Each member of the headquarters detachment is to spend a fortnight at Warwick Camp this year, to supervise the range and office telephones, to lead counter-attacks on our Heath-Robinson line from that end, and incidentally to attend to the fishing. With regard to the latter, there is not one to compare with Sergt. Bob Boulter (1st Battn. Norfolk Regiment), last year's champion at the game. It will be a fortnight's "loaf" for the people concerned, no doubt, but it will be appreciated.

I was talking to the "oldest inhabitant," who distinctly remembers one day when it did *not* rain there. (You will be anxiously looking for it before the summer is out—Ed.). He said there was a war on at the time, but was not certain which.

Our horticulturists' heart and back-breaking efforts have at last been rewarded, and they have as good a lot of tomato plants as could be found anywhere. To the strength of H.Q. Telephone Exchange four kittens have been added. According to rumours their stay on this planet is likely to be very brief.

The football and hockey season has been finished some time now. Cricket, however, has not yet started. Practice will begin in earnest when we have a bat and ball, and of course when we get some stumps and a pitch.

Spring has come, and with it "the call of the road"; hence our tame artist, mentioned in last month's notes, has turned his talents to the mechanical section. Bicycles suffering from rickets, stiffness of the joints, southwind-itis, etc., find their way to his laboratory, to re-appear fit for duty and resplendent in their new enamel coats. We notice that the owner of the first patient, when going to headquarters offices, invariably rides.

Our correspondent from St. George's detachment has not "toed the line" this month, so of their doings we know nothing, and we do not hear much from Boaz these days. Anything to chronicle, Paddy?

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, May 14th

The forthcoming annual sports day, on the 21st of this month, rather overshadows the present training programme, though I have wondered how we shall manage to squeeze it in, so multitudinous are the present demands upon our employment and training: the hundred and one affairs necessary in the settling down in a new station, communications, wiring up of musketry ranges, cleaning out and resetting of quarters and billets—all to fit in with the inexorable demands of training—have resulted in the family pig being offered for sale many times over, for the obvious reason.

Though the past industrial affair did not embroil us as it did the units at home, we caught the eddies and were affected somewhat. The local paper here went into fervid congratulations of itself on how it published bulletins and received broadcast and worked itself to death, forgetting that we did it all for them. The Signal Office and W/T operators carried mysterious looks and a suffering air about with them, caused I should imagine by the stowing away for the period of the cribbage boards and crossword puzzles.

The re-establishment of these units on a Divisional H.Q. and Command basis will necessitate a re-shuffle. We generally get one once a year: a kind of "move but stop where you are" stunt. I heard it in the canteen, the infallible source of information. There is to be an arts and crafts exhibition in this garrison this year, and the individual who suggested showing the whole of the barracks deserves something. It must be to show our whitewash, stoves polished, blancoed windows, housemaid's knees, paint, shelves pink-papered, and what-not.

The interior of the regimental institute being no longer an eyesore, the social evenings there are becoming still more popular. The formation of a committee, with an entertainments officer, has filled a long-felt want. I am looking forward to the first night's show, in which the party—in new raiment, with new songs and all that goes to make a musical evening, assisted by the Carlton band—have promised to astonish those who are lucky enough to be present. If confidence counts for anything, they'll do it.

It is a coincidence that this adjunct to Wiesbaden where we live is called Dotzheim, this meaning "the home of dots." I should imagine the authorities had this in mind when they allotted the areas. The most noticeable features are a steep hill (1 in 5) commencing from the barracks, and a church round the corner. The former is the bane of the owners of the strange assortment of cars and those who live out, who crawl and pant up it daily. The bell of the latter "tolls the passing day," also most of the night. It also peals loudly just when there is a parade or a meeting on. It is then amusing to hear everyone shrieking at the top of his voice, whilst the bell makes more row than ever, then it stops suddenly, and the shouters are left shouting. The only consolation we get is that one can say, "Couldn't 'ear yer, sir; the bell was ringin'."

N.C O.'s Mess.

The members of the above had the temerity to challenge the signalmen and l/corporals to a round games tournament. A merciful feeling prevents my disclosing the results.

A great part was played in the strike by one of the members, who claims that he was responsible for the sudden return to work of the strikers. Being on leave at the time, and unable to return, he became a special constable. Realising his credits, he made a corner in beer, which he stored in Hyde Park. Entering and locking the gate behind him, he commenced on the first barrel. The strikers, seeing the business-like way in which he began operations, and noting his girth, promptly caved in. May Bacchus crown him with the free mantle of hops!

Education.

Congratulations to Corpl Marchant, L/Corpl Wills, and Sigmn Wheeler on obtaining their 1sts, and again on getting "distinguished."

A Cry in the Wilderness.

Will Sigmn J. Gill, late of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, kindly communicate with Sigmn F. Gill, of the Rhine Field Signal Company?

PETRUS.

The new price of ENO's "Fruit Salt" is an invitation to better health. You can make no wiser purchase at this time of the year than a bottle of ENO's "Fruit Salt."

26th and 27th Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies.

Duke of York's, Chelsea, April 16th.

Training in our work as one of the units concerned with the defence of London is proceeding apace. Were we allowed to give details, units who are concerned with the more usual run of Signal work would find it interesting reading.

Marriage.

We heartily congratulate Sergt A. King on his marriage, and wish him every happiness for the future.

Death.

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of No. 2554543 Sergt H. Orford on Easter Sunday. A party of eight w.o.s and sergeants attended the funeral, which took place at Nunhead Cemetery on April 9th. Sergt Orford was with the London Electrical Engineers in the early days, transferring to the London Army Troops R.E. on their formation. He served through the whole of the great war, and was for a while an instructor at the Fenny Stratford Depot.

We tender our deepest sympathies to his widow and family in their bereavement.

ACK ACK ESSES.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

There isn't much to report from ourselves this time. The past month has been one of turmoil, and Territorial activity has been somewhat restricted. However, as we didn't appear in last month's WIRE, we wish to announce to our friends that all goes well.

The WIRE circulates among the various sections of our unit, and is a valuable help to us in keeping touch.

The Company commanders have had their annual conference, and preparations for annual training at Weymouth from July 25th to August 8th are now in full swing.

Our numbers continue to increase, and this year we hope to eclipse all previous figures in camp.

It is with much pleasure that we learn of the kind thought which has prompted our honorary colonel (Col. H. T. Moore, C.M.G., D.S.O.) to present the unit with a cup, which is to be known as the "Moore" efficiency cup—surely a most appropriate title. We greatly appreciate his kindness, and we shall look forward to his visit to us at camp to help adjudicate on the merits of the three Companies in their turn out.

Two of our officers and one n.c.o. have been recently attached to the 3rd Divl. Signals for short periods of training, and they speak in glowing terms of the nice ways the 3rds have, and of the kind help they were always ready to afford them.

The sympathy extended by the Regular units to Territorials in their efforts to keep a respectable "second line" going is very welcome. Since our liaison with the 3rds, we feel we have in them good friends, ever ready to put forth the hand of assistance.

Congratulations to 2/Lieut. J. M. Molland on being gazetted to this unit. He will, no doubt, be remembered by many of the "old gang."

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Brighton) Company.

The annual dinner of No. 2 Company was held at the Pavilion Restaurant on Wednesday, March 24th. The function was attended by some fifty members of the Company. Major Molesworth, M.C., occupied the chair, and was supported by Capt. Fitz-Hugh, Lieut. Boag, C.M.S. Brown (P.S.), C.S.M. Mumford, C.Q.M.S. Ewald, and the senior n.c.o.s.

The toast list was opened by Capt. Fitz-Hugh, who proposed "Fallen Comrades," which was honoured in silence. "The Company" was proposed by C.S.M. Mumford, and responded to by Major Molesworth. "The Visitors," given by Sergt C. Dean, was responded to by Capt. Heather, R.A.

Your Emergency Ration
Bovril

After the excellent meal (I understand the orderly officer reported "No complaints"), an admirable musical programme was carried out. This was provided by voluntary talent, and supported by the Society Seven concert party.

Like all other good things, the evening came to an end all too soon, and everyone went home in the best of spirits. It was reported that some members of the W/T section were oscillating quite nicely, and that the Signal strength was without doubt R9.

DEDDIEAN.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, May 17th.

Training has been generally upset owing to the strike, but a good deal of useful work has been put in at H.Q., where the normal Company training was carried on until drills were cancelled last week until further notice. Now the strike is over, drills will be resumed, but voluntary camps at Whitsun will not be possible, and the shoot for the Victory shield at Porthcawl is also postponed.

The n.c.o.s who left us for a fortnight at Catterick are still there! Their "14 days hard" have been extended to 22 days of the same kind, and while no doubt they will benefit technically by the extension, we are wondering whether the hard work will have reduced the girth of some of them—we will not mention names.

There have been one or two changes in the unit. We have suffered two losses recently. Major F. S. Morgan, who has been with the unit since its formation as Royal Corps of Signals T.A., has left us for the Supplementary Reserve, and C.S.M Barrett, also one of the earliest stalwarts, has taken his departure. Both will be regretted by many, and although Major Morgan resides so far away, we hope to see him for a day or two during camp this year.

Our C.O. (Lieut.-Col. R. G. Llewellyn, M.C.) has inaugurated a bonus scheme for operators who can pass out at 12 or 20 words a minute before camp this year, and the first aspirants for the bonus are being tested shortly. We hope that many others will have a shot to earn either £2 or £4 before August.

Lieut. K. C. Cooper has just returned from the 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot, where he has completed his initial course. We understand that he thoroughly enjoyed his stay, and greatly appreciated the help and kindness he received.

Sergt R. Bevan has left our permanent staff to return to corps duty with the 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester, where we all hope he will rapidly receive a long-expected promotion. The w.o.s and n.c.o.s gave him a warm send-off, and hope he will look back with pleasure on his tour with the 53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals T.A.

Congratulations to Sergts Frederickson, Culhene and Spillman on their promotion to that rank.

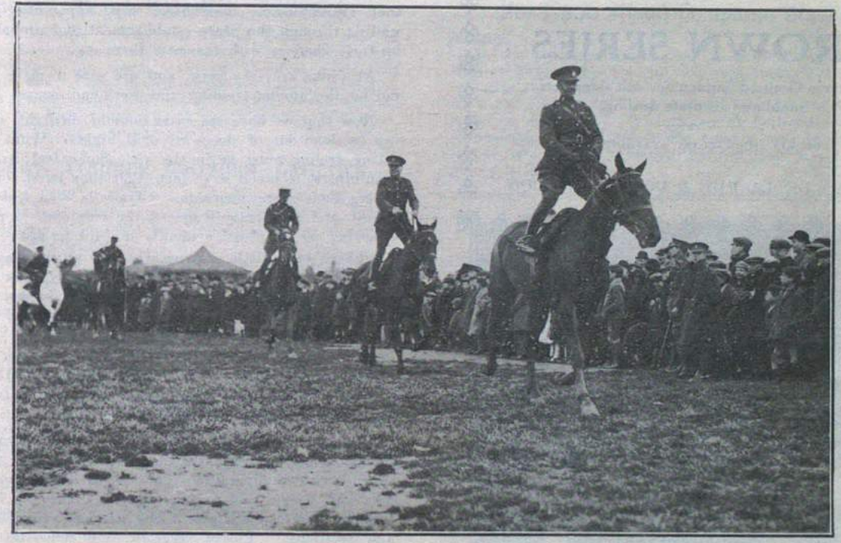
We should like to know whether our latest headquarter recruit was responsible for the query as to whether or not the T.A. and the Boy Scouts had been amalgamated.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

The unit has settled down to training in earnest, and there is much activity on drill nights. The wirelessops are now bursting with procedure, having absorbed a good deal of knowledge from the adjutant's lectures.



Cossack Riding by Members of the 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals.

Another successful Sunday scheme, organised by Capt. J. McConville, M.C., was carried out on Wanstead Flats on April 25th. One cable detachment, one 120-watt W/T set, two 30-watt sets, and two A sets were used in maintaining communication. Forward communication with infantry and artillery brigades was established, and Corps headquarters at Westcliff-on-Sea were in communication per 120-watt set. The whole of the T.A. personnel were under the command of Capt. W. E. Rayner (commanding No. 1 Company), and C.S.M. Hooper (of No. 2 Company). A large crowd assembled and watched the proceedings.

In the afternoon, despite the rain, a crowd of 300 or 400 people waited to see the demonstration of cossack riding by the drivers, under R.S.M. H. L. Adams, M.M. A display of tent-pegging, both with lance and sword, was given by S.M. Adams, assisted by a few selected other ranks. Photos were taken by the Press, and we were extremely proud to find them published in the London *Evening News* on the following day. The result of these Sunday parades has been a steady influx of a very good type of recruit.

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During the strenuous week of the general strike, wind pressure was fairly high. However, things were very quiet in the immediate vicinity of headquarters, but some lively incidents occurred within a short distance.

On Monday evening, May 10th, word came through for this unit to recruit fifty civil special constabulary reserve. The number had been recruited by Wednesday morning, and the enrolment of the second batch had begun when the "stand fast" was sounded, news coming through by wireless to say the strike was being called off.

At the moment of writing we are remaining on the line reached when the armistice was declared. During this week, communication with our detached Company at Westcliff has been maintained by W/T, normal traffic being disposed of by the 120-watt set.

Y. E. D.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Road, May 15th.

The chief event since last month is the fact that we have now become No. 3 Company. In view of this, it has been noticed that senior n.c.o.s have been seen, apparently unconcerned, wading through the peace establishment and probably weighing up their chances with the new Company.

All ranks are very keen, and are sure to make a good show during the annual training and week-end camps.

Now that we have the extra hour of daylight, more training can be done out of doors on drill nights. What is more, the spring feeling must be in the air. Some feel its effects more than others, so much so in fact, that they burst forth into song during their spare moments. "Tra-la-la!" I feel quite chirpy myself, and apparently I am not the only one. I picked up the following poetic effort, evidently mislaid or lost:—

"There was a little sparrow who flew all the way from Spain,
And then made up its little mind to fly back home again;
But on its homeward journey it met a 'ungry 'awk,
Who pecked the feathers from its wings, and said, 'Walk,
yer blighter, walk!'"

Good attendances are still in evidence, and the usual O.C.'s parade is held prior to the commencement of the technical classes. This parade is the pride of the officers, to say nothing of the C.S.M. And quite right, too!

Talking of technical classes, it is very gratifying to see the interest taken by the busy little groups of workers wrestling with their particular apparatus. There's the flag drill squad, full of dots and dashes and aching muscles. The C.S.M. puts them through it, I can tell you. The wireless squad, full of sparks and questions. "Please, sergeant, how much do those electric lamps cost?" The black imps of the engine room chattering like —well, nuff said!

Why do the linemen hold classes behind locked doors? Answer: To keep the lines of force in.

We must not forget the old sweats in the harness room: first in everything, even the canteen. Some say that they are the backbone of the Company—but others say "God bless them!" And so, for the time being, we must leave them, one and all.

Birth.

To Sergt and Mrs. Leckie, a son (Kenneth Charles) at Westcliff-on-Sea, on May 4th. Another recruit for the Signals.

Boxing.

Sigmn H. Sawford won his competition at the young soldiers' boxing tournament held at Chelmsford, and is heartily congratulated by the "baby" Company. The shield has a cup to keep it company now.

DREITER.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

The only sports item to report is that F Company beat us by 4—0 in the final of the hockey knock-out. As usual, we had plenty of hard lines, but there is not the slightest doubt that the better team won. Corpl Brown missed the hole by a fraction of an inch on two occasions, and one of his shots struck a bump in the ground, the ball bouncing up to the cross-bar. Well done, F, you deserved victory, and you got it.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

There is very little activity to report this month. So many men have left us lately that we cannot find the requisite number to form an athletic team. We have, therefore, been compelled to scratch from the league.

Cricket has started. No games have yet been played, but the Company nets are up and working. Quite a good attendance has been registered on most evenings. No startling performances have yet come to light, but there are several (especially among the boys) who should do well with a little more coaching and practice.

Training Battalion Boys, Catterick.

There is very little to report as regards cricket. The weather has been hopeless. However, we have managed a few nets and have discovered a few promising youngsters.

The F Company contingent were conspicuous in the athletic match against E Company, and were largely responsible for their Company's victory.

No. 3 Company, 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot

Cricket.

So far we have been engaged in only two encounters. From the first of these we emerged successfully against No. 3 Company, 1st Divl. Signals; but the second was a rude awakening, for the A.A. Signal Company of Blackdown trounced us on their native heath, and we cannot even blame the journey for our defeat. However, we are hoping to reverse matters at our next meeting.

Practice makes perfect, and if we are to uphold our cricket reputation of last year (with what joy we recall those trophy matches), our enthusiasts must make every endeavour to get out to the nets.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

The only item to record this month is the result of the Salisbury and District six-a-side tournament. Four teams entered: two from No. 3 Company, and one each from the other two.

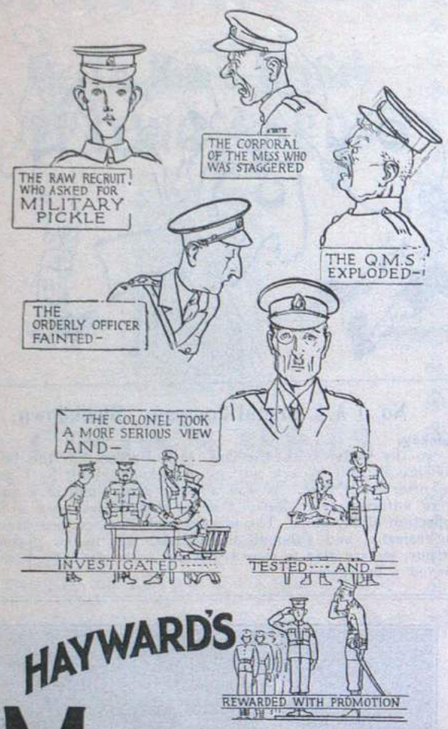
"A" team of No. 3 Company were successful in reaching the semi-final of the junior division, but were unfortunate to lose after extra time had been played.

No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Blackdown.

Hockey.

In the replay with the 2nd A.A. Battery, in the 1st Air Defence Brigade hockey cup, we were knocked out by 1 goal to nil after extra time. It was a great game, and in a way we were unfortunate to lose; a draw would have been a better reflection of the play. The players on both sides were keen and enthusiastic, and although the balance was in our opponents' favour, we are glad to record that our team was a good one and played a fine game.

L/Corpl Parker and Sigmn Howden, Northern Ireland Signal Company



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Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Cricket.

The season started with our being well in hand as regards kit, etc. We played an inter-Company match to enable the selection committee to choose a team to represent the Company. The small detachment of the R.E.s who are at present in Belfast have joined us, as they are not strong enough to compete on their own. It was only by practically closing that they were able to give us the first real match of the season.

Our fixtures to date are as follows: v. R.E.s, won by one wicket; v. R.T.C., lost by 40 runs.

Boxing.

We forward a photo of two of our boxers who entered for the N.I.D. tournament, and fought their way to the finals—L/Corpl Parker to win, and Sigmn Howden to lose on points.

L/Corpl Brewster and Sigmn Cotterell also entered, both putting up a good show. Remarks were passed by those present to the effect that whatever branch of sport was taking place, it was always possible to find someone of the corps competing.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

A very interesting cricket match was played against the officers, and we won by a very few runs. We fully appreciated the lunch; in fact, two or three of our team appeared to limp badly during the afternoon session.

In the tennis match we did not fare so well, and lost by 5 games.

At hockey, I'm pleased to report, we were the victors by 6 goals to 1. (I meant to report the casualties, but apparently the sick report for the following morning has been mislaid.)

Congratulations to the undermentioned winners of mess championships: Billiards, Sergt. S. Gamester; runner-up, Sergt J. P. Swaine. Tennis, S/Sergt W. Chandler; runner-up, Sergt G. J. Bew.

Congratulations also to Sergt V. Traynor, who was first home in the mounted paper chase.

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

The Corps has been split up into seven sections for sport. The winning section receives at the end of the year the unit shield. All branches of sport are dealt with, and are run on league lines—each team competing twice against each of the others. Keen rivalry exists between the sections, and no doubt this will do more towards encouraging and bringing out individuals than heretofore.

Cricket.

The energetic cricket committee promise us a fair number of games during the season. Fixtures have been arranged up to the end of September. It is thought that a good team will be raised from the Corps this year, and with this in view a few inter-Corps matches have been arranged for the remainder of this month.

Football.

In the semi-final of the Shivari football cup, we witnessed the dismissal of the home team by the H.Q. Wing, 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment by the odd goal in three.

I regret to say that on the whole the general run of play was poor, a high wind being largely responsible. I am not in any way going to apologise or gloss over the defeat of the Corps team, but in my opinion, under-estimation played a big part in preventing their entry into the final.

"Never under-estimate an opponent," says Joe Beckett in his recently-published book, "The Jutting Chin." "It is a big mistake, and played a large part in my defeat by Carpentier. I remember saying to Georges in that memorable first sixty seconds: 'Hit me, Georges'—poking out my chin. Alas! under-estimation again. Georges did."

D Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Football.

In the Command Signals tournament we defeated B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop by 3—2 in the first round, but were defeated by B Corps Signals by 2—0 in the second and final round. B Corps Signals have, I understand, now held this shield for four years.

Our Company positions in the Pindi Signals league are: No. 2 Company 2nd, and No. 1 Company 4th.

Hockey.

We bade au revoir to the Command Signals cup when we were defeated by F Divl. Signals, after two replays of extra time.

Our Company positions in the league are: No. 2 Company, 2nd, and No. 1 Company, 4th.

Boxing.

The Northern Command Signals boxing tournament was held at Pindi on April 2nd and 3rd. Corpl Isaac was awarded the Lonie cup for the best loser. The following represented the unit:

Flyweights—Sigmn Little (D) beaten by Sigmn Rogers. Sigmn Field (D) beat Sigmn Rogers.
Bantams—Sigmn Cutler, beaten by Sigmn Lovatt.
Feathers—Corpl Isaac (D) beaten by Sigmn Slade.
Lightweights—Sigmn Donovan (D) beaten by Sigmn Anderson.
Welters—Corpl Bernasconi beat Sigmn Scott. Corpl Ockenden (D) beat Sigmn Rees (D). Sigmn Bell (D) beat Corpl Bernasconi (D). Corpl Ockenden (D) beat Sigmn Darlington. Sigmn Bell (D) beat Corpl Ockenden (D). Sigmn Bell (D) beaten by Sigmn Mullinder.
Middleweights—Sigmn Bruce (D) beat Sigmn Lemmer, but lost to L/Corpl Scott.

Combined Signals, Rawalpindi.

The Northern Command sports meeting and the all-India boxing championships have taken place during the last month, but we have not been successful in securing many honours.

An interesting demonstration of the rules of the Imperial Services Boxing Association was given on March 18th at the Northern Command central gymnasium, Victoria Barracks, Rawalpindi, when the following features were elucidated:—1, target boxing; 2, clean blows; 3, foul blows; ; 4, method of scoring; 5, the knock-out; 6, the duties of a referee; and many other items of interest. The meeting was well attended, and those present had a very instructive hour.

The Cambridge Barracks hockey and football leagues are in full swing, and the following are the positions up to date:—

Football— No. 1 (Line) Company, played 3, won 3, goals for 15, against 6; points 6. No. 2 D Divl. Company, played 3, won 2, lost 1; goals for 11, against 9; points 4. No. 2 (Wireless) Company, played 3, won 1, lost 2; goals for 8, against 8; points 2. No. 1 D Divl. Company, played 3, lost 3; goals for 4, against 15; points 0.

Hockey—No. 2 (Wireless) Company, played 2, won 1, drawn 1, goals for 5, against 4, points 3. No. 2 D Divl. Company, played 3, won 1, lost 1, drawn 1, goals for 5, against 4, points 3. No. 1 D Divl. Company, played 2, won 1, lost 1, goals for 3, against 2, points 2. No. 1 (Line) Company, played 3, won 1, lost 2, goals 4, against 7, points 2.

Boxing.

The novices' boxing championships take place on April 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The results will be sent next month.

No. 1 (Line) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

At the Northern Command Signals boxing tournament we had only one successful entrant. L/Corpl Bill Ticner won the novices' light-heavyweight competition. He says he will now rest on his laurels and retire—at any rate, from light heavies.

In the Cambridge Barracks football league we finished easily at the top, but in the hockey we were only third. Perhaps we will do better at this next time.

Several games of cricket against the W/T Company resulted in wins for them. They have been lucky enough to get some very good players amongst their new drafts.

No. 2 (Wireless) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi

Football.

21/4/26—No. 2 W/T Company v. H.Q. K.R.R.C. W/T Coy. won by 4—3.

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The football and hockey league tables will be forwarded next month.

Boxing (Finals).

The Northern Command Signals novices' boxing competition took place on April 1st and 6th, and the W/T Company secured the following results:—

Middles—Sigmn Scotney, runner-up.
Welters—Sigmn Mullinder, winner.
Lights—Sigmn Munn, winner.
Flys—Sigmn Rodger, runner-up.
Contests—Middles: L/Corporal Macfarlane won. Feathers: Sigmn Sivorn lost. Middles: Sigmn Gray won. Heavies: Sam Langford (native cook) lost.

Cricket.

25/3/26—No. 2 W/T Company v. No. 1 Line Company. No. 2 W/T Company won by 7 wickets.
28/3/26—No. 2 W/T Company v. D Divl. Signals. No. 2 W/T Company won by 91 runs.
8/4/26—No. 2 W/T Company v. No. 1 Line Company. No. 2 W/T Company won by 61 runs.
18/4/26—No. 2 W/T Company v. D Company K.R.R.C. No. 2 W/T Company won by 34 runs.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Boxing.

We sent three men to compete in the Signals tournament held at Rawalpindi. Unfortunately our star middleweights, L/Corpl Mitson and Sigmn Bowles, were detained here as witnesses in a court-martial. We trust they will have better luck next time.

Sigmn Ennever proved a worthy upholder of the traditions of the above-mentioned middleweight brigade. His first opponent was a man belonging to the King's Own. He received Ennever's left, and gave up the glove game for a while. Time, about 5 seconds.

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Next came a four-round contest with Pte McKay, of the King's Own. This went the full distance, our man winning easily on points.

Our lightweight representative, Sigmn Coventry, won his first fight in good style. In the second series he lost by a very narrow margin to Sigmn Munn, who ultimately won the competition.

Hockey.

We recently added the trophies of the Sialkot Garrison hockey tournament and the Northern Command Signals hockey tournament to our collection.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Billiards.

In the first round of the Volunteer cup six-a-side tournament, the R.E. team beat the East Surreys by over 100 points. Both Royal Signals members (Q.M.S. Roberts and Sigmn White) won their games. The second round yielded another win against the Hong Kong Police, putting the team into the semi-final. As we hold the "pot," and possession is nine points of the law——

The R.E. and Royal Signals junior social club tournament resulted in Sapper Adams beating Sapper Tindley. Sigmn Gough returned the can.

Cricket.

The end of the cricket season finds the R.E. and Royal Signals C.C. at the top of the league by one point, the Hong Kong C.C. being second. More silver for the mess boy to clean!

In the last match, against the Civil Service, Capt. Bridgland, D.F.C., Royal Signals, took two wickets for three runs. He tops the batting list with an average of over 40. Sigmn Durand showed as a good long field, making many good catches, whilst L/Corpl Hollands, Royal Signals, invariably opened the batting.

On the whole, a good season.

Hockey.

The R.E. and Royal Signals made a speedy exit from the unit competition, playing only two matches. Gunners again!

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Athletics.

Although losing the athletic meeting to our rivals of No. 3 Company, the result in no way affected our retention of the coveted Pritchard cup, which was once more presented to our C.O. by Mrs. Sampson at the conclusion of the meeting.

Great credit must be given the Corps representatives in the Command athletic meeting. Although only third in the final placings, it showed that Royal Signals are by no means devoid of athletes, and jolly good ones at that. Better luck next time!

Tennis.

A doubles tournament was successfully organised in the Company, and after some highly exciting and strenuous play, Corpl Ryan and Sigmn Reat ran out winners, with Signalmen Walsh and Whiting as runners-up. It is hoped that this will be the forerunner of many such tournaments, and the organisers earnestly appeal for the full support of the Company.

Cricket.

Polygon C.C. v. Mr. Dickerson's XI., played at the Polygon Oval, resulted in a win for the former team by 12 runs. In the toast afterwards, the P.C.C. were congratulated on their victory, ground, etc., but were requested to remove those two million surplus pebbles before the next match.

It is hoped that in the next month's report we will be able to record the full Company cricket results.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.

J Section ran out easy winners of the inter-Section football league competition, and all Company fixtures having been completed, the dust has now been allowed to settle on the playing pitch.

Cross-Country Running.

We should like to congratulate the 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford, on their fine performance in finishing 6th in the Army cross-country championship at Windsor. We can guess the reason (shades of "Old Nick"). That little bird that sits on the top of Salisbury Cathedral nearly picked a winner! Better luck next year, 3rd Divisionals.

Boxing.

Though no Company boxing has taken place during the past month, two of our boxers have been chosen to represent the Army in the inter-Services championships, namely, L/Sergt Wheeler and Sigmn Richmond, in the light-heavy and light-weight classes respectively.

Tennis.

Budding Suzannes are to be seen daily on the courts, and it is proposed to hold a Company handicap tennis tournament in the near future.

Swimming.

Already this pastime has achieved popularity, and every day large numbers of the Company are to be seen disporting themselves in the Garrison swimming baths. We shall need a few shining lights to take the place of those who went home on the last draft to U.K., if we are to retain the Command swimming championship trophy.

Cricket.

Though no matches have been played up to the time of writing, prospective Hobbs's and W.G.'s are to be seen each afternoon and evening getting their hand in at the nets. We have the making of a strong team, and a long fixture list has been arranged for the forthcoming season.

Athletics.

The past month has been a very busy one for the athletes. At the Corps sports on April 13th, we beat No. 1 Company on the day's results by 36 points to 24. Our representatives scored points as follows:—

L/Corpl Matthews—1st in the 100 yds., 220 yds. and 440 yds.
Sigmn Beeton—1st in the 880 yds., mile, and 3 miles.
Sigmn Harmsworth—1st in the long jump, hurdles, and 2nd in the 100 yards.
Sigmn Gratwicke—2nd in 220 yds.
L/Sergt Wheeler—2nd in 440 yds.
Sigmn Milsom—2nd in 880 yds.
Sigmn Elliott—3rd in 440 yds.
Sigmn Clark—3rd in 3 miles.
Sigmn Rose—3rd in the hurdles.
Sigmn Williams—3rd in shot putting.

In the open relay at the R.A.F. sports, the Corps team were winners, L/Corpl Matthews and Sigmn Beeton running a 440 yards and half-mile stage respectively.

Sigmn Beeton has had a very successful season in various open events, winning the open 3½ miles at the Military Police sports at the Heliopolis race course; the open mile at the Royal Irish Fusiliers sports in 4 mins. 43 secs.; the open mile at the Royal Tank Corps sports; and winding up the season by winning the mile and 3 miles championships at the Command sports, the former race in 4 mins. 37 secs.

Sigmn Harmsworth also distinguished himself by his splendid victories in the long jump (20 ft. 10 ins.) and the hurdles (17 secs.) at the Command sports.

L/Corpl Matthews reached the final of the 100 yards, and was expected to win, but he got away badly, and finished fifth. We hope to see him win this event next year.

Sigmn Elliott created a surprise by his fine running in the 440 yards heats, and managed to reach the final; but though running very well, he found the pace too much for him, the winner registering 52 3/5th secs.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

No. 1 Section.

With the breaking-up of our old friends the British Gendarmerie, it has been decided to put up that ancient trophy, the Bomonti shield, to be fought for by the officers and men on one side, and the n.c.o.s of the section on the other. Hockey, football, tennis, cricket, relay race, cross-country, and swimming form the series of contests.

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To date, the hockey and football have gone to the n.c.o.s, while the relay race and cross-country have fallen to the officers and men—thus leaving the issue very open.

Cricket.

Up to the time of writing the unit team is still in the experimental stage. Inter-Section games are being played to enable the best team to be found.

Two games have been played with Air Force units, both being lost by a margin of about 20 runs.

Tennis.

Tennis is now getting into full swing, for with the completion of the n.c.o.s new court, everyone is able to get in plenty of practice. No outside tournaments have yet been played, but in the first match between n.c.o.s and men, the former were successful by seven sets to two.

Boxing.

The Command championships took place on April 30th. Our one representative was Sigmn E. Hancock, who without doubt gave us the two finest fights of the evening in winning the welter-weight championship of Palestine. Hearty congratulations, Ernie, on a splendid show!

Rhine Signal Units.

Cricket.

Although not so happily placed as at Cologne for playing fields, we are hoping to get some good games, and have entered the Rhine Army league.

The trial games held have brought to notice those who should fill the places of departed players.

The promotion of section games is necessary, that each may get a chance to play. Though the pitch is not exactly a billiard-table one for smoothness, we get the maximum enjoyment out of it. The team can be relied upon to give a good account of itself as before.

Tennis.

The construction of the court being completed, a bumper season is expected. Last season the number of new players was astonishing, and under able tuition we may find a future star. The present committee are to be congratulated on their enterprising efforts. The formation of a team to compete in the units garrison tournaments is what we are hoping for, and those who aspire to a place should practise assiduously for this purpose.

Running.

The cross-country season having ended in such a splendid fashion for us, the formation of a relay team to represent the Corps in garrison events and also the Rhine Army athletic meeting should be considered. The forthcoming annual sports day may give us a pointer to this.

54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

Boxing.

On Saturday, April 24th, a young soldiers' boxing tournament was held at the gymnasium, Warley Barracks. This event was arranged by the Essex T.A. Association. The 54th Divisional Signals had four representatives.

In the semi-finals of the featherweights, Drummer Jeans (1st Essex) met Sigmn P. Clark (54th Divl. Signals), and this proved a very exciting affair. The contest was carried through to the final round, and Jeans was declared the winner on points. Clark is to be congratulated on his plucky fight.

In the semi-finals of the lightweights, Gunner R. Mathers (415th Essex Yeomanry Battery R.A.) faced Sigmn Leaver (54th Divl. Signals). The contest was stopped in the middle of the third round with Mathers the winner.

In the final of the bantam-weights, Pte Medlock (1st Essex) beat Sigmn Burgess (54th Divl. Signals) in the third round.

In the final of the welter-weights, Pte Stanley (7th Essex) met Sigmn H. Salford (54th Divl. Signals). Stanley was knocked out in the third round.

Col. the Rev. E. A. Gardner, M.C., C.F., T.A., presented the championship cup to the 1st Essex. The points obtained by the first three units were: 1st Essex 16; 7th Essex 10; 54th Signals 9.

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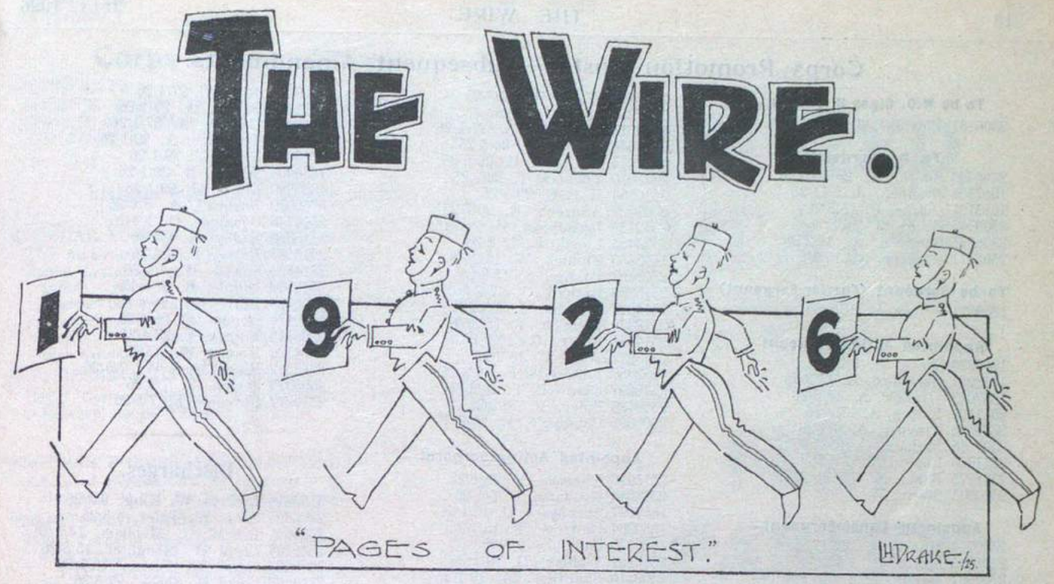

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All matters for publication, and any communication on matters *other* than Signals Association business, should be addressed to the Editor, Corps Publications Committee, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

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.

Editorial Notes.

By kind permission of the Editor of "The Tank Corps Journal," we are able to publish in this issue an interesting article on "Emigration to the Colonies."

This information has been compiled with a view to assisting those ex-Service men who, having the necessary qualifications and the desire to try their fortunes overseas, contemplate taking advantage of the splendid facilities offered.

After having perused the article in question, any reader desirous of more detailed particulars is invited to communicate with this office, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for reply. Every effort will be made to assist him.

❀ ❀ ❀

Our hearty congratulations to E.S.J.H. on his recent marriage. We understand that he was very ably assisted through the ceremony by another WIRE celebrity, which possibly accounts for the regrettable absence of our "pet illustration" for this issue entitled "Musings in Mufti."

❀ ❀ ❀

We are indebted to A Divisional Signals, India, for another series of very interesting snapshots. These have already been "made-up" for publication, and will be included at the first available opportunity.

❀ ❀ ❀

Whilst on the subject of "snapshots," may we venture to ask how that much-discussed Camera Club which operates a few "kilos" west of Suez disposes of its negatives and prints? One reader suggests that the publication of a selection of the latter in the pages of this journal would be appreciated. We heartily endorse the suggestion.

❀ ❀ ❀

Owing to the heavy influx of Unit Notes this month, we have been obliged to hold over a number of very interesting photographic illustrations from Signal units overseas. These will be included in next month's issue if space permits.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from officers, branches, etc.:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

Major P. C. Snatt, M.C., Capt H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., Capt F. L. Straight, M.C., Capt G. A. Kent, Lieut W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Lieut F. C. Curtis.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Lieut E. McD. Burns	£5	0	0
A Divl. Signals, Peshawar	26	17	8
Chiswick Branch	0	4	0
1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot	0	4	0
Bulford Branch	0	15	0
Capt H. S. Baker	0	10	0
A Corps Signals, Karachi	5	8	0
B Cavalry Signal Troop, Sialkot	13	7	0
G Divl. Signals, Jubbulpore	1	14	0
Mr. A. Floyd	1	10	0

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

To be W.O. Class II. (C.S.M.)—

2306151 Eldridge, J. 2/9/25

To be Sergeant—

2306493 Smith, A. 28/5/25
1857356 Brandon, J. 2/11/25
1853151 Clarke, C. 13/2/26
2309347 Gibbs, J. 14/2/26
2306523 Squirrell, A. 15/2/26
2308511 Gregory, G. 15/2/26

To be Sergeant (Farrier-Sergeant)

1859011 Prince, C. 18/7/25

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—

1860324 Quick, P. 8/2/26
1858931 Beresford, J. 13/2/26
1857073 ...eeler, A. 13/2/26
2311121 Button, A. 13/2/26
2309526 Trayner, A. 4/4/26
2307515 Binham, C. 26/4/26
2311805 Rankin, J. 7/5/26
2311575 Baker, W. 7/5/26
2308883 Steele, W. 7/5/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—

2309714 Harvey, C. 22/12/25
2306715 Smith, C. 1/4/26
2307981 Devlin, A. 4/4/26
312003 McMahon, E. 26/4/26
2307356 Dunphy, J. 27/4/26
315023 Clarke, E. 7/5/26
2306271 Brotherton, J. 7/5/26
2306891 Morgan, A. 7/5/26
2308075 Cozens, S. 7/5/26

To be Corporal—

2309314 Spender, E. 20/7/23
5485253 Tosdevin, R. 23/1/25
2312735 Wood, W. 19/3/25
1857295 Law, J. 2/4/25
2744818 McIntosh, A. 27/1/26
2312048 Thorpe, T. 28/5/25
1857015 Grayston, R. 28/5/25
2313910 Thomas, T. 28/5/25
2310654 Hoy, C. 28/5/25
2309322 Andrews, E. 20/7/25
2312139 Broadhead, H. 15/12/25
24453 Lloyd, E. 13/2/26
1662353 Elphick, W. 13/2/26
2306662 Palmer, S. 13/2/26
2315289 Rockall, G. 13/2/26
2314047 McAdie, J. 14/2/26
2312878 Dietrich, V. 15/2/26
2314451 Percy, G. 15/2/26
2313977 Hall, T. 15/2/26
4952358 Ramsdale, F. 16/2/26
2312097 Gladwell, T. 16/2/26
2309429 Foley, P. 16/2/26
2306806 Catchpole, E. 20/2/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—

2313910 Thomas, T. 28/5/25
2314054 Goodman, L. 8/1/26
1857097 Shepheard, G. 19/1/26
1860284 Galtress, T. 19/1/26
1856975 Saul, J. 19/1/26
2312161 Wakley, D. 19/1/26
2309516 Shardlow, M. 19/1/26
1850425 Sargeant, W. 19/1/26
2309814 Cornish, W. 19/1/26
1856731 Cosham, A. 19/1/26
2311385 Worlock, S. 27/1/26
2309792 Ross, D. 27/1/26
2309640 Dunningham, S. 27/1/26
2311026 Hann, A. 27/1/26
2310821 Wright, J. 27/1/26
2310925 Wright, H. 27/1/26
2312140 Sims, J. 27/1/26
2309415 Jones, C. 27/1/26
2311008 Bailey, A. 27/1/26
2310490 Harvey, A. 27/1/26
2308484 Thatcher, A. 29/1/26
2310828 Peters, J. 29/1/26
1854483 Weller, R. 29/1/26
1856960 Lister, J. 29/1/26
5766050 Bushnell, A. 8/2/26
2306745 Grainger, G. 1/4/26
2313856 Kidby, A. 1/4/26
2314583 Baker, E. 4/4/26
2314533 Sewell, W. 4/4/26
2310578 Dipple, R. 26/4/26
2306704 Butler, R. 26/4/26
6768174 Gough, F. 26/4/26
2309115 Finney, E. 27/4/26
2314326 Hooper, W. 7/5/26
6722312 Richardson, W. 7/5/26
4605978 Jessop, T. 7/5/26
2315277 Chignall, F. 7/5/26

Discharges.

3153819 L/Sergt W. King, 9/2/26
2306395 Sergt W. Tyler, 6/5/26
2306011 R.S.M. C. Mepham, 14/5/26
7815798 Corpl W. Slaughter, 15/5/26
2310523 Corpl W. Fortes, 18/5/26
2310398 Corpl R. Jones, 27/5/26
2306128 C.Q.M.S. G. Wills, 10/6/26

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2308484 Corpl A. Thatcher, 10/5/26
2310382 L/Sergt E. Norris, 24/5/26
2310399 Corpl D. Andrews, 27/5/26
2311077 A/Corpl E. Harrison, 2/6/26
2310420 Corpl E. Boast, 2/6/26

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of June:—

Switchboard Operator 1
Wireless Electricians (Sudan Government) 2

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from—

Capt F. S. Straight, M.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—

Officers' Mess S.T.C.; Maj. F. V. Merchant, M.C., D.C.M.; A Corps Signals, Karachi; Sergeants' Mess 4th Divisional Signals, Colchester; Mr. W. Hayward; Mr. A. Bloomfield.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1.—Ex-sergeant, 12 years' service. Case recommended by S.T.C. for Benevolent Fund assistance. £3 allocated and remitted 10/6/26.

2.—Time-serving Signalman in financial difficulties. £5 allocated and remitted 10/6/26.

3.—Ex-signalman undergoing hospital treatment and temporarily incapacitated. £1 allocated and remitted, 16/6/26.

4.—Ex-signalman emigrating to Canada. £2 allocated and remitted 23/6/26.

5.—Ex-signalman and family emigrating to Australia. £6 15s. allocated and remitted 16/6/26.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

NOTICE.

Army Pay—New Rates for Warrant Officers.

War Office, 15/6/26.

A Royal Warrant announces revised rates of pay for warrant officers and certain non-commissioned officers, applicable to soldiers who enlisted or re-enlisted on or after October 26th, 1925. The rates for these ranks were still under consideration when the reduced rates of pay for the Army generally came into force last year.

The new normal rates for regimental sergeant-major, garrison sergeant-major, and all other warrant officers, Class I. (except as under) are 12s. a day; for sub-conductor, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, and staff-sergeant-major, R.A.S.C., if not classified as tradesmen, 11s. a day; for regimental quartermaster-sergeant, garrison quartermaster-sergeant, regimental quartermaster-corpl., and quartermaster-sergeant instructor, 10s. a day; for squadron, battery, or company sergeant-major and squadron corporal-major, 8s. 6d. a day.

The new rates for warrant officers graded as tradesmen (the rates being uniform for all trade groups of any given rank) are: Warrant officer Class I. (except as under), 14s. a day; sub-conductor, R.A.O.C., staff-sergeant-major, R.A.S.C., and master-gunner (2nd Class), R.A., 13s. a day; regimental quartermaster-sergeant, master-gunner (3rd Class), R.A., quartermaster-sergeant, R.E. or Royal Corps of Signals, 12s. a day; quartermaster-sergeant (other than those mentioned above), quartermaster-sergeant instructor, quartermaster-corporal, troop, company, or squadron sergeant-major, staff quartermaster-sergeant or company sergeant-major instructor, 10s. 9d. a day; company sergeant-major (orderly room sergeant) 9s. 9d. a day.

The new rate for sergeant-bugler or sergeant-trumpeter, R.E., while supervising the trade training of buglers or trumpeters, is 10s. 9d. a day.

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS—

Major W. E. Pain, M.C., from War Office to Rhine Army.
Major G. M. H. Henderson, O.B.E., M.C., from Rhine Army to Aldershot.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 18/5/26.

REGULAR FORCES—ESTABLISHMENTS—

The undermentioned appointment is made:—
Signal Training Centre—Commandant, Colonel H. C. Smith, D.S.O., from a Chief Signals Officer (Class X), and is granted the temporary rank of Colonel-Commandant whilst so employed vice Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who relinquishes the temporary rank of Colonel-Commandant, 6/5/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Corps of Signals—John Anderson (late 2/Lieut Supp. Reserve) to be 2/Lieut., 1/5/26.

War Office, 21/5/26.

REGULAR FORCES—ESTABLISHMENTS—

School of Signals—To be Instructor ((Cl. Z), Major FitzA. Drayson, M.C., Royal Signals, 1/5/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—Major (Prov.) J. W. Western, T.D., is confirmed in his rank, 11/2/26.
48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals—Capt. John Lock Totterdell, M.C., Reserve of Officers, Royal Signals, to be Captain, 24/4/26.
Capt. J. L. Totterdell, M.C., to be Adjutant, 24/4/26.
E. G. Chapman (late Cadet Corporal Denstone College Contgt. Junior Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 4/5/26.
50th (N.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut. E. T. Kent resigns his commission, 22/5/26.

War Office, 25/5/26.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Corps of Signals—Major FitzA. Drayson, M.C., is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 1/5/26.
Capt. P. C. Snatt, M.C., to be Major, 1/5/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Corps of Signals—2/Lieut. D. S. Hancock to be Lieut., 1/9/25, with seniority 29/8/25.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Corps of Signals—46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals. Lieut. (Prov. Capt.) L. H. Willson, M.C., from Active List, to be Lieut., 26/5/26.

War Office, 28/5/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—
2nd Cavalry Divl. Signals—The Hon. Somerset Arthur Maxwell (late Cadet Under-Officer, Harrow School Contgt., Junior Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 29/5/26.

India Office, 28/5/26.

COMMANDS AND STAFF—

The following appointments have been made in India:—
Signal Officer in Chief, G.S.Bch.A.H.Q.—Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., 11/2/26.
Asst. to Signal Officer in Chief, G.S.Bch.A.H.Q.—Capt W. R. Penney, M.C., Royal Signals, 1/3/22. Major H. I. Allen, D.S.O., Royal Signals, 1/3/26.
The following Officers have vacated appointments in India:
Commands and Staff—
Signal Officer in Chief, G.S.Bch.A.H.Q.—Lieut.-Colonel (local Colonel) C. J. Torrie, D.S.O., O.B.E., Royal Signals, 11/2/26 (substituted for the notification which appeared in the "London Gazette" dated 23/4/26).
Asst. to Signal Officer in Chief, G.S.Bch.A.H.Q.—Captain W. R. C. Penney, M.C., Royal Signals, 1/3/26.

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War Office, 1/6/26.

REGULAR FORCES—

Royal Corps of Signals—Capt. J. R. Carter, O.B.E., is restored to the Establishment, 1/5/26.

Lieut. H. E. Rance, from Worcester Regiment, to be Lieut., 2/6/26, retaining his present seniority.

War Office, 8/6/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—

Royal Corps of Signals—Lieut. C. J. Killeen to be Captain, 9/6/26.

War Office, 11/6/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—

Royal Corps of Signals—

42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—Kingston Francis Woodham (late Cadet Denstone Coll. Contgt., Junior Div., O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 20/5/26.

52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut. A. H. Fitzpatrick to be Lieut., 28/5/26.

NOTICE.

Army Promotion Examinations—Military History.

War Office, 18/6/26.

For the examinations of officers for promotion, to be held in March and October, 1927, and in March, 1928, papers on Military History will comprise the Campaign of the British Army in Mesopotamia (1916-17) up to April 30th, 1917. This period is covered by "The Campaign in Mesopotamia," by Brig.-General F. J. Moberly, C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O. in Vol. III. of "The Official History of the War."

Become an Annual Subscriber *now*, and have your Magazine forwarded direct by post each month.

Plain Tales.

A Word to the Wise.

In the front rank of business organisations one must reckon the N.A.A.F.I., in spite of what some people say about Cornish pasties. I do not know whether the N.A.A.F.I. have an Investigation Department, but if they have, they might well turn their attention to the soldier's requirements in odds and ends. For instance, how about selling aluminium blanco tins. One can buy refills, and also the complete article—tin and blanco; but one does not require a new tin with every cake of blanco. Another "want" is a hinged button-stick which will close round five buttons instead of being slipped under three.

* * * *

Soldiers' Homes.

With all its many advantages, Bulford Camp still remains umpteen years behind the times. If there are any bath-rooms in the married quarters they are being kept secret, for I haven't met anyone who has heard of such a thing. Obviously, the practice of taking a bath with one foot in a galvanized iron basin, the other on a stone floor, and the soap in the colander, is apt to render one somewhat bitter after a time.

In the back yards of some of the quarters there are small sheds. I am told that these were erected with the object of housing a copper (an article of inestimable value on washing days). This work was interrupted by the Crimean War!

* * * *

Musketry.

Ha! I wish you could hear some of our instructors giving directions for the disposal of the disengaged eye. The annual pokey drill is in full swing at the Signals Camp. You young cracksmen (as Darky calls you—I expect he means marksmen) must ponder over this unit average business. It means that if we all get a fairly respectable total the resultant figures to be reported to higher authority will look very imposing, and everyone will speak of us with bated breath. If you lads really read some of the gaudy books I have seen about the rooms, you will know what it means to be spoken of with bated breath.

* * * *

Speedy Kids.

I'm afraid I have said quite a lot in the past about the Catterick speed merchants. In the old days they were led by a certain Norton outfit, whose owner occasionally became irritable at having to wait for the Morgan to creep up from the rear. There was a touch of pathos about this Morgan and its owner. Mind you, I'm not saying the thing couldn't get a move on—downhill—but really, there was no need for the driver to wear his jacket fastened up at the back to prevent the buttons being blown off. However, we Bulford people have got the Northerners beaten. Our speedman with his big shiny twin says he must wear his leather helmet with uniform owing to the wind pressure having already broken three chin straps on his S.D. cap. At the other end of the scale we have a man with a weird collection of stuff on wheels, which he has christened (not without reason) "the Rough Inferior." He picks it up and runs with it when he is in a hurry!

* * * *

Modern Transport.

No doubt the coal strike is the cause of it, but the railways are not quite the same. Travellers are advised to enquire at their local stations the day before they wish to make a journey. The officials will then consult their calendars (time-tables having become obsolete), scratch their heads, and finally recommend the B. and C. bus, or George's bus, according to one's apparent social status.

Many of the Bulford troops have their own means of transport, and let me say right now that whatever jokes people may make about some of the vehicles, they get their owners there and back—some time or other.

One group of enterprising signalmen even have their own car. It is a good car as bad cars go, and of a very famous make. On one occasion it was pulled up alongside a pavement in Salisbury, and it being a very cold day, the driver proceeded to put the bonnet cover on. Imagine his confusion when the spokesman of a party of small boys yelled, "'Sno use, governor; we've seen it!"

Insectology—Lesson 1.

Now that the warmer weather is reported to be due (*vide* Daily Screech, page 5, col. 6) it behoves us to keep a sharp look-out for the common housefly "Horribus Pestus" (Latin). This vile insect goes to sleep in ceilings, walls, floors, barrels of clerks' rifles, and other secluded spots, during the winter, and only emerges when the drivers begin to cast their greybacks. In spite of their insignificant appearance, flies constitute a real danger. They are a menace to good health and should be dealt with seriously. During a fly hunt there should be no laughing, as this only encourages the flies to fool about. A good plan is to detail one man to show the fly some cigarette pictures, or the bald patch on "whatsname's" neck. When the creature's attention has been gained, a second man should creep up in his stockinged feet and deal it a fairly heavy blow on the nape of the neck with a single-tree or similar weapon. A third man will then step smartly up and remove the carcase to the dustbin; the first two cutting the hands smartly away to the sides, thumbs in line with—but see Professor B——'s treatise in the 1922 WIRE.

* * * *

Strike Echo.

A certain Company at Catterick (I won't give them away, but they train on a potent mixture) set out one morning during the great strike. Their destination and their object were unknown to most, but it is worthy of note that they returned in due course, wearing smiles of smug satisfaction. The strike was ended that afternoon. If you call it a coincidence, they become highly indignant, because they are trying to claim a point in the Mackworth trophy competition for their "feat."

* * * *

Cattle News.

Horses are now looking fairly well, but occasionally we find one that looks better than the others. (Note: always be careful what you say about horses.)

Disgruntled drivers and signalmen employed in stables may now be heard airing their views. From information gathered we may take it for granted that the best thing about a horse has never been discovered.

Things to be avoided in stables are: (a) corporals, (b) bass brooms, and (c) late feeds.

* * * *

Careful (?)

Gentleman (with corkscrew) at Bulford Station: "Can ye tell me the fare to Amesbury?"

"Yes, sir; twopence ha'penny."

"Hoots, mon! Hae ye no excursions the day?"

* * * *

The Swingers.

I refer to those correspondents who have again dropped into obscurity. One in particular fills me with disappointment, but I suppose he thought he might just as well give up the unequal struggle. He knows by now who was the editor of the H.Q. Gazette. If not, see lower.

BARLEUX.

Royal Corps of Signals Dinner.

The Royal Corps of Signals Annual Dinner for Officers serving in the Royal Corps of Signals (Regular, Territorial or Supplementary Reserve), and for Officers and ex-Officers who have served with a Signal unit, will be held this year at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, London, on Monday, July 19th, 1926, at 7.30 p.m. (for 7.45). Dress: Evening dress with miniature decorations. Price: 15s. per head including port and cigarettes.

Applications for tickets (accompanied by a cheque or postal order for 15s.) should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Signals Dinner, S.D.6, War Office, S.W.1, not later than Wednesday, July 14th, 1926. In making application for tickets, Officers are invited to say with whom they wish to sit, and every effort will be made to meet their wishes.

J. G. DEEDES, Captain, R. Signals,
Hon. Sec., Signals Dinner.

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Emigration.

The following notes on emigration to Canada, New Zealand and Australia may be of interest to men who are shortly leaving the Service, and who feel inclined to try their luck in a new country. The Secretary will be very glad to hear from any men to whom the idea of emigration may appeal, and to answer so far as lies in his power any questions on the subject.

The prolonged shipping strike has adversely affected the migration programme for Australia, the date of embarkation for current approved cases being much delayed, while a large number of new applications are held in abeyance pending an easier position in the shipping world; but as all applications will progress according to priority of lodgement, it is even more important than before that men should submit their applications promptly. It is advisable, therefore, that men pending discharge should submit their applications, if possible, several months before date of discharge, so that the case may be finalised and, if approved, the date of embarkation fixed to fall in conveniently with the date of discharge, and so obviate a period of unemployment and indecision.

The notes hereunder may be helpful as a rapid survey of the official migration position at the moment. It will be seen that the official requisitions are very limited—the Dominions and States or Provinces within the Dominions limiting very narrowly the London authorities both as to the number and category of men or women to be selected for the grant of assisted passages.

CANADA.—This Dominion limits assisted passages to men intending farming and single women prepared to undertake domestic work.

Men.—Embarkations commence in early spring (when field work commences in Canada) and end in autumn—there being no field work in Canada during the winter period. Seventy-five per cent. of the quota have to be experienced in farm-work; the balance of twenty-five per cent. (or, one in every four) may be

Teeth Made White —glorious, gleaming

Your gums like coral to contrast them—just remove that dingy film; see what happens.

MODERN dental science now has found a way that restores "off-colour" teeth to clearness, that gives toneless gums a healthy coral tint.

Leading dentists urge it widely. For it protects the teeth and firms tender gums.

It is called Pepsodent — a new-type tooth paste that works by removing the dingy film coat from teeth that old-time dentifrices did not clear off successfully. That's why brushing fails you.

Run your tongue across your teeth and you'll feel that film. A slippery coating that absorbs discolorations and keeps your teeth off colour, that invites tooth and gum troubles.

Remove it and you will be amazed at what you see. Discard old ways now. Get Pepsodent from your canteen to-day.

Medical and Dental Officers are invited to communicate with our Professional Dept. for scientific data and samples for Surgery use.

TRADE MARK **Pepsodent**

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In two sizes at all canteens

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inexperienced. Every approved man goes to employment expressly guaranteed by the State.

Fares.—Voyage reduced from £18 15s. to £3 from British port of embarkation. Rail fares as on schedule hereunder, with analysis of requisitions. In addition a man should arrive with about £3 landing money for train meals and incidentals.

Government Assisted Passage Scheme for the Year 1926—Under the Empire Settling Act.

By an agreement which has just been concluded between the Oversea Committee of the Dominions Department of the British Government and the Department of Immigration and Colonization of the Government of Canada, it has been arranged to put into effect as from January 1st, 1926, the following greatly reduced fares to Canada for approved families, domestic servants or household workers, husbands and wives without children, and single men proceeding under agreement to work on the land, and having had actual farming experience before embarking.

Distributing Centres in Canada.	Reduced Fares from British Ports to points in Canada.
Halifax, N.S.	£3 0 0
St. John, N.B.	3 0 0
Quebec City	3 0 0
Montreal, Que.	4 0 0
Toronto, Ont.	4 10 0
Winnipeg, Man.	5 10 0
Saskatoon, Sask.	6 0 0
Regina, Sask.	6 0 0
Moosejaw, Sask.	6 0 0
Edmonton, Alta.	6 10 0
Calgary, Alta.	6 10 0
Vancouver, B.C.	9 0 0

Those Who May Get Loans.

No loans will be made towards payment of above rates, except in the case of families and household workers. Household workers may *in special circumstances* receive a loan of the difference between the minimum fare of £3 to the ocean port and the fare to their destination. For example, if a household worker is destined for Toronto, she would pay £3 and get a loan of £1 10s. to cover the full fare to Toronto of £4 10s.

Those Who Go Free.

Children under 17 years of age proceeding as members of a family go free.

Who May Apply.

Married men of farming experience, with or without children, and going on the land in Canada.

Single men with farming experience and going on the land in Canada.

Women with some household experience, going to household work in city, town or country. These should be in good health, of good character, and between the ages of 18 and 48 years.

All migrants must be nominated by friends or relatives in Canada; failing that, they may be nominated by the Canadian Government.

All male applicants for selection as settlers must be strong and healthy, and willing and able to work on the land; only those so willing and able need apply.

Object of the Scheme to obtain Land Workers.

The whole scheme is designed to obtain men willing and able to go on the land in Canada and work it. Experienced farm workers are in urgent demand and are most likely to be accepted. Only a certain proportion of suitable single men between the ages of 20 and 35 years without farming experience may be considered.

Inexperienced men who have friends in Canada should obtain nomination.

NEW ZEALAND.—Normally the Dominion Government only authorise London to select and grant assisted passages to *experienced* farm hands—single men or married couples without children.

An absolutely free gift passage plus bonus is granted to experienced women *domestics* aged 18 years and upwards. Chaperoned voyage, and guaranteed employment. This frequently interests the fiancées of intending male migrants.

It is the privilege of all New Zealand citizens to nominate British friends or relatives for an assisted passage and *for any kind of employment*. Certain trades most urgently want skilled men, *e.g.*, building trade, cabinet makers, upholsterers, electricians, butchers, etc., etc. Occasionally, despite trade union interdict, the New Zealand Government authorize London to select and send out skilled men. A certain number of carpenters may be selected for assisted passages just now.

Further, apart from nomination by friends or relatives, a special nomination can sometimes be arranged for really skilled tradesmen.

Revised Passage Money Rates (New Zealand)

The undermentioned net passage money rates will be applicable to all approved migrants who sail to New Zealand after May 1st, 1925.

Single men over 19 ... ... each	£13 15 0
Single women over 19	11 0 0
Married men and women	11 0 0
Children under 19 (except boys 17 to 19 not accompanying parents)	*Free*
Boys between 17 and 19 not travelling with parents	5 10 0
Single men over 19 approved as farm workers	11 0 0
Domestic servants	*Free* and £2 pocket money

AUSTRALIA.—Work is plentiful for farm workers (experienced —inexperienced), skilled men in building trade, cabinet makers, upholsterers, butchers or slaughtermen; but unless a person is nominated the following only are granted assisted passages.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Single men only; must be of really good physique and adaptable for farm work only.

It is anticipated that very shortly suitable families with children will again be invited to apply for assisted passages to the Group Settlement scheme for families in Western Australia.

VICTORIA.—Single men (and a *very few married couples*) as farm workers.

There is also a special Government Farm Settlement scheme for persons or families with a minimum of £200 plus reduced fares. In this scheme the Government take complete charge of the family, guiding, supervising, and advancing the substantial balance necessary till the person or family is well-established as a settler farmer. This is an excellent joint Government scheme (Victoria and British Government).

All other categories of men or tradesmen must obtain nomination by friends, relatives, or a firm domiciled in Australia, before they can be granted an assisted passage.

Women.—An unlimited number of young women (aged 18 years and upwards) prepared to undertake domestic work (experienced or inexperienced) may be granted fully assisted passages to the various Australian States. Chaperoned voyage, guaranteed employment. For any other kind of employment women must obtain nomination.

Boys.—An unlimited number of boys over 14 and under 19 may be granted fully assisted passage to the special Government Farm-Apprentice and other Farm-Learner schemes in Australia. The boys' schemes are approved by the British Government, and offer an assured career to the right type of lad—public school boys, secondary school or ordinary State school lads.

General.—The requisitions from Australia will undoubtedly expand in the near future, for various fresh financial agreements for great land settlement and public works schemes have been signed (see the copies of two recent cables attached as an example). Therefore, the requisition numbers are apt to vary from time to time. For instance, it is not unlikely that the quota of married couples without funds may be increased before long.

Embarkation.—Australian embarkations are deplorably delayed owing to the shipping strike.

THE name PLAYER on a packet of cigarettes guarantees the quality and purity of the contents. It is more than a name—it is a *reputation and a tradition.*

PLAYER'S Navy Cut

Cigarettes

(Medium Strength)

10 for 6D. 20 for 11½D.

WITH or WITHOUT Cork Tips.

Reg. No. 154011.

P.1243

Revised Passage Money Rates (Australia)

The undermentioned net passage money rates will be applicable to all approved migrants who sail to Australia after May 1st, 1925.

(*a*) Married couples (including widows or widowers) with at least one child under 18 ... ... each	£11	0 0
(Children at rate according to age).		
(*b*) Domestic servants	11	0 0
(*c*) Other adults (19 years and over) ...	16	10 0
(*d*) Juveniles over 17 and under 19... ...	11	0 0
(*e*) Juveniles over 12 and under 17... ...	5	10 0
(*f*) Children under 12	*Free*	

All the above amounts, together with landing money, may be loaned if necessary.

Extract from *Daily Mail*, Empire Service News, January 7th, 1926:—

"'DAILY MAIL' EMPIRE NEWS.

"WHERE THERE ARE NO UNEMPLOYED.

"From our own Correspondent.

"Adelaide, Wednesday.

"South Australia is at present the most satisfactory country for workers, as there are practically no unemployed.

"Mr. Gunn, the Premier, makes the proud announcement on the official Labour Bureau figures, which reveal one of the happiest positions for many years, as the demand for all grades of workers is still active, and many public and private works are contemplated in the current year.

"Mr. Gunn, however, laments that the Australian national debt has been doubled in 15 years, and declares that it is essential that production should keep the same pace."

Extract from *Daily Mail*, Empire Service News, January 20th, 1926:—

"£11,000,000 FOR NEW WORKS.

"Melbourne, Tuesday.

"Mr. Bruce, the Commonwealth Prime Minister, stated today that the Government of Western Australia had announced that it was prepared to spend nearly £11,000,000 under the new migration agreement on railways, highways, water supply, and schemes for developing the land for settlement.

"Western Australia's acceptance of the scheme would mean that the number of migrants to that State would almost be doubled. Victoria and South Australia were also drafting migration schemes.—Reuter."

The Great Transfer.

The soldier during his service has a good number of transfers, some to his benefit, some the reverse; but the greatest transfer, I think, is the one which lands him into civil life. (I think, judging by the events of the last fortnight, it should be termed "*un*-civil" life.)

As one who has been fairly recently transferred, I should like to "give vent" and try to cheer up some of those unfortunates about to receive the push.

When about to leave the Service, it isn't a bad thing to have some one ready to give you a push into a job. Of course, all members of "The Corps" *have* someone to do that in the Signals Association, although some men are better qualified for jobs than others.

The Association pushed me so hard that, when I landed, I found myself being fitted out with a suit of khaki, cap, etc.; and I felt as though, instead of leaving, I was just joining up. So for me the transfer has been quite smoothly carried out.

I wish every member of the Corps (especially the pontoon wallahs, who are not so young as they were, and not so easily placed) as easy a transfer as I experienced.

The thing to do whilst in the Service is to prepare in good time for the job you think about going for, and not leave everything to chance in the last few weeks. Of course, married men have always the option of sending the wife to work instead; but I hadn't thought of that when I left—so I am afraid it is too late now!

WATT.

CORRESPONDENCE.

46 Hogsthorpe Road, Peterborough,
Northants, June 13th.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Sir—In the current issue of our Magazine, among the notes of No. 2 (W/T) Company B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, one paragraph reads: "During the next trooping season there will be a large number of n.c.o.s and men returning to Blighty for discharge, and it would be of interest to them if someone would kindly write an article in THE WIRE dealing with the routine through which they must expect to go after arriving in England"—presumably with a view to securing employment.

Before dealing with that point, may I introduce myself to all readers to whom this letter may be of value? For a period of two years I was the WIRE representative for Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area, Bannu; and I now write these few lines in Civvy Street, where I am at present enjoying (with a long face) the quiet life of the unemployed until it is time to draw the "eighteen bob" at the week-end. The reason for that is mentioned later, so here goes to my subject!

Employment of any description is hard to secure at the present moment. What the future may hold I cannot of course say, but I hope that prospects will be much brighter than they are now, and that every n.c.o and man venturing into civil life during the forthcoming "trooper" will be able to step into a situation in whatever capacity he may desire.

I myself have been lucky—or should I say fortunate! On arriving home I found a letter awaiting me, stating that a vacancy had been kept open for me in the local Police Force if I could pass the examinations and the medical inspection required by the authorities. This had been arranged by the Signals Association headquarters, who wrote to the Police before I arrived home.

I went to the Police office and interviewed the superintendent, but alas! I found that my chest measurement was deficient—so I was out of work!

I decided to take any situation which came my way, and after a fortnight's delay I found work in the chemical department of the Kemel Silk Works, which had not long been opened. Owing to the General Strike, however, it was impossible to obtain sufficient power to keep the machinery running, and over 400 employees (male and female) were consequently suspended. Needless to say, we are anxiously awaiting the settlement of the coal dispute and the re-opening of our works.

When I came home, unemployment was on the decline, but since the Strike it has naturally increased enormously, and will probably not improve for some time.

To get a situation when stepping into civil life, it is essential to have some influence behind you; but unless you have that, you will be a long time in securing employment. *Your* influence is the Signals Association; and I know that if you ask them, headquarters and branch secretaries will assist you in every possible way.

I know several men who have been out of work for the past two years with the exception of brief intervals during which they have found casual labouring jobs—for the rest of the time they have been forced to go "on the dole."

When you enter Civvy Street you must be prepared to accept *any* situation which may be vacant. If it proves unsuitable, you can at any rate keep it until something more congenial turns up. You cannot pick and choose situations to-day; and certainly you cannot live on 18s. unemployment pay!

You stand a much better chance if you have a trade in your hands and can show your qualifications and previous experience on paper (by that, I mean a written statement signed by your former employer in that trade).

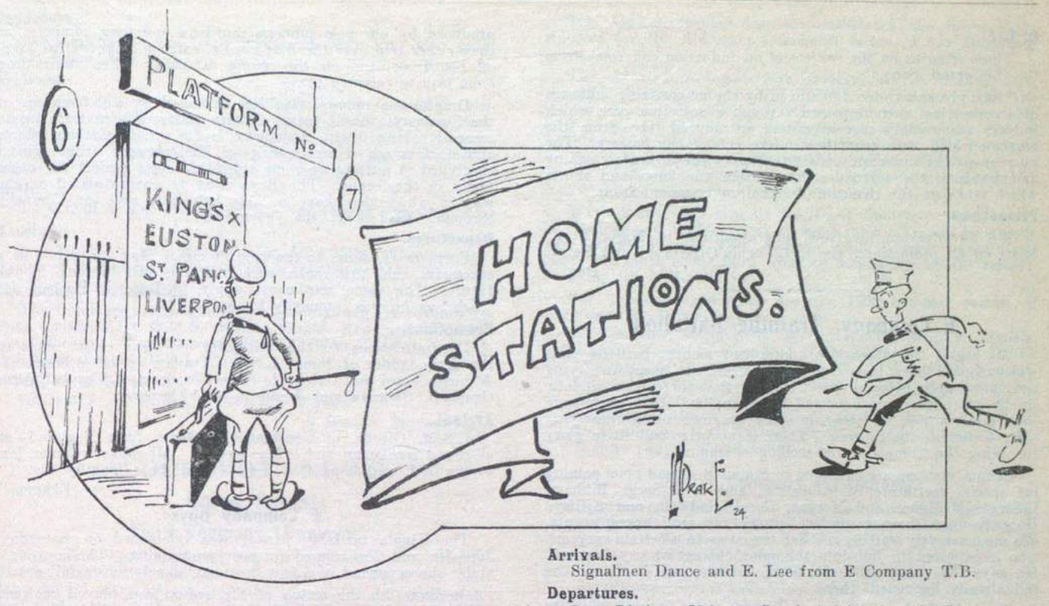
New factories have been and are being opened in different parts of the country, and in addition to the skilled workers required, work is available for numbers of inexperienced hands.

I do not wish to discourage any man from resuming civil life, and would conclude by saying that *the Signals Association is our best Labour Bureau.*

With kind regards to all readers, especially the members of C Divisional Signals,

I remain, yours faithfully,

COIR.



Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

"U" Lines, June 9th.

On May 10th the remainder of the Company completed their annual musketry course. The average for this party was 70.95. Dvr Grainger has the honour of being the best shot in the Company, with a score of 104. The lowest this time was the lowest possible; and it was the wheel driver of the hot-cross bun wagon who was responsible for this unique performance. Sydney *did* put *one* on!

I must apologise for making a mistake. The average of the first half of the Company was 64.38, and not as stated in last month's issue. The aggregate average for the Company is 68.4; and there were 39 1sts, 82 2nds, and 21 3rds.

There is no truth in the rumour that Cyril, our trying tenor, is going to take voluntary musketry classes in the quiet room on Mondays and Thursdays.

As the Royal Tournament has been postponed until July, we are still carrying on with the training. Billy (Troop No. 11) met with an accident about three weeks ago. He broke away from the stables, and after jumping a ditch he slipped and fell on a sharp stone, which made a very nasty gash in his side. He is now on light duty, and it is hoped he will be fit enough for inclusion in our team.

On May 29th a gymkhana and military tournament was held by the Hunton and District Agricultural Society. As it was an unregistered meeting, and not under A.A.A. laws, we were only able to compete in the mounted events, in which personnel of this Company took seventeen out of twenty-three prizes. As it would be of interest to outside units, I give the placings:—

Open jumping—1, Dvr Whyte; 2, Lieut Hemming.
N.C.O.s jumping—1, Corpl Searle; 3, Corpl Sullivan.
Drivers jumping—1, Dvr Jackson; 2, Dvr O'Neill; 3, Dvr Vaney.
Individual tent pegging—1, Corpl Searle; 2, Lieut Hemming; 3, Sergt Young.
V.C. race—1, Dvr C. D. Cooper; 2, Lieut Hemming.
Wrestling—1, Dvr Barber's team; 2, Dvr Cherry's team.
Best turn-out—2, Dvr Broadhead; 3, Sigmn E. A. Ward.
Potato race—3, Lieut Hemming.

Arrivals.
Signalmen Dance and E. Lee from E Company T.B.

Departures.
Sergt Limb to 56th (1st London) Divl. Signals T.A.
Dvrs Osland, Simnett, Spooner and Turner to Rhine Field Signal Company.
Dvrs Allen, Baker and Cliffe to A Corps Signals.
Dvrs Hammond, Cooper and Leach to 2nd Divl. Signals.
Sigmn Lloyd, Dvrs Mills, Mitchell and Murray to 4th Divl. Signals.
Sigmn Imber to civvy street.

Promotions.
Congratulations to the following on attaining their respective ranks: F/S/Sergt Dowty, Sergt Gregory, A/Sergt Baker, Corpl Lloyd, and A/Corpl Richardson.

Education.
Congratulations also to Sergt Terrell (of our C.I.D.) on being presented with his 1st. Delinquents had better be more careful now

Birth.
To Corpl Sullivan, a son (Robert) at Aldershot, on April 22nd.

Extensions of Service.
Dvrs Broadhead, Gilbert, Parkes and Wilkins to complete 12 years.

Correspondence.
Corpl H. With would be pleased to hear from Ginger Harris, late of D Company, Maresfield.

D Company, Training Battalion

At long last Catterick has shown us that it can, if it tries really hard, be comparatively warm. "Flaming June" has been justifying its name in no uncertain manner; and if it's like that here, we wonder what it must be like in dear old London—or even Brighton!

The great seed rush of three months ago has borne fruit in plenty, and the huts now seem to float in a sea of colour. Turf edges have been laid round almost every hut. Rumour has it that some of our more optimistic gardeners are trying their hands at a vegetable garden.

Overheard recently.
Orderly Sergeant (finding a light in one of the huts): "Put that light out!"
Voice from within: "'Taint a light, sergeant; it's the moon."
O.S.: "Don't give a —— what it is; put it out."

O. L. !!

These remarks on the subject of an induction coil come from the Telegraph School :—

"An induction coil is functioned by the magnetizing influence of an electrical current passed through a soft iron core which induces a secondary current taking an induced force from the current which was generated in the cell of the battery. The purpose of the induction coil is to supply the means of making and breaking the current and so make the longs and shorts which make up the elements of signalling communication."

Promotions.

We all offer our heartiest congratulations to Major P. C. Snatt on his promotion; also to L/Corpls Greenwood and Slater.

DON.

E Company, Training Battalion

We regret the absence of notes last month, but the time which should have been devoted to them was spent in trying to impress upon many of the Company that there is an athletic shield which they are expected to retain, and that they were each given a pair of legs for other purposes besides carrying their bodies to the canteen. There is no prize and little glory for being the Company wad-scoffing champion.

Congratulations are extended to Sigmn Benstead upon gaining his special certificate of education, and to A/Sergt Binham, L/Sergts McMahon and Morgan, Corpl Gladwell, and A/Corpl Hooper, upon their respective promotions and appointments. We are anxiously waiting to offer the same to a certain sergeant who is expected to fall into the same old net at any moment. He says the event will take place "in the fall." Hasn't the fall already happened, then?

Corpl Hatherley wishes to be remembered to the Bermuda Section.

A suggestion has been put forward for the forming of a motor cycle club, with the idea of taking organised runs to various places of interest in the neighbourhood. Those interested should get in touch with Sigmn Newman.

By the time these notes appear we shall probably be in the throes of preparing for the Commandant's inspection.

THE PARSON.

F Company, Training Battalion

The conglomeration of seasonable sounds assailing the ears of attentive listeners at this period proves the doubtful fact that summer (in all its cloudy glory) is smiling o'er the camp. Judging by the surplus of rain, lightning, and its attendant thunder-claps, we think the weather clerk, during his quest for the next card in the index, erroneously brought to light the wrong season.

The sounds mentioned above include the clicking of ball upon bat, the fall of discus, shot and javelin to earth, the panting breath of our fleet-footed experts as they "fly" round the track, and last but not least, the smothered ejaculations produced by our pole jumpers, hurdlers and long jumpers, as they either trip over the first hurdle, catch a spike in the take-off board, or land on the wrong extremity when descending from lath to jumping pit.

Despite the minor casualties sustained by the members of the Company athletic team in their endeavours to train up to record-breaking pitch, they have, as a result of their efforts and a thorough understanding of the phrase "team spirit," succeeded in putting up some splendid shows against the other teams in the league. The Boys must be congratulated on the way in which they have so ably helped to pull the Company through. Well done, the youngsters!

Departures.

Corpl R. G. Jones to the land of civs. May his debut be a successful one. All ranks wish him the best of luck in the future. The same sentiments apply to L/Corpl Herbert (or "Erb," as he was commonly known).

Promotions.

Congratulations to the following on their recent step up the dizzy ladder of fame: L/Sergt Trayner to be A/Sergeant; A/Corpls Foley and Catchpole to be Corporals; L/Corpls Sayers, Grainger, Chignall and Jessop to be A/Corporals.

Arrival.

C.S.M. Gibson, of Constantinople fame, from Baghdad—an all-round sportsman and bridge expert. All ranks welcome him to the fold, and hope that his stay will be a lengthy one.

ELEFPE.

F Company Boys

The King's birthday parade was celebrated on Saturday, June 5th, and thus capped our previous training. The boys were under the command of Lieut Scott. Old pals never fall out.

On June 8th the match of the season was played between "Oxford" and "Cambridge," the latter scoring 119 to Oxford's 29. Boys Beale and Snow were the pick of the bowlers (what's the matter, Smudger?). Boys Smith and Waters batted well for their 13 and 36 respectively, whilst Barlow batted well for Oxford.

The B.iii boys have just drawn rifles for their musketry training. Boy Chidgey has been issued with a pop gun!

Personal.

Boy Nicklen wishes to thank his old squad instructor for his solicitous enquiry, and informs him he has quite recovered.

Agony Column.

Sigmn McKenzie (Mac) desires to ask the said instructor what became of the proceeds of the sale of his bicycle?

We notice that a certain ex-boy philosopher has been doing forced manual labour. Naughty, naughty! Algy!

LES TRES GARCONS.

School of Signals

The absence of notes from the June publication of THE WIRE is regretted. If excuse is needed, remember the strike!

We continue to plod along very merrily in our little paradise, notwithstanding the heat. Our latest innovation is work in the cold grey dawn on some mornings of the week.

Our lines continue to improve steadily. A rock garden has made its appearance by the sergeants' mess, not to mention a kitchen garden where we grow "things." One day a Ford got in somehow—it was not by the gate—and many inquiries have been made as to where the seed was purchased. The gardener keeps this very secret, and vague rumours are afloat that he is trying to produce a Rolls Royce at a later date. The Company have a walk round every morning at 9 a.m. to admire, and also to remove sundry pieces of rubbish which contaminate the flowers, etc.

Threats of the annual inspection overshadow us, and we live in fear of the dark day when orders say "Ye shall don armour, and get into a heap for overhaul, and condemnation if necessary." Our carpenter will have to hurry in transforming those Tate sugar boxes into a recreation room, or the Company will have nowhere to go when the chief says "Get ye hence, scurvy knaves, and let not my orbs behold ye for twelve moons."

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

Departure.

Dvr Langton to 4th Divl. Signals on May 3rd. Our good wishes follow him.

Arrivals.

We extend a very hearty welcome to the following, who joined the School on dates shewn: Major FitzA. Drayson from Ireland on May 1st. Corpl P. Shipcott from 1st Divl. Signals on May 19th. Sigmn A. D. Smith from the Depot on May 3rd. Sigmn P. Young from the Depot on April 24th.

Birth.

To C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Squibb, a son (Frank), on May 5th.

Marriage.

Dvr T. Joy to Miss R. Nettle on June 12th. The congratulations of the School are extended to the happy pair.

Educational Certificates.

The following are congratulated on obtaining the coveted 1st class certificate: C.Q.M.S. Flynn, Sergts New and Higham, Corpl Jackson, Sergt Stewart (H.L.I.), Sergt Todd (K.O.S.B.), and Sergt Peaple (R.A.).

Extension of Service.

L/Corpl F. A. Brown to complete 12 years.

A MESSIN SIGNALLER.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals

No. 1 Company (Ewshott)

Not much has happened since our last notes were written. The national crisis has had the tendency of curtailing (only temporarily) many of our activities. We have nevertheless got well under way with our spring training, and many valuable lessons are being learned as the result of the Thursday unit schemes.

The Air-line Section has now completed the thirty pairs required for the Aldershot Command tattoo at the Rushmoor arena.

The old air-line wagons (the property of No. 2 H.T. Construction Section) have been called in to Ordnance, and the horses returned to Officer i/c Remounts. One could not help feeling a little sad at the disappearance of what has been a familiar sight in Corps Signals for many years. The personnel of No. 2 H.T. Section are being absorbed for the present into No. 1 (M.T.) Construction Section, but their reincarnation as No. 2 (M.T.) is eagerly expected.

We welcome very heartily to No. 1 Company 2/Lieuts T. W. Boileau and Lyddon, and we hope their stay will be a very long and happy one. Lieut Boileau is no stranger to the Company, and much of his hard work on manœuvres is still remembered by the M.T. Section.

Our present organisation for the 1926 summer period of training is as follows:—

O.C. Company, Major C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., R. Signals.
Mounted Wing (A, B and C Cable Sections), Capt. D. H. Cunynghame (R. Signals); Lieut W. S. Wasey (R. Signals), Officer i/c B Cable Section; 2/Lieut Lyddon (Royal Signals), Officer i/c C Cable Section.
Dismounted Constructional Wing (Air-Line and P.L.), Capt. P. Jennings, M.C. (Royal Signals), and 2/Lieut T. W. Boileau (Royal Signals).

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

Since our last contribution there have been few happenings of interest. Before the general strike came along, we were training hard in preparation for the King's review and the War Office and Command signal exercises. All these have now been definitely cancelled, and we are settling down to a period of unit schemes, which take place every week, in which many valuable tips are being learned.

The whole of No. 3 Company wireless operators (Classes II. and III.) proceeded to Scotland by aeroplane on the first day

Best Family Beverages

KIA-ORA LEMON SQUASH OR ORANGE SQUASH

Delicious . Healthful . Economical
because made from Real Fruit and Sugar

30 Medium Glasses in a Bottle

KIA-ORA LTD. BLACKFRIARS, LONDON, S.E.1

Largest Bottlers of Fresh Fruit Beverages in the British Empire

Large Bottles . .
Half Bottles . .
Crush in Decanter

In Fancy Bottles and Decanters

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

YOUR NEW H.Q.

are being constructed by

Sir Lindsay PARKINSON & CO. LTD.

Specialists in Construction

LONDON and BLACKPOOL

of the strike. They left Farnborough Aerodrome in large bombing machines at 6.50 a.m., arriving in Glasgow about noon. The trip was a wonderful experience for them—one which they will never forget. During the strike, also, Headquarters Section opened up an office at Command H.Q., Aldershot, and took over the D.R.L.S., closing down when no longer needed.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

Syncopation and Palpitation.

A guitar, I am informed, is a stringed instrument of music. Thanks awfully, but I am afraid that I cannot accept the definition. You see, I have been subjected to one for the past fortnight, and it is anything but a stringed instrument of music!

The wireless operators are to blame. They started with a gramophone and graduated to this stringed instrument of—stringed—well, anyway, someone conceived the fiendish idea, and there it is!

But, not content with this alone, a raving lunatic put in an appearance with a ukelele, and others followed in company with a banjolele.

I hope that one day I may have the opportunity of spending a pleasant and musical afternoon in a saw mill! If I may be permitted, I shall call that "sound advice."

By the way, I am quite unable to discover the definition of a ukelele. But I can understand that! Orpheus is responsible for a great deal, which brings me to the topic of

Saxophones and Sanity.

I have before me a copy of last month's publication of THE WIRE and three handkerchiefs with black borders. And I am sobbing bitterly, the reason being that from Bulford comes the report that a great friend and colleague of mine has started to play the saxophone. He was such a nice chap, too. His name is Barlow.

Surely a complaint of this description, if attended to in time, is curable. Uncle Alfred, I know, will be almost as deeply moved as I am. But there must be a remedy. In one so young a malady of this sort is deplorable! And he was such a decent chap.

Arrivals.

We extend a welcome to the following, who have joined the unit during the past month:—

Sigmn J. Ray from No. 3 Coy. Egypt Signals, on 22/5/26.
Sigmn H. Knight from A Corps Signals on 23/5/26. Sigmn C. R. Jones from A Corps Signals on 28/5/26. Signalmen J. R. Kay, F. J. Patrick, and W. Prodrick from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 1/6/26. Sigmn J. McAuliffe from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C., on 1/6/26.

Departures.

Signalmen C. R. Hurst and J. McNaughton left us on 20/5/26 and erected their wig-wams in Rhine Field Signal Company territory. Good luck in the future! Dvr W. Cowan has elected the Depot Battalion, S.T.C. as his site, and proceeded thither on 7/6/26. Our best wishes!

Discharge.

Sigmn J. Keay departed on 18/5/26 upon his transfer to the Army Reserve, and he carries our good wishes for the future with him.

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations to all the following upon their respective climbs:—

Corpls J. Dumphy and J. Brotherton to L/Sergeant. A/Corpl F. Ramsdale to Corporal. U/L/Corpls G. W. Robinson and L. Easterling to L/Corporals. Signalmen W. Ashford, L. J. Brown, C. R. Cripps, A. A. Davies, M. B. O'Flanagan, O. W. Newberry, and F. Watson to U/L/Corporals. A/Corpl G. Rockall to Corporal. Sigmn A. Elmes to U/L/Corporal.

Certificates of Education.

We congratulate the following upon their gaining *the* certificates:—

Special—Sigmn J. H. Thomas.
1st Class—C.Q.M.S. A. Campbleton, Signalmen J. J. Green, F. R. Jerram, D. G. Kinsell, M. B. O'Flanagan, S. F. Tomlinson, Tptr V. E. Wright.

Births.

To Corpl and Mrs. A. Brundell, at Old Newton on 19/4/26, a son.
To Corpl and Mrs. E. Lambke, at Aldershot on 1/5/26, a son.
To Corpl and Mrs. F. Ramsdale, at London on 4/5/26, a son.
To Sigmn and Mrs. J. Garry, at Aldershot on 7/5/26, a daughter.

Many happy returns! Oh, no. That's wrong, isn't it? I say, I am in a mess!

Extension of Service.

L/Corpl G. W. Robinson extends his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

(W)Ringing the Changes.

The rumour that personnel taking part in unit schemes will in future parade in diving outfits and arm-bands is unfounded, and the report that canoes and schooners are being chartered to supplant the conventional 30-cwt. lorries and L.G.S. waggons is also without foundation.

Our summers *are* a trifle moist, but we have yet to go down for the third time!

Personal.

Sergt R. Blackburn would like to hear from any member of the old 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Will L/Corpl W. H. Pagett, late of G Company, Maresfield, and now believed to be in North China, communicate with L/Corpl O. H. Carnell of this unit.

Corpl Mackie would like to establish communication with Sigmn Fuller, now in Sarafand.

Sigmn Pyper would like to "tune in" to L/Corpl Bennett, late of F Company, Maresfield.

Sigmn Sullivan, one of our O.H.V. D.R.'s, is "ticking over" in the hope that he will hear from Sigmn Connaughtton, Egypt Signals.

In Conclusion.

We are informed that the autumn of 1926 will prove to be warm and dry. Weather permitting, of course!

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals

No. 1 Company.

Lieut E. H. C. Harris, Royal Signals, rejoined A Section from the S.E.E. Woolwich, on May 15th, and assumed command vice Lieut F. Morton, Royal Signals, posted to L Section, No. 3 Company.

The general strike interfered with the training programme for the May-June period, and as a result several signal schemes were cancelled. One officer and twelve operators were posted to the York area for civil emergency duty, and returned to the unit on May 21st. The brisk Yorkshire air and the bill of fare proved a great attraction, but we are drawing our own conclusions (after hearing the orderly corporals complain about the heavy "York" mail) as to why some were sorry to return. There is reason to contemplate an unexpected step on young Harold's part concerning Happy in the near future. Can we subscribe towards a little memento, "H."?

Our percentage in regard to Signals Association membership is very unfavourable compared with that of Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. We hope that all those who steal a buckshee glance at these notes will give in their names for membership to the Company representative. Present members can do a lot towards encouraging them.

Corpl Deamon is busy training "Epinard" and poshing-up saddlery for the Command horse show. His wife clears up the mess!

Congratulations to Sigmn Meadows on being presented with a daughter.

Obituary.

Gloom spread over the whole unit on Sunday evening, June 13th, when it became known that No. 529672 Sigmn Stafford Poole had been accidentally drowned in the Basingstoke Canal at Mytchett.

Sigmn Poole was manœuvring a canoe, assisted by Sigmn Chiverton (also of this Company) when the canoe overturned and both were thrown into the water. Neither of them could swim. Chiverton was rescued, but all trace of deceased was lost until his dead body was recovered from the water some time after.

Deceased was very popular amongst all ranks. He took a keen interest in various branches of sport, and his loss will be felt by all who came in contact with him. The sympathies of the whole unit go out to his parents in their sad bereavement.

Departures.

L/Corpl J. Evens departed from this Company on May 27th on being posted to the Depot Battalion. We wish him success in his new sphere of sweat and burnishers, and trust the muscle-bound effect will not be tolerated. Remember the old motto, James!

Dvr F. Christy, ever to be remembered by B Section, leaves us for civil life on June 16th. All the best for his future! What about the "tatcho" business for a living!

Arrivals.

We welcome the following, who have joined us: Signalmen Dyke, Innes and Willmington.

Personal.

"S.O.S." from A Section: "Would anyone care to alleviate a few tortured souls by adopting a member with good but painfully used vocal chords, into the vocal profession. The persons concerned would willingly pay a small fee for his removal."

Will L/Corpl G. F. Ibbs, Rhine Signals, please send his address to Sergt Gradden, No. 1 Company?

To Sigmn Aitken, Iraq Signals: Many thanks for compliments from "We are the Boys."

HAMO.

No. 2 Company

We are "through" once more with our notes, and I hope it will be a long time before we are absent again. Our luck has been out. First, our O.C., Capt. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., was away for three weeks on strike duty in York, and on his return C.S.M. Purkiss was admitted to hospital for a fortnight.

On the eve of the O.C.'s departure, Lieut Morrison, R.A., and 2/Lieut Burridge arrived from the S.T.C., the former stepping into the breach and taking over the duties of O.C. Company in fine style.

Other arrivals are Signalmen Gorman, Simon, Durbridge, and Chitty. We wish them all a pleasant stay with us.

G Section proceeded to camp at Larkhill on May 29th. We hope they are busy making things cosy for F and E Sections when they arrive there for duty.

E Section are much envied by F, because they proceed to Brighton for training on June 12th, whilst the latter go to Longmoor on the same date. It is rumoured that Kapa will be established at the Regent. Will Roberts find them?

No. 3 Company

Training these days is very intense. Schemes are daily occurrences, with a little musketry thrown in in the early mornings, to attempt an improvement of the percentage of last year, which was 73 per cent.

Promotions.

Congratulations to A/Corpl Coole on his appointment to that rank, and to U/L/Corporals Leary and Gow upon their being substantiated.

Arrivals and Departures.

The following have left for the units mentioned: Sigmn C. Rowe to Depot Battalion, S.T.C. Sigmn L. Legg to A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

We welcome the undermentioned, and hope they will enjoy their stay with the unit: Signalmen F. Robinson, J. Winterford, H. Lynes, and R. Webb; Dvrs. F. Leach, H. Cooper, and E. Hammond.

Personal.

Sigmn H. R. Strawn would like to hear from Sigmn H. B. Powell (Ginger), late of this Company.

Would "Happy Day," late of D Company, Maresfield, please write L/Corpl T. Armstrong, of this Company.

THREECO.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Aldershot.

Crash! Boo-om! Tar-rarrr!!! Not "feed-away," with which such sounds are usually associated, but enter "the" Troop. Consternation reigns amongst the corrals and bunk-houses of the bhoys since the appearance of our first notes. "Guesses and calculations" are being made as to the identity of Qwdam Lad; but since certain individuals show ominous bulges about their persons—not unlike concealed leg-irons—there's nowt doing! It is hoped, however, that the manner of our belated entry into these pages has sufficiently introduced us to all readers.

Training.

W/T schemes are the order of the week, two of our Sections taking part with A Corps Signals in an extensive signal scheme. The majority of our W/T work nowadays is carried out with the aid of mechanical transport, since the usual limber and horses appear to be too slow for our fast-moving army. Despite this, our long-faced (?) friends still have their uses, the most common of which appears to be that of trying our patience and tempers. Those acquainted with them will appreciate these remarks (gitt-over!! = * ! — *).

Our recently arrived V/T operators are getting into trim, preparatory to showing the wirelessops what "visual" can do. Of late, the dreary weather falling to the lot of those in this Command has greatly hampered the training out of doors; and in this unit one is never sure whether the sounder we borrowed will "clack" to-morrow, or whether we shall awake to greet a smilin' morn and hie us away to the open spaces, and endeavour to get "through" between imaginary H.Q.s established in meadows and the such like.

Of course, we have our H.T. drivers (regular roughs, too), linemen, a lineop, saddler, chips, etc., but their activities are confined more or less to the unit in barracks.

Arrivals.

We extend the friendly 'oof to Sergt Wells and Sigmn Hinton from Catterick.

Departure.

We regret the loss of Sigmn Adkins to the Depot Battalion, and wish him every success in his new sphere.

Congratulations to—

A/Corpl R. J. Butler and L/Corpl C. E. James on their appointment to those ranks. U/L/Corpl Gow (2nd Div.) on his recent appointment (good old 30 Squad). L/Corpl Lee and Sigmn Swan on being officially enrolled in the ranks of the benedicts. And last, but not least, to the WIRE on attaining its present excellent standard.

Answers to Correspondents.

Lee Cross (June issue).—Can oblige with a few A.F.B. 256s.

B.O.M., B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.—Regarding the training of remounts, do you care to try and tame some of our "old soldiers"?

Wails and Groans.

Couperthwaite! Hast thou forsaken us?

Sigmn (Saddler) Harris would welcome news from Sigmn C. Hodge, last heard of in Egypt.

Sigmn Bryant to "Busty" Lane: Please answer my last.

"Sierra Leone" is neglecting the Troop of late. (Now then, Jack.)

To "Sandy's Sweetie" (Tidworth).—Please spare him five minutes *this* time to write us a few more notes.

"Why! if it isn't the Quarter-bloke. What *have* you done? I hardly recognise you."

From the barrack-room comes: Who is this varlet who calleth himself by the name of

'OWDAM LAD.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

I should like to say how pleased all in this Troop are to see our confreres of D Troop have commenced a monthly contribution to THE WIRE. Our own contributions have certainly been spasmodic, but absence of notes in the June issue can be legitimately blamed to the "great upheaval." Having been appointed official bulletin publishers of Tidworth Garrison during the strike, the greater part of the author's time was taken up in "listening in." Newspapers were almost unknown down here, so it can be imagined how greatly appreciated were our efforts to keep the troops in touch with events. It says much for the efficiency of this "news agency" that we received a personal note of appreciation from the Cavalry Brigade Commandant.

Great doings are happening in the Troop, for in addition to trade tests and normal training, we have a jumping class under training for the Aldershot Command Horse Show, 3rd Divisional Signals and E Troop Mounted Sports, and the Southern Command Horse Show. I feel perfectly certain that if our fellows maintain their present standard, we shall be able to "pull off" one or perhaps a couple of events. Anyhow, if enthusiasm will help we shall win.

Education.

Sergt Adcock was awarded the 1st class certificate of education on 17/3/26.

Promotion.

Corpl C. V. Smith to be L/Sergeant. Congratulations, Smudger.

Transfer to Reserve.

Sigmn Pritchard. Best of luck in civvy street.

Arrivals.

Corpl Fishwick from Biggin Hill, and Signalmen Donaghy and Homan from S.T.C. The two latter have already proved themselves good and keen runners, and we hope to see a further improvement.

Strength Increase.

To "Molly" Morgan, a daughter. To "Smudger" Smith, a daughter. Hearty congratulations! Don't forget to wet the babies' heads.

SANDY.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford.

Signal Training.

The first week of June marked the conclusion of Section training. This on the whole has been very successful, and everyone carried out his job with great keenness. Now that we are all well grounded in the activities of Pogo, Buxa, and other legendary units, we are ready for anything with the real people.

Musketry.

You all know something about this, I expect, so you can sympathise with the harassed instructors in their exhortations to "keep those thumbs off the safety catches." We are looking to the lads to put their best into the musketry this year, a proceeding which is simplified by our being allotted the month of June for the job. We hope to announce the winners of the inter-Section shooting cup next month.

Athletics.

Unfortunately we must go to press just before the day of our annual sports meeting, but "all the winners" will appear next month. Excitement runs high, especially as regards the tug-of-war.

H Section team of "Glaxo babies" will give everyone else a lot of trouble, though Sergt Griffin and his B Cable must be reckoned with. Alas! that the efficiency of the teams does not match their enthusiasm. Never mind, "the game's the thing."

A Challenge.

In concluding this section of our notes, we wish to boast about our average WIRE sales. We challenge any Field Signal unit to show a bigger average. If anyone cares to take us on, we will publish our figures as from May 1st, 1926. Roll up! We don't mind being beaten if you *can* do it. (S.T.C. barred.)

Arrivals.

Signalmen B. Dempsey and E. Smith from Training Battalion on 22/5/26.

Sigmn E. Crozier from T.B. on 1/6/26; Sigmn A. Salter from T.B. on 7/6/26; Sigmn T. Worthington from T.B. on 8/6/26.

Departures.

Sigmn W. Bennett to Aldershot Command Signal Company on 15/5/26.

Sigmn S. W. Markham to A Corps Signals on 15/5/26.

Sigmn W. Bowell to No. 1 A.A. Signal Company on 19/5/26.

Sigmn R. Rice to A Corps Signals on 21/5/26.

Signalmen W. Chesters and F. Eldred to Depot Battalion on 28/5/26.

Sigmn R. Tydeman to A Corps Signals on 28/5/26.

Education Certificates.

1st class—Sergt W. White at Bulford on 17/3/26. L/Corpl W. Savage at Catterick on 17/3/26. Sigmn G. F. Booth at Larkhill on 17/3/26.

2nd class—A/Corpl T. Taylor at Bulford on 19/4/26. Sigmn T. Hutt at Bulford on 14/5/26.

Transfer to Army Reserve.

Sigmn R. Cossar, 25/5/26.

Discharge.

Sigmn W. H. B. Roberts, 10/5/26.

Promotions.

A/Corpl G. Percy, to be Corporal with effect from 15/2/26.

L/Corpl A. Kidby appointed A/Corporal with effect from 1/4/26.

L/Corpls E. Baker and W. Sewell, appointed A/Corporals with effect from 4/4/26.

Signalmen G. Fee, A. Jones, and E. G. Wood, appointed unpaid L/Corporals with effect from 28/5/26.

No. 2 M.A.B. Signal Section

Larkhill.

Many of our friends will be pleased to know that we are still in existence, as it is many moons ago since we last chirped. We hope that we will now be able to make regular contributions. We were "pushed" last month.

Great things have been happening lately, the most important being that we have at last acquired a "Signals" officer in 2/Lieut E. F. Maltby, from the Depot Battalion. We welcome him; and though he only descended upon us last month, he has already got a firm grip on us.

Many old faces have disappeared and new ones substituted since we have been under the tender care of the 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford; in fact, transfers have been as regular as sheet-changing. We have, however, managed to retain our mascot "Buller" and his sparring partner "Rags."

Training.

With the exception of one or two newcomers, the Section has fired its annual musketry course, and attained a very satisfactory return. We are now in the midst of schemes, and rapidly becoming super-efficient under the watchful eye of our new O.C. By the time practice camp arrives we will have nothing to fear.

Departures.

L/Sergt Glossop, Corpl Crabtree, and Signalmen Booth and Couch to 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford (we warn the N.A.A.F.I. to increase their stock of Glaxo). L/Corpl E. M. Kelly to Depot Battalion S.T.C. Sigmn Bowell to A.A. Section, Blackdown.

Transfer to Reserve.

Sigmn F. S. Leaning on 16/3/26.

Discharge.

Sigmn H. Jones on 24/3/26.

Arrivals.

Corpl H. Brown from 3rd Divl. Signals. 'Orses, shun!

L/Corpl L. Humphrey from E Company T.B. We have been indenting for bath-brick and burnishers ever since he arrived.

Sigmn L. Ruffle from E Company T.B. Their loss is our gain. Wanted, a pole (poles, telegraph, 40 ft., barred).

Sigmn N. S. Lee, from D Company T.B. Another loss to the S.T.C. Inventory Board.

Signalmen Johns, Turner, Watts and Dempsey, from the 3rd Divisional Signals.

Greetings.

"Jock" wishes to be remembered to "Raddy" Russell, somewhere in Germany.

A.N.S. sends his best to all old Don friends. What about it, Teddy?

MABLE.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, June 15th.

After quite a long absence we return to contribute our monthly effort.

Casualty Report.

Corpl S. T. Cozens appointed L/Sergeant.

R.Q.M.S. H. J. Berry arrived on posting from India, and is at present now enjoying a vacation.

Sigmn J. Chambers arrived on posting from Bulford. We hope to hear something from him in the near future.

General.

What with the general inspection, general strike, and various other little diversions provided by the War Office and Mr. Cook, the 4th Divl. Signals have lately been leading quite a hectic life.

As the first "eddy" of emergency was being transmitted, our warriors were already buckling on antennæ rods, sharpening pencils, and negotiating casual loans prior to their departure to the wilds of Victoria Park, East India Docks, and other scenes of grave national disorder. Some even penetrated the vastness of Chelsea Barracks, but of those who lived to return not one will speak. From what we gather, however, those barracks are inhabited by a fierce race of men who clothe themselves in the skins of bears and converse in barks. The experience must have had rather a peculiar effect, for on the first night of their return a party of our repatriated men were seen to "jump to it" in strict Caterham time.

All is quiet once more, however, and in our idle moments between stables and waiting for the mid-day we speculate as to whether it will be the Admiralty or P. G. Wodehouse who will provide our next change of diet.

Social.

Our weekly ball is still maintaining the reputation of Charley's Aunt! The next thing expected in the social world of Colchester is the appearance of the name of the 4th Divl. Signals dart team at the head of the County Dart League. More cups for Reed Hall!

Personal.

News from 2314097 L/Corpl J. G. Brooke is still awaited by L/Corpl W. K. Buxton of this unit. L/Corpl Brooke, it is believed, was recently posted to Iraq Signal Section.

B. B. B.

Eastern Command Signal Company

Horse Guards, S.W.1.

This is our first appearance in print (what do we look like?); and having made a start, we hope to stay here.

Normally we haven't much to talk about. Three officers and 19 O.R.s is not what one might call a large unit; and as we

Proud of them.

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live in eight different stations, we are kept fairly busy in reporting to each other that we are still there, and passing vouchers and other important documents.

But in the merry month of May the T.U.C. decided to carry out a test of Command Signal Companies. So we girded up our belts, lineman, and pliers, sidecutting, pairs 1 (or two if we were quick enough), and put away all thoughts of rentals, votes 10.B. and 11.J.2, and insulation resistances, not to mention classifications. Next we proceeded to expand—we did so enormously; in fact, so much so that we are not quite sure to what extent. However, we hope the Command Paymaster will expand too when he checks our civilian pay list.

Headquarters, Eastern Command Signal Company
with some of the D.R.s, May, 1926

Then we had a real live Signal office, with some wonderful dashing D.R.s. The Horse Guards became unsafe for anyone who had not passed out in the standard for the high and long jumps. Some of our D.R.s were so fast that they could only be sent on long distance runs; they had gone five miles or so before they changed into top gear. Others used to arrive at their destination before we could put a telephone call through to say they had started.

I mustn't say much about our wireless scheme, as it was so secret. However, we didn't jam the B.B.C.'s talk on tadpoles, so we weren't too unpopular, although we might have been; nor have we decided to take over the Imperial wireless chain.

Now all the fun is over, we are busy sorting ourselves out and seeing if we are all back in the places we started from, and hoping to be normal again soon.

EAST. COM. SIG.

Bovril defeats Fatigue

No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

Manston, Kent, June 14th.

It is regretted that May notes were despatched too late for inclusion in last month's edition.

Summer practice camps are being held at Manston, Kent, Biggin Hill and Watchet, Somerset. The Company have to establish and maintain the necessary communications at each of these places, and eventually split up between the various camps, in addition to a small maintenance party at Blackdown to look after our permanent communications there.

The whole of the Company have been at Manston from May 30th until the 11th inst., when the party for Watchet proceeded on its way. The Biggin Hill detachment leave here in about a week's time.

As Manston is quite close to Margate and Ramsgate, the boys have been making the most of the opportunity to visit these resorts. Oysters are obtainable at six for 1s., and oyster suppers, preceded by cockles and whelks partaken at the road-side restaurants, are the thing just now before boarding the bus for camp.

Arrivals.

Lieut C. F. Newsom from Catterick. Sigmn Reed from Training Battalion. Sigmn Bowell from 3rd Divl. Signals.

Marriage.

Congratulations to Corpl Paddy Cleary on joining the married half company. Our earnest wish is that he and Mrs. Cleary may have every happiness.

Births.

Very hearty congratulations to our Commanding Officer and Mrs. MacSwiney on the arrival of a son and heir; also to Sigmn and Mrs. Boxall on the same good fortune.

Promotions and Appointments.

The following are congratulated on their promotion to the ranks stated: Corpls Elford, Dietrich and Elphick; A/Corporals Finney and Gough; L/Corporals Lowday and Adams.

Attachment.

Captain A. Hemsley, Royal Signals, T.A., attached for 14 days. We have very pleasant recollections of his stay with us last year, and are pleased indeed to have him amongst us again. Our hope is that he will have a very instructive and pleasant fortnight.

ACK ACK.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

The G.O.C. Northern Ireland District inspected the unit on May 17th, and everything went off very satisfactorily.

Training is in full swing, and several wireless schemes have been successfully carried out.

The weather being very Irish, cricket is of course practically at a standstill; nevertheless, L/Corpl Fisher and his merry men have great hopes of winning the N.I.D. championship.

Our sergeant-major is enjoying a well-earned rest at Tullymurry. Nothing else worthy of comment has happened.

Education.

Congratulations to the following on obtaining their seconds: L/Corpl Eldridge, Signalmen Keates, Lovell, Robertson and Shaw.

CHIPPY.

Dunree Notes.

Sigmn H. W. Smith has set a new example here and has got married. He has the very best wishes of his brother Outlaws. Of course, he is only turned out for special raids now. It is thought that a few more Outlaws will be lost when the Council build a few more houses here.

For the information of Sergts Curtis and Nash, of Germany, Bill is still going strong, but owing to the milk diet going flat he has gone on chocolate. Worst of these coal strikes!

CHIEF OUTLAW.

Signal Training Centre (India).

Jubbulpore.

The hot weather up to the present has been well provided with hail storms, thunder storms and wind, with the result that the anti-heat stroke measures have been non-effective.

Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C., Royal Signals, has left to take up his appointment at Quetta, and Capt G. W. Holland, I.A., is now commanding the Signal Training Battalion.

Capt J. A. Pocock, R.E., I.A., joined the Signal Training School as senior instructor on May 7th, from No. 2 Wireless Company A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Lieut J. W. Kenny, R.A., left on May 1st, on posting to E Divisional Signals, Peshawar.

Lieut W. Gracie, I.A., left on May 4th, on posting to C Divl. Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

The shortage of officers is still badly felt, and the twenty-seven on the establishment do not seem likely to materialize just yet.

The Foreign Legion continue to come and go, and I am given to understand that another 100 are coming along.

Technical training is in full swing, and according to the nominal rolls one sees in the course of a day I am wondering if it was really only 250 that were transferred to the Indian Signal Corps. Possibly one or two "crept" into the S.T.C., and the Officer i/c Records has not taken them into consideration.

The numbers of operators, visual and wireless, have increased considerably, also the despatch riders. There is not such a rush in the D.R. direction now, though. I believe the new arrivals thoroughly enjoy the motor cycle instruction, but the idea of the riding school seems anything but soldiering to the infantryman.

Sergeants' Mess.

We are still champions of Jubbulpore at billiards, and again beat the Gun Carriage Factory Institute by a considerable margin. I wonder if this is why the Hants did not turn up on the 19th.

The tennis handicap tournament, open to all B.O.R.s, has proved a success, and many interesting matches have been played on our court.

Sergeant Cartwright, recently arrived from Aden (where I believe it is far hotter than Jubbulpore), continues his evening performance with the assistance of the dinner gong and a somewhat light pair of ammunitions.

Sergt Chumbley is still winning at pokey die, and I am just beginning to wonder when he intends "paying for one."

SIGTRAIN.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi.

Things have been very quiet since the appearance of our last notes. Thanks to an abundance of rum (overproof), the troops showed no ill-effects of their trying journey from Rawalpindi to Upper Topa.

The whole of the time here to date has been, in the vernacular, "money for breathing." As in previous years, the great thing has been station leave. This was arranged in two periods, so that everyone except a privileged few (I'm one of 'em) got 14 days off duty (more or less).

My next note has a touch of pathos. Seven B.O.R.s of the unit actually gazed into the very jaws of death on the 18th inst (now stop shaking, Paddy; it's all over now). Perhaps this photograph showing the cause and effect will illustrate the affair more clearly than the pen. However, we'll let it go—(but hang on to the lorry).

A "Squeak" in the Murree Hills
The drop on the left of the lorry is about 200 feet

By the time these notes are in print, the course for O/V's and O/L's will be making headway—for are we not designated (outside the guard-room) the Signal School? It is hoped that all candidates on the various courses will leave the Murree hills with their blow-belts more inflated than when they arrived.

The course for n.c.o.s (physical training and "shouting-drill") has terminated, and the results gleaned are thought to be satisfactory. Big chests (and in some cases, big heads) and erect chins are the order of the day.

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations to the following on their recent attainments under this heading (all in the I.S.C.):—

L/Sergt J. Pope to be Sergeant w.e.f. 2/5/26.
Corpl T. Alder to be L/Sergeant w.e.f. 24/3/26.
L/Corpl A. Page to be Corporal w.e.f. 3/5/26.
L/Corpl R. Jenkins to be Corporal w.e.f. 2/5/26.
U/L/Corpl S. Holland to be L/Corporal (paid).
U/L/Corpl S. Long to be L/Corporal (paid).

Educational.

Congratulations to the following on obtaining their 2nd class certificates of education at Rawalpindi on March 29th/30th:—Corpl A. Page; Signalmen Frost, Briers, Saunders, Minton, Grimley and Townshend. May they all matriculate in the near future.

Departures.

The undermentioned proceeded farther north to join F Divl. Signals, Kohat, on permanent transfer: Signalmen Briers, Bruce, Gordon, Irvine, Morgan and Robinson. Whilst wishing them the best of luck with their new unit, we hope that the call of D will not be so strong as to be unpleasant.

Obituary.

The sympathy of all ranks is tendered to C.S.M. R. J. Cann on his recent sad bereavement. Mrs. Cann died at the B.S.H., Rawalpindi, on May 4th.

D SIGS.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat, April 24th.

During the latter part of March and early this month we had a constant stream of comings and goings to the regions of Thal and Arawali—the scene of certain mysterious operations, in which we were involved. The close of the scheme was marked by an air-crash, in which the pilot and Lieut W. J. Vezey, R.E., lost their lives.

April, the usual herald of the warm weather, also begins the migration to the hills, and the families left on the 13th for Cliffden. This year Fate juggles with the weather, and for a couple of weeks turned up colder days than in the Murree region. However, with a rising temperature here and falls of snow at Cliffden, things are as they should be again.

March 29th saw the departure of four fortunates, Sergts A. E. Smith, H. Lewis and C. Nelson, and Sigmn F. Brown, to U.K. for six months leave. I write this on cup final day, and am picturing the first-named doing his share of shouting at Wembley—and ours as well. He deserves to reach England in time, for he booked his seat months ago (nothing like looking ahead these days!)

Musketry has been in full swing, and the excellent results give us hope that the Scissors cup may be ours this year. We were second for the year 1924-1925.

In the Northern Command Signals boxing tournament we did exceptionally well with three winners out of four competitors. Further details are to be found in the Sports pages.

We soldiers (forgive me, gentle reader) do have our little fads and fancies, and here in the solitudes of Kohat are, or rather were, to be found every conceivable type of musical instrument; the idea being, of course, to create endless "fortissimo crescendoes"—and other noisy musical terms—to drown our neighbour's instrument and our own sorrows.

We had gramophones, saxophones, fullerphones, and trombones; violins (strads and strohs), ukelele, Hawaiian guitars, cornets, banjoes, mandolins, swannee whistles, drums, old tins and hooters. Taken altogether—poor Sir Henry Wood and his Queen's Hall orchestra would have melted into thin air.

But as with Eve of old, these are passing fancies. Being a technical unit, what wonder we have taken to things mechanical in our latest fancy. Suffice to say, we now specialise in New Hudsons, Triumphs, Nortons, A.J.S.'s, Douglas's and Zeniths, all of the two-wheeled type.

Our latest acquisition is a 1914 two-seater Austin car, complete, which arrived the other day, its owner nobody less than —no, I had better not say. He would have too many enquiries as to how he does it. All I will say is that he is late of "Q" branch. Isn't that sufficient? I hear he has a reserve car somewhere, a contraption called "la vie Parisienne." Anyhow, it is French—only the tyres, tubes, engine and such like odds and ends are missing. The trouble is, with housing accommodation being so short, where are they to go?

As the unit (or the greater proportion of it) is shortly moving to Parachinar for the summer, there will be "nothing doing" for a bit, until things get settled down.

We record our pleasure at the editorial enterprise, in the April WIRE, in announcing the recent promotion of two Indian officers as Honorary Lieutenants in Signals.

We would add our little bit, and show here Subadar-Major Narain Singh, M.B.E., of this unit. This Indian officer had the high distinction of being selected as orderly officer to H.M.

Subadar-Major Narain Singh, M.B.E., Royal Signals.

the King at Buckingham Palace last summer. Only four Indian officers are selected annually: each year a different caste. Signals contain only five or six out of the twenty castes enlisted in the Indian Army, hence the selection of an Indian officer of Signals is very rare. A brief summary of the service of Subadar-Major Narain Singh is as follows:—

Enlisted February 1899; appointed Jemadar in April, 1915, Subadar in January, 1917, and Subadar-Major in August, 1923.

He served in the Waziristan campaign of 1901-02, Somaliland 1902-04, and Waziristan 1919-20. He was mentioned in despatches, August 1920; awarded Wazirforce Commander's certificates for gallantry in the field in 1920 and for devotion to duty in 1922.

Admitted as a Member of the Order of the British Empire, May 1923; and awarded the silver medal of the Royal Victorian Order in July 1925, for his services as orderly officer to H.M. the King.

Promotions.

We offer our congratulations to the following on their promotion: Corpls W. Page and E. Kingham to be L/Sergeants; L/Corpls P. Hammond and F. Smith to be Corporals (all in I.U.L.).

Enquiries.

Sergt W. Peerless would like to know if any old 18th Divl. Signal Company, R.E. (the A.T.N. Division) are still serving in the Corps.

Dublin, Jock, Hefty, and Lew are enquiring whether Barleux—after 13 years' separation—would not like to join them in the life on the frontier.

Kohat, May 25th.

We in India have felt nothing of the trouble and strife of the strike experienced at home until this week, when we discovered an English mail that consisted of about two letters and a registered postcard; and worse than that, no WIRES. We had all been looking very eagerly for the Corps Journal this month, seeing that our Pictorial Supplement was due to appear in the May issue, and we were keen to criticise the printer's efforts—hence our disappointment. Our comments on this subject must therefore be left over till next month.

May has been a month of changes for us. We started on May 1st, when two officers and fifty-eight men left us for Parachinar for the summer. Their march itinerary was as follows: Chillibagh, Hangu, Togh, Doaba, Thall, Manduri, Arawali, Sadda, Haidar Alli Killi, Parachinar—in all, 120 miles.

And the weather! The less said the better. It would have disgraced an English summer. Our party had to find their own protection for the whole journey, and making sangars round camp in pouring rain is a fine joke!

The new price of ENO's "Fruit Salt" is an invitation to better health. You can make no wiser purchase at this time of the year than a bottle of ENO's "Fruit Salt."

Only Signal office, wireless, and headquarters office are left behind in Kohat to brave the elements. We had six new arrivals from D Divisional Signals on the 11th: Signalmen Briers, Morgan, Irvine, Bruce, Robinson, and Gordon. Signalmen Somers and Friday arrived from the S.T.C. (India) on the 14th.

On the 21st a party of sixteen left for Upper Topa. Of these nine were for courses, and the remainder for re-posting to D Divl. Signals (these were Signalmen Elliott, Burdett, Sayers, Moors, Rivers, Jacobs and White).

After very mild weather, the summer has arrived in Kohat. During the last few days, with a hot scorching wind, the mercury has risen from an average of 90 to nearly 110. Life here is necessarily very quiet. We did hope to present a Parachinar Topical Gazette, depicting life up there, but our artist has misjudged the fast express mail to Kohat and missed this month's notes.

Of sport we can say but little or nothing. The only games played were a couple of hockey matches with the Indian ranks, the results being 1—1 and 1—2.

Promotions.

We offer our congratulations to the following: Corpls C. Conway, L. Wallace and E. Margrain to be L/Sergeants; L/Cpls H. Barnett and H. Scott to be Corporals (all in the I.U.L.).

No. 1 (Line) Company, B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi.

Notes must of necessity be rather short at the present time, as there is little to write about. During the hot weather so few entertainments are held.

The linemen's course is almost finished now, and no doubt all have earned the higher ratings they were hoping for. We hope they have done so, at any rate. I wonder if they all finished those notes.

Spices and Fruits of the East blended with age-matured pure malt vinegar make H.P. the most delicious of all sauces. No one ingredient predominates — each mingles to give that unrivalled H.P. flavour.

H.P
Houses of Parliament
SAUCE

Obtainable at your Canteens.

No Preservatives.

A number of our operators (lucky fellows) have gone to the hills on an operator's course, and we hope they also manage their higher ratings. Operators must be lucky: they go to the hills, while the poor linemen do their courses down here.

We welcome L/Cpl Lees from Jubbulpore, and hope his stay here will be as pleasant as possible.

Congratulations to the fellows who obtained the hard won 2nd class education certificates. Those who failed will have to try again.

B LINE SIGS.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, May 10th.

We have moved into the vacant married quarters of the unit, and are comfortably settled for the coming hot season. The introduction of electric lights and fans is greatly appreciated by all. Gone are the trying arguments regarding hurricane lamps; and we can dispense with the services of the various men who developed an unerring aim last year. If the electric fan stops, one does not throw jack-boots.

The yearly musketry is ended, and the result is pleasing. The top score was obtained by Sigmn Bessant, who shot with remarkable skill. Sigmn Bennett, another reliable shot, secured second place. It is said that we are well in the running for the Scissors cup, a trophy competed for each year by units in the Northern Command.

Signals Association.

Two weeks ago we held our first whist drive. The affair was well attended by members of the Troop, and a pleasant evening was passed. We were overjoyed to see our new Quartermaster secure the magnificent fountain pen given as second prize. We believe he is now studying the wiring diagram.

Unfortunately the season is too far advanced for us to arrange a dance. However, we are even now preparing for the cold weather, and hope to commence in good style.

The Lighter Side.

The other day we heard a saying reminiscent of the old schoolboy "howler." It was to the effect that "terra firma" meant "hard graft." We also know some more, but the man who originated them is a boxer, so——.

B. O. M.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

May 3rd.

"Summer hath come," and with it rain, "skiters," flies, ants and numerous other distractions of the insect families. Helmets have been produced from somewhere, and it is pleasurable to notice the light blue, dark blue, and green neatly tucked away into the fourth fold. This is the first appearance of our colours in this Colony.

The water supply is no longer restricted, the abundance of rain last month allowing all rider mains to be brought into use. Cheers from "the can carriers" (Chinese population).

During the month H.M.T. "Assaye" gave us a look up for a couple of hours, to discharge a few deportees. We take this opportunity of welcoming to the Command Mrs. Smith (wife of Sergt Smith), who passed through here on her journey to Tientsin. A welcome is also extended to our R.E. friends who arrived by the same boat (a couple of cueists, we understand).

Billiards.

Congratulations are extended to Q.M.S. Roberts and L/Corpl McBride, the two Royal Signals representatives in the six-a-side billiard team (see Sports).

Social Club.

A successful season was brought to a close on Saturday, May 1st, when a dinner at the Ritz Cafe made a grand finale. Unfortunately no details are to hand, and none are anticipated.

Signals Association.

On Sunday, April 11th, after much arguing with the crew, the good ship "Omphale" put to sea with the Association (plus the two wives and heirs). Tung Lung Island was the intended port of call, but squalls decided against us, and the leeward side of the island was visited. The mudhook was dropped in a sheltered (?) cove, and the whole party, with the exception of the chief steward and the cook's mate (who must have known something), went ashore. Unhappily a thunderstorm broke, and all were compelled to hurry back to the ship. Tea was served on board, and after steaming through a heavy downpour we arrived home in beautiful sunshine at 6.30 p.m.

Thanks are due to those who carried out the preparations, and it is hoped that the rain has not damped their willingness for another occasion.

Works Review.

Owing to the inclement weather, cable slashing and repairs have had to be suspended; but deviations of the routes have occupied nearly all our time this month.

JOINT BOX.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

Peace once more reigns supreme in North China (at least, as far as we are concerned). Telegraphic communication with Tientsin has been restored, the song of the 120-watt is stilled, and we are looking forward to a period of calm until the next war begins—which, if accounts from the south are true, will not be very long.

However, we intend to make the best of a slack time which is very welcome after five or six weeks of continuous watching and erection of emergency telephone lines and visual posts, coupled with enforced confinement to barracks on account of looting in the city.

Tennis is in full swing, and one or two dark horses have been discovered, so an American tournament with sealed handicaps (fixed for May 26th) should provide plenty of excitement.

Congratulations to Joe on retaining the Army cross-country championship; but we were very disappointed to see that neither the T.B. nor D.B. team figured in the first four. The defeat of the T.B. rugger team by the 2nd Battalion East Yorks has also caused us to suffer much leg-pulling. We are attached to the 1st Battalion of that regiment, so nuff said.

PAICHING.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Red Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.

Subdued cheers—Jeff may hear us! The C.S.O.'s inspection is now over, and we settle down to a life of peace and tranquillity (Yimkin). We were complimented upon our general appearance, drill, etc., with a special word of praise for the barrack-room, but there were many deep breaths of relief when it came to an end.

Classes for education, W/T and L/T operators, fitters, linemen, etc., are in full swing again. All seem desirous of banking a few more akkars. Wherever one roams, general conversation deals with shop; but we wish the swotters all the best—and moisten our lips in anticipation.

The canteen rebate this month has increased considerably. Kiwi and saddle soap figure prominently in the returns. We wonder what is the general opinion of the Company regarding the order recalling all web belts and issuing leather ones? There is no doubt that with leather one can obtain a splendid colour scheme (eh! Don?)

We tender our heartiest congratulations to Corpl S. G. Vignaux upon his "distinguished" in the educational instructors' course (have pity on the lesser lights, Vee); also to Corpls V. G. Rushworth and A. White and Sigmn F. A. Panter upon their obtaining their 1st class certificate (brainy lads; you may lay aside the wet towels and ice).

We must apologise for omitting to tender our deepest sympathy to Sigmn W. Ponsford in last month's notes. Although kept very quiet it leaked out, and we are sorry to report that April 25th was the day of his passing into the great majority —in other words, he was *netted!*

N.C.O.s' Mess.

The mess entertained the n.c.o.s' mess of No. 3 Company to a games tournament on May 5th, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The tournament resulted in No. 1 winning the billiards and table tennis, whilst the phat and darts resulted in a draw.

On May 21st the R.A.O.C. sergeants' mess were similarly entertained, No. 1 winning the billiards, darts and table tennis, but losing the snooker.

On both these occasions an excellent social was held after the tournament. The principal artistes were Corpl White (Tich), Sergt Norcross (Norrie), Mr. Rankin, and L.A.C. Williams, the latter two being hon. members of the mess.

Camera Club.

Nearly forty members of the above club had a trip to Memphis on Saturday, May 22nd to Monday, 24th, and they apparently thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We will be able to pass a better opinion when we inspect their efforts—a camera never lies (?).

We would like to know the remarks made by a certain n.c.o. in his sleep about "Waterloo," whilst visiting this ancient city.

Lighter Side of Things.

We understand a certain member of the Company attempted to emulate the Guardsman in Bateman's impression of the one who "dropped it." Did he think Tom Webster was on parade?

We wonder if obtaining a "distinguished" instructor's certificate or milleme collecting was the cause of the following: "Vee is thinking of attending a fancy dress ball with three millemes tied round his neck, as 'Three Mush-kitteres' (Musketeers)." We suggest as his partner "Mus-kene" (Miss Keane).

We hear that, owing to the frequency of a certain Signalman's applications, his Section Officer now has the habit, when sitting down to breakfast, of asking his servant for "The morning paper, please, and Sigmn ——'s application."

A Mouth Habitually Clean

— is an aid to health and a sign of refinement

Many careful people keep their mouths clean by the regular use of Wrigley's Chewing Sweets.

The results are good teeth, sweet breath and improved digestion.

Enjoy Wrigley's as a delightful, inexpensive sweet, but also because it has such a personal usefulness.

After every meal

WRIGLEY'S P.K.

P.K.-1d and SPEARMINT 3d

Asked in school for a sentence containing the words "certain" and "uncertain," one bright youth replied: "We are *certain* of getting fatigues on Thursday (holiday), but *uncertain* of getting pay on Friday."

Is it true that our big game hunter reported the sighting of four lions whilst out on one of his expeditions? As we haven't seen the skins, were their hides too tough for his shot? Are they still in residence near Kasr-el-Nil?

Scene: Canteen.

Signalman: "Eggs and chips, please."
Manager: "Got no eggs."
Signalman: "Wot! got no eggs? Call yourself a canteen manager? You're not fit to be in charge of a dog's home."
Manager: "If I was in charge of one, I could supply you with a supper."
(Exit Signalman).

B.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Main Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo,
May 30th.

Ere these lines are in print the long-awaited move into the new Signal barracks at Polygon will have been made. The barracks have been built on the left of the old Suez road just by the gun pits, towards the R.A.F. aerodrome at Heliopolis. Old members of this unit will doubtless remember the place. Both No. 1 Company and ourselves will be quartered therein, the accommodation being very up-to-date as far as barrack buildings go, consisting of concrete huts to hold about sixteen or eighteen men in each. We shall have our own sports ground alongside. No more mucking-in on the old R.E. dust heap now.

The annual inspection by the Chief Signal Officer took place on May 18th, and everything passed off successfully.

The Garrison swimming baths are very popular nowadays, and are usually crowded with swimmers—or rather, would-be swimmers. More often than not, the baths are so crowded that it means someone getting out at one end to allow someone else to enter at the other.

Our M.T. Romeo (Geordie) has taken a great liking to both the Garrison and Heliopolis swimming baths, and though only a few weeks back he used to explore the bottom more times than he swam strokes, and learnt that it doesn't work trying to breathe under the water, he can now (kindly note, you M.T. drivers of A Corps Signals) do several lengths on either side, back or front (not on the bottom either), whilst his form when diving is very much admired and envied. World's championships are now merely a matter of time, though Geordie has a spare kit box cleared in readiness for the trophies.

Appointments.

The following have been appointed A/U/L/Corporals with effect from May 8th, 1926: 312120 Sigmn A. W. Cotton; 2307968 Sigmn A. Williams; 3299568 Sigmn H. Wilson; 2310033 Sigmn A. L. Page.

A W/T Howler.

Question: How would you break down acid?
Answer: Place it in a clean piece of rag and crush it.

Auld Lang Syne.

Sigmn Bill Hanke would like to hear from Sigmn Freddie Thorne, last heard of at Aldershot many moons ago.

Sigmn Tich Cooper would like to correspond with Sigmn Neville Cogger, last heard of in the Signal Training Centre. He also sends his best respects to Corpl and Mrs. Douggie Waldron.

ART.

Signal Section, Sierra Leone.

May 24th.

Owing to the strike at home, shipping has been somewhat curtailed from this port, and our notes for last month could not be forwarded.

The wet season has started with a vengeance, and the linemen are looking forward to a busy time.

Staff-Sergeant Swinney and the three musketeers have been very busy this last month at Wilberforce, the headquarters of the West African Regiment.

Rumour has it that we are leaving here about the end of October, and already boxes are being packed and unpacked, so as to get used to that homeward-bound feeling.

Yesterday evening, the 25th, a thunderbolt dropped from above and burst directly over the Exchange, thus causing a shock to the native operator; still, nothing serious happened, although it was reported that the operator had to go home to change his trousers.

Congratulations to Sigmn Westley on gaining his 1st class certificate. May it be his first step up the stairs!

Signalmen Graves, Mizen, and Gavins are also to be congratulated on gaining their 2nd class certificate. Now we are all suffering from brain fever.

Dolly and Jack (ex Bulford) would like to know how the boys like Catterick Camp.

WINKLE.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, June 12th.

These units combine in offering a welcome to Major W. E. Pain, M.C., who has joined us to take over the duties of officer commanding Rhine Field Signal Company. We trust that his stay with us will be cast on pleasant lines.

On receiving the June issue I found the day for despatching notes had been pushed forward a day. Why? and though there may be a reason, Why? again.

"Ye Englishmen at home safe abed" (see Henry IV., Shakespeare) haven't an inkling of my desperate dash to catch the postman each month, to ensure arrival in time, and now you make it earlier. Whadd'le a' do?

If there is one thing I admire in the Magazine it is the adverts.; so making a hasty snack off the back of the front page (that sound's twisted), I grab the goose-quill, je commencez.

The annual sports day was a splendid show (see the Sports notes), and the 8th Brigade Signal Section earned the honours of the day, for which they must be congratulated; also the 1st Brigade Signal Section, who were runners-up after a plucky fight.

A lot of hard graft was needed to turn a plain into a playground, and Corpl McDowell did wonders. Mac, our thanks!

It was due to the efforts of Sergt Hoad and Corpls Crockford, Lowe, Richardson, Russell, Farr and Challenger, that St. Dunstan's benefited so well. It shows thoughtfulness that they denied themselves the pleasures of the competitions for a worthy cause. Mac of the Intosh clan, in far Sarafand, dost remember how thy sister Nirvana foretold the future? Again she did it, but we missed thy sonorous voice. May the sand of the desert never sift through thy shirt.

Reverting to the thing that all soldier-men spend so much thought in trying to avoid, I find that an astonishing lot has been done this month. The new establishments of the Divisional H.Q. Section and Command Company are in working order; schemes and training are afoot; the musketry courses have been completed with commendable averages; the 8th Brigade Signal Section has proceeded with the Gunners to camp in France; and the intention of the C.S.O. that each man shall have a chance to improve his trade rating seems to be taking effect.

Kit inspections occur with alarming rapidity. I must protest against the benedicts who with smug satisfaction proceed to lay out kits which have kept the missus up all night, and which show such astonishing completeness. How can one monotonously repeat "one on, and one in the wash," when the fellow next cot has everything? I remove my head-gear to the chap who on the eve of inspection lays his kit on the bed and sleeps on the deck.

Social.

At last it has been realised that a P.R.I. meeting is not a Tom, Dick or Harry affair. With an energetic committee under the able guidance of Corpl Levy, and the whole-hearted assistance of Major R. C. Nixon, a transformation of the regimental institute and social life of the units has been effected. Dances which attract the garrison, concerts that leave us singing the next day, whist drives and all kinds of games, held in an institute which is now worthy of the name—all tend to make the hours of leisure pass pleasantly, and help to prove that "a contented soldier is a good one."

I must not forget the band. They also have been re-organised, and under the expert and unselfish tuition of Sigmn Candelin have made a name for themselves. They have had to refuse engagements owing to the large demand upon their services. Candelin has ambitions, and has promised us an evening's concert by the band alone. We shall remind him, and look forward to it.

N.C.O.'s Mess.

They have nothing to mention save numerous farewells, a charabanc outing, and the proposed whist drive and dance on the 17th inst. Who said Mussolini lived in Italy?

Education.

Belated congratulations to Sergt E. Nash on obtaining a 1st. From Ernie to Mac, thanks!

Marriages.

The good wishes of all ranks to Sergt J. Nutt and Sigmn E. C. Hill on each assuming a responsibility. The latter used to sing "I'm tickled to death I'm single" ever so nicely and with much emphasis. Well—well!

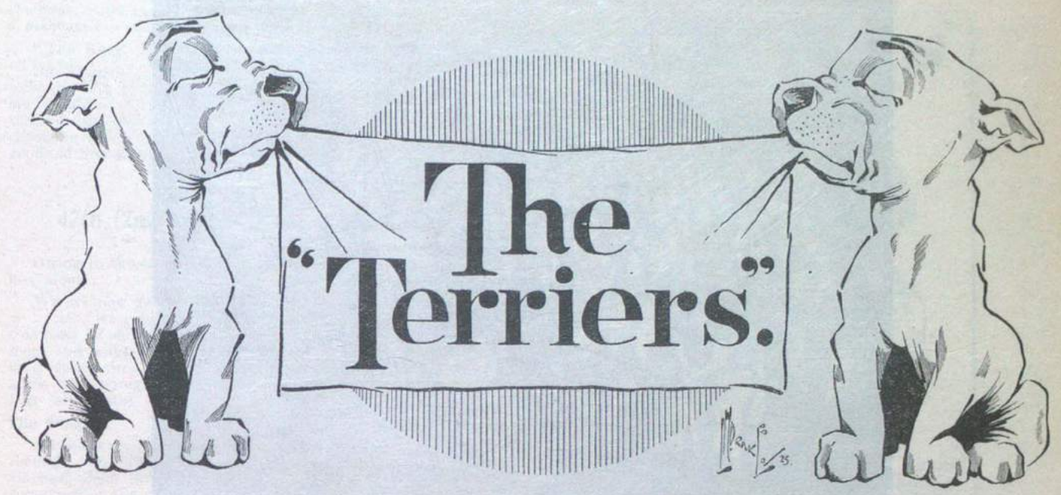
Response.

To Corpl Bloodworth and old Rhinelanders in Iraq: I swallow—er—a sob, in remembrance.

Departures.

Sergt Dickerson to 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot. He left a splendid record behind, and the units are poorer for his loss. Space restrictions forbid me to eulogise his stay here, and his sterling qualities.

PETRUS.



43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies took advantage of the Whitsuntide holidays to hold short period camps. Both Companies selected delightful spots—the former near the sea at Dawlish Warren, and the latter just out of Teignmouth. The camps were about seven miles apart, and with the sun's magic touch and the complete absence of Jupiter Pluvius, everybody spent a really delightful time.

Various signal exercises were carried out, and these were both useful and instructive.

In each Company high praise was bestowed upon the messing organisation, which gave complete satisfaction. Some feat to have no grouses!

I am greatly indebted to my esteemed friend, the O.C. No. 3 Company, for a bright account of the doings at his camp which I should like to embody in these notes, but I must respect the editor's previous warning to "cut it down." In the course of his narrative he refers to the humble quarters he procured at the "Hotel Splendide et Magnifique," and to the banquet held there on Whit Sunday evening. There was, however, a funny sequel to the feast, which he relates thus:—

"After you had all vanished I sought my modest little camp-bed, and was soon safely in the arms of Morpheus, but I had a really terrible dream. I saw a wonderful horse, after the style of Pegasus, gallop up to me, and by some mysterious means I found myself on its back, galloping, galloping, galloping, galloping—whither I knew not! I passed over hill and down dale, and could distinctly feel the effect of Pegasus leaping over what I have since thought to have been moon streaks which shot through the clefts and gaps in the hedges.

"Really, it was a thrilling experience, and of all the rides I've had none compared with this one. At times it was perfectly dreadful, not knowing where and how it would all end.

"Then, all of a sudden, I realised that my steed had stopped, and the next thing I saw was his stretched-out form on the ground. I seem to recollect seeing a few tents nearby, some trees, and some more horses—but none like Pegasus! Alas, my wonderful charger could rise no more.

"Just then I was apparently startled, and my dream cut short—'Cuckoo! cuckoo! cuckoo!' perhaps more than three times, just like that bird at Woodbury! My faithful man Friday had entered the tent with some tea, with the remark, 'As it's rather late, sir, I've brought your shaving water as well,'

"Several people to whom I've related my dream tell me that they, too, have had similar dreams; and in each case they put it down to partaking rather unwisely of junket, so I've sworn off that in future, old boy.

"After all, though, I shouldn't liked to have missed that ride!"

The O.C. No. 1 Company asks me to convey, through the medium of THE WIRE, his grateful thanks to the O.C. No. 3 Company for the very pleasant evening he spent with him and the officers of his Company.

"Old Spark" is very pleased with all the news sent to him this month.

Promotions.

No. 1 Company—L/Sergt W. Preston to be Sergeant. Sigmn A. Ward to be Corporal.
No. 3 Company—Sigmn W. Howard to be Corporal. Sigmn H. G. Taylor (Topsham), Sigmn B. T. Burridge (Crediton), Sigmn J. Field, Sigmn R. P. Forrest, and Sigmn J. P. Tanner (Plymouth), to be L/Corporals.

Congratulations to the above, also an extra one for Corpl Howard on the gift of a son to him.

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

Apologies for our absence last month; we were busy elsewhere.

The present finds us "getting into it" in earnest with week-end schemes in which the Cable Sections are particularly active, musketry, and our usual weekly programme of technical work.

On Wednesday, May 5th, No. 1 Company held an impromptu dance in place of a concert and social which, owing to circumstances, had to be abandoned. Quite an enjoyable evening was spent.

Our last weekly dance of the season took place on May 8th, and was a huge success. Once again we must praise the good work and hearty endeavours of all concerned, which have made the social season such a success.

We had the pleasure during the month of seeing among us again our old friend, C.S.M. Tyler, late of the permanent staff. The story of his welcome appears in the Sergeants' Mess notes.

A Dance Party at Stamford Brook Drill Hall.

With fortune favouring us, and Fate being kind, we shall be going next month to Herne Bay, where from July 25th to August 8th we shall be under canvas, enjoying the delights, etc., of annual training.

A. C. A.

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Sergeant's Mess.

On Friday, May 28th, a farewell smoking concert was held in honour of C.S.M. W. H. Tyler, D.C.M., who has left the unit for civilian life after 22 years' service.

C.S.M. Tyler was with this unit for four years, during which time he took the keenest interest in the welfare of the unit both in work and play. Those who know him will appreciate how much his departure is regretted both by officers and other ranks; and we wish him the best of luck in his new venture. He was responsible for the formation and rapid development of our jazz band, which is one of the best (if not *the* best) in the district.

Among those present were Lieut.-Col. A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Capt C. R. H. Firth, Lieuts Watkin, Thomas and Harris, and also a good number of old hands from various T.A. units in the district.

Owing to the fact that Signal units in London are scattered far and wide, these occasions provide an excellent opportunity of meeting old friends, and I thank those who attended for their presence and support.

Our jazz band (under Sergt Hilliard) attended and rendered selections during the evening, and we thank them for their excellent performance. The programme was as follows:—

The Jazz Band—Selections: "Double Eagle," "Barcelona," "Tin Can Fusiliers," "Row, row, Rosie," "Libestraun," "Valencia," and "Wait till to-morrow night."
Sergt Pearce— Song: "Mountains of Morne."
C.S.M. Gillin—Songs: "Two eyes of grey" and "When I leave the world behind."
Lieut Watkin—Songs: "The Trumpeter" (encore "The Stoker") and "The mistress of the master" (encore "Why shouldn't I?")
C.Q.M.S. Allan—Recitation: "The green eye of the little yellow god."
Sergt Horner—Song: "Friend o' mine."
R.S.M. Currie—Songs: "Comin' thro' the rye" and "My ain folk."
Signor Cici—Songs: "Youth," "O sole mio" (encore "Absent") and "Valencia."
Mr. Tom Gilbert—Cornet solo: "Love's old sweet song."
C.S.M. Geere—Song: "The man who carries the gun."
C.S.M. Tyler—Monologue: "That's all!"

Col. Angwin spoke briefly on the excellent work done by C.S.M. Tyler during his tour of duty with the unit, and while expressing his regret at losing him, wished him the best of luck in civil life. He then made a presentation on behalf of the officers, n.c.o.s and men of the unit.

C.S.M. Jordan (our president), on behalf of the members of the mess, made a short speech, and presented C.S.M. Tyler with a mahogany clock.

"The King" brought to an end a very enjoyable evening.

On Thursday, June 10th, we held a return shooting match with the 47th Divl. Signals from Putney. Space will not allow me to publish the actual scores of individuals, but it was a very tight finish—this unit only winning by 10 points. After the shoot we adjourned to the mess and ended the evening in the good old Signals style.

J. H.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, June 12th.

Owing to the strike we were unable to forward our notes for last month.

We are now getting busy on outdoor schemes. In connection with this, we congratulate No. 2 Cable Detachment of No. 1 Company on showing the others how to turn out a smart detachment and waggon worthy of Signals. The men volunteered in their spare time, thus showing the right spirit and esprit de corps (this paragraph will cause a lot of leg-pulling for reasons best left unsaid).

The Strike.

All ranks are to be congratulated on the way they volunteered through this difficult period. Their jobs were very varied, amongst them being stationmasters, drivers of electric trains, signalmen on the railways, distributors of the "British Gazette," an unofficial train wrecker, etc.

The 47th Divl Signals as Civil Constabulary Reserve
A few ex-soldiers are included in the group

The majority, however, joined the Civil Constabulary Reserve, of which we formed two sections. We pat ourselves on the back as, I believe, we made the only arrest in the C.C.R. This was accomplished by Constable (Sigmn) Knowles. Whilst riding a motor cycle he was hailed by a civilian and told a man was breaking into a club.

Jumping off his cycle he investigated, and after a chase over walls, and many other varied cinema stunts, he caught his man. The latter appeared to be annoyed at Knowles' interference and started to get obstreperous. Knowles, however, appeared to be *more* annoyed, and showed it by hitting the man with his baton. The latter immediately cried "Comrade" and went quietly to the police station.

We offer our congratulations to Sigmn C. Knowles, as did the magistrates at the subsequent hearing at the police court. We might mention that "the Mug" lost practically all his pay and allowances, and *not* through a hole in his pocket!

Camp.

So far as we know, our annual training has not been cancelled. We are therefore still looking forward to a good time.

Enlistments.

It is noted that in this month's Part II. Orders, the following appears: Attested as Signalman: A. S. Gray to Headquarter Company. In a later paragraph he is promoted sergeant. That's the spirit, "Dolly." It is understood he is to become our R.Q.M.S.

Chivers' Jellies

Flavoured with Ripe Fruit Juices. The family and visitors, children and adults, all delight in CHIVERS' JELLIES—they are delicious, wholesome, and refreshing.

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Appointments.

C.S.M. D. Currie appointed A/R.S.M. We offer our congratulations, and wish him the best of luck. May his stay (not stays) be long.

Operators' Trophy.

This event is to take place next month, when the Col. Waley Cohen cup is to be competed for.

Shooting.

All ranks tender their thanks to Hon. Col. Gilbertson Smith, T.D., for presenting the unit with a silver cup to be held for one year by the best shooting Company. We feel confident that the rivalry between Companies to secure this trophy will raise the standard of shooting in the unit.

Sergeants' Mess.

A party of n.c.o.s visited the mess of the 44th Home Counties Signals on Thursday, 10th inst. with the intention of avenging themselves on the miniature range. Unfortunately, they did not quite manage it, and were unlucky in being beaten by 10 points. I understand, however, that they eventually distinguished themselves by winning at "bending arms."

LEMJAY.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and S.R.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

All in the unit very much regret the unfortunate illness of our commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C. We hope his recent improvement in health may be steadily maintained, and that on his return from America, where we understand he is going next month, he may be fully restored to health and we may welcome him again at headquarters.

The non-appearance of our notes last month was due to the general disorganisation caused by the strike. Most of the officers of the unit were employed in carrying out essential services—a party of them driving motor-lorries for the L.M. & S. Railway; another party driving tramcars—and in the mess on the night on which the strike finished, the swapping of stories was reminiscent of the days when two or three foregathered on leave and swapped stories of the war.

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TURKISH EGYPTIAN VIRGINIA

TRY

BEACH'S

Jams

and

Marmalades

and Wonderful

Lemon Curd

We had two officers attached to A Corps on a course during the strike period—an experience which they evidently enjoyed.

Excepting the riding school, which was requisitioned, the troops were trained and went on as if nothing had happened, and the attendances were quite good considering the difficulties in getting to and from headquarters; and now, on the approach of camp, training is becoming more intense, and some quite good work is being done on the road on Saturday afternoons.

Our church parade takes place shortly at Hyndland Parish Church, and we anticipate a good turn out, as it is the first real church parade we have had since the war.

On Wednesday, June 9th, we sent a party of ten n.c.o.s under the command of Capt Barclay to the unveiling of the Kitchener Memorial in the Horse Guards Parade, London. Lord Kitchener was our honorary colonel for very many years, and the writer well remembers when he inspected the unit in 1911 while he was visiting Glasgow.

It is interesting to note that the total years' service of the party of eleven on parade was just over 200 years; but included in the party was our much respected pipe-major, and of course, as everyone knows, pipe-majors begin to serve at birth or very near it. He and the pipe band-sergeant, in green doublet, Royal Stuart kilt, and plaid, attracted almost as much attention on the parade as the Prince of Wales himself; and we are perfectly sure that every small boy in the crowd possessing a camera has a picture of our pipe-major.

The ceremony itself was a very simple brief affair, and somehow fitted in exactly with one's idea of the characteristics of Lord Kitchener. A more elaborate ceremony would have rather spoiled the whole effect.

As one who has soldiered for many years, and as the party who were all veterans agree, the Guards in every detail never cease to be a source of wonder.

Our unit was very proud of the fact that Lord Kitchener was our honorary colonel, and are no less proud of our present honorary colonel, Brigadier-General Godfrey-Faussett, C.M.G., who is known to us (as he was to the old Signal Services in the early days of the war) as the "Great G.F." We wish him a long and happy connection with the 52nd, many of whom served under him in France.

JUG BEER.

Edinburgh (G.P.O.) Detachment.

Training is going on steadily, and all are looking forward to the fifteen days under canvas.

As a preliminary to our annual training, we held a week-end camp at Dreghorn Rifle Range on May 29th and 30th. It was well attended, and a lot of good work was done. Rain fell heavily on Sunday and put a damper on an otherwise delightful outing.

Pay and rations were pooled, and this arrangement proved satisfactory. Not a complaint about the mess! In fact, breakfast developed into something like a champion eating contest. One man, well known as an emulator of Oliver Twist, was heard to remark that it was the only time in all his life that he felt "satisfied." Rumours of other capabilities in that direction were freely circulated, and it was declared that not one present would have had an "earthly" as champion stowaway if a certain n.c.o had been present.

Our team, which promised so well, was knocked out in the second round of the local T.A. football cup competition. The 7/9th Royal Scots were the victors; and their win of 2—1 was no disgrace to the ten men who turned out for the Signals.

Congratulations to the n.c.os who have gone up one, and to the signalmen who have obtained the first step towards the Field Marshal's baton. A number of men have had a trade test, and several have been fortunate. There may be another chance before or during camp for others who feel that they are capable of passing the test for higher rating, so it is up to all to give Group Training Orders a little quiet study to see what is required of them.

AULD REEKIE.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, June 14th.

We are still suffering from the effects of the coal dispute. No musketry has been carried out, and we are in a state of glorious uncertainty about camp. To be or not to be—that is the question.

It will be a great disappointment and a very serious blow to progress if the camp is cancelled, as no amount of week-end camps can compensate for the loss of annual training—either from the point of view of unit efficiency or individual enjoyment.

The first aspirants for the operator's bonus tried their luck on May 28th, but (like the Staph at Aldershot) some fell by the wayside. Two, however, gained their crowns—eight of them apiece, for the twelve-words-a-minute bonus was £2. These two men should qualify for the twenty-words-a-minute bonus within the next week or two.

The special drills in guard mounting duties conducted by the Adjutant on Tuesdays are well attended, and even the Prussian Guards could hardly click heels more smartly than our enthusiastic amateurs. The determined challenges of our squad doing sentry drill have frightened away all the Communists in the neighbourhood, but have attracted the attention of numerous fair damsels. I foresee complications!

Our n.c.o.s have returned from Catterick with loud praises of the way they have been instructed and entertained there. They cannot speak too highly of the help they received, and we feel that the attachment of so many (24 in all) has done much good to this unit, not only in technical knowledge but also in the friendly feeling for the S.T.C. which has been aroused. The latter is doubly appreciated now, as two or three years ago some of our n.c.o.s returned from Maresfield with rather a poor impression.

Our next week-end courses are fixed for the 19th/20th and 26th/27th June, when we propose to tackle the job of finding the communications for a division (imaginary) in defence. We hope that the communications will be more substantial than the division. No. 1 Company are studying wavemeters day and night, and it is rumoured that certain senior n.c.o.s of No. 3 Company invariably carry S.C. sets about with them

We have sustained another loss during the month, Sergt H. P. Baxter having been transferred (on promotion in the P.O.) to Evesham. He will be greatly missed, being a very keen member of the unit, and indefatigable in his duties as president of the entertainments committee. The n.c.o.s will miss his organising ability.

The n.c.o.s' mess have held a series of whist drives and dances, four in all, during the past month. These were most successful and very well attended.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Since last month's notes were written, nothing of much importance has happened. The Civil Constabulary Reserve, after being recalled for duty, were eventually disbanded on May 15th. Training is being carried on with some vigour, and preparations are being made for the forthcoming Trade Board to be held in July.

Great interest is also being shown in the weekly miniature range competitions, which are held after parades on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Some of A Class are becoming quite Bisley shots (in miniature). It would be more gratifying if a few more B Class would come along and try their hands.

No. 2 Company fired their annual course of musketry on 6th June, and some very fine shooting was made. A pool was run, entrance 3d., two prizes being given in each class. Of the trained men, Sigmn Hele won first prize with a score of 95 out of a possible 100, Sigmn Warner being second with 94. The recruits' prizes were won by Sigmn Franks with a score of 77 and Driver T. E. Scott with 73. The winners are heartily congratulated on their excellent shooting. Hard lines, Jock!

Sunday, May 30th, was celebrated throughout the county of Essex as Territorial Sunday, being the Sunday after Empire Day, and all units in the county attended Divine service, afterwards being inspected by the Deputy-Lieutenants of the county.

The parade at the Green was attended by 337th Field Batty, 232nd Medium Battery, 175th Heavy Battery, 54th (E.A.) Divl.

HAYWARD'S

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Most popular with all Ranks

When "Military" is served, what a difference to the frowns and grunts that used to greet the cold mutton! Nothing but selected vegetables, fruits and spices find their way into "Military," all carefully blended to an irresistibly mellow flavour.

THE BEST OF THE GOOD PICKLES

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Signals, 6th Battalion Essex Regiment, 1st Cadet Battery R.A., 1st Cadet C.L.B., 6th Cadet Battalion Essex Regiment, 1st Cadet Battalion Essex Regiment, ex-Service men, Special Constabulary, Legion of Frontiersmen, and Nos. 112, 130 and 132 V.A.D.s. The band of the 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals, under Bandmaster H. Neal, was in attendance.

There was a large attendance of the public. The West Ham Corporation were represented by the Mayor (Alderman J. T. Husband, J.P.), and fourteen Aldermen and Councillors. Another distinguished visitor was Mr. F. St. John Morrow, the stipendiary magistrate of the borough.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. A. Gardner, M.C., T.D., M.A., S.C.F. 54th (E.A.) Division.

At the conclusion of the service the inspecting officer, Major-General F. Ventris, C.B. (Colonel of the Essex Regiment), read a letter from the Lord-Lieutenant, Lord Lambourne. Gen. Ventris, accompanied by the mayor, then inspected the parade, and afterwards all units marched past.

Y. E. D.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Road, June 14th.

Great disappointment prevailed when it became generally known that the Whitsuntide camp was cancelled. A very suitable site had been selected at Pitsea, in grounds adjacent to the local "Pig and Gluepot." This fact provided adequate grounds for conjuring up visions of comfortable back rooms where one could "talk over things," etc.

These comfortable "castles in the air" fell to the ground, but from a training point of view, however, we shall not lose much. Those in power have conjured up a perfect darling of a scheme! This not only takes the place of the Whitsun camp, but offers everybody a splendid chance to prepare for the Trade Board in July.

One has to put in 24 hours' training, extending over a period of four weeks. Those who complete the 24 hours receive two days' pay according to rank, etc. This has been very successful to date, and the Company are turning up on the selected nights in ever-increasing numbers.

We hope that all industrial troubles will be settled soon, and thus free us from anxiety as regards the August camp.

9 a.m. Territorial Sunday. Threatening clouds. Anxious glances heavenwards. The Company, however, turned out quite well for the church parade and were later inspected by Col. F. H. D. C. Whitmore, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., D.L. at Southend. It was very pleasing to note that the Signals were the strongest on parade, and I should be a poor member of the "Corps" if I did not say that they were the smartest. As a spectator remarked when the Signals approached the Cliffs, "these are the men from Shoeburyness." The Garrison men won't mind, I hope! After all, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Roars of approval greeted the O.C.'s decision to start a canteen. This has been a long-wanted affair, and bound to meet with success. Everybody appreciates the efforts of the O.C. Company and the section officers in this. The Company carpenter got to work, and "lo and behold," within a few hours a first class bar sprang up. When this can be followed by recreation facilities, we shall have very little to grumble at.

Enlistments.

Signalmen S. Watson and W. C. Dennison. May their stay with the Company be a long and happy one.

DREITER.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

The unit generally is showing great signs of renewed life. A general re-organisation is taking place—gradually, and maybe hardly noticeable—and its effects are appreciable in the greater attendances at drills and in the keenness shewn by all ranks.

The Terriers may be a hobby; but it is one that should receive the same energy and efficiency as any other. No one, for instance, who collects stamps would expect people from all over the world to send him letters with every kind of stamp, to enable him to complete his collection at ease. Similarly, H.Q. is the place to become efficient—and H.Q. only—and instruction cannot be sent by post.

The Sunday morning rides have caught on, and are without doubt acting as appetisers to those who attend; and Sunday's dinner is becoming a thing of enjoyment to them instead of a necessary part of a self-indulgent day.

Company work is being carried out on as near active service conditions as possible. We don't get wet, and we don't get an issue of rum, but we keep to absolutely separate sections. It is good training, and is all to the good in promoting the self-reliance of the n.c.o.s

There are very few notes of personal interest, as the H.Q. being in the occupation of the Constabulary, there have been few opportunities of catching members off guard; but it is reported that the Company who went to Purfleet for musketry on June 5th are "it," that no revue at present showing can touch them for humorous interludes and general knockabout turns, and that the chorus is entirely composed of misses.

Sergt Limb, whom we welcome from Catterick, mentions that there seems to be the finger of a recent P.S. here, in the remark that he was born on a Friday. He totally denies this, and informs the writer that it was no day at all, but a haley night.

A "P.S." Appreciation.

At evening, ere the sun was set,
The "P.S." went to get a "wet";
And, standing in the tiny bar,
They overheard (with door ajar)

A nasty, throaty, husky voice
Remark: "If I'd 'ave 'ad *my* blinkin' choice,
I'd been a bloomin' P.S. bloke,
With nowt to do and never broke—

What *does* they do but read out rules,
And call us several kind of fools;
Then ambles off to 'ave a drink,
Whilst we on 'condensation' think."

This is the mind that does not know,
And thinks the "P.S." rather slow;
But they should come here in the day,
And watch them as they "earn their pay."

They'd realise they'd got a friend
Who helps us all towards our end—
Who responds to every call,
And puts us fellows first of all.

Athletics at the S.T.C., Catterick.

The individual athletic championships of the Signal Training Centre for 1926 were decided at Catterick on June 9th, 10th and 11th.

The new S.T.C. recreation ground, where they were held, was not completed till March this year, with the result that much of the turf is soft and spongy. There are also no trees or other wind screens round the ground, which in consequence is freely swept by winds from all directions.

These two disadvantages will disappear in course of time, but they were sufficient this year to make the watch an absolutely unreliable guide to the quality of the performances put up in the track events. Particularly was this the case on the second and third days, when most of the finals were decided. On both these days a very strong wind was blowing against the runners along the back and straight. Heavy rain had also considerably accentuated the sponginess of the track. These combined forces of wind and rain made the racing very hard, especially in the finals of the half and mile, which were unusually gruelling races.

L/Corpl Murphy is on a course at the Army School of Physical Training, and was not therefore able to take part in these championships. The Victor Ludorum was won by Corpl Cotterell with 18 points (three firsts and one third), with 2/Lieut C. C. Danby (one first, two seconds and one third) and L/Corpl Craig (two firsts, one second and a fourth) close runners-up with 16 points each.

The high jump had to be postponed on account of bad weather, but the remaining events resulted as follows:—

100 yards—1, Corpl Cutler; 2, 2/Lieut Danby; 3, 2/Lt Hardy; 4, L/Corpl Craig; 5, Sergt Nicks. Time 10 4/5 secs.
220 yards—1, L/Corpl Craig; 2, 2/Lieut Danby; 3, Cpl Cutler; 4, 2/Lieut Hardy; 5, Lieut Pearse. Time, 24 1/10 secs.
440 yards—1, L/Corpl Craig; 2, L/Sergt Carpenter; 3, Corpl Cotterell; 4, Sigmn Thompson; 5, Lieut Keddie. Time, 56 secs.
880 yards—1, Corpl Cotterell; 2, L/Corpl Craig; 3, L/Sergt Carpenter; 4, Sigmn Ayres; 5, Corpl Richardson. Time, 2 mins. 11 4/5 secs.
Mile—1, Corpl Cotterell; 2, Sigmn Gosling; 3, Sigmn Ayres; 4, Sigmn Broadley; 5, L/Corpl Ivison. Time, 4 mins. 57 2/5 secs.
3 miles—1, Corpl Cotterell; 2, Sigmn Broadley; 3, Corpl Richardson; 4, Dvr Gaston; 5, Sigmn Ayres. Time, 15 mins. 43 1/5 secs.
120 yards hurdles—1, L/Sergt Cobb; 2, L/Sgt Leath; 3, 2/Lieut Danby; 4, Lieut Scott; 5, 2/Lieut Moore. Time 18 secs.
Long jump—1, 2/Lieut Danby (20 ft. 4 in.); 2, L/Corpl Smith (18 ft. 11½ in.); 3, Boy Vine (18 ft. 11 in.); 4, 2/Lieut Hardy (18 ft. 3 in.); 5, Dvr Jackson (18 ft. 1½ in.).
Putting the shot—1, Sergt Mays (33 ft. 10½ in.); 2, 2/Lieut Pope-Wolferston (32 ft. 6 in.); 3, Sigmn Honeybourne (31 ft.).
Throwing the javelin—1, Corpl Gandy (141 ft. 6 in.); 2, Lieut Scott (140 ft. 10 in.); 3, Sergt Waghorn (133 ft. 2 in.); 4, L/Sergt Leath (120 ft. 9½ in.).
Throwing the discus—1, Sigmn Gibbons (96 ft. 8 in.); 2, Sergt Mays (85 ft. 3 in.); 3, Sergt Waghorn (81 ft. 6 in.); 4, Boy Twiss (80 ft. 10 in.); 5, Boy Middleton (78 ft. 5 in.).
Throwing the hammer—1, Sergt Mays (67 ft. 2 in.); 2, Sergt Waghorn (63 ft. 10 in.); 3, 2/Lieut Pargeter (62 ft. 10 in.).
Pole jump—1, Sigmn King (8 ft. 3 in.); 2, Driver O'Neill (8 ft.); 3, Corpl Miles (7 ft. 3 in.); 4, Sigmn Welsby (7 ft. 1 in.); 5, L/Corpl Chignall (6 ft. 3 in.).

Catterick Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals (Catterick) v. 5th Infantry Brigade.

Played at Catterick on May 22nd. Royal Signals won by 74 runs

5TH INFANTRY BRIGADE.

R. E. Stewart c Parsons b Cobb	6
K. W. Wright st Downer b Phillips	0
J. N. Carter c Hatfield b Cole	13
R. E. C. Goff b Phillips	3
E. M. Henderson b Phillips	0
Lieut.-Col. V. B. Thurston st Downer b Cobb	0
Major W. Clemson lbw b Cobb	6
R.S.M. E. W. Anderson c Downer b Cobb	0
W. F. Forbes c Vulliamy b Cobb	4
Rev. J. E. Preece b Scott	15
C. F. Nason not out	6
Extras	5
Total	58

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

Capt H. A. Parsons b Wright	37
L. C. Boyd retired	35
Major F. A. Drayson b Clemson	19
E. L. Vulliamy b Carter	3
E. J. Hatfield c Thurston b Clemson	4
J. A. I. Watts b Clemson	4
Major F. R. Cobb b Carter	1
Major L. G. Phillips b Carter	0
T. A. R. Scott c Carter b Clemson	14
E. S. Cole not out	7
Sergt E. Downer c Preece b Clemson	0
Extras	8
Total	132

For Royal Signals, Major Cobb took 5 wickets for 20; Major Phillips 3 for 17; E. S. Cole 1 for 3; T. A. R. Scott 1 for 5.

For 5th Infantry Brigade, Major Clemson took 5 wickets for 40; K. W. Wright 2 for 25; J. N. Carter 2 for 28.

Royal Signals (Catterick) v Yorkshire Gentlemen.

Played at York on May 24th. Royal Signals won by 147 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

Major F. A. Drayson b Newborn	7
E. L. Vulliamy c A. O. Elmhirst b Newborn	27
L. C. Boyd b J. Elmhirst	8
Capt H. A. Parsons b Newborn	10
E. J. Hatfield c Burton b Newborn	33
J. A. I. Watts b J. Elmhirst	80
E. S. Cole b Newborn	50
T. A. R. Scott c R. Elmhirst b J. Elmhirst	13
Major F. R. Cobb not out	8
Major L. G. Phillips lbw b J. Elmhirst	1
Sergt E. Downer c Warner b J. Elmhirst	0
Extras	10
Total	247

YORKSHIRE GENTLEMEN.

D. C. F. Burton c Phillips b Scott	4
C. E. Anson lbw b Phillips	9
A. O. Elmhirst run out	47
A. Summerson b Phillips	0
C. R. Elwis c Hatfield b Scott	5
E. P. Fawcett b Phillips	0
J. R. Newborn b Watts	8
J. Elmhirst b Cole	5
R. A. Warner c and b Cobb	10
B. Dodsworth not out	7
R. Elmhirst c Downer b Cobb	3
Extras	2
Total	100

For Royal Signals, Major Phillips took 3 wickets for 26; Major Cobb 2 for 9; T. A. R. Scott 2 for 32; E. S. Cole 1 for 7; J. A. I. Watts 1 for 19.
For Yorkshire Gentlemen, J. R. Newborn took 5 wickets for 80, and J. Elmhirst 5 for 100.

Royal Signals (Catterick) v. Rifle Brigade.

Played at Catterick on June 3rd. Rifle Brigade won an exciting game by 1 run.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

L. C. Boyd c Long b Todd	20
H. O. Pargeter b Kyne	0
E. L. Vulliamy b Partridge	0
Capt H. A. J. Parsons c Long b Todd	25
E. S. Cole c Stevens b Kyne	30
E. J. Hatfield lbw b Kyne	12
R.S.M. Anderson run out	1
Major F. R. Cobb b Kyne	0
T. A. R. Scott c Kyne b Todd	6
Major L. G. Phillips b Kyne	17
Sergt E. Downer not out	0
Extras	2
Total	113

RIFLE BRIGADE.

Major H. F. Campbell c Phillips b Scott	15
Rifleman Long c Cole b Scott	2
Major A. A. Todd c Downer b Scott	59
F. Stephens b Scott	3
C.Q.M.S. Wates b Scott	8
Rifleman Kyne b Cole	4
Capt H. B. Norcott b Phillips	4
C.Q.M.S. E. Partridge st Downer b Cobb	8
Sergt Fry b Scott	0
Major R. O. Bridgman not out	4
Sergt Wilkins c Pargiter b Cobb	3
Extras	4
Total	114

For Rifle Brigade, Rifleman Kyne took 5 wickets for 34; Major Todd 3 for 41; C.Q.M.S. Partridge 1 for 27.
For Royal Signals, T. A. R. Scott took 6 wickets for 37; Major Cobb 2 for 3; E. S. Cole 1 for 30; Major Phillips 1 for 40.

Training Batt. Royal Signals v. 4th Batt. Royal Tank Corps

Played at Catterick on May 29th. Training Battn. won by 108 runs.

TRAINING BATTALION, ROYAL SIGNALS.

Capt H. A. J. Parsons not out	113
E. L. Vulliamy run out	10
L. C. Boyd b Browning	0
H. O. Pargeter c Uniacke b Davies	42
Sergt Carpenter not out	10
Extras	6
Total for 3 wickets (declared)	181

4TH BATTN. ROYAL TANK CORPS.

Preedy c Williams b Scott	2
Martin c Scott b Cobb	13
Lieut Caley b Williams	0
Major Cradock-Hartopp lbw b Cobb	28
Lieut Richards b Cobb	11
Lieut Tuson st Downer b Cobb	3
Major Groves run out	0
Capt Davies c Boyd b Cobb	0
Sergt Browning c Boyd b Cobb	1
Lieut Uniacke c sub b Cobb	9
Sergt Waters not out	2
Extras	4
Total	73

For Royal Signals, Major Cobb took 7 wickets for 14; Sigmn Williams 1 for 8; Lieut Scott 1 for 31.
For Royal Tank Corps, Capt Davies took 1 wicket for 29, and Sergt Browning 1 for 86.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket.

We have met E Company and the School of Signals to date, and were beaten on both occasions. Against E Company, Dvr Wing, Sigmn Strike and Sergt Wensley were top scorers with 25, 21 and 19 respectively. Capt Southall, the V.O., made a brilliant 44 against the School.

Athletics.

On May 10th we beat the School of Signals. We won the 100 and 220 yards, high jump, mile, 2 miles, and putting the shot. Both hurdle teams were disqualified.

On May 17th E Company beat us by one point. We won the 440 yards, mile, 2 miles, and the shot. Both hurdle teams were again disqualified. The shot was only won by the narrowest of margins; we thought we had lost it.

On May 25th we competed against F Company, and only won two events—the hurdles and the mile. We lost the hurdles, really, but the disqualification of F's team gave us the points. The sprints were only lost by a couple of inches, but we were beaten all the same. I must congratulate Corpl Cutler on the splendid way in which he ran in the 220 yards relay; he took over about 30 yards behind his opponent, and yet was only beaten by 2 inches or so. It was a great race. He is running better now than ever before.

We met A and B Companies' combined teams on May 31st, and won by one point only. We thought it was a "snip," too. We lost the 880 yards, 2 miles and shot, and were again disqualified in the hurdles. (You don't seem to have got the right idea, Spike; you *must* jump *over* them!) Owing to the ingenuity of some bright spark, Corpl Miles was left right out of this meeting altogether, and I need hardly mention that had he been included in our steeple-chasing team we should have gained another point.

On June 4th we met D Company. There seems to be some doubt as to the result: we either won or drew. I have tried hard to get the result from a reliable source, but have been unsuccessful.

The Relay League is now finished. The positions have not yet been published, but we should be higher than we are. The officers and n.c.o.s have done all in their power to assist and encourage the men, but they don't seem to take sufficient interest in it. Now come on, C! there was a time, not so very far distant either, when a large number of shields and cups reposed in our Company office window. People thought they were taken on our inventory. We have the talent to regain our former reputation.

Tug-of-War.

For the second year running, we have won the inter-Company League. The shortest pulls were against A and B Companies, which lasted only seven and eight seconds. I think the longest was against D—22 3/5 secs. We are now on the look-out for fresh opponents to conquer, so that we can get some more pipes, tobacco, and jack-knives.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket.

Cricket is going quite well, although matches are few. We have played several practice games in the Company, and have discovered a certain amount of latent skill. Sigmn Stuart beats the ball with considerable dexterity; Sigmn Forbes is quite a useful left-hand medium-pace bowler, who would do well to take more trouble in bowling a good length; Boy Estorffe shows promise as a bat; and Boys Jerram and Holt are very fair all-rounders. Sigmn Welch, of course, remains his own inimitable self!

Athletics.

After a certain amount of hesitation, we have collected—scraped together, perhaps, is more truthful—an athletic team. We have so far taken part in three matches, and our heroes have acquitted themselves nobly. We congratulate 2/Lieut Keddie on running a very fine quarter against C Company. Results: v. School, 5 events each; v. E Company, lost by 3½—6½ points; v. C Company, lost by 4—6.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of Corpl Pronger, we have turned out quite a presentable tug-of-war team. We have had three contests, winning two and losing one. Results: v. School, won by 2 pulls to 0; v. E Company, lost by 2 pulls to 0; v. A and B Companies, won by 2 pulls to 0.

The S.T.C. individual athletic championships have just finished. Our representatives performed with a certain amount of success, as shown: 100 yards, Sergt Nicks, 5th; 220 yards, Lieut Pearse, 5th; 440 yards, Lieut Keddie, 5th; discus, Sergt Waghorn, 3rd; javelin, Lieut Scott 2nd, Sergt Waghorn 3rd, Sergt Leath 4th; hurdles, Sergt Leath 2nd, Lieut Scott 4th.

Standards: 440 yards, Lieut Pearse (did not run in final); javelin, Lieut Scott and Sergt Waghorn.

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Had the Company rallied round the flag at once instead of waiting for a defeat to smarten them up, we could have again boasted an undefeated season in the inter-Company Relay League. As it is, we lost the first match to an F Company team, composed largely of boys, by the margin of 14 points to 11. The remainder of the Companies fell before the old "green vests," so that we finish the season second to the undefeated F. The Company team are to be congratulated upon this performance, but—it *could* have been better!

Many points were collected in the individual championships, and we offer our congratulations to all concerned. A full report will be found elsewhere.

In the cricket world we have played but one game—against C Company, whom we defeated by 7 wickets. That little cricket team is going to do even better than the athletic team.

If only for the benefit of two—one who lashes permanent poles together in bundles of ten for transportation purposes, and the other who dresses and erects twenty-five a day—we suggest that tossing the caber be introduced into the Corps sports next season.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Personalities.

One of the F Company l/corporals, known to all ranks far and wide as "Pip" Jones of fistic fame, has compiled a record in the past season which stands second to none, and adds more laurels to the magnificent collection which already stands to the credit of Signals. His performances have been as follows:—

Beat the Danish international on points at Aldershot on April 30th. This fight ranked among the best of the evening.

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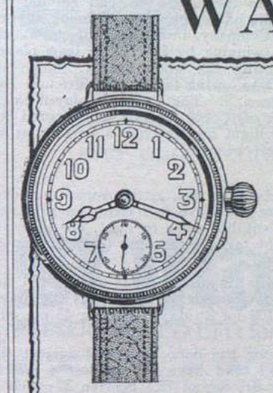

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Lost in second series of the A.B.A. championships at the Albert Hall on April 28th, after beating the best fighter in the first series.

Now, ye aspirants to success in the boxing world, fill the gym. when next season's work commences, and practise finding the weak spots situated in the vicinity of your opponent's abdominal muscles.

School of Signals, Catterick.

Soccer.

Although it is rather late to publish football results, the account of our last match of the season will no doubt interest readers. It was against E Company, in the final of the knock-out competition, the School winning by 3—0. Our team played better than ever before during the whole season, completely overwhelming E Company, who (owing to the good defence) had very little opportunity of scoring. The forwards played excellently under the leadership of Corpl Jackson, who scored the three goals, one being a brilliant header from a perfect centre by Dvr Thompson on the left wing.

Cricket.

Being the proud possessors of our own pitch—a wooden wicket in front of the orderly room—we have had plenty of practice; and although no hidden talent has come to light, our selection committee have had no light task in selecting teams, owing to the number of aspirants.

Our match in the inter-Company League was against C Company, whom we defeated by 8 wickets—C Company 95 (Major Phillips 7 for 34); School, 108 for 2 (Major Drayson 43 not out, R.S.M. Anderson 44 not out).

The week-end cricket team has done very well against the village teams in the district, and have not yet lost a match. Some results: Ravensworth 40; School 72. Scorton 37; School 64. Sumertons 71; School 123. Bellerby 60; School 108.

Although a lot of credit for these results is due to our "Snowy," some of it must go to "Tiny," as he is put on to bowl first. He being such a small fellow (about 6 ft. 2 in.), the batsmen quickly get a crick in the neck watching him deliver the ball. This is where the strategy comes in; after two or three overs he is taken off and Snowy is put on. Now, think! the batsmen have been hurting their necks to watch Tiny, and then we go to the other extreme and put on a man who needs the aid of a step ladder to climb on to a form. We ask you, would *you* look down and suffer torture? No, you wouldn't!—the pavilion is too inviting.

Athletics.

The School have managed to put up a fairly good show in the inter-Company Athletic League. Teams were always hard to find owing to our strength being so small; still, we turned out the runners, even if they could not *run*. Our 440 yds. and weight-putting teams won every time. Results as follows: C Coy. 16; School 14. School 16; A and B Companies 13. School 15; D Company 14. F Company 18; School 12. E Company 18; School 12.

In the S.T.C. championships we furnished two "champs," one being Sergt Mays in the weight-putting, and the other Sigmn King in the pole jump. Both are congratulated.

Royal Signals, Aldershot.

The results of cricket matches played to date are as follows:—

v. R.A.F. Farnborough, lost. R.A.F. 92 for 4; Signals 56.
v. 3rd Pack Brigade R.A., won. 3rd Pack Brigade 57; Signals 96 (R.S.M. Cussens 6 for 19).
v. 2nd Battn. K.R.R.C., won. Signals 122; K.R.R.C. 88 (L/Corpl Askew 6 for 35).
v. R.A.S.C., drawn. R.A.S.C. 162 for 7; Signals 152 for 5.
v. 1st Pack Brigade R.A., lost. 1st Pack Brigade 100; Signals 63 (Sigmn Ewers 5 for 27).
v. A.E.C., won. A.E.C. 53; Signals 63 (Sigmn Ewers 4 for 15; Corpl Morphew 4 for 19).
v. 2nd Battn. Grenadier Guards (Command knock-out), won. Signals 40 and 81 for 6; 2nd Grenadier Guards 42 and 41 (R.S.M. Cussens 4 for 14 and 7 for 13; L/Corpl Askew 5 for 18).

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot

Results of cricket matches played by No. 3 Company:—

v. No. 3 Company 2nd Divl. Signals. Lost at home by 37 runs on May 12th.
v. No. 1 Company 1st Divl. Signals. Won at home by 15 runs on May 15th.
v. P Company R.A.S.C. Won at home by 57 runs on May 19th.
v. 38th Field Company R.E. Lost at home by 14 runs on May 26th.
v. No. 1 Company 1st Divl. Signals. Lost away by 83 runs on May 29th.
v. 5th Field Company R.E. Won away by an innings and 6 runs on June 7th.
v. 38th Field Company R.E. Lost away by an innings and 15 runs on June 8th.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

The general strike was responsible for the postponement of our proposed unit sports from May until the middle of July. This will give us a little more chance to train our entrants. Despite the fact that we lag far behind Nos. 2 and 3 Companies with regard to trophy points, it is hoped that our teams give a good show.

Something could be said here regarding Company sub-committees in the various branches of sports. Apparently a good many committee-men do not realise what they are responsible for, and leave the bulk of the work to the sports officers. With a little more co-operation and keenness, they could still further encourage the enthusiastic ones in this Company.

Our cricket fixture with No. 3 Company was lost to a better team. I think, with a little more searching, we could have fielded a stronger side and given a much better account of ourselves.

No. 2 Company.

The Company tent-pegging team did fairly well at Manor Park on Whit Monday, securing enough points in the morning to enable them to run in the evening; but owing to the morning scores being tacked on to the evening's, they were among the "also rans."

We are hard on No. 3 Company's tail for the unit trophy—only half a point behind at the time of going to press; but we are going to get a few "pints" out of the swimming, and our athletes are dark horses. Judging by the way some men sprint away from the stables when their saddles are done, there is still some concealed talent to be found.

We have five good horses in training for jumping at the unit sports, under the able guidance of Lieut A. E. Morrison, R.A., and the C.S.M.

Cricket.

Every credit is due to our C.O., who has led the cricket team to victory. We easily beat No. 1 Company on June 4th, No. 1 scoring 31 and 15, to which we replied with 116. Capt Mathew played a great game, but the day's honours fell to Sigmn Ewers for his splendid bowling. Capt Sketch should be approached if any information is required about the Company's bowling!

No. 3 Company did not carry out the rumour and wipe the floor with us. It was a good match, played on June 8th. We batted first and scored 53. No. 3 smiled, but disaster befel them and they were all out for 41. Again our Company's bowling predominated. What about cricket now, Threeco?

The match of the season was B Section No. 1 Company v. E Section No. 2. B Section won. E Section have protested, as Mr. Collier did not say beforehand that he was a pro. Anyway, he's "eyes down for no balls and a wicket every time, sir." Shame!

Now, No. 2 Company, wire in everybody! and let us see the trophy come away from the sports field in *our car*—if it is only a G.S. wagon.

No. 3 Company.

Of late the weather has not been too kind, but still we have managed to play one or two games of cricket, the most important being the trophy match versus No. 2 Company. They batted first and knocked up 52 runs. The ball was greasy, although the pitch was in good condition. Later the sun appeared, and when we went in the conditions were not so good for run-making; yet we were comparatively sanguine of victory—but failed by 11 runs.

The match No. 1 versus No. 3 was postponed owing to rain, and as yet no other date has been fixed.

The unit sports are arranged for the last week in July, so the sprinters, long-distance runners, and those who participate in the field events are busily engaged in endeavouring to get that little extra which makes all the difference when the occasion demands.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott

Unit Sport.

Last month we reported our football victory in the junior cup. Ever since, the weather has been so bad for cricket that we have had to cancel several of our matches. We have the makings of a good unit eleven, and have a full fixture list for the season. Several of our cricketers have been chosen to play for the Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot.

E Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.

Cricket is in full swing, or at least almost so, for if the clerk of the weather would only be a little more considerate we should be able to complete fixtures to date. We have played four, and won each by a considerable margin; in fact, we are so proud of our record that we are taking on a regimental team. What about a game, D?

Athletics.

Next week the 3rd Divl. Signals are holding their annual sports at Bulford, and we have been kindly invited to participate. We take this opportunity of thanking the C.O. and sports committee, although the sports will be a thing of the past when these notes appear. We can assure the 3rd Signals that our fellows will uphold the good name of the Corps.

The heats of the flat racing and the eliminating rounds of the individual jumping were run off, and we came through with flying colours. The following obtained places for the finals on June 15th and 16th:—

W.O.s, n.c.o.s and signalmen, individual jumping—L/Corpl Comyns, Sigmn Hill, Sigmn Hull.
Signalmen and drivers, jumping—Sigmn Hill, Sigmn Hudson, Sigmn Edwards.
Hurdles, final—Sigmn Tirrell.
440 yards—Sigmn Wood.

Our placings in to-day's finals were: 3 miles, Sigmn Donaghy, 2nd; 220 yards, Sigmn Homan, 3rd.

Considering the strength of the Troop, the results obtained reflect great credit on all competitors. A fuller report on the whole sports will appear in our next.

No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Manston, Kent.

Cricket.

In the first round of the 1st Air Defence Brigade knock-out competition we won our match on May 11th, our opponents being the 2nd A.A. Battery R.A.

The Battery batted first and scored 38 runs, including 2 extras, the highest individual score being 15 by Lieut Blaker. No less than seven wickets fell to catches, the other three being clean bowled by Sergt Sheale. Sergt Sheale and Capt MacSwiney each took 5 wickets for 4 runs.

Lieut Rogers and L/Sergt Fleet between them scored 39 runs and then retired, the remainder of the side bringing the total up to 84, including 6 extras.

Considering the circumstances under which the match was played, we put up a good show for the first match of the season. Owing to the unit leaving Blackdown for the practice camps, we were unable to play the second round and withdrew from the competition.

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We played No. 3 Company 2nd Divl. Signals in a friendly match on May 17th. Runs were very hard to get, and we were all out for 42, the successful bowlers being Corpl Berry (5 for 22), Sigmn Hayes (3 for 11), and L/Corpl Askew (1 for 5). No. 3 Company scored 34, and six wickets fell to catches. The bowling averages were: Capt MacSwiney, 4 for 11; Sergt Sheale, 1 for 8; and Sigmn McAndrew, 4 for 14. It was a great pity that rain prevented a return match, as another meeting between the sides ought to have produced a fine game.

No. 2 M.A.B. Signal Section, Larkhill.

We have done nothing in the sporting line just lately, owing to disorganisation through transfers; but now we seem fairly settled, we will get our backs to it as soon as practice camp is over. We live in hopes of creating a stir amongst our friends of the R.A. here.

This week we intend having a competition shoot on the miniature range, full details of which will appear in our next.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore

The Wallace Football Cup:—

S.T.C. v. C Company, Hampshire Regt., draw 1—1.
S.T.C. v. C Company Hampshire Regt. (replay), won 2—1.
S.T.C. v. H.Q. Hampshire Regiment, draw 1—1.

Thanks to Capt E. Humphries, M.C., D.C.M., an inter-platoon hockey and football tournament is now in full swing, and the talent that has already been found is really surprising. I intend showing you "how they stand" in next month's notes.

D Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Football.

Owing to inclement weather, matches have been scarce. We managed, however, the following: v. D Company K.O.R. Regt., lost 2—1; v. R.A.F. Hill Depot, drew 2—2.

Tennis.

We have only just got going on the court, so nothing much has been accomplished to date.

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The sergeants attended a tennis at-home at Lower Topa, and came off second best. The R.A.F. came out easy winners.

We have hopes, later on, of getting up tournaments between the three clubs in Upper Topa. The great drawback to tennis, of course, is the extraordinary weather we have been experiencing lately.

Hockey.

The weather once again interfered with quantity. Three games only have been played: v. R.A.F. Hill Depot, lost 4—3; v. Royal Sussex, lost 2—1; v. D Company K.O.R. Regt., won 3—2.

Billiards.

The corporals gave the sergeants a "friendly," from scratch; the former coming off winners fairly easily.

Sigmn G. Ramsay is to be congratulated on winning both the tournament arranged by the junior n.c.o.s and men, and the prize for the highest break (38).

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Hockey.

This has been well to the fore this month, as the results given below show: Played 6, won 3, lost 3, is quite good going when one considers the teams we play. An Indian regimental eleven is always a tough proposition, therefore to be beaten is not to be disgraced. We have still one or two comparatively weak spots in our team, but with some luck and plenty of training, we should be able to remedy them before the next serious hockey comes along. The forwards have recently shown a welcome return to shooting form, although there is still room for further improvement.

v. Kohat Fort R.A., won by 3—1 (L/Sergt Page 3).
v. 2/12th F.F. Regt., lost by 2—0.
v. 2/9th Jat Regt., lost by 2—1 (L/Sergt Page).
v. 2/1st Punjab Regt., lost by 2—1 (Lieut R. W. Morgan).
v. Kohat Fort R.A., won by 5—2 (Capt T. Wood 2, L/Sergt Page 1, Naik Ramchander 2).
v. Staff and Departmental, Kohat, won by 5—1 (L/Sgt Page 1, Sigmn E. Cole 4).

Football.

Soccer has been practically at a standstill, only four matches being played, versus Staff and Departmental, Kohat: lost 6—1; and three draws of 0—0, 2—2, and 2—2.

Boxing.

The undermentioned are to be heartily congratulated on their respective performances in the recent Northern Command Signals boxing tournament. Of the four entries from this unit, three returned with trophies (not bad for beginners!)

L/Corpl H. J. Scott—welters.
Sigmn G. Pascoe (probably remembered by a few at home)—special contest winner.
Sigmn H. Lovatt—bantam.

The other entry, Sigmn H. Darlington (welter) was unfortunate, losing a good fight on points.

As Signalmen Pascoe and Lovatt have only just joined us from the Depot, they have certainly made a good start.

No. 1 (Line) Co. B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Since the last notes, the unit has played the following games:

Cricket.

v. the Sergeants' Mess, won by 2 wickets and 17 runs.

Hockey.

v. Indian ranks, won by 2—1.
v. W/T Company, drawn, 1—1.
v. W.T Company, won by 2—0.
v. Abe's team (from the unit), lost by 1—0.
v. W/T Company, match abandoned when we were leading by 1—0.
v. Query Club (Indians), won by 6—1.
v. Police, lost by 4—1.

Football.

v. K.R.R.C., won by 3—2.
v. W/T Company, lost by 3—1.
v. K.R.R.C., won by 4—0.
v. W/T Company, won by 6—0. Rather a washout, as W/T asked us to put out a team of novices, and as there were not eleven novices available some of our regular players had to turn out.
v. K.R.R.C., lost by 5—1. Also a misleading score, as the team we played was the battalion one which was just preparing for the Murree tournament.

It may be added that the other matches v. The K.R.R.C. were against Company teams.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Recently we held our Troop mounted sports. Fortunately the weather conditions were excellent, and the various events were keenly contested and enjoyed. The inter-Section cup was won by the Wireless, who finished nine points in the lead. Sergt T. P. Brett (Wireless) did extremely well and justly received the cup given to the best man-at-arms.

The results of the events are as follows:—

Best officer's turn out—1, Capt H. D. Orr; 2, Capt R. Neale.
Best turn out other ranks—1, Sergt Yates; 2, S.M. Gidney.
Lloyd Lindsay race—L/Corpl Nimmo's team. Time, 1 min. 20 secs.
Tug-of-war—Corpl Ayton's team.
Open jumping—1, L/Sergt T. P. Brett; 2, Sigmn Coventry.
Wrestling—L/Corpl Manning's team.
Alarm race—Corpl Ayton.
Tent-pegging (officers)—Capt. R. Neale.
Tent-pegging (other ranks)—L/Corpl Mitson.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Billiards.

In our last notes we were confident of retaining the Soldiers' Club six-a-side billiard cup. Our hopes have materialised, the team winning the trophy for the third year in succession. The presentation was made by the president of the Garrison Sports Club, and each member was the recipient of a replica. Thus two more cups are added to our collection. (Last month the trophy was styled the Volunteer cup; we regret the error.)

Shooting.

On April 15th the members of the association visited the H.K.V.D.C. headquarters to compete in a friendly match against the Engineer Company. The latter were the victors by 84 points. Better luck in the return match!

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

From May 8th–13th the junior n.c.o.s and men held a very successful snooker tournament, resulting in Signalmen Harper and Mould beating L/Corpl Brown and Sigmn Francis in the final, after a good game.

Tennis.

The Company have played two matches during this month, and on each occasion won rather easily. On May 3rd they beat the R.A.S.C. by 14 games to 7, and on May 4th beat No. 3 Company by 16 games to 2.

Cricket.

The season has opened, and to date we have done rather well, winning four matches and losing two, although without one of our best players (Corpl Ryan, admitted to hospital). Sergt Yates seems to have got his eye down, and is doing very well with the bat (Ee-ee, by goom! that wur a good 'un). Results are as follows:—

May 5th v. No. 3 Company, won by 108 runs.
May 9th v. D Battery R.H.A., won by 102 runs.
May 17th v. 30th M.T. Company R.A.S.C., lost 1 wkt. 15 runs
May 22nd v. 2nd Field Company, won by 70 runs.
May 25th v. No. 3 Company, won by 3 runs.
May 26th v. J. Battery R.H.A., lost by 63 runs.

Swimming and Water Polo.

Judging by the enthusiasm shown, we should go a long way in this department again this year. Practice games of polo and relay races are the order of the day. The committee will have a difficult task to pick teams, owing to the numbers showing considerable promise of becoming Army champions.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Athletics.

The athletic season of 1926 has now closed, the Y.M.C.A. sports at Gezira on May 1st being the final as far as open meetings are concerned.

Sigmn Harmsworth won the long jump with a leap of 20 ft. 7 in. (a well-known French athlete being an inch behind), and was second in the 120 yards hurdles, beaten by a matter of inches.

Sigmn Beeton carried off both the mile and three miles, and becomes the holder of the Roberts-Hughes challenge cup for the year, winning the mile in 4 mins. 42 secs., easing up.

Sigmn Elliott ran very well in the 440 yards, but the opposition was rather too warm for him to get placed and he finished fourth, the race being won by a well-known Greek Olympic competitor. Athletes of several nationalities competed at these sports.

Billiards.

For the first time an inter-Services billiards championship is being held in this country, and we are in great hopes of supplying the individual winner in Sigmn Drury. Up to the time of penning these notes he has played through two rounds, winning each by a very large margin of points. Keep it up, Taffy!

Cricket.

The Company has played a few games during the past month with varying success, L/Corpl Matthews and Signalmen Hyde and Smith displaying quite good form both with bat and ball.

Swimming.

This is one of the most popular sports of the lot, and there are very few members of this unit who cannot swim. Several of our cracks are now in training for the forthcoming Command championships.

Rhine Signal Units.

Annual Sports Day.

Our annual sports were held on May 20th and 21st in glorious sunshine. A good day's sport was achieved on the last-named

Photos by Sergt Potts, Rhine Command Signal Co.

day, on which all the finals were competed. Keenness was shown to the last event, and judging from what we have seen we should go far in the Rhine Army athletic meeting this year. The Section winners are as follows:—

Throwing the cricket ball—8th Brigade.
Putting the shot—8th Brigade.
Long jump—8th Brigade.
Throwing the javelin—D.R.s and M.T.
Throwing the discus—8th Brigade.
High jump—1st Brigade.
100 yards relay—8th Brigade.
880 yards relay—D.R.s and M.T.
Pole jump—8th Brigade.
220 yards relay—8th Brigade.
440 yards relay—D.R.s and M.T.
120 yards hurdles—8th Brigade.
1 mile relay—D.R.s and M.T.
1 mile race—D.R.s and M.T.

The mile open to the Garrison drew 25 competitors.

The ladies' needle-threading race drew uncountable numbers. One gross of needles turned out to be insufficient, as also did the potatoes for the potato race.

Being the first annual sports to be held on the Rhine this year, it attracted quite a huge crowd to pick up tips; and I must say that if they follow our programme, they won't be far out.

I take the opportunity, in these columns, of thanking the committee and others who rendered assistance at the meeting.

Cricket.

The season commenced with an easy win, when in a league match we obtained 202 for 9 wickets (declared) against our opponents' 66. The keenness shown by the team is commendable.

Owing to the scarcity of pitches in Wiesbaden, ours has been made into a garrison one, and we are politely told that we are allowed to play when others don't need it. Though the ground is only five minutes' walk from the barracks, in beautiful rural surroundings, it is not exactly a crowd which gathers to watch. The delightful social family gatherings at the games in Cologne are sadly missed. Hubbies, please note!

Tennis.

This game is strenuously played. Nothing like practice to improve play! It is intended to challenge the garrison in an "other ranks" tournament. A tournament is at present in progress, which has brought to light hidden prowess. Good!

Athletics.

The Worcester Regiment challenged us to a meeting at their barracks, and we took away the honours by 10 points to 8. A delightful afternoon was spent, and we must congratulate our sports officer, Lieut Barton, and the team (consisting of Corpl Bramwell, L/Corpl Hibbs and Signalmen Peake, Thompson, Jessup, Hinks, Orpwood, Miller, Irving and Westmore) on upholding the traditions of the Corps.

We were entertained afterwards to a scrumptious tea, and a return engagement was made for June 16th, the result of which I will publish in next month's issue. It is with renewed confidence that we look forward to the Rhine Army athletic meeting.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals, Cardiff.

The inter-Company football matches which were postponed last autumn owing to unforeseen circumstances, have now been played.

The first, No. 1 v. No. 3 Company, ended after a keen and cleanly-contested match in a victory for No. 1 with a score of 3—2.

The second, No. 2 v. No. 1 Company, was won by No. 2 by the margin of 4—2, the game being keenly contested despite very unpleasant weather conditions.

The final match—No. 2 Company v. No. 3 Company—is being played shortly, and will be reported in our next notes.

We are greatly indebted to Major Linton, D.S.O., commanding the Depot Welsh Regiment, for the loan of his sports ground for all these matches.

54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

Cricket.

The first cricket match that the unit has taken part in this season was played against the 6th Battn. Essex Regiment on Saturday, June 12th, at The Cedars, West Ham, resulting in a win for Signals by 28 runs, the 6th Battalion being all out for 74. C.Q.M.S. Smith is to be congratulated on his fine batting, and L/Corpl Nichols on his bowling. Dvr Cashman shows great promise as a wicket-keeper. It is hoped that a return match will be arranged in the near future.

Boxing.

An inter-unit boxing tournament is being arranged for July 2nd, to be held on the parade ground at the Green. Units participating are 232nd Medium Battery, 175th Heavy Battery, 54th Signals, 6th Battn. Essex Regt., and 17th Battn. County of London Regiment. It is hoped to stage about twenty-five fights.

Shooting.

Results of miniature range competition held on May 25th/27th —Application; ordinary targets.

1st, timepiece—L/Corpl Park (19).
2nd, combination ash-tray—Sigmn Warner (18).

Grouping competition held on June 1st/3rd:—

A Class—1st, silver medal, L/Corpl Park (1 in. group).
2nd, bronze medal, Sigmn Coffey (1½ in. group).

B Class—1st, silver medal, Sigmn Morcom (1 in. group).
2nd, bronze medal, Sigmn Field (1½ in. group).

Snapshooting competition held on June 8th/10th:—

A Class—1st, silver musketry spoon, Sigmn Coffey (5 hits).
2nd, bronze medal, Sigmn Warner (5).
3rd, bronze medal, C.Q.M.S. Smith (4).

B Class—1st, silver musketry spoon, Sigmn Farthing (3).

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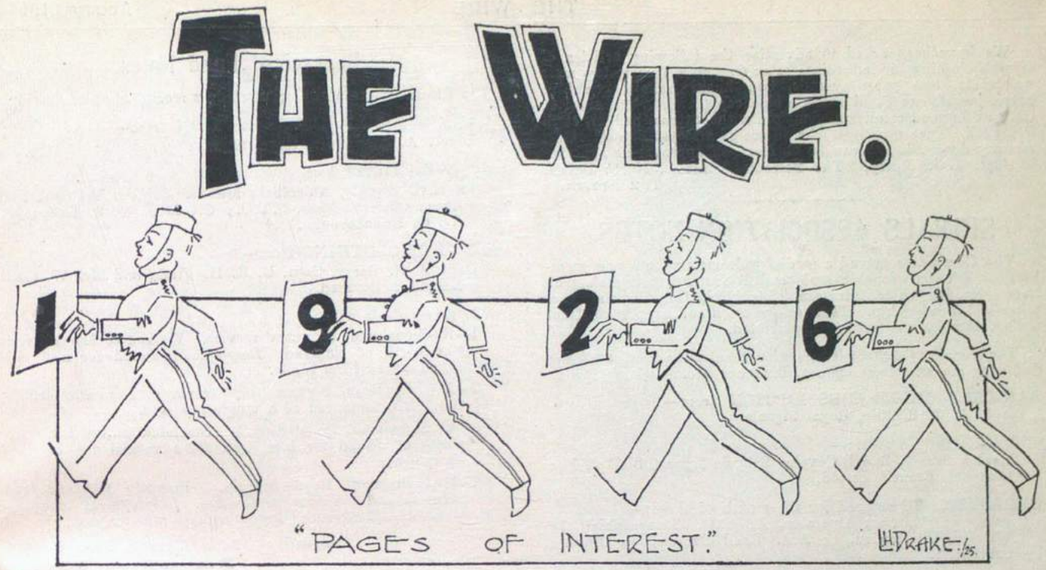

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VOL. VII.—No. 78 AUGUST, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

We heartily congratulate the undermentioned officers and warrant officer upon their respective honours as announced in "The London Gazette" of 3rd July:—

Lieut.-Gen. Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., to be K.C.B.
Col. J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., to be C.B.E.
Major Charles J. S. Le Cornu, M.C., to be O.B.E.
No. 2306314 Warrant Officer (Class II.) C.S.M. Clarence F. Andrews to be M.B.E.

❀ ❀ ❀

The following extract from a letter received from an officer serving with Royal Signals in the Middle East will be of interest to readers generally as shewing how eagerly the Corps Journal is anticipated and perused by oversea readers:—

"I have been too busy recently to do more for 'The Cause' in general, and THE WIRE in particular, than to urge on the new ninepenny scheme of membership, and to read the magazine from cover to cover. It is a jolly fine magazine these days, and I am voicing other fellows' sentiments as well as my own when I say that I wish Companies of the S.T.C. would give a *regular* supply of notes. After all, the S.T.C. news is to us 'home news,' and is very like news of one's old school; for if the Company personnel does change frequently, the Staff hangs on for longer periods—and the spirit of the school remains the same, whether habited in Bedford, Maresfield, Crowborough, or Catterick."

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked to publish, for general information, a letter recently received from an ex-Lance-Corporal of Royal Signals who emigrated to Australia under the Overseas Settlement Scheme in December, 1925:—

c/o Mrs. Page, 137 Morgan Street,
Wagga Wagga, N.S.W., Australia,
May 23rd, 1926.

Sir,—I am just writing to let you know, as I promised, the state of affairs regarding work here in Australia, for any men getting discharged from the Signals.

The chances for telegraphists are excellent, and men who can do about 26 words per minute each way are "made" for life. The telegraphists here get anything from £6 to £10 (with overtime) per week; *and if they only get out of the town and keep steady, they are O.K.*

Linemen also stand a good chance of lucrative employment, providing they can afford to wait for a month or so after enrolment.

Drivers need never worry, *so long as they are not afraid of hard work*, if they will only *get away into the country on farms*. Even if they come out under the Government scheme they could do a lot worse, as it only *takes about twelve months* to clear off any debt owing to the State.

There are never less than 1000 advertisements per day in the Sydney papers for men to fill various vacancies in looking after race horses, and various other openings which any driver could take. The basic wage for any man over 21 years is hardly ever less than £4 5s. per full week.

I have not seen much of Australia, but everywhere people are calling for men to work. So, sir, if you will only tell fellows who are nearly due for discharge the few things I have explained, I am sure no man need worry about work. The fare out here is £16 10s., and I think it is even less under the Government scheme.

I have started as a telegraphist at the address given, and I can only say that any telegraphist is almost certain of at least £5 per week.

Trusting this letter will be of use to some of the men, and also that I am not doing wrong in writing to you.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
W. J. WALKER,
ex-L/Corpl. 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

❀ ❀ ❀

Considerable inconvenience is still being caused by the late arrival of Unit Notes and other matter for publication in this magazine. Will correspondents please note that the *closing date for all contributions is* THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH, and that the Committee cannot *guarantee* the inclusion of any article which arrives after that date.

We have been asked to advertise the following articles of officer's clothing for immediate sale: One mess jacket, two mess waistcoats, two pairs overalls, two khaki jackets, one blue patrol jacket, one Field officer's blue cap (height 6 ft., chest 40 ins.; all in good condition, complete with buttons, badges, etc.). Price £5. They constitute the effects of a Royal Signals officer recently deceased, and can be obtained on approval by applying to Capt. J. R. Barry, "The Balconies," Instow, North Devon.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Committee extend a cordial welcome to those new members of 4th Divisional Signals and Rhine Army Signals who have signified their intention of participating in the new scheme of membership. Their co-operation and support of Association activities is greatly appreciated.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from officers, Branches, etc.:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from—
Lieut. A. J. Keddie, Royal Signals.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Chiswick Branch, 8s.; B Cavalry Brigade Signals, Sialkot, 1s.; Chiswick Branch, 3s. 4d.

EMPLOYMENTS secured for the month of July:—
Clerks, 2; Wireless Operator, 1; P.O. Telegraphist, 1; Wireless Electrician, 1; A.A. Road Patrols, 4; Officer's Servant, 1.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from—
Lieut. A. J. Keddie, Royal Signals.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Messrs. Adjutant's Press, Andover; Officers' Mess, S.T.C.; C.Q.M.S. V. J. King; Mr. W. G. Swanborough.

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from—
Capt. J. R. Barry, Capt. C. R. H. Firth, and Mr. W. Cook, Leighton Buzzard.

APPEALS dealt with:—
1—Ex-Signalman, 5½ years' service. Walked to London from the North of England. Employment found for him, and £3 advanced from funds.
2—N.C.O., Royal Signals (time serving). Domestic difficulties. £10 advanced as a temporary loan.
3—Ex-Signalman, Royal Signals. Stranded in London. Employment found for him, and £4 advanced for essential equipment.
4—Ex-Signalman, Royal Signals. Recently returned from overseas and destitute in London. Employment found for him, and £2 advanced for immediate maintenance, etc.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

To be W.O. Class I. (R.S.M.)—
1850265 Craig, F. 15/5/26

To be C.Q.M.-Sergeant—
2306168 Evans, H. 6/7/25
2306175 Sharpley, W. 19/1/26

Appointed Acting-C.Q.M.S.—
2308083 King, E. 11/6/26

To be Sergeant—
2307520 Bawden, A. 8/2/26
2306851 Minns, C. 10/2/26
2308803 Pout, A. 15/2/26
2311430 Naylor, A. 16/2/26
2307178 Shoebridge, G. 4/4/26

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—
1850361 Stevens, S. 14/2/26
1850362 Lewis, H. 14/2/26
1850375 Nicholls, H. 14/2/26
1856959 Shilton, E. 14/2/26
1856183 Merritt, W. 14/2/26
1857017 Judge, A. 14/2/26
1856944 McEwan, P. 14/2/26
1860669 Dunn, P. 14/2/26
2307178 Shoebridge, G. 4/4/26
2307733 Cranham, J. 26/4/26
2310354 Mann, C. 7/5/26
2306715 Smith, C. 11/6/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—
1855513 Pillinger, H. 9/5/26
2306721 Sharp, D. 10/5/26
2313920 Driver, W. 14/6/26

To be Corporal—
2314054 Goodman, L. 8/1/26
2314290 Beeton, J. 8/1/26
2313849 Waldock, C. 12/1/26
1857097 Shepheard, G. 19/1/26
1860284 Galtress, T. 19/1/26
1856975 Saul, J. 19/1/26
2312161 Wakley, D. 19/1/26
2309516 Shardlow, M. 19/1/26
1850425 Sargeant, W. 19/1/26
2309814 Cornish, W. 19/1/26
2310370 Biggs, A. 19/1/26
1857071 Shaw, R. 27/1/26
2311385 Worlock, S. 27/1/26
2309792 Ross, D. 27/1/26
2309640 Dunningham, S. 27/1/26
2311026 Hann, A. 27/1/26
2310821 Wright, J. 27/1/26
2310925 Wright, H. 27/1/26
2312140 Sims, J. 27/1/26
2309415 Jones, C. 27/1/26
2311008 Bailey, A. 27/1/26
2744818 McIntosh, A. 27/1/26
2310490 Harvey, A. 27/1/26
2313553 Broughton, H. 29/1/26
1854483 Weller, R. 29/1/26
1856960 Lister, J. 29/1/26
5766050 Bushnell, A. 8/2/26
2309342 Jeffers, W. 15/2/26
2312321 Ryan, P. 16/2/26
2307290 Halls, E. 2/3/26
2309022 Marcham, E. 2/3/26
2313963 Anderson, J. 8/3/26
2314110 Taylor, T. 8/3/26
2306621 Sayers, A. 8/3/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—
1859062 Morris, W. 13/2/26
2309431 Babbage, H. 13/2/26
2310546 Moore, H. 13/2/26
1850113 Clark, F. 13/2/26
1857284 Berry, F. 13/2/26
2310924 Thorpe, A. 13/2/26
2312295 Evans, H. 15/2/26
5877567 Coles, G. 16/2/26
2309747 Howard, T. 16/2/26
2309056 Newmarch, A. 16/2/26
2310361 Sibley, T. 16/2/26
2312521 Costello, A. 16/2/26
2311102 Flett, C. 2/3/26
2308431 Evelyn, R. 2/3/26
1850426 Mills, G. 2/3/26
2310997 Stickland, C. 2/3/26
2310863 Conyers, J. 2/3/26
2312224 Negro, A. 2/3/26
1857081 Rand, R. 2/3/26
2311265 Kingham, E. 2/3/26
2312364 Hopkins, F. 2/3/26
2312605 Finlayson, A. 8/3/26
2311341 Margrain, E. 8/3/26
2309050 Talling, R. 8/3/26
3433747 Holland, W. 8/3/26
2309998 Alder, T. 8/3/26
2313600 Lewis, C. 8/3/26
2314237 Field, H. 1/4/26
2310583 Mears, A. 1/4/26
2308909 Jennings, F. 26/4/26
5718864 Coole, R. 7/5/26
2312020 Stoten, W. 8/5/26
2306730 Rogers, E. 9/5/26
2308533 Good, W. 10/5/26
2311677 Webber, W. 27/5/26
1423167 Morris, W. 14/6/26

To be Corporal (Farrier- Corporal)—
2308340 Garnett, C. 21/11/24

Discharges.

2306531 Sergt A. Cox, 23/6/26
2306749 Corpl H. Peck, 9/6/26
2310963 Corpl L. Searle, 23/6/26
2314326 A/Corpl W. Hooper, 3/7/26

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2309326 Corpl C. Hillen, 6/4/26
2311307 Corpl A. Pinsent, 25/6/26
2311535 L/Sergt H. Bellringer, 6/7/26

Corps News—Officers.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 15/6/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut R. J. de C. Chair to be Lieut., 2/5/26.
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut C. F. Davey to be Lieut. 29/5/26.

War Office, 18/6/26.

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Corps of Signals—Captain J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., is seconded for service on the Staff, 26/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
51st (H) Divl. Signals—2/Lt. J. A. Dick to be Lieut., 7/6/26.
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Richard Wilfrid Bailey to be 2/Lieut., 9/6/26.

T.A. RES. OF OFFICERS—REGIMENTAL LIST—
Royal Corps of Signals—49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals. Lieut J. G. Parry, M.C., from Active List to be Lieut., 19/6/26.

War Office, 22/6/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Lieut M. H. Williams to be Captain, 1/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
51st (H) Divl. Signals—John Andrew Lewis to be 2/Lieut., 15/4/26.
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Lieut G. H. Prescott, from 5th Battn. P.W. Vol. to be Lieut., 1/6/26.

War Office, 25/6/26.

REGULAR FORCES—
Royal Corps of Signals—Capt P. B. D. H. Foot to be Major, 11/5/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—The date of promotion of Capt C. J. Killeen is 1/4/26, and not as stated in the L.G. of 8/6/26.
Lieut H. Y. Starkey to be Captain, 1/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—209th (M.A.) Signal Section—Arthur Philip Angell (late Cadet L/Corporal Ipswich School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 26/6/26.

T.A. RES. OF OFFICERS—REGIMENTAL LIST—
Royal Corps of Signals—51st (H) Divl. Signals—Lieut T. Saddler, from Active List to be Lieut., 26/6/26.

War Office, 29/6/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Lieut M. F. Allan, late R.E., to be 2/Lieut., 30/6/26, and relinquishes the rank of Lieutenant.

War Office, 2/7/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Capt C. B. Pecker resigns his commission, 3/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals—Walter Lancaster Hey (late Cadet Sedburgh School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 18/6/26.
Henry Rycroft (late Cadet L/Corporal Dover Coll. Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 18/6/26.
Kenneth Darlow (late Cadet Denstone Coll. Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 18/6/26.
Harold William Biddle (late Cadet Leeds Grammar School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 18/6/26.
Brian Brook Gardner (late Cadet Sergeant Leeds Grammar Sch. Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lt. 18/6/26.
52nd (L) Divl. Signals—Duncan Paterson to be 2/Lieut., 9/4/26.
53rd (W) Divl. Signals—John William Gordon Hayes to be 2/Lieut., 18/6/26.

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War Office, 6/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
2nd Cavalry Divl. Signals—Jack Stuart Judd (late Officer Cadet Cambridge Univ. Contgt. Sen. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 7/7/26.
46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals—Simon Neville Turner (late Cadet Sergt.-Major Downside School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 24/6/26.
Norman Bayles Phelps (late Cadet L/Corporal Rugby School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 24/6/26.
Reginald Allsebrook Stevenson (late Cadet Denstone Coll. Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 24/6/26.
47th (2nd L.) Divl. Signals—Capt (Prov.) N. E. Crump is confirmed in his rank, 15/4/25.

War Office, 9/7/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Shepherd Amos Hills to be 2/Lieut., 10/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—Lt. Percival Alexander Harris, Res. of Officers, to be Lieut, 1/5/26.
52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut J. Mackenzie to be Lieut., 26/6/26.
54th (E. Anglian) Divl. Signals—Douglas Freeman Armstrong (late Cadet Corporal Malvern Coll. Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 26/6/26.
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Major H. F. Fox, T.D., A.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., to be Lieut.-Col., 29/6/26.
209th (Med. Art) Signal Section—2/Lieut J. H. Cunningham to be Lieut., 3/7/26.

War Office, 13/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—48th (South Midland) Divl. Signals—Capt (Prov.) N.E. Steeley is confirmed in his rank, 11/3/25.

~delicious soup

tomato soup tonight?

—deliciously rich, full-flavoured nourishing soup made from the finest selected meat and vegetables.

In 13 Varieties : Tomato, Pea, Lentil, Celery, Mulligatawny, Onion, Hare, White Vegetable, Kidney, Green Pea, Scotch Broth, Mock Turtle, Ox Tail ... ... 2d. and 6d. per packet

Try the New Clear Soup : in 9d. bottles.

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Many of the best cooks use Symington's Soups in Stews, Meat Pies, etc.

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Plain Tales.

The Passing of a Comrade.

It is at all times difficult to write about the death of a comrade, but when that comrade is held in such esteem as the late Corpl L. R. Searle, the task becomes well-nigh hopeless. What is there to say? The usual expressions, however sincere, can but faintly tell of our grief at his passing. He will always be remembered with affection by the 3rd Divl. Signals, and by his many other friends in the Corps. His place in the unit will be difficult to fill, as he was probably the best horsemaster in the ranks. And so we take our leave of one of the best friends a soldier could have, and repeat a whisper heard at the graveside, "Goodbye, old man."

* * * *

A "Curse" to Traffic.

There are many thousands of motor cyclists in this country, and when a certain leading daily newspaper commenced its campaign of "frightfulness" against motor cycles, this great host of sportsmen was faintly amused. As time went on this amusement turned to anger, for the newspaper began to give great prominence to motor cycle deaths, carefully ignoring the fact that there are not more accidents in proportion to the increased number of riders than was the case ten years ago. A certain high official in the North of England now goes so far as to dub the motor cycle "a curse to other motor traffic."

Why the machine? what about the rider? There lies the root of the trouble. A motor cycle is quite easy to handle, and a *careful* rider will cause a great deal less anxiety to other road users than any car driver.

To return to the newspaper's activities. Not content with heading columns "More motor cycle deaths," and then proceeding to record perhaps three motor cycle accidents, seventeen car accidents, a loaded charabanc ditched, and several cyclists' mishaps, they have now turned their attention to matters technical. There is no need to go into details on this point, as most people have read it in the paper in question. It is enough that a mighty shout of laughter went up from approximately 200,000 motor cyclists when they had read it. Thus do motor cyclists glean a little humour from what is obviously the most absurd subject in the idiotic repertoire of the "silly" season.

* * * *

Hath Music Charms?

I don't know. I will not attempt to prove or disprove it. A friend of mine writes in THE WIRE, and another friend uses the post, to express grief at my descent to a saxophone (or, as I have said before, a saxie). Grieve not, friends. This instrument gives pleasure to at least two people: myself, because I have a vivid imagination; and my wife, because I let her go to the pictures when I am playing, owing to her rather too frank criticisms. We had two canaries. They progressed very well when Mrs. B. chirruped to them. Not to be outdone, I sang to them. They wilted. I had a brain wave and played my saxie to them one evening. They died in the night.

* * * *

Blackleg Dance Bands.

What is a blackleg band? Well, from experience, I should say that it is a band which, although perhaps not possessing superior instrumentalists, nevertheless contrives to work together, produce harmony, and retain the time in better fashion than the No. 1 Band which should be doing these things. To get right down to bedrock facts in the matter of certain dance bands would eventually stir up ill feeling, so I will say no more than that two dance bands I have in mind are a very long way from Bulford, and have had heavy bookings from the date of their formation—which, after all, tells its own story.

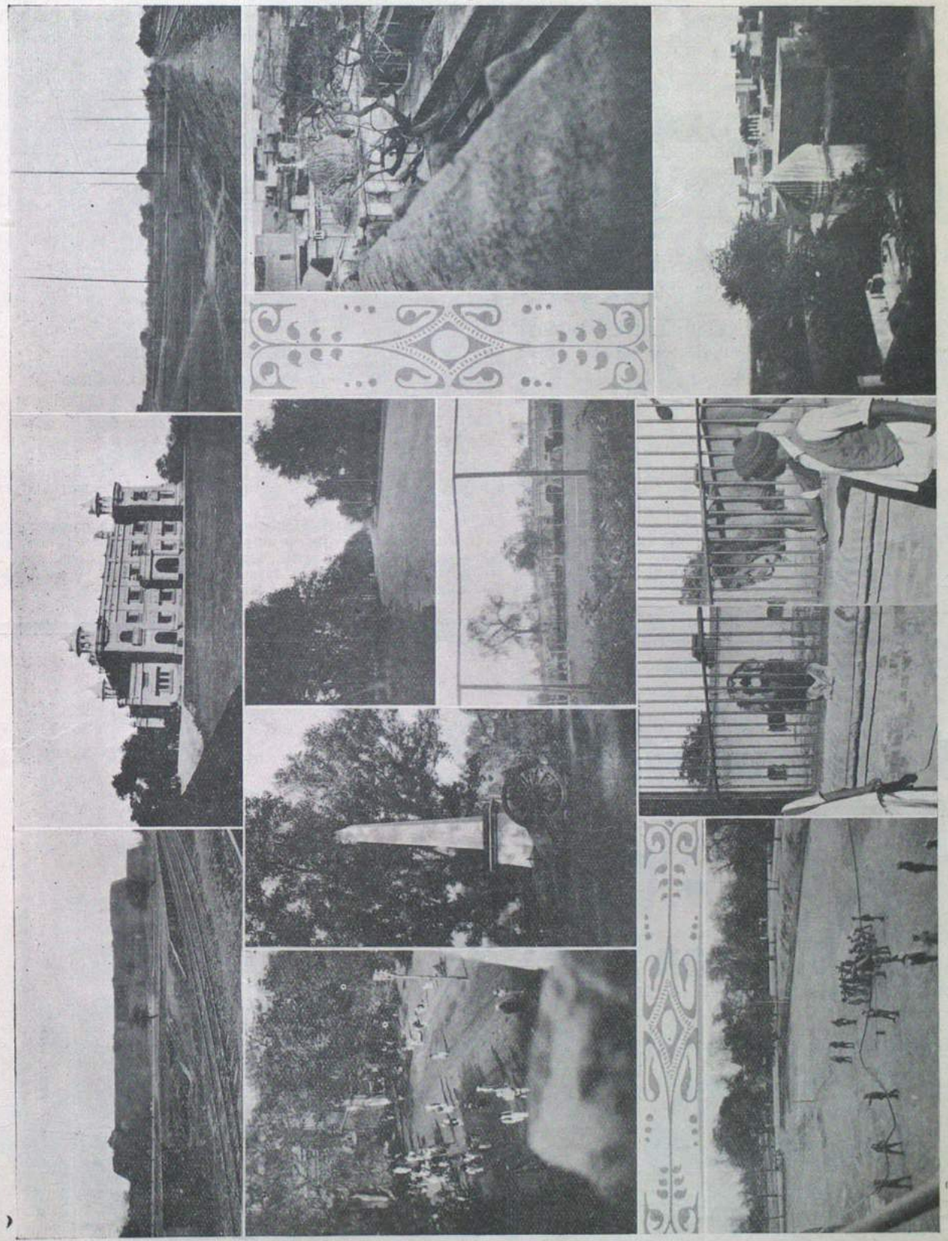
P.S.—Good old Alfred!

* * * *

Piecrust.

Once upon a time there was a nice kind editor who promised us that we should have the matter of a new Corps Promotion Roster explained to us. The publication of this handy little

A Photographic Survey of Peshawar



1. Peshawar Fort
2. The Museum (a place of many curios)
3. The Radio
4. A typical Street Scene in the City
5. The Mackeson Memorial
6. The Mall
7. The Burra Club (with tennis courts)
8. The Mosque
9. A "wash-out" by the local Fire Brigade
10. The Zoo: "Bored" and "Disdainful"
11. A General View

book for 1926 was held up by the business of a proposed amalgamation of the n.c.o.s on the I.U.L. with those on the roster as we remember it. Now where are we? I know some of these bright young lance-corporals are itching to work out their chances of a rise to C.Q.M.S. or some other wealthy position.

After careful consideration I think I will apologise for the heading of this section, as I feel sure that the editor in question (I have named no names) would have told us all about it had he been able to.

* * * *

Stable Talks.

We won't discuss the animals this month. I shan't bother to explain why. Regarding the lucky people who lavish such tender care on our dear horses, permit me to tell you about one hailing from Catterick. He had not passed a riding course, so do not feel hurt. We allotted him a gentle-eyed creature which is accustomed to being groomed from the comparative safety of the next stall, with a brush tied to the end of a broom-handle. The lad advanced innocently and raised his hand for the first grooming stroke, when I observed that that hand grasped a curry-comb.

"Whoa," says I. "What now?" says he.

"What the something do you think that brush is for?"

"Sure now, is it not for to brush the dirt out of me little scraper?"

At this point the gentle animal moved one of its feet, so we picked the boy up and sat him outside on the grass. However, he preferred to stand, as it happened.

* * * *

The Answer.

Re F Divisional Signals enquiries in the July WIRE. Having had a serious talk with The Man Who Knows, I have decided that I would indeed like to try life on the Indian Frontier. He assures me that the British soldier is roused soon after reveille to find himself shaved, washed, cleaned up and dressed. On Sundays, someone even has breakfast for him. He has nothing to do, and is allotted a couple of natives to help him do it. I should imagine he would get done fairly early on half days.

Buckshee Advice.

Let us wander amongst the advertisements in the July WIRE and help the people who insert them. H'm! Can't find much wrong with them yet. They all speak very well of their own goods.

Here we are: Page 223. What's this about our new Headquarters? Sounds a bit foggy to me. Will the Depot and Training Battalions move again? *What* Headquarters, and particularly, Where?

Hallo! page 243. Now where have these Pickle specialists got their ideas from? Who ever heard of a sergeant speaking roughly to a corporal? Now, look at those men in mess, with their hats on. What regiment can it be? The corporal, too. See, he's asking the others to have some more. As if he would, really. An advertisement in the Signals Magazine should show the troops enjoying these excellent pickles with cold woast beef, and should certainly not contain a sketch of a sergeant being wough.

Tut! tut! Mr. Hayward; and Come, come, Mr. Hayward's brother.

BARLEUX.

Ravings at Random.

No. 1.—On the Junior N.C.O. Main Guard.

Many people term his a cushy job. It is. I will tell you why.

He is invited to perform this duty some days in advance of the day of actual participation. This is a precautionary measure. Our hero is liable to make other arrangements. In order that he may have ample time to make up his mind whether to accept or to decline the invitation, it is forwarded days in advance.

It is quite possible he may have made arrangements to meet a friend—possibly it is a lady friend, and who likes to disappoint a lady? One may miss something. One may not. He may pay a visit to his old friend the M.O. Some people will be vulgar enough to describe this as "going sick." I'm one. Perhaps he cannot borrow enough kit. A hundred and one little things crop up which may prevent him from accepting the invitation.

If such is the case, his line of action is clear. Pen a refusal. According to the notice board, refusals are worded as follows:—

"Sir—Many thanks for your kind invitation, which under the circumstances I am reluctantly compelled to decline. I shall be unable to officiate as Junior N.C.O. Main Guard on (date here). Having 'done one' before, I did not agree with the ceremony of initiation. It was most absurd; in fact, ridiculous. If you are prepared to modify, or better still, abolish it, I may be tempted to perform one day soon. Trusting you find someone more foolish, etc."

(Sign here).

If he accepts the invitation—many do—he proceeds as follows. He borrows all the necessary gear—the "posher" the better. The jealous "dog in the manger" tongues must be kept from passing sarcastic remarks about his personal appearance. The R.S.M.'s Sam Browne gets a back seat: although he is quite willing to lend it, it's not posh enough.

The great day dawns. Our hero cannot contain himself. All night he has lain awake. Why did the R.S.M. send *him* an invitation?—he, who so narrowly missed being ungummed last week. The bed becomes irksome. He can stick it no longer. He jumps out, is washed, shaved and dressed, whilst his trumpeter is peacefully dreaming of "cha and wads." As the first note of reveille sounds, our hero is busy donning the various insignia of office.

After snatching a hasty meal he returns to his boudoir. His dresser has a ticklish time, and must be very tactful if he wants to keep his job. The Junior N.C.O. Main Guard is no respecter of persons, and will speedily consign to Hades those who irritate him. He has been kept well informed of the fleeting minutes. His trumpeter sees to that. I tremble to think of what would become of the poor boy if he sounded a wrong call. Minutes sound.

Our Tyrant has a final brush down, saunters on to the parade ground, and is handed his rifle by the R.S.M., who bows, retires and awaits orders. His bodyguard of one sergeant and five men line up on either side and stand at ease.

The Adjutant arrives. He bids the assembly "good morning," and, assisted by the R.S.M., gives the Junior N.C.O. Main Guard and bodyguard a little exercise. This takes the form of springing to attention, standing at ease, and "for inspection, port arms."

When our friend has had sufficient exercise he winks at the Adjutant, who then arranges any articles of clothing, etc., which may have become disarranged during the various exercises. The J.N.C.O.M.G. now selects one of the bodyguard to present arms to him as he strolls from the parade ground to the guard-room. On moving off, the Adjutant, R.S.M. and appendages salute. Our hero acknowledges, and, accompanied by his bodyguard, proceeds to the guard-room.

Having arrived there, arrangements are made for his comfort, and a sentry is posted outside the door in case some jealous individual attempts an attack on his person or accoutrements.

During the day, and until "Visiting Rounds" or "Grand Rounds" pay a personal visit to him, the sentries are posted and versed in their duties by the J.N.C.O.M.G. personally—sergeants cannot be trusted when the lives of great personages are in peril!

He retires at 1.30 a.m. He sleeps with one eye open, and at 3.30 he arises and takes a constitutional. This happens in all kinds of weather, and embraces the whole camp (three miles round). It is a strange hobby. He delights in calling early risers, more so if the huts in which they sleep are hard to find.

Calling the R.S.M. in error, walking into a lamp post, or falling into a hole, pleases him immensely, and I pity the poor sergeant who would suggest doing this job for him.

On returning to the guard-room his breakfast is immediately served, and directly afterwards the sergeant and sentries help to adorn him once more. His toilet being completed, he orders the trumpeter to inform the camp inhabitants that he is about to resume his normal duties. A successor is found, and amidst the fanfare of trumpets, he hands over to the J.N.C.O.M.G. elect.

Arriving back at his own palace, he returns his borrowed plumes and reverts once more to a common n.c.o., knowing full well that he, and he alone, has been responsible for making the foundations of the Empire more secure than they were twenty-four hours before.

Best Family Beverages

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because made from Real Fruit and Sugar

30 Medium Glasses in a Bottle

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Largest Bottlers of Fresh Fruit Beverages in the British Empire

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In Fancy Bottles and Decanters

FRUIT
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If you want tinned fruit of mellow ripeness, tender and fine textured, with a real fresh flavour, be sure you ask at the Canteen for

ARMOUR'S

There are Apricots, Peaches, Pears and Pine-apple—all more delicious and more luscious than any you've ever tasted—for they are all grown, selected and tinned at the best place in the world for growing that particular fruit.

Sunlea Brand
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Those are the names to look for. Ask for them in your Canteen. Accept nothing else or you don't get the best. And they cost no more.

Armour's QUALITY PRODUCTS

THE name PLAYER on a packet of cigarettes guarantees the quality and purity of the contents. It is more than a name—it is a *reputation and a tradition.*

PLAYER'S
Navy Cut
Cigarettes
(Medium Strength)

10 for 6D. 20 for 11½D.
WITH or WITHOUT Cork Tips.

Reg. No. 154011.

P.1242

Submarine Cables at Hong Kong.

Hong Kong (or, translated, "The Island of Fragrant Streams") is supposedly one of the best stations on foreign service, but whether Signals will consider it so, I leave the reader to form his own opinion.

The island has telephonic communication by submarine cable with the mainland at two points: Kowloon (the settlement directly opposite Hong Kong) and Devil's Peak (the artillery fire commander's post at Lyemun Pass).

Stonecutter's Island also has communication by submarine cable with Tai Kok Tsui, a point on the mainland in the north-west section of Kowloon.

All of these cables are of quite modern type, being built up of 10 lb. tinned copper conductors, each conductor being insulated with impregnated paper (resin oil preparation), the whole being well wrapped with impregnated binding paper, lead covered, and armoured.

The Hong Kong–Kowloon and Stonecutter's Island–Tai Kok Tsui cables are 25-core, the Lyemun Pass cable being only 14-core.

An excellent article has already appeared in the Corps journal, written by a capable pen, describing the methods of jointing, etc.; therefore I will concern myself more with the trials and tribulations of maintenance than with the actual work of repairs.

Until quite recently, the submarine cables not only of the W.D. but of the Public Works Department, the Navy, and the Northern Telegraphic Company, have been the happy anchoring grounds of the Chinese junker and his compatriots—the dragging of their hooks during rough weather, and of course when lifting anchor, literally tearing the cable to pieces.

Fortunately for all departments, the Government has now provided special cable reservations—portions of the harbour in which no vessel of any description may anchor, under a heavy penalty and costs for repair. These reservations are conspicuously marked with the cable diamond for daylight and lights during the night.

In one case a small sampan (about the size of a six-oar gig) dropped its anchor in the reservation. The water police took action, resulting in the owner delivering up 10 dollars. In another case quite a large vessel anchored on top of the W.D. cable, damaging it considerably. The captain paid a heavy fine as well as the costs of repair. A splendid way of adding funds to our maintenance vote, some say, but it is the opinion of Signals in Hong Kong that prevention is better than cure, and the water police soon clear the offenders.

Quite a serious, though amusing, episode occurred when a dredging barge placed by a large buoy anchor, on top of the cable, pulled up on it and commenced operations. The chief operation must have been the chopping into fragments of our 26-core cable.

Anyhow, the Signals No. 1 went out to the fray, unbolted the shackle which attached the anchor chain to the buoy, and let anchor and chain go. Naturally the skipper of the dredger, a Dutchman of the Netherlands Harbour Works, was a little huffed and began jumping around, shouting "Where's my pig (meaning big) anchor?" "Down where my cable is, mate," said the Signals No. 1. Whether the Dutch Company will pay the cost of the cable, or not, is still pending, as legal action was taken.

There is another aspect of the case. Damage to the cable results in splendid experience for the lineman, especially when he has to turn to and become a temporary plumber—experience which only those who are fortunate enough to get on a Fortress Station can appreciate.

Even as this article is being written, news is to hand of another boat in the reservation between Stonecutter's and the mainland. Will it mean a little more experience for the linemen, or will it be a few hard words? I'll go and see.

C. S. R.

Become an Annual Subscriber *now*, and have your Magazine forwarded direct by post each month.

FOREIGN STATION NOTES.

[Received too late for inclusion under the usual headings.]

B Divisional Signal, Quetta.

Though nothing from us has appeared in THE WIRE for many months, it is not due to lack of Corps spirit, but to modesty (!). This week, however, we *must* blow our own trumpet, since we have (for the second year in succession) won the cup as champion Company in the Baluchistan District assault-at-arms.

The competition includes most of the usual athletic events, with the addition of bayonet fencing; and as among the entries there were twelve teams from British infantry, three from Royal Artillery, and one each from R.A.F. and Royal Tank Corps, we feel that the name of the Corps is being well maintained.

As a help in selecting teams for the assault-at-arms, the unit inter-Company sports were held in April. The meeting went off in great style and provided a most exciting finish.

Last year the shield was won by No. 2 Company, and this year they started off well, having a substantial lead on the first day. No. 1 Company, however, gradually pulled this down on the second day until, with only one event to go, the result still remained in doubt. This event was the tug-of-war, and amidst the wildest enthusiasm No. 1 Company gained a surprise victory, due very largely to the help of some of our new draft from home.

From that time training continued steadily until the week of the assault-at-arms. All events in this were for teams, so that it is difficult to give individual praise; but special mention must be made of Sigmn Cox for his "skippering" of the team in the mile (Corpl Jones and L/Corpls Campbell and Whittall), of Major Pollard for gaining a place in the bayonet fencing—a new game to most of us, and also of Corpl Jarvis for the best individual pole jump.

The following list of championship events, and the places gained by teams from B Divl. Signals, may be of interest (figures in parentheses show numbers in each team):—

Cross-country run (30), 2nd. 100 yards (4), 1st. 220 yards (4), 3rd. 440 yards (4), 1st. 880 yards (4), 1st. Mile (4), 1st. Putting the shot (2), 1st. Throwing the hammer (2), 2nd. Long jump (2), nil. High jump (2), 3rd. Pole jump (2), 3rd. Tug-of-war, 110 stone, nil. Bayonet fighting (7), 3rd. Total points gained, 52; next best team, 33½.

As regards general matters, life nowadays seems to be very largely work. Manœuvres on a large scale are planned to take place here in October, so we have all handed our beds into store as being no longer of use, and snatch what sleep we can during lectures!

Signals Association.

The local Branch flourishes. Weekly whist drives and dances continue to be well supported, and our public dances are very popular in the station. There are nine life members and a membership of 130 in the unit. Rumour has it that we have a band, but I am in a position to deny that—I've heard it.

BEE.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo, July 7th.

Signals Barracks, Polygon.

The move to our new abode of (?) was completed on June 12th, after much hard labour. Everyone looked forward to the great day, but now we are settled down several are wishing they were still in Red or Main Barracks as the case may be. It is only natural, though; very few people enjoy leaving an old home. An account of the move is given elsewhere.

Training.

Very little training is being carried out just now, as there is a heap of work to be done in the new home, and this demands "bags" of fatigue parties. Let's hope that everyone is satisfied with his rate of ackers!

Leave—Officers.

Most of our officers are shortly proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom. We hope all have a good holiday!

"Change of Air" Camp (Families).

Some of our families are taking advantage of the opportunity to go to Sidi Bishr this year. Sergt White (No. 3 Company) went down with the first party, and several more are going between now and September.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.

The G.O.C. inspected the units in the new barracks on June 16th, and I think he was well pleased with them. This was only a few days after the move in, so of course, as mother says, "You must take us as you find us."

Earthquakes.

Ugh! ugh! On Saturday, June 26th, at about 9.45 p.m., an earthquake shock was felt in Egypt, and we learn that it was the worst known. It lasted for four minutes, but during that short time several queer things happened. Two people were killed in Cairo, and four were injured; houses rocked; and the whole town was in panic. Roll on, the Motherland, if we're going to have *many* such shocks.

P.T. Courses.

Lieut. B. B. Kennett, Royal Signals, leaves us for Aldershot on the 21st for an advanced course commencing in September. We wish him the best of good luck.

Trooping Season, 1926/27.

Several of the old hands due to go home this "trooper" have to hang on for another year in Egypt. It's rather hard on these fellows, as the majority have completed five years under the blazing sun. Never mind, it's all in a lifetime!

BEN.

Sergeants' Mess.

"Time like an ever-rolling stream." This in memory of our corporals whom we left behind upon the formation of the combined mess of the Corps in Egypt. We were sorry to lose them, but hope they will soon get the extra stripe and rejoin us.

The new mess is a nice place, but it seems too big for so few, and reminds one of the place called "the mortuary" at Maresfield. When we furnished the mess, we allowed for a number of visitors who were expected, but we didn't take into consideration its geographical situation. I understand the only visitor to date was a native who had lost his bearings between Port Said and the Belgian Congo. Of course, upon finding his mistake, he "let himself go" and called for a glass of water—something *buck-shee*, as usual.

The latest craze appears to be finding a dog suspected of rabies, and inserting the forefinger and thumb smartly between the teeth of the animal. Sergt Donaghy, a good first, was presented with the doctor's needle for 21 days; Sergt Bawden ran second, and is still enjoying the treatment; the third man is not yet in.

During a recent cricket match, Sergt (Tich) Yates knocked up his first century of the season. "Woff!!! out of the ground, George."

A games tournament has been held, and much amusement was caused by it, but owing to the indifferent display of all competitors the results will not be published.

W. M.

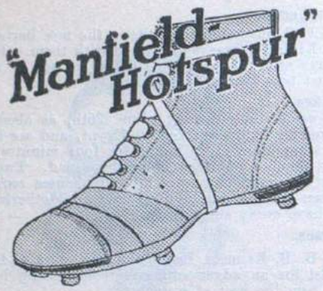
Amalgamation of the Royal Signals and the Indian Unattached List.

The explanation in THE WIRE of the pending amalgamation has been well received by all members of the Corps, as it seems that no one will have reason to complain of being unfairly treated.

Speculation has been rife as to how the amalgamation would affect promotion and the position of w.o.s and n.c.o.s on the Corps roster, and how the n.c.o.s of the I.U.L. would be treated on transfer.

From my own reading of the article, it seems there will be a big move in promotion from signalmen to staff-sergeants, even if the majority of the I.U.L. transfer in their present rank. The numbers still required to make up the establishment of Royal Signals in India are approximately: Officers, 61; w.o.s (Class 2), staff-sergeants or sergeants, 48; corporals, 55; lance-corporals, 40; signalmen, 152. These numbers are in addition to the present Royal Signals and I.U.L. in India.

There is only one point in the proposition which might cause a certain amount of dissent among the n.c.o.s of the Corps, and that is: "Where a w.o. or n.c.o. of the Royal Signals, with a higher rank on the I.U.L. than in his Corps, retains that rank until his tour in India expires." It is quite possible that he will be senior to someone in the same unit or detachment, to whom in his Corps rank he would be very junior. In any



"WON ALL THE CUPS: HEAD OF ALL THE LEAGUES." That's the proud boast of Manfield-Hotspur wearers in 1926. But the proportion of League teams wearing Manfield Boots being four out of every five, it follows that whoever wins, anywhere, they are almost sure to be Manfield-Hotspur wearers.

Four widths. Half-sizes.

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Obtainable in all parts of the world

case, it is presumed that extensions of tour in India, in order to retain that higher rank, would not be permitted.

No doubt it will be remembered how, during the last war, and especially after (until the substantive ranks were adjusted), there was controversy among n.c.o.s, even in the smallest units, because of these acting ranks.

I feel sure we all fully realise the difficulties of those on whom the arrangements for the amalgamation devolve, and the amount of work entailed in order to be perfectly fair to everyone concerned.

We are a young Corps, and are continually doing our best to make a good name for ourselves: so I am certain that when the I.U.L. do "come over" we shall welcome them in that true sense of esprit de corps which we have done our best to foster throughout the Royal Corps of Signals.

A. H. B.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Royal Signals Barracks, Polygon, Cairo.

Ah! the great evacuation is over (after five years of rumours). The three mile advance was conducted in an exceptionally orderly manner, and we occupied our new position despite the heavy bombardment from the eyes of the whole Garrison. In other words, we are now settled in our new quarters on the Desert Front.

Credit must be given to the persons concerned in removing the stores, etc., although there was a certain amount of difficulty in obtaining transport and men were somewhat scarce. We have no doubt that the G.O.C. and the C.S.O., when inspecting a few days after our arrival, must have been impressed by the speed with which we settled down.

The quarters are thoroughly modern, and comfort seems the order of the day. On other things we are discreetly silent.

The guards (12 men daily) being as frequent as every fourth day, we feel certain that if one of the "people who count" happened to witness the mounting, etc., he would soon have us ousting the G.G.s and the Horse Guards from their places at Buckingham Palace and Whitehall.

A sports field is in the making, but from good authority we gather that to convert virgin desert into a playing field—well, the majority of this Company will be living on the dole before the aforesaid field *is* a field (but we have a splendid pavilion already).

The air seems laden with grief and woe, the reason being that the War Office decrees that some of us must stay in this delightful country a "buckshee" year.

Departures.

Corpl Jennison to the celebrated Muscle Factory (best of luck, Jenn!) L/Cpls Wales and McFrommel, Signalmen Denny, Notley, Cornelius, Panter, and Groves, on leave to U.K. (we wonder how many of the unfortunates will return in that blessed state of bachelordom?)

Promotions.

Congratulations to Corpls Jennings and Ryan and L/Corpl McFrommel upon obtaining their respective ranks. Keep it up, me lads!

N.C.O.s' Mess (late Red Barracks)

The members of the mess visited the staff of the W/T station at Abu Zabal on Sunday, June 20th, and were splendidly entertained to tennis and billiard tournaments and a social.

Corporals' Mess.

The mess commenced their social functions on June 26th by entertaining the Imperial Club at cricket. The game resulted in a win for the home side by 42 runs. Chinney, Charlie and Tich were the star performers—but not at cricket!

Cricket.

We have only three matches to report this month. We won two and lost one—the most important, as it was the second round of the small units competition. The results were:—

June 11th—v. 3rd Armoured Cars R.T.C., lost by 5 wickets
June 23rd—v. 30th M.T. Company R.A.S.C., won by 24 runs.
June 30th—v. D Battery 3rd Brigade R.H.A., won by 2 wickets

Inter-Section Swimming and Water Polo.

Results will be published in the next issue. The betting seems to favour B Cable, with Nos. 1 and 2 Sections close up—but July 3rd will set all minds at rest.

B.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

The wind has subsided, and the hours we spent on our huts and gardens were not in vain. The Colonel-Commandant gave us a good report, and specially praised the cadre hut and gardens. As regards the hut, the R.S.M. was heard to remark that it was the only clean room he has seen since the war. Congratulations to our O.C. on being able to return in time for the above inspection. We were very sorry to lose him immediately afterwards.

The inter-squad shield competition is still going strong. A Company winning it for the third successive time, this time through No. 61 Squad (Corpl Sprunt). What about it, B?

The cadre congratulate their renowned "Mo" on his marriage.

Promotion.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Driver on his appointment. Why go on leave the next day?

Departures.

Signalmen Geere, Packwood, Littlefield and Miles have left us for Field units.

L/Corpl Strugnell has attained his wish at last, and he is on probation at the School of Education, Shorncliffe. We were sorry to lose him, and I am sure he was sorry to leave this ideal station. Say, "Rookie," your successor is highly pleased with the job you handed over—so pleased that he feels inclined to purchase his discharge. Poor fellow!

Some of us are anxiously awaiting posting orders, but may be disappointed, and for the umpteenth year in succession.

ESDEYE.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

U Lines, July 9th.

The Commandant's annual inspection has been held, and is now a memory. The inspection was held on June 29th and 30th, and the chief observation was that the condition of the horses, stables, etc., left nothing to be desired. We were given a half-holiday on July 1st in honour of the occasion.

Our horses for the sword, lance and revolver competition at Olympia left on the 6th inst. The entrants are Capt. J. Crowley, M.C., Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming, R.A., Sergt C. Young, and Dvr C. Whyte.

Our team for the other ranks team jumping competition is: Sergt C. Young on "Chance," Corpl E. Cutler on "Billy," Corpl H. Searle on "Liza," and Dvr C. Whyte on "Baby." Hope runs high, as our team have done very well in their trials. By the time this appears in print the competition will be over. Our team leaves here on the 15th inst., and needless to say, our best wishes will go with them.

The R.E. mounted sports were held on June 19th. Lieut. Hemming took second place in the tent pegging. Sergt Young won the open jumping with "Billy," and Dvr Whyte came second on "Baby."

Our O.C., Major Fladgate, recently underwent an operation for appendicitis, and I am glad to say he is now well on the road to recovery. It is hoped he will soon be with us again.

Three more of our n.c.o.s are seriously weighing the pros and cons of married bliss, and I don't think it will be very long before the wedding bells chime out their warning to bachelors. Ah, well, I suppose I shall fall one day. Let us hope for the best, and wish them luck.

Departures.

Dvr G. H. Franks and Sigmn F. J. Congram, to 3rd Divl. Signals.

Birth.

Heartiest congratulations to Sergt Gregory on being presented with a son on 7/7/26.

Medals.

I must also congratulate C.Q.M.S. Patrick on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

Extensions.

L/Corpl S. G. Read and Dvr T. C. Edwards to complete 12 years.

Promotions.

Congratulations to A/Sergt Cranham and A/Corpls Webber and Morris on attaining their respective ranks.

FIFI.

D Company, Training Battalion.

After fine weather, a hurricane has come upon us. Even as we write the rain is beating upon the windows and roofs, whilst the wind provides a drone obligato. Overhead a seagull, driven inland by the gale, casts downward a doleful eye, opens his beak and jeers.

And yet in the midst of it all, order is rising out of chaos. Our recruits are becoming an established fact, and even our old

inhabitants have nearly ceased to regard them as intruders. Normally our Depot squads and the old inhabitants are about equal in numbers, but just now the recruits have dwindled and comprise rather less than a third of our total strength.

Summer is here, and with it come all its attendant joys: long evenings, cricket, flowers, warmth, strawberries, and colonels' inspections. It is with these last that we are concerned—two of them—first our C.O. and then the Colonel-Commandant.

We believe they were not displeased with our display. Of course, as is usual before such occasions, the wind went up and the polish went down all over the camp; but all's well that ends well.

Next we come to horticulture. Our flowers are now entirely encompassed by grass borders, and flourish exceedingly. Nos. 16 and 17 huts have caused a sensation with the big blue beast which decorates their southern walls. The boys, too, have managed to distinguish themselves by producing a plant which caused a long argument between the Commandant and the C.O.

Appointment.

Sigmn Welch to be L/Corporal. Good luck to him. He has already inaugurated a process of smartening up portions of the Company.

DON.

D Company Boys.

Having successfully defeated all opposition in the form of inspections, we turn to pleasant thoughts of leave. The authorities have been kind to us, and we are going for rather more than the normal fortnight which we were expecting. The only trouble we have is railway fares, but we don't worry—our motto is "Leave conquers all"!

The powers-that-be thought well of us on our inspection by the Commandant. At any rate, he left us with a cheery smile, so we felt that our labours had not gone entirely unrewarded.

The gardens are sprouting all sorts of things—some expected, and others not. Our rose garden gives promise of better things to come, but the mystery of the plant near the front door of No. 23 hut is still unsolved.

The drill squad is hard at it, and are now (on account of the heat, we presume) wrapping greatcoats round their necks, and hanging equipment all round themselves. There is no foundation for the rumour that Boy Round's slacks are really a pair of L/Corpl Boy Twiss's running shorts cut down and dyed.

Boys Ryder, Holt and Jerram have joined the ranks, and have started their drill course with the Depot Battalion. Good luck to them all.

Congratulations to Sigmn Lambert on being selected for the Depot Battalion hurdles team.

THE YOUNG'UNS.

F Company Boys.

July arrived just like a thief in the night, bestowing upon us gentle zephyrs, bursts of hot weather, and the Commandant's inspection.

All these were welcomed, even the latter—for what is an event like that to such smart boys as we are? It occurred on the 6th July, and the clerk of the weather must have known, for he gave us a rainy morning to prevent the Company from showing off their airs and graces with whips and rifles. Still, we were pleased to learn that the Commandant was greatly satisfied with our kits, huts and gardens—"mustard," "snip," etc., as our D Company rivals would say.

The half-day holiday capped our joy, being on Thursday, the 8th. Needless to say, there were great rejoicings in the tribe because "gyms. were not."

At present there are many budding mathematicians in our midst—counting the days, hours, and yea, even minutes until leave (23rd), also reckoning credits and what *should* be drawn to go home with. We are afraid the pay-corporal will disappoint a few of these super-optimists, as "he moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform."

We think that through these notes our thanks should be given to the superior officers who granted us extra leave.

A welcome is handed to L/Corpl Ivison on his being posted to our platoon. Dame Rumour has it that his stay will be short and sweet, and that he will soon be under the shadow of the Pyramids.

The boys' (D and F) sports take place in the near future, and we forecast that some promising talent is to be unearthed!

On the 14th, eight of our tribe, namely, L/Corpl Boy Snow, Boys Beale, Berry, Ellison, Jury, Sadler, Saunders and Rickard, journeyed to Darlington to compete in that town's sports, but we are afraid that they were all "off form," as they came back empty handed. Hard Cheddar!

Personal.

Our pocket edition of "The Toy Drum Major" sends his kind regards to his dear brother ("big signalman.")

Heard in the Barrack Room.

Voice of budding Shakespeare: "Et tu Brutus" (A2 Brutus).
Voice of senior boy in bed: "No! B3, you fool."

LES TROIS GARCONS.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines**, between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

Unit Headquarters.

We have to welcome several new arrivals from the S.T.C., and at the same time record the loss of many familiar faces in the last two months.

R.S.M. F. G. Craig has recently joined us from the 4th Divl. Signals, and to him we extend a very hearty welcome.

Training has been proceeding apace, and the unit has participated in the majority of the Command entertainments so far held this year. The next item is the C.S.O.'s annual inspection on July 22nd. This is to be followed by the annual unit sports on August 11th, when we anticipate an even greater success than last year.

The main object in the sports this year is to foster the inter-Section esprit de corps in both the mounted and dismounted events. The unit comprises in all some twelve Sections (including the Tank W/T Section recently amalgamated), and we should therefore have some very keen competition in all the inter-section events.

We extend a hearty invitation to all members, past and present, to these sports—so book the date, August 11th, on Ewshott athletic ground, commencing at 2 p.m.

No. 1 Company.

We soon got going again with training when the strike came to an end; but our visit to Lyndhurst to build the camp lines for the autumn training has regrettably been cancelled. The Staff College scheme passed off, as far as the lines were concerned, in a satisfactory manner. The following Unit Order regarding the work done at the Rushmoor arena was recently published:—

783—Aldershot Command Searchlight Tattoo.

The Commanding Officer has received the following letter from the Major-General i/c Administration, Aldershot Command:—"I am writing to thank you and those of your unit employed on the communications for the Tattoo, for the valuable assistance they gave. I know a great deal of work had to be put in on construction, as well as the actual operating of the system during the Tattoo, and I congratulate those responsible for the efficient manner in which it was carried out."

The Commanding Officer feels sure that all concerned will be gratified at this appreciation of their work.

The Cable Sections are now co-operating with the 1st and 2nd Divl. Signals in Divisional training, as well as taking part in unit schemes.

We are shortly to be inspected by the Chief Signal Officer Aldershot Command, and frequent practices for this are the order of the day.

We are looking forward to our unit sports, when we hope to surpass the efforts made last year. Let every man turn up and support his own Section!

Congratulations to Q.M.S. Edwards on receiving the good conduct medal.

Arrivals.

The following have joined us recently. We wish them all a long and happy stay with the Company:—

Corpl R. M. T. Smith, Sigmn E. Burns, and Sigmn W. H. Goss from Iraq Signal Section on 20/6/26.
16 Signalmen from the Training Battalion, Catterick, on 25/6/26, and 4 on 9/7/26.
R.S.M. F. G. Craig from the 4th Divl. Signals on 9/7/26.
Corpl A. Baines from Malta Signal Section on 5/7/26.

Discharge to the Reserve.

L/Corpl Healey on 15/6/26.

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

What a pity it is that we have to write our monthly WIRE notes under different addresses. Nevertheless, so it will remain until the Smallshott barracks are completed—and then will come *the* time!

The Company is now up to strength, and becomes better and better every day. Training is progressing rapidly after the strike, and schemes are the principal order of the day.

Most of the Company are in the throes of the Trade Board now being held, and we wish them all good luck. Sergt B. Bevan has passed as operator W/T, Class I.—an example which should be copied by all the wirelessops; it is well within the reach of every one of them.

Arrivals.

From F Company, Training Battalion: Signalmen H. Alldred, A. Earl, B. H. Tutt, T. Laurenson, W. Pask, A. Nash, A. Myers, and J. Saunders.
From 3rd Divl. Signals: L/Corpl E. Hudson.
From Malaya: L/Sergt McWilliams.
From Iraq: Corpl A. W. Walker, Corpl W. C. Minnion, and Sigmn Hillman.

Departures.

Signalmen E. J. Burgess and D. F. Webb.

Promotions.

Sergt E. King to A/C.Q.M.S. L/Corpls W. Good and A. J. Mears to be A/Corpls. Signalmen E. Winton and N. Garside to be L/Corpls (with pay). Signalmen H. Larkham, J. Harrison and H. Keywood to be unpaid L/Corporals.

Birth.

To Corpl G. Murphy, a daughter.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

My Mistake.

I believe that I have been guilty on several occasions of saying funny things about the weather. I am really very sorry, and promise to refrain in future from being unduly jocular on this subject; for during the past fortnight the conditions have been absolutely ideal, Aldershot in fact being one of the sunniest spots in the southern counties. I am confounded, indeed!

But it *will* be rather comical if, when the August WIRE is published, the postman makes delivery in snow-shoes! Hullo, I'm off again!

Whilst on the topic of weather I think I can switch over to what I propose to term

A Counter Attraction.

There are people who jest about the N.A.A.F.I. Cornish pasty. Now, I have not the slightest desire to run the gauntlet of general opinion, but the last N.A.A.F.I. Cornish pasty that I purchased was really very nice.

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LONDON and BLACKPOOL

But my main objective in broaching the subject of our Institutes concerns not the Cornish pasty that comes from Upper Kennington Lane, but the really excellent steps taken to cope with the present hot weather by those responsible for the catering.

Since the advent of the heat wave it has been possible to obtain light and cooling refreshments, salads and so on, for a most reasonable outlay. True, my experience has been confined to one particular canteen, but I have no doubt that the enterprising authorities have adopted a universal summer tariff.

Arrivals.

The following have joined the unit during the past month:

Signalmen G. Bainbridge, E. Curtis, R. Jaques, and W. Millen from the T.B., S.T.C., 18/6/26.
Sigmn E. J. Miles from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C., 18/6/26.
Signalmen G. Moore, R. J. Wills, C. V. Blows, J. Donovan, M. Carroll, B. Neal, R. Stubbs, F. Bartlett, and G. Harding from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 25/6/26.
Sigmn H. Seaton from the School of Signals, S.T.C., on 24/6/26.
Signalmen E. C. Evans, J. Moylan, and R. Whitehead from the Training Battalion, S.T.C., on 28/6/26.
Corpl W. F. Lewis from the 3rd Divl. Signals, on 1/7/26.
Sigmn J. Indermaur from the T.B., S.T.C., on 9/7/26.

Departure.

Sigmn E. L. Payne to the School of Signals, S.T.C. on 24/6/26.

Educational Course.

A/L/Corpl M. O'Flanagan has proceeded to the School of Education, Shorncliffe, on a course; and he has been followed by Sigmn J. H. Thomas, the latter's move being preparatory to his transfer to the Army Educational Corps. We wish them the best of luck.

Congratulations.

We tender our congratulations to C.Q.M.S. A. Gadsby upon his gaining the 1st class certificate of education, and to C.S.M. R. Keevil upon his recently-acquired decoration, the long service and good conduct medal.

Transfer to Army Reserve.

Our good wishes to Sigmn F. Becker, who left us on 10/7/26 upon his transfer to the Reserve.

Extension of Service.

Corpl W. Winter, Sigmn A. Wiggins, and Dvr D. Colgrave, to complete 18 years with the Colours.

Fortissimo.

Several people have invited suggestions as to the most effective manner in which to deal with habitually discordant vocalists. Without any intention of being funny, I might suggest that they barred bards.

Saddle Soap.

Corpl Green has rejoined the unit from the School of Equitation, Weedon! Between ourselves, I consider this to be the most sensible move that has been made since Capablanca refused a Queen's gambit!

Equitation.

The Command Horse Show, as usual, proved a great success. I was unable to attend, unfortunately, and I *do* like to see other people fall off. I *was* vexed!

It has been suggested by a member of the staff ride that the substitution of low compression rubber horse-shoes for the present iron gadget would add to the comfort of our Saturday morning canters. Jolly good idea, I think! Perhaps it could be carried a bit farther, and I propose the specification includes a couple of shock absorbers, a Terry's saddle, and an Andre steering damper.

A Case in Point.

Time was when the despatch rider dumped his spare parts into the oiliest knapsack he could lay his hands on. But that procedure is now a thing of the past, and to-day no self-respecting D.R. would dream of appearing in public in his war-paint. The very latest thing is a neat little attache case into which he deposits spares for exchange.

A Challenge Accepted.

Dear me! The 3rd Divl. Signals are "asking for it"; they are, really. A challenge, indeed! Very well, we will endeavour to prove that the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs can produce as good a percentage of WIRE sales as any other Field Signal unit, *if not better!* Publish your figures, please!

Personal.

Sigmn C. W. Watts would like to hear from Signalmen Sansom and Muckler, erstwhile D.R.s of this unit.

An Interesting Experience.

At the invitation of our Commanding Officer a letter has been received from L/Corpl W. J. Walker, late of this unit, who emigrated to Australia some months ago. It is a most interesting story, and contains a great deal of valuable advice to those contemplating a similar plan of action when the time arrives for the placing aside of uniform. Copies of the letter have been circulated for publication on Company notice boards.

Tail Piece.

This is a little tale about a tail, and the most amusing thing about it is that a guarantee of perfect authenticity goes with it. Absolutely genuine, honour bright! Whereupon the reader will immediately turn to his neighbour, and say, "Ha, ha! isn't he a one!"

But I am determined to tell the story. A signalman was employed in the stables, and part of his morning's routine consisted of the "pulling" of his steed's tail, which accessory had grown somewhat straggly. Grasping the caudal appendage firmly in both hands and bracing himself, he gave a tremendous tug, and—oh! I say, I can't keep this up! But it's true, honestly!

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals

No. 1 Company.

During the past month we advanced a stage further in the yearly programme of training. We took part in a special rapid step up W/T scheme, carried out in an extensive area in the neighbourhood of the Hog's Back. Successful results were obtained, despite the usual criticism from the Cable-ites. The recent addition of push-bicycles to the establishment of A Section proved a big boon to the operators, and the usual enquiry of "How's your poor old feet?" was almost entirely unheard.

We took part in a unit signal exercise on the night of 8/9th July, which gave a good number a new experience of work during the wee small hours. One bright spark, on return to camp, suggested the employment of Tom Webster for cartoons bearing upon the erection of a C set or the laying of a line in the dark.

The recent disappearance of a well-known "hieroglyphic signature" from our midst has given occasion for many rumours. Many of our amateur "Jim the Penmen" had for years tried to reproduce a facsimile, but their efforts always met with failure.

A number of our angling enthusiasts have commenced to worry the ponds in the vicinity. Some have been fairly successful. Our chief angler proposes the starting of an angling festival. A few of the cynics scoff at the idea, and suggest that the competition would be so intense that the local fishmonger would be unable to meet their demands.

With the approach of the trooping season a large number of n.c.o.s and men are beginning to sweat. It is said the married roll will be considerably increased if a number are ear-marked for a foreign clime. A member of a well-known bachelors' club has been entrapped at last, and spends his week-ends in undertaking various menial jobs to supplement his income.

One of our number is a keen collector of old socks, and despite the watch kept on the trains and buses for the Kensington district, no one has apparently discovered the identity of the receiver.

Our emigration expert in this Company deplores the startlingly low price at present paid for Australian apples, and has given up the possibility of fruit farming in that locality. Since his unexpected good show at hurdling at the Company sports, we have reason to believe he has aspirations for buck jumping in Canada.

In reply to R. H. D. of the Camera Club, Egypt, A.D.L.G. wishes to state that there are several old sweats of 1920 fame still left in North Camp.

We welcome the following new arrivals: L/Corpl Thorne, Signalmen Harman, Stephens and Corder.

Personal.

L/Corpl Hamilton would like to hear from the "two Tavistonians," believed to be in India.

HAMO.

No. 3 Company

Training.

Daily traffic schemes formed the greater part of our training during the month, interspersed with a weekly unit scheme. Musketry still occupies its place in the daily routine, and all ranks look forward to firing the annual course in the near future.

Keen interest is shown in the unit rifle club recently formed, and it is hoped that the standard of shooting in the Company will show an improvement.

By-the-Way.

Our sympathy goes out to L.H.D. in his misfortune of living amongst aspiring musicians. At the time of writing we have also the "still" of evening disturbed by "uke" and "banjulele" fiends. Rumour has it that the intention is to form a string band. Judging by the efforts heard for many weeks past, success is by no means assured, and room-mates only submit to the undoubted torture in the hope that, by dint of assiduous practice, the band may finally attain their ambition.

Arrivals.

We extend a hearty welcome to the recently joined: Signalmen Hose, Wake and Hockey from Iraq Signal Company; and Signalmen Plant, Planner, Summerskill and Beech from Training Battalion, Catterick.

THREECO.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Aldershot.

We are very pleased indeed to see that "Sandy" has at least read our notes. It grieved us greatly to notice *his* absence in the previous issues.

Several of our boys are expecting to go abroad this trooping season, and although a few names are known, I think it best to say nothing at present. "There's many a slip 'twixt," etc.!

Moves.

It is with great regret that I have to report that our beloved sergeant ('Arry) Spencer is leaving us for the 47th (2nd London) Divl. Signals, T.A. We offer our heartiest congratulations to the latter on their acquisition. Our consolation is that Sergt Morgan, of E Troop, is our next troop sergeant.

Arrivals.

Sergt Bellew from Iraq Signal Section, 19/6/26. Sigmn Batley from E Company, S.T.C., 9/7/26. Sergt Morgan from E Troop, 19/7/26.

Attachments.

L/Sergt Smith and Sigmn Hill, from E Troop, for the period of the Command horse show. We regret they did not take back with them more than they brought.

Extension.

2313001 F/Sergt Vanstone to complete 12 years.

Challenge.

In reply to Bulford notes (July), it is regretted that we cannot exactly be termed a Field Signal unit, but our sales are exactly 100 per cent. (Got that?)

Reference E Troop's notes. You may feel the weight of the wielded willow very shortly, if you have not already done so.

Congratulations.

To Westley (Sierra Leone) on obtaining his "first." What about the "special" now, Jack?

Agony.

To Tich White, from Smudger Smith—Let's have some concert news, please.

To Les Parsons—What about the answer to the letter from Blighty?

Wise: Wasa matter wiv yer eye, Bill?

Bill: Got bit wiv a morskita!

Wise: Say, yer wanna put yer bandolier in yer box at night time, so's the blighters 'll fink yer on guard.

"WIZDUM."

1—If tha seeks wizdum, mi lad, thee studdy men an things, an if tha dezires larning, then thee studdy dickshonaries.
2—Ah thinks as opportoonities are made full as offen as they 'appen.
3—It's a gradely seet easier t'look on them as are below us wi' pity than t'look on them as are above us wi'out envy.
4—It's a gradely job t'knaw how t'listen!
5—This is how it's dun, lad. Wen th'art yung tha runs into difficulties, but wen th'art owd, then tha fa'as into 'em.
6—Luv seems t'ave this effeckt: T'maks yung uns sobber, an 't'owd uns gay.
7—T'aint cos luvers am so sensitif as they quarrel an kick oop a shindy so offen, it's cos it's gradely fun makkin' oop agen.
8—'Bout t'last thing a mon dus t'erect his faults is to quit 'em.
9—T'chief thing a wench seems to do, nowadays, is to wear new silk clobber, an t'mon dus nowt on'y pay through snitcher for it.
10—There's one broad sky o'er all t'world, and wether it's blue or cloudy, t'same world's under it.

'OWDAM LAD.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, July 14th.

Obituary.

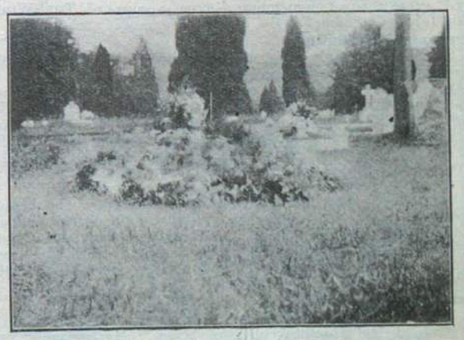
It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of Corpl L. R. Searle on Wednesday, June 23rd. He was schooling a horse over jumps, when the animal got out of control for a moment and ran into a wire fence. The horse fell over the wire and kicked his rider on the head when struggling up. Corpl Searle was rendered unconscious, and died seven hours later without having recovered consciousness.

He was one of our most popular and best liked n.c.o.'s. His unbounded energy and cheerfulness, his skilful and fearless riding, were examples to all. His death came as a great shock to the unit, as it was not generally known at first that his injuries were so serious. His personality was such that even now we find it difficult to realise that Corpl "Bob" Searle is indeed no longer with us.

The late Corporal L. R. Searle

To his sorrowing parents and his wife we offer our deepest sympathy, and trust that they may be given strength to bear their great loss.

The funeral took place at Salisbury on Saturday, June 26th, with full military honours. The large number of beautiful floral tributes were carried by a squad of corporals.



His Resting Place

Musketry.

To those who professed to be in the know, the annexing of the inter-Section shooting cup by K Section did not come as a surprise. The annual musketry was completed on June 30th, and has proved satisfactory.

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D. & W. GIBBS LTD., (Dept 97EG) Cold Cream Soap Works, London, E.1.

Wire Sales.

Our sales have gone up by leaps and bounds, and there are now only a few non-members. Some of these are probably anxious to join, but don't know how to go about it.

All you have to do is write your number, rank and name on a scrap of paper, and give it to Corpl Barlow; even without that, you can button-hole him, because being an operator, line, he can always be relied upon to possess a pencil. He once tried to arrange that all non-members should do permanent stable picquets and late feeds (groans), but the suggestion was definitely ruled out (cheers).

A great many non-members *borrow* a copy of THE WIRE. This I *know*. Shame!

Sergeants' Mess Outing.

On Saturday, July 10th, the majority of the members and their families proceeded to Weymouth, and spent the day as they, with their experience and service, know how. Brilliant sunshine favoured the outing at intervals, and an exceptionally high tide at 3.30 p.m. occasioned some surprise until it was noticed that several members and their wives were paddling!

The return journey commenced at 7 p.m., and was uneventful except for stoppages which, strange to say, appeared to occur in the neighbourhood of ye various old pigs and whistles.

Sympathy is extended to one unfortunate member who, having a somewhat high tide of his own, waited for the charabanc from 10.10 p.m. (?) until 11 p.m. (?), but seeing so many charabancs, could not make up his mind which to board, with the result that he had to interview the stationmaster at 9.30 a.m. the following morning.

Incident on the Sands.

Time: 3.30 p.m. Cracksman: "This air is doing me a world of good. I feel absolutely full of beans." Marksman: "Yes, so do I."

Time: 3.35 p.m. Marksman (gazing down at the peacefully sleeping form of Cracksman): "Well, well."

Progress.

A glance at the promotions and appointments will reveal the truth of the old saying, "You can't keep a good man down." We wish these fortunate young men good luck, and would remind them that all they have to do now is (a) watch points, (b) sit tight, and (c) keep a clean nose.

Arrivals.

C.S.M N. Legg from No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand, on 28/6/26.
Signalmen F. Richardson and F. Ridding from T.B. on 18/6/26.
Signalmen W. Timmins, P. Camm and C. Porter from T.B. on 19/6/26.
Sigmn L. Goodwin from No. 1 Wireless Company Egypt Signals on 20/6/26.
Signalmen W. Norcup and E. Whittles from T.B. on 21/6/26.
Signalmen J. Sammon, Stakersmith, A. Shenton, H. Tovell, W. Denereaz, A. Smith, J. Costello, A. Hill, and F. Simmons, from T.B. 25/6/26.
Sigmn J. Smalley from Mauritius Signal Section on 24/6/26.
Sigmn G. Stowers from D.B. on 28/6/26.

Departures.

Sigmn J. Chambers to 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester, on 14/6/26.
Corpl W. Cogswell to A Corps Signals, Ewshott, on 17/6/26, and L/Corpl E. Hudson on 7/7/26.
Corpl W. Lewis to 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot, on 1/7/26.

Examination.

F/S/Sergt A. Holloway passed "with distinction" an examination in advanced farriery at Aldershot on 16/6/26.

Birth.

To L/Sergt A. Keane, a son, Ronald Arthur, at the Military Hospital, Tidworth, on 11/6/26.

Marriages.

Dvr N. Pigg to Fanny Cope, at Amesbury, Wiltshire, on 25/5/26.
Corpl T. Lannigan, to Violet Frost, at Amesbury, Wiltshire, on 5/6/26.

Education Certificates.

L/Corpl W. Hirst, Signalmen C. Johnson, H. Lewis, D. Mills, C. Durand, E. Brady, H. Moss, E. Heath, J. Dove, G. Nother, F. Pipe, and W. Petterson, and Dvr W. Hilton, awarded 3rd class certificates of education at Bulford on 21/4/26.

Transfer to Army Reserve.

Sigmn C. Killick-Gordon on 13/6/26.

Discharge.

Sigmn F. H. R. Poole on 18/6/26.

Extension of Service.

Corpl W. Piercey, extended to complete 21 years in the ranks on 29/6/26.
Sergt C. Harrison permitted to continue in the Service beyond 21 years for a further 3 years and 185 days.

Appointments and Promotion.

U/L/Corpls G. Fee, A. Jones, and E. G. Wood, appointed L/Corporals (paid) w.e.f. 28/5/26.
Signalmen J. Panting, C. Walters, T. Healey, R. Shiner, and E. Cash, appointed L/Corporals (unpaid) w.e.f. 6/7/26.
A/Corpl E. Taylor to be Corporal w.e.f. 8/3/26.

No. 2 M.A.B. Signal Section

Larkhill.

Should anyone care to question the Section as to how the practice camp went off, I am certain the answer would be "excellently"—for in spite of working under somewhat peculiar conditions, everyone tackled his job with vigour, and the Section emerged from a somewhat gruelling fortnight with flying colours. The untiring efforts of our new O.C. during the previous weeks have evidently borne fruit. We take our hats off to him!

No particular "trade" can be picked out as having done better than others, but if nobody has any objection I will award the laurels to the telephone wagon under the command of Corpl Brown for the excellent way in which they surmounted all obstacles. Should we by any chance be posted to Switzerland, that Section *must* come with us.

One or two questions require answering, and perhaps the people concerned can inform me.

What did the C.R.A. say when the telephone wagon moved off and left a coil of wire round his legs? (No, we were *not* pulling your leg, R.A.).

What did Jock and the sergeant say while they were pushing a drum barrow over the Plain on one dark and stormy night?

(I just heard the last few words as they arrived at the Command Post—they fascinated me).

If a certain corporal has taken a liking to an army bicycle? and why?

Departure.

Sigmn W. Kay to 3rd Divl. Signals on 6/7/26. We heard the joyous squeaks of the other "ex-rats" when he arrived.

Arrivals.

Corpl G. Percy and Signalmen E. Smith and J. Smalley from 3rd Divl. Signals. We bid them welcome.

Sport.

Owing to practice camp, this form of enjoyment has been in a state of coma, the only thing to report this month being the results of the miniature range competition mentioned in our last notes.

The prizes, very kindly given and presented by our O.C., were won by Sigmn Lee, 95; Sigmn Ruffle, 91; Driver Vellow, 75. Sealed number, Sigmn Turner.

As an outcome of this shoot, we have isued a challenge to any Section of the 3rd Divl. Signals, and await a reply. What abaht it, Division?

MABLE.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, July 14th.

The T.U.C. little knows to what extent it has benefited the Signals Association. A couple of weeks ago that famous Union had but six followers at Reed Hall, whereas since "that unity feeling" has gripped the country, we can now boast of 76 members, and they are still rolling up.

By the way, speaking of "rolling up," if this heat wave doesn't transfer its activities to another hemisphere (at least until we have finished our shooting at Middlewick Ranges), we shall all be indenting for shrouds, re-mustering "corpse," and volunteering for service with the Astral Signal Company. Even R.S.M. Craig, who has just left us for Ewshott, unbent so far as to cast one of his cardigans prior to his departure. Truly did L/Corpl Wallace K. Buxton make an inopportune exit (to the R.A.P.C.). His ice-cream barrow, with its gay slogan, "Old Joe for honest value," would be a welcome sight these days.

The wet bar band has sustained rather a setback by the transfer to the Army Reserve of leading violinist C. G. R. Easter; and although the remaining musicians are ably carrying on with a broken gramophone and a mouth organ, his absence is keenly felt.

Another vacant chair is to be found in the corporals' mess vide the stepping up of Corpl H. Pillinger to L/Sergt. Bravo, Bert.

L/Corpl E. G. Rogers, late of Tientsin, is also to be congratulated on his appointment as A/Corporal.

Long John Packman, the inevitable mess secretary, has extended his sentence to complete 12 years. Be it known, however, that this step needed profound contemplation for at least seven months before the final plunge was made. Young Lunniss has also followed suit in this respect, but he was nearly pushed. However, all's well that ends well.

Our latent modesty has hitherto prevented us from following the lead of other units by bursting into rhyme and other murderous perversities, but climatic conditions must be taken as an excuse for No. 1 of the 4th Divisional Odes.

ODE TO A FITTER.

A Fitter Signals, bold was he,
Who transferred from the A.S.C.
Possessed of knowledge of the gods,
He wangles tappets, valves and rods.
If in thoughtful lines his face is set,
He's thinking of a mag., you bet.
But why, say you, that thoughtful frown?
Perhaps the clutch is upside down;
And though he writes a personal letter,
His mind is on a carburetter.
To Wembley once on pass he went—
(Alas, 'twas not to Feltham, Kent,
For there his heart is kept in chains)
That Mecca of all M.T. brains,
And there in shops all day he'd wallow,
And p'raps appease his awful swallow,
For on lubrication he's O.K.,
Be it Castrol R. or S.B.A.
His soul is deeply steeped in sin
Through "breaking down" the paraffin.

McEwan's Maxims

"Every Man to his Taste"

They say tastes vary. Perhaps they may in many matters but not in a canteen where "McEwan's, The Soldiers' Beer" is sold. For when it comes to a good drink with some "body to it" every man's taste is McEwan's and every man keeps to his taste! . . Always ask for—

GLOBE BRAND TRADE MARK

McEwan's THE SOLDIER'S BEER

Wm. McEwan & Co. Ltd BREWERS, EDINBURGH

But what be that to such as he,
A man amassing L. S. D.?
For he who needs a brand new gear
Need only mention Bill—and beer.
Ofttimes at night, when quietness be,
He'd tell us tales of raging sea,
Of years before the mizzen spent,
And how he fasted one whole Lent;
Or tales of unknown foreign parts,
And sheiking Zulu maidens' hearts;
Or rides by night and fights by day,
And "pinched" for drunk in far Bombay.
Enough! This story needs must end,
Or we shall lose a faithful friend,
And this the 4th Div. Sigs. would rue—
Who should we lend our money to?

In Memoriam.

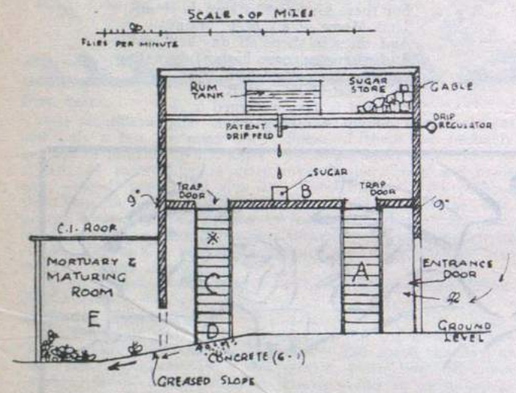
It is with great regret that we announce the death at Colchester of Mrs. Holland, and the deepest sympathy is tendered to Sergt F. Holland in his bereavement.

Sergeants' Mess.

The messing committee at last breathe freely. There have been so many flies on the messing department that something had to be done. The following diagram shows a very efficient arrangement which has not been put into use, but proves theoretically a great success. Already the rum has been taken twice for night screams by a certain Cable Section sergeant. The whole of this scheme was arranged by Joe, late of Catterick fame.

COLCHESTER DISTRICT. SUMMER FLY CAMPAIGN.

Proposed type of Fly Trap for use near Sergeants' Mess Cookhouse



LONGTITUDINAL SECTION

Fly, enters at door, & attracted by smell of sugar, ascends ladder 'A'. Consumes rum-soaked sugar, and descends ladder 'C'. Owing to effects of rum, fails to notice missing rung at '*'. Falls, and breaks its neck on concrete at 'D'. Slides down greased slope to chamber 'E'. Economy may be effected, if, after duly maturing, the bodies are sold to the nearest Baker, for use as currants.

We had a glorious mess dance on June 18th. It was a great success, but we still wish to know the name of the member who bought ice-cream at 7 p.m. to take home at 3 o'clock next morning, as a peace offering. It is believed that he is well acquainted with Sardine. Seems fishy to the committee.

Sardine was very much annoyed one sultry afternoon, when he arrived in mess just in time to miss the Greene King.

Charge! (not the caterer; he knows how to). We now advance in diamond formation, but we are still at Reed Hall, our advance guard being one n.c.o. and four men. (Economy). We are getting educated.

The Gunners (Limber). Is it true that the gunner team was disappointed because they were unable to get instruction in dancing, owing to the fact that the instructress was fully occupied in teaching a brand new father?

We had a very pleasant time on the 27th June, on the occasion of a visit from the 56th (1st London) Divl. Signals, T.A. We hope to pay a return visit in the near future.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

Quite a lot has happened since our appearance last month. Training (with a capital "T") is the order of the day, as the powers that live across the little stretch of water called the Irish Channel have supplied us with 40 other ranks, 20 for training as visual operators, and 20 for W/T operators; and Northern Ireland being the ideal spot for such training, well, there you are.

Everything so far is going with a swing, and the new draft is settling down to it. We shall have quite a lot of things happening in the near future, which will prove very instructive to some and a sort of brush-up for those who have been through it before.

A very dramatic incident happened last week. A certain n.c.o., well known to many at the Depot, expressed a desire to marry, but on second thoughts altered it to a week-end. Has mortal man ever been known to escape from such suicidal tendencies before?

There are a lot of expectant faces now, some happy and some the other way, this being the month for receiving those little slips known as Drafting Orders.

Arrivals.

The 40 other ranks mentioned above. We extend a hearty welcome to all, and trust their stay will be all that they could could wish.

Sigmn F. Packwood is also amongst those who are welcomed.

To Sigmn and Mrs. Edwards, a daughter (Ethel Sylvia), on 13/5/26.

To Corpl and Mrs. Heath, a daughter (Joyce Lilian), on 25/6/26.

Despatches.

Sigmn C. Jones to Ballykinlar for a short spell.

Technical.

Congratulations to Signalmen C. Jones and L. Wooten on passing for higher rate, the former as D.ii. despatch rider, the latter as electrician, W/T, Class iii.

K Company Signals, Liverpool.

Old boys will be glad to know that we are still in existence, and taking an interest in life. This is our first item in THE WIRE, and we hope in future to keep in touch with our brother signallers.

A few months ago we had a change of sergeants. Sergeant Noonan, who has kept the boys up to the mark for some years, left us for an appointment in the Terriers. Sergt Herbert has taken his place.

This season cricket is progressing well. Already we have whacked the Merchant Taylors, whom all old boys will remember.

We wish L/Corpl Boys Hills and Lewis the best of luck on joining the ranks; also Jerry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

8 Evans Street, Willenhall, Staffs.
July 8th.

Dear Sir,—I am desirous of disposing of the following books (in exchange for Poole's "Telephony): "Hindustani Manual," by Major Chapman (Staff College, Camberley), and an English Hindustani Dictionary by Col Phillot (Calcutta Board of Examiners)—the former in very good condition, the latter well used. Failing exchange, I would like to buy Poole's second-hand. Could you kindly oblige by inserting in the WIRE?

Yours faithfully,
C. MCLOUGHLIN.

Signal Training Centre (India).

Jubbulpore, June 18th.

The heat still continues, and according to the "old soldiers of India," the rains cannot possibly arrive before another three weeks have elapsed. What we shall be like then I do not know, but I still have sympathy for our friends on the frontier. The "Pioneer" says the monsoon has broken, and the medical officer says it has not. Doctors appear to be more truthful than journalists disguised as meteorologists.

Whoever spread the yarn that this was a second-class hill station had never had any connection with the orderly room of the Signal Training Battalion, but must have had some experience with regard to khus khus tatties, shaded windows, silk pyjama suits, and ice cold sheets in the afternoon. Oh, well! But still, one must not grumble, as occasionally even the heat does not put us off our little merriments.

A very successful shooting party was organised by the orderly room staff the other morning. The O.C. jumped up from his chair and grasped his B.S.A. pop-gun, loaded it, aimed and fired at the poor inoffensive "owl" that had been decorating his table continually for the past fortnight. "Got the——?" he cried. But no luck! It only flew into the orderly room clerk's office, and gazed down in the same old wise way.

"Give me the gun, sir; give me the gun; I can see him," yelled the Assistant Adjutant. First shot, a miss (owl looks still wise); second shot, a miss (owl looks wiser still); third shot, a miss ("d——") (owl, still looking wise, decides to fly a little further afield, but unfortunately still within sight of the stalwart Tom Mix).

Nothing daunted, our hero advances and takes cover behind a chair, props the muzzle of his rifle on the back of this protection, takes regulation aim and fires. "Got 'im!" The poor little owl descends slowly; his last feeble breaths are being taken from him by his endeavour to reach the beam again. He fails, and falls to the ground in a state of coma.

Three ready retrievers (i.e., Clerks, C.III.B.) immediately rush to the prey, call the sweeper, and make extraordinary use of an empty Stephen's ink bottle. Thus the poor little owl is no more, but I can assure you he has plenty of brethren. But we are getting better shots these days, and know the rifle pretty well; and still live in hopes of our letters reaching D.H.Q. and Home Records, etc., without a spot on their character.

[Mr. Editor, if this reaches you with even a suggestion of a "blob," please report to me immediately. The above incident is still the subject of an enquiry by (a) the R.S.P.C.A., and (b) the Army Rifle Association, and we refrain from further comment while the matter is still sub-judice.]

On account of the King's Birthday parade, night operations were very successful.

We were beaten by G Divl. Signals in a shooting match last Sunday morning. After leading by twenty points on the first practice, we eventually lost by seventeen. The "gale" and kneeling at 300 yards seemed to cause all the trouble on our side.

Sergeants' Mess.

Nothing of great interest has taken place lately, except a whist drive and dance held on Wednesday the 2nd inst. I think we all enjoyed ourselves very well, although the number present was small.

Possibly it was just as well we did not have a crowd; as it was, we had to water the whisky to make it go round. But for the evil eye of the provost establishment, we might have wondered why we woke next morning with such clear heads.

Sergt Cartwright (M.P.) still continues to provoke laughter. His speeches on "How much it costs to train an assistant tradesman" are worthy of a better fate.

SIGTRAIN.

A Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, June 18th.

The hot season is now with us, and consequently there is little news—and still less inclination to record that which comes to hand.

Furlough is anxiously looked forward to by those who, not being blessed (?) with a string of dependants (one strand may constitute a string, presumably), cannot take a trip to Topa on temporary duty about once a fortnight. A query arient the last phrase is "How is it that Nat, too fractious to work in double harness on the plains, can yet be managed 'in pair' in the cooler atmosphere of Murree?" Nothing to do with the draught up there, is it?

Sports.

Hot season hockey and cricket tournaments are being played off. The results, so far, are bright enough to stimulate hope in the breasts of the poor unfortunates who are left to languish in the plains. Details of matches played will be sent later, with (if our new C.S.M. is anything of a prophet) the announcement of our success in one at least of the tournaments.

Arrivals.

Lieut. J. W. Kenny, R.A., from Signal T.C. (India)
C.S.M. Saunders from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.
Signalmen Adkins, Ashley, Stratford, Jones, Edmunds and Sharp from S.T.C. (India).
Signalmen Cumming, Taylor, Hookway and Walker from G Signals.
Signalmen Bush, Cardew, L. G. Smith (95) and Thorne from E Signals.

Departures.

L/Corpl Browne to B Corps Signals.
Sigmn C. T. Cope and family to Australia (invalided).
Signalmen Beck, W. A. Roberts and Colquhoun to E Signals.
Signalmen Riddock, Payne and Jones to G Divl. Signals.

Promotions and Appointments.

Royal Signals—Sergt Dunn to be A/Sergeant; Sergt Shepherd to be Corporal; L/Sergeants Talling, Holland and Moore to be A/Corporals; Corpls Marshall and Baldock to be L/Corporals (Home Roster).

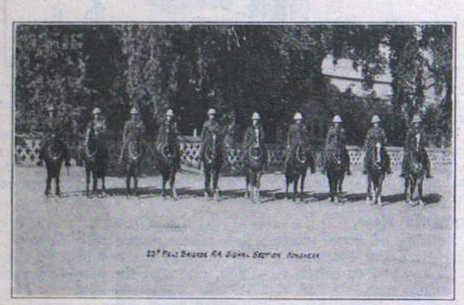
I.U.L. Signals—L/Sergts Harvey and Wyeth to be Sergeants; Corpl Clewlow to be L/Sergeant; L/Corpls Smithers, McCullough, Dwyer and Butcher to be Corporals; U/L/Corpls Butler and Freemantle to be paid L/Corporals.

COL.

A Divisional Signals Detachment.

Nowshera.

The Signals Association Branch here has re-opened under entirely new management, and we hope in future to send a monthly record of our performances.



We have all the unit's remounts out here for training, and they provide a certain amount of hard work—*and* plenty of amusement. Subscriptions to the "chip" fund are not entirely satisfactory, however. Tiny took a look at Corpl Baldock, and we became quite rich.

We have done well in jumping competitions, and recent successes include:—

Sigmn Moore ("Dick")—1st in open jumping, 23rd Field Brigade R.A. sports.
Sigmn Moore ("Dick")—2nd in handy horse competition.
Sigmn Brewer ("Grunter")—2nd in open jumping.

SHERABAD.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi.

For the past month we have, one and all, been doing homage to the gentleman (or is it a woman?) responsible for the weather which we have been revelling in. However, I take it upon myself to say that the elements are, and have been, at their best, and the compliment "ideal" is a very inadequate term.

Technical training is now in full swing, and although a few "hae doots," almost every candidate on the course is confident of obtaining a higher rate.

The Murree Brewery football tournament terminated extraordinarily favourably for the Combined Signals. Although I am dealing with the various rounds under Sports Notes, I feel I must take this opportunity of both thanking and congratulating the whole team for the very splendid exhibitions they gave us during the tournament.

Although it is very difficult to single out any one member of such a first-rate team, I think everyone who saw the games must agree with me when I say that our right back, Sigmn Nicholls, is deserving of extra praise. He is a Trojan who never tires, and his energy appears to be unbounded. Unfortunately, next trooper will in all probability see him transferred to the home establishment. However, what is our loss will be another's gain. Now then, Nick boy, show 'em how you did things in Murree in 1926.

The "homing" period is approaching, and many people due to return to Blighty have the proverbial sweat on. Some go so far as to put what they consider judicious questions to our daftar wallahs regarding their possibilities. The time-honoured slogan, "Roll on, the boat," still finds favour. Indeed, our classics find relief in muttering "Dum spiro spero."

Promotions and Appointments.

Congratulations to the following on their recent attainments on the Corps roster: L/Sergt Galtress to be Corporal. L/Sergts Negro and Rand to be A/Corporals. Corpls Murphy, Justice, Humphrey, Benfield, Sharples, Stanley, Ockenden, McKay, and Parsons to be L/Corporals. L/Sergt Alder to be A/Corporal.

Education.

Congratulations to the undermentioned on obtaining their 3rd class certificates of education: Signalmen Clarke, Pickett and Tilbury. On with the dance, and the "first."

Arrivals.

We welcome the following personnel: Signalmen Burdett, Elliott, Jacob, Sayers, Moors, Rivers and White from F Divl. Signals; and Signalmen Wheelan and Ritchie from the Depot.

Extension of Service.

Sigmn S. Riley to complete 12 years with the Colours.

D. DIV. SIGS.

E Divisional Signals.

Ranikhet, May.

By the above address you will notice that E Divl. Signals have again arrived at that salubrious spot at the foot of the Himalaya mountains, the place of bad colds and high prices, and incidentally our summer residence.

Will all those who have had previous experience of hill stations kindly note that this is only our second ring, though we are expecting the time when we shall have as many rings as D Divl. Signals, who will require a lot of catching up.

I was informed yesterday by one blushing long-service wallah that some people's necks were the colour of a zebra's. Now, I wonder what he meant! Never mind, Topa has its advantages. What do you say, Barny? Parrotts live long, don't they?

Oh, no! it's not a Line Company; it's simply E Divl. Signals on the warpath—O.L.'s, S.B.O.'s, L.M., O.L., and occasionally wood-choppers. Needless to say, the latter were hired when no one was looking. Pine trees are apt to be very hard, and as every one is using manicure sets, the hiring of these individuals became a necessity.

So great has been the interest taken in the construction of permanent lines, that a few blushing young youths (O.L.s, etc.) are contemplating a change of trade.

I regret to say that the casualties during this line construction have been rather heavy.

Sergt Nicholls, our expert lineman and "philosifer," has developed a mania for doing acrobatic feats from the tops of ladders. Result: (1) a broken wrist; (2) a hop and carry one leg; (3) a heavy expenditure on rubber wrist bands.

Will the permanent line instructors at Catterick kindly give a little more instruction in the use of the safety belts? I suggest that a small parachute be attached to the belt, thus obviating a heavy fall, and incidentally saving the use of khaki patches, which are in great demand now.

The fly-swatting season has now begun. A true copy of Depot Orders is forwarded herewith (extract): "39,403 flys have been killed in one bungalow. Try to beat this record in yours." Such is life, and so many unemployed about, too!

Extract from the Orderly Sergeant's diary: "1593764 Sigmn Mason, H., admitted to B.S.H. through exhaustion, following hard work of swatting during his tour of duty as bungalow orderly."

Departures.

Sergt Willie Wish. We have lost our old scribe to THE WIRE, and we wish him the best of luck in that "Garden of Eve"—"Jubb."

SCRIBE.

Meerut, June.

You will notice by the above address that, after all, the scribe did not get another ring round his neck for being a hill parrot. As a matter of fact, he got shunted off here.

Bearing in mind the editor's note, "Use a condenser for condensing notes," I find it rather hard work to sort out the particular item for preference, but in this case it must be the new ride.

This particular ride is known to the intimates as "Bunny's Ride"; to the non-intimates as "Harry Tate's Army"; and to the Corporals' Mess as the "Bran Mash Brigade"—presumably on account of its being composed of I.M.T.s, M.T.s, D.T.s, T.T.s, and occasionally nonenti—ties.

I have no doubt that I.M.T.s are able to repair telephones with a hammer and chisel, or that M.T.s can crank up an old Ford until it sparkles from ear to ear. Clerks may be able to wield the mighty pen; but, oh! the ride is a different proposition.

Brij Lall, our coffee-shop contractor, informs me there is a great demand for blanco, but I have been unable to solve the mystery. It cannot be on account of sore lower regions, as they are generally longer on the ground than in the saddle; in fact, it generally turns out to be a first class scrum.

This ride will go down in history as the great "Broncho-Busting Acrobatic Ride." Even the C.S.M. has taken to smelling salts, and the C.O. is contemplating two months' leave in Kashmir to recuperate from a nervous shock sustained through watching "Bunny's Ride."

Yes, the Scribe has spent hours in crawling on his hands and knees and that part of his body which the army generally marches on, in collecting notes for THE WIRE—not daring even to breathe for fear of disturbing the ride and so causing a stampede. Even the Instructor tones down his voice to what is known as a humble voice when he gives the order, "Quit stirrups."

The C.O. says every man has to earn his spurs.

The C.S.M. immediately ran to his bunk for his Old Moore's Almanack, and turned up a page which read "January, A.D. 1956. There will be great rejoicing on that day for all those who have toiled honestly and steadily." Fortunately there have been no casualties up to the present, but I will report as the ride progresses on its way to earning those great laurels, "spurs."

Owing to a press of work, a set of sketches depicting Bunny's Ride could not be finished in time, but I am living in hopes of thrusting them upon our worthy editor in our next issue.

Departures.

Signalmen Bush, Thorne, L. Smith and Cardew. We wish them the best of luck in their new Company, A Divl. Signals, Peshawar.

Promotions and Appointments.

Corpls Gardner and Todman to be L/Sergeants. L/Corpls Youngson, Woodford and Sabine to be Corporals. Corporals Mitchell and Bailey to be L/Corporals on the Corps roster. We hope they may rise to still dizzier heights.

Sports.

We tender our heartiest congratulations to Capt H. S. Lewis-Barclay on winning the men's doubles, partnered by Jagat Mohan Lal; also on being a finalist in the men's singles and mixed doubles. Capt. Barclay has had no practice since rejoining us from England. He met Mohan Lal in the final of the men's singles, and after a terrific encounter just lost on the post. We all should liked to have seen this match.

Sergeants' Mess.

Of late we have been whiling away the time with tennis "at-homes," at which some happy evenings have been spent. Other sport is practically negligible owing to the hot weather, with the exception of pokey die, which generally consists of a Manchester youth trying to rob a Scotsman. I firmly believe that the man who said "Farthing pieces were invented for Scotsmen to use for charity" was quite correct.

Obituary.

3125481 Sigmn J. W. Goddard died at Meerut on 9/5/26, from enteric. 2310565 L/Sergt G. H. Tansley died at Ranikhet on 9/6/26 from appendicitis.

The whole Company tender heartfelt sympathy to their relations and friends, who may rest assured that stones will be erected and the graves tenderly cared for as a mark of high esteem.

KISMET.

G Divisional Signals.

Major E. W. J. Hobkirk having proceeded on leave, the command of the unit has been taken up by Capt. G. S. Hurst.

Captains M. H. Howard-Smith and E. Salter have also departed on leave on medical certificate, and have been struck off the strength of the unit.

We have been most pleased to accord a welcome to the undermentioned officers and other ranks during the past two months, and live in hopes that their stay with us may be a pleasant one.

Capt. C. A. Murray, from S.T.C. (India).
Capt. B. S. Watkins, from A Divl. Signals.
Sigmn C. F. Owen from A Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.
Signalmen L. G. Payne and R. Riddock from A Divl. Signals.

Several other ranks having recently departed, we wish them the best of luck in their new spheres.

Signalmen Taylor, Hookway and Cummings are reposted to A Divl. Signals.

Sergt Cross has elected to be discharged in India, with a view to taking up civil employment with the N.W.Railway.

How d'you do-
says the new
SPEARMINT

This delightful old favourite chewing sweet greets you now in new form—
—sugar-coated
—4 pieces in a sealed packet
—penny a packet, like P.K.
It's flavoured as before with the juice of fresh garden mint, but seems to taste better than ever.
Try a packet to-day. Let a penny do it's best.

WRIGLEY'S

Four dainty sugar-coated pieces in a bright little packet, sealed to keep all the goodness in.

SPEARMINT

EC 360

Since last writing a couple of most successful dances have been held under the auspices of the Signals Association, the second of these being a fancy dress affair. It is regretted that the fancy dresses were few, and consequently the judging thereof was not such a task as it was hoped it would have been. These functions were both open-air ones, and all members of the Association tender their thanks to the members of the w.o.s and sergeants' mess for the use of their tennis court on both occasions. At the second function Lieut.-Col. Paulson and Mrs. Hurst very kindly carried out the judging of costumes for us, and to them we also tender our thanks.

Congratulations are extended to L/Sgt Tellery on his appointment, to Corpls Byrne and Gibbons on their promotion, to L/Cpls Matthews and Ling on being appointed paid L/Corporals, and to L/Corpl Grant on his appointment as A/Corporal.

We cannot pass without extending congratulations to C.S.M. J. Hamilton, C.S.M. (now R.Q.M.S.) T. G. Dixon, Sergts C. Cross and F. Wise, on their being awarded silver medals for long service and good conduct, with gratuity. The former had his medal presented to him on the King's Birthday parade by Colonel-Commandant Beach, commanding 21st Indian Infantry Brigade, and had the honour of standing by the Colonel-Commandant during the march past.

During the progress of the musketry course for this year, the officers of the unit arranged for competitions amongst the other ranks; and we have therefore still more congratulations to Sigmn Rigden on the cup awarded him as the best shot of the unit, and to the members of the winning squad who have been awarded medals for their prowess.

Two rifle matches have been fired against the 40th Field Battery R.A. We lost the first and won the second. Now the unit shooting eight has been formed, it is hoped to take on other units and beat them.

A rifle club recently formed is progressing most satisfactorily. Weekly shoots are being held, and during the past week Capt. B. S. Watkins, C.S.M. Rose, and L/Corpl Wilson have been successful in obtaining pool bulls.

AITCH DON.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, June 10th.

Sergeants' Mess.

Last month the mess of this unit held a tennis at-home, the visitors being the staff of Sialkot Prison. Some good games were witnessed, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The Signals finished with a lead of 33 points to 26. On a later occasion a billiard match was played between the same two messes. This was won by the Prison Staff by 740—662.

General.

Capt. H. D. Orr, our late O.C., has left for England. Readers who served under him will join us in wishing him a very pleasant holiday.

Our new commander, Capt. Neale, Royal Signals, needs no introduction. We are fortunate, and trust he will be content to remain with us. We have also welcomed Lieut. Busby, Royal Signals, late of Colchester. The 4th Division's loss is our gain.

The Station is gradually becoming warmer, and the enterprising youth who owns the iced-lemon business is in great demand. The electric fans are making a great difference, and we are much better off than we were last year. So far we have had no cases of malaria.

The Hockey Team, 1926

We have several n.c.o.s and men away on leave and courses, and are rather short-handed at times. There are several rumours prevalent concerning a new draft of Wireless men. We shall be pleased to see them.

Promotions and Appointments (I.U.L.)

Sergt Parsons to be Acting-Q.M. Sergeant; Corpls Ayton and Carpenter to be L/Sergeants; L/Corpl Mitson to be Corporal; Sigmn Hall to be L/Corporal (paid). We are pleased to congratulate these n.c.o.s.

Signals Association.

The Branch is progressing quite well. We have not been able to organise any entertainments yet, but hope to do so shortly. A voluntary subscription list in aid of the Branch Fund has been started. The response has been pleasing.

Sport.

No matches have been played. At the last Sports meeting it was proposed that a Badminton set should be purchased. Evidently the sporting spirit is not dead yet.

B. O. M.

C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop,

Risalpur, N.W.F.P., June 12th.

Officers.

We heartily welcome Capt. I. F. G. Hall, 12th Cavalry, who arrived on 10/1/26 to take over command of the unit. May his stay be long and pleasant.

Capt. G. F. Jones proceeded on 12 months' Blighty leave on 26/3/26, and before leaving he presented the Troop with a lovely silver cup for individual tent-pegging. This is much appreciated by all ranks. We hope he is having a jolly good time amongst the Welsh mountains.

"The Broken Road"
"To the foot of the Hindhu Khoost"

The old Troop is still going strong, although we have many new faces in the unit now. Nine of our n.c.o.s and men left us for the Army Reserve in December last, and it is recorded that a certain farrier-corporal fell in, armed with a large sugar-cane, when leaving for the station. He was eventually put on the train O.K.

The Troop has bought a brake—a relic of the Mutiny—and it is often seen being towed down the Nowshera Road for repair. However, we have had some nice rides in it, despite the fact that the off-horse enjoys performing on his hind legs.

The Bungalow, C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop

The riding school has been the hive of industry to the new draft, and it is believed that Nick is getting on famously, having struck a peg with the lance.

Our D.R. Corporal has been trying to emulate the 170-mile per hour car with his motor-cycle, but having tried to push a tonga cart off the road, he broke his knee instead of the record.

The Recreation and Dining Rooms

Congratulations to T.S.M. G. Learmonth on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal. What about that A.F.B. 221, Jock?

Sergeants' Mess.

Tennis is in full swing again, and Mdlle. Lenglen would be surprised to see our antics on the court. Our worthy S.M. still continues to make weird noises on the piano. I believe a subscription list is being made to help our needy and long-suffering caterers.

Promotions and Appointments.

2306493 A/Sergt A. Smith promoted Sergeant on the Corps roster, w.e.f. 28/5/25.

2313021 L/Corpl R. Chappell promoted Corporal in the I.U.L., w.e.f. 5/1/26.

2308490 Sigmn H. Barclay appointed L/Corpl (paid) in I.U.L., w.e.f. 5/1/26.

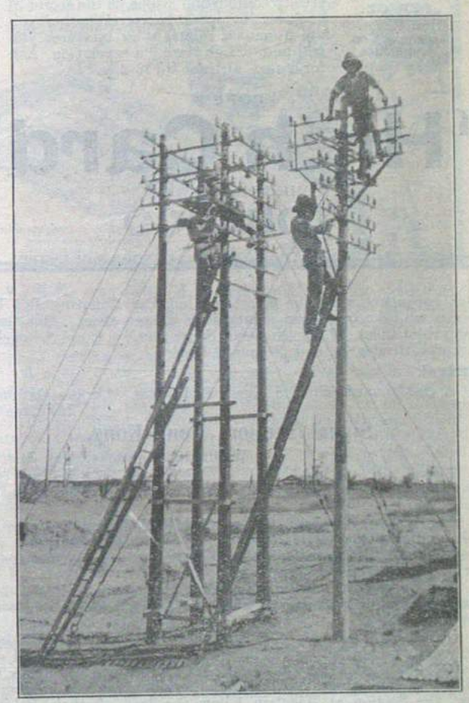
Signals Association.

Nearly every n.c.o. and man in the Troop is now a life-member of the Association, and we are hoping to do some good work in the coming winter, all being well.

C CAVSIGS.

Iraq Signal Section.

The Section is still going strong, building and maintaining routes in Kirkuk, Kurdistan, Mosul and Baghdad; and the



indoor people are just as busy on switch and baseboards. The "snap" above is of a regulating party working on one of the many all-steel-pole routes in the Hinaidi Cantonments.

Departure.

Our O.C., Capt. T. H. L. Turner, Royal Signals, to U.K. on a well-deserved leave. May it be a happy one.

Promotion.

Congratulations to L/Cpl F. Brudenell on gaining, by losing the letter "U" in his rank.

General.

Whilst a construction party was working at Kirkuk, the O.C. entered a team of five in a R.A.F. shooting competition,

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1 oz. tin 1/-.
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VIRGINIA FLAKE
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Our opponents were the 6th Armoured Car Company R.A.F., whom we beat by eleven points after a keen shoot. Our team comprised Lieut. W. H. N. Dent, Sergt Cowley, Corpl Schofield, L/Corpl Brudenell, and Sigmn Adderley.

Arrival.

A chikko mem-sahib to Sigmn E. Dunbar. Congratulations!

IRAKSIGS.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Wellington Barracks, May 31st.

Phew! ain't it hot! Only a sheer sense of duty (or the prospect of an unpleasant future!) compels me to write these notes.

The Z.M. has been very unfavourable during the month, rain and sunshine following one another in rapid intervals; we were indeed fortunate in having selected one of the few good days for our Association outing.

The sporting season closed with the arrival of the hot weather, in consequence of which no sports news is available for THE WIRE.

On the 12th inst. our C.S.O. (Capt. Bridgland, D.F.C.) left us to pay a short tour of inspection to North China and to classify the regimental signallers. We trust when he returns he will bring news of our confreres up "topsides," and an assurance that the Section at Tientsin follow the lead of their Peking neighbours. Well done, Peking! Now what about the Association? The secretary of the Hong Kong Branch will be very pleased to assist you in any way, more especially towards the 100% mark.

Transfer.

Following the lead of Smudger Smith and his four co.'s, Pte Hessall is to be transferred from the 1st Battn. East Surreys as a visual signaller. We extend to him our welcome.

Kirkpatrick Reconnaissance Cup.

News is to hand that the above cup has been awarded to the 40th Company R.E. for their detailed scheme. Whilst offering our congratulations to our R.E. friends, it is gratifying to record that Capt. Bridgland and Q.M.S. Roberts (Royal Signals) gave a hand.

Photograph.

A photograph of the Section accompanies these notes. The shield and the two large cups are Garrison trophies, shared

L/Cpl Holland, Sigmen Pursell, Harris, Hawley, White, Worral, Durand, Chopping
Cpl Bowler, Q.M.S. Roberts, Capt. Bridgland, D.F.C., Sgt Seymour, L/Cpl McBride

with the 40th Company R.E., the remainder being the results of individual efforts. Conspicuous amongst the latter is the Garrison amateur billiard championship cup held by L/Corpl McBride.

The Boat Race (R.E. v. R.A.)

Oh, no! we didn't win the cup for the above race. We lost by many lengths, the better crew pulling away the whole time.

Work.

Our lines just won't stay put! Savvy? Enterprising "John" decides to build a house somewhere near our route. This, from his point of view, is very desirable, the aerial wires affording a good means of drying his clothes. Our reply is tar varnish or something equally as sticky.

The deviation of our routes has been a frequent occurrence of late, many of these jobs hindering the cable repairs.

Signals Association.

A very enjoyable day was spent on Whit-Sunday, when Waterfall Bay (another discovery) was visited. It was intended to start at 10 a.m., but on arriving at the pier "there weren't no boat." Thinking of the women and children, off went a committee-man in search thereof—said boat being duly unearthed from the Canteen Pier.

Having loaded and moved off, a murmuring arose from the blunt end of the boat: "Bar open, you fellows." The stampede was stopped only when the skipper ordered "trim ship."

After an hour and a half sailing a likely bay was sighted, being promptly christened as above. Here we stopped and spent an enjoyable day in swimming, playing cricket (married versus single, including the ladies), and a ramble. Tiffin and tea were served on board. An amusing incident occurred when a "morser" iddy-umptied "tiffin" on the ship's whistle. A passing Chinese launch brought up alongside, thinking we were in distress.

It was a splendid turn-out, and great credit is due to the committee and to the ladies for their capable arrangements.

JOINT BOX.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

The only item worthy of record this month is the annual visit of our C.S.O. from Hong Kong. We have every reason to believe that he was thoroughly satisfied, and it is certainly a great stimulus for us to know that someone takes an interest in our work and welfare. Normally, so long as communication is maintained, no one seems to mind how it is done.

We hope that Capt. Bridgland's visit may bring about many urgently-needed alterations, and a decided livening-up on the part of those to whom our monthly indents for the hundred and one items necessary to keep things going are merely "scraps

of paper." It seems impossible to believe that two wireless stations dealing with Legation and military traffic cannot muster even one hydrometer between them.

The Departmental tennis club held a very successful doubles tournament on June 2nd. Prizes were given by the Club and by Mr. Steptoe of H.B.M. Legation. Sigmn Taylor was one of the winners (Rhine Signals, please note), and L/Corpl Pagett one of the runners-up—so two of the four prizes have found a home here.

Will "Can Do" of Hong Kong note that one of our number collapsed on reading his joke in the May WIRE, babbling incoherently of childhood's days and the time when he fell out of his cradle with laughing at this same joke.

PAICHING.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani.

Departure.

Our O.C., Major R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C., R. Signals, left us on 5/6/26 for six months' leave in the U.K. We wish him bon voyage and a good time in the home country.

Welcome.

We welcome Lieut. Harte, R.E., as our new O.C., although he is not new to some of us, as he has held the same position before. We hope he has a pleasant stay with the Section.

Trade Tests.

The great "breeze up" is all over now, and forgotten by most. All the Section passed their various trade tests with flying colours. Some were confident, and some *did* shake.

To the Rhine and Hong Kong.

L/Corpl Davis (better known to his friends as Krushen) has taken up the manly exercise of golf, and is now prepared to give lessons and to take on all comers. (There is no truth in the rumour that he has challenged Harry Vardon or Abe Mitchell.)

To Hong Kong.

We offer an apology for absence of notes, and will do our best to see that it does not occur again. The gentlemen of this Section wish to congratulate Bill Bowler on his recent billiard victory.

Latest News.

We have just heard on good authority that a set of golf sticks are for sale, the owner having given up this pastime and taken up ping pong. We must presume that golf was rather too strenuous for him!

TEDA APPA.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, June 26th.

Departure.

It is with great regret that we have to record the departure of our C.R.E. and O.C. Signals, Lieut.-Col. C. W. Biggs,

Front Row (left to right)—Sigmn R. Parker, L/Corpl H. W. Horsey, C.Q.M.S. P. A. Simmonds (Foreman of Signals), Lt.-Col. C. W. Biggs, O.B.E., R.E. (C.R.E. & O.C. Signal Section), Col. C. W. Gale, L/Corpl J. E. W. Leath, Sigmn J. C. Rhodes.
Back Row—Sigmn G. Mitchell. A. Gilkes, S. Newlyn, R. F. Piper, P. Sayers, A. Birch,

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And "Skippers" are so tasty and sustaining with your tea and supper. Send us a postcard if your Canteen does not stock them.

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NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

O.B.E., R.E., who (with Mrs. Biggs and their son) sailed for U.K. by s.s. "Orca" on May 8th. Both Colonel and Mrs. Biggs endeared themselves to all in the Command during their stay amongst us, and this Section is very proud to have had the honour of serving under him and to have had him for their O.C. A photo of the Section was taken a few days before his departure, which is forwarded with these notes. Out-stations were called in for the purpose, with the exception of L/Corpl Barry (Boaz), Sigmn Sands (St. Georges), and Sigmn Hughes (Warwick Camp). To this trio was whispered "Duty before beauty!" hence their absence. The best wishes of the Signal Section are respectfully extended to Colonel and Mrs. Biggs on their departure from the Colony.

Moves.

On June 9th, Sigmn Piper relieved L/Corpl Horsey at Warwick Camp (per spring wagon express). Harry, complete with banjo, returned to the fold at H.Q., looking very fit. The B.V.R.C. annual training at Warwick Camp took place this month, and we were highly gratified at the Adjutant's comments on the way these two T.S.O.s carried out their duties as A/Line and Cable experts.

Soldiers Complete.

As an antidote to the south wind and "lurgee," we have commenced weekly drills, and the H.Q. detachment, much to their disgust, have to turn out in drill order. On these drills we all turn out (all seven of us), and the F. of S. and junior n.c.o.s proceed to charm a sturdy line of signalmen with various vocal utterings.

Sport.

Things are very quiet on this front. To date, one trial cricket match has taken place. On May 27th, in the Army v Navy cricket match, Sigmn Hughes represented the Corps as wicket-keeper, following the example of Sigmn Lindop, late of this Section. Congratulations, Jack!

Agony.

Sigmn Gilkes would like to hear from Sigmn Shipman, who was in D Company in 1924.

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

TRY
BEACH'S
Jams
and
Marmalades
and Wonderful
Lemon Curd

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, July 8th.

Everybody is feeling the effects of the overpowering heat that greets us for at least seven days per week, so naturally excitement does not fall to our lot under existing circumstances.

Commotion of a "windful" nature arose throughout the island when the shock of a local earthquake was felt, and it was a long time before the scared inhabitants were induced to return to their hurriedly vacated beds. Except for a few cracks appearing here and there in numerous buildings, and the Charleston antics performed by sealed spirits in the sergeants' mess, casualties were nil.

The Mediterranean Fleet, much to the financial regret of the Maltese tradespeople, left the base for its annual summer cruise last week. The absence of same will be a dead loss, at the same time making Tommy Atkins a firm favourite where the weaker sex is concerned.

Now that the trooping season is before us, anyone who is detailed for duty at this station can be enlightened with any particulars he may wish to ascertain by communicating with the hon. sec. Signals Association, Command Signal Office, Malta.

Musketry.

Since the publication of notes under the above heading in May, the following report has been received from His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief: "Satisfactory in all respects."

Promotion.

Old Don Companyites will be pleased to learn that Sigmn Bevis, of cook-house fame, has ascended to the ranks of the unpaid category.

Leave.

Major N. B. Naylor, General Staff Officer, and L/Corpora! Osborne are amongst the fortunate ones to accompany the Mediterranean Fleet on H.M.S. "Bryony" during its summer cruise —a trip much sought after by all. We wish them a pleasant three months.

Our "skipper," Capt Osborne Wills, is at present enjoying 90 days' leave in the United Kingdom; likewise Corpl Davies. The less fortunate ones wish them both a topping vacation.

Several married n.c.o.s and men, with their families, are taking advantage of the opportunity of a two weeks stay at Ghain Tuffieha summer camp offered by the military authorities. This pleasure retreat is the nearest approach to an English seaside resort, where one may enjoy incomparable bathing and a real lazy holiday at a very moderate charge. ALGY.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, July 13th.

The air is full of rumours and whispers of the forthcoming General Staff signal exercise, when we shall steal away into the misty distance,and against the uncanny skill which we are assured is possessed by the imaginary enemy the Signals will, slightly aided by the other arms of the Service, put forth its strength with fluttering flags, lamps, sounders, Ack sets, C sets, Field W/T, Command W/T, watt sets, helios, mokes, D.R.s, Albions, orderly rooms, sergeants and lance-corporals, confound 'em (the imaginary enemy).

Already preparations are in hand, and many marks have changed hands with the injunction, "Bring me back some fresh butter, and don't forget the spare kit bag for the apples."

The piece de resistance will be the newly-formed mechanical lines section, which will lay communications at express speed. We shall watch to see the Albion lay her ears back and strain forward at the sound of the whistle.

The newly-formed committee for the O.C.A. have got busy, the units rallying in grand style by virtually 95 per cent. becoming members and buying the magazine. There is to be a grand outing for all members early in August, preparations being in hand under C.S.M. Jones.

The incident which occurred between the three supplying firms, the Drage's, Harrod's, and Selfridges of those units, would have been annoying if it were not humorous. "Come to me," said Mr. D. "if you want anything in the household line." One went for brushes, sweeping, but "Mr. H. is the place for you," he was told. Mr. H. was indignant; "try Mr. S.," he said briefly. Mr. S. radiated sunshine, and was sorry, but "it was up to D. or H." H said D; D said S; and the weary one went round all day, and still the canteen was not swept.

Social.

The increasing popularity of the social evenings, especially the dances, causes us to wonder how we shall continue to get 'em all in, as new-comers attend every dance. The band is excellent, the floor good, and organisation "it"; so no wonder they have become a feature in this garrison's entertainments. The committee's good work is appreciated, as is noticed by the increase in the number of creased slacks.

The installation of the W/T loud speakers (the other variety can be heard any time, mostly on pay nights) gives an added interest, and raises the query why have we not had them before. The suggestion that canteen hours be extended so that Uncle Alfred's bedtime stories may be heard has not received approval.

N.C.O 's Mess.

The mess is busily engaged in arranging a Rhine trip, which will take place, I believe, as soon as each member gets his nautical hat and supply of life belts. "The Tatler" has asked for a full-page photo, and description which should read in this manner: "Cher ami. I was present with Capt. Wally's yachting party which assembled at Bad Wiesbaden, and was fearfully thrilled at seeing such a distinguished crowd. Admiral Farmantle brought a party which included Challenski of the Russian ballet and Paul Candle's band. They caused a diverssement with the Appollinaris," etc.

Marriages.

Congratulations to Signalmen Hardy and Westmore on performing their duty as citizens.

Promotions.

Corpl D. Sharp to be L/Sergeant. Signalmen T. A. Williams, Morley, Toye, and Potter, to be acting unpaid L/Corporals. Bon chance, and "mine's a bass."

Medal.

Our belated congratulations to Sergt Laycock (Daddie) on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

PETRUS.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

News is skimpy this month. We are all busy preparing for our annual training at Weymouth. I was hoping to have had a short account of No. 2 (Southampton) Company's week-end camp held on the 3/4th July in the New Forest, but although there are no details of their doings, the "Saints" appear to have had a very successful venture, and all went well.

No. 1 Company (Exeter) had their second week-end camp of the season on the 19/20th June. By way of a change they encamped near their rifle range, and were thus able to cover a good deal of class firing—the carrying out of which had been interfered with by the strike.

Everyone is pleased to hear that our popular adjutant, Capt A. W. Roberts, M.C., has accepted an offer to extend his tour of duty with us by one more year. Loud cheers!

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

When these notes appear we shall be enjoying the delights of annual training at Herne Bay. Westbrook Farm will be our residence from July 25th to August 8th. On the 22nd, enthusiasts representing the advance guard will arrive and pitch camp for the main body. We sincerely trust the weather conditions will be more favourable for them than last year.

A good deal of satisfaction was shown when it was definitely known that "camp is on," fear having prevailed, owing to industrial trouble, that a fortnight in camp was not for us this year.

We are eagerly looking forward to the renewal of acquaintance with No. 2 Company. An excellent account of their abilities in feasting, etc., appeared in these pages on the occasion of their dinner, but apart from that we have been "diss." Is there, we wonder, a reason for their silence? Are they preparing to carry off all the events and prizes on the occasion of our sports day?

Thanks to the activities of our various committees, there will be some very interesting events, with numerous prizes and trophies, to be contested for whilst in camp, and competition to excel appears to be very keen.

The present finds us actively engaged in preparing for annual training, and quite a lot of work falls upon various shoulders at such a time. A hearty vote of thanks is tendered to them for their labours.

On Saturday and Sunday, July 10th and 11th, No. 1 Cable Detachment had a week-end scheme, proceeding to Ruislip; and No. 3 Company journeyed to Wimbledon Common, there to demonstrate their efficiency in visual and wireless.

To satisfy numerous requests, dances are still being held. These are exceedingly well patronized, likewise the whist drives held in the w.o.s and sergeants' mess.

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: Sergt A. J. Wallis, Corpl R. E. Pell, and L/Corpl W. E. Evans.

A. C. A.

No. 2 Company (Brighton)

By the time these notes appear we shall be holding our annual camp at Herne Bay, where we hope to meet all old friends of Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, from London. May the glorious weather continue!

The Company carried out a scheme last week-end, choosing the South Downs for this purpose. We had long distance visual stations and wireless, and the lads got a good insight into the work that will be expected from them in the coming camp.

Of course, everyone is looking forward and preparing for the time we are going to have. In fact, one of the sergeants has gone into strict training, it being known that he has a spare time job at a brewery. Here's to Herne Bay, nice weather, and a good time!

DEDEIAN.

50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals.

No. 1 (Gateshead-on-Tyne) Company.

We regret that our much-discussed annual training for this year has been cancelled. This has had a decided effect on the training of this unit, as it was felt that the 15 days in camp would certainly have brought out all the finer points of the Company.

Week-end camps are now to take the place of the above, and all ranks are looking forward to putting into practice that which they have absorbed in theory. The first one was held on July 17th, 18th and 19th.

The members of the sergeants' mess are already preparing for an early start with the social functions of the mess—whist drives, shooting and dancing being the chief items which it is hoped to arrange.

Musketry was carried out at Whitburn on June 20th with excellent results.

A. C. S.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

The Company very much regrets that our annual camp has been cancelled. However, we receive by way of training a number of week-end camps, the first being held on July 17th

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and 18th. These camps are very beneficial to all who take part in them.

Many budding tennis champions are to be seen operating in the drill hall most evenings, and many good games are seen on the new court.

Musketry has now been completed for the present season, and the results obtained were very satisfactory.

We are pleased to chronicle that our headquarters are much nearer us than formerly, being now situated at Darlington. We had a surprise on Saturday, July 10th, when the R.S.M. turned up on a visit. We hope to see more of you, "major."

All ranks are looking forward to the usual winter socials, which it is hoped to commence as soon as training has finished for this year.

A. T. S.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Training.

Naturally disappointed at the cancelling of annual camp, which we were so eagerly looking forward to, we have nevertheless enjoyed one or two week-ends, and at our last, held on July 2nd, 3rd and 4th, we had quite a good muster on parade.

On the Friday certain of our Company were to be seen strewing the Hull fair ground with cable, pole-crossings, etc. On Saturday an early move was made to Cottingham, where more really hard work was got through under the command of Capt. R. E. Petch. At mid-day refreshments were brought out by motor, and at 5 p.m. a return was made to barracks, where a good meal was awaiting us. The same scheme was carried out on Sunday, and we are indebted to the residents of Cottingham for the way in which they welcomed us.

Voluntary Parades.

A number of voluntary parades have been held, when (granted the use of a number of horses) we have carried out more training. Thanks to the efforts of our permanent staff, we were able to use the Hull fair ground, an ideal spot in which to work. Good numbers attended these affairs.

Recruits.

There has been a pleasing increase in the numbers offering themselves for attestation, and after a careful sorting out, several have been through the necessary preliminaries and "joined the happy throng."

Musketry.

The Company's efforts at "cutting the bull" have ended, and on each of the three occasions on which we journeyed to Hornsea there has been some decent shooting. Better results than last year have been obtained.

Move of Headquarters.

For quite a while the rumour that the Divisional Signals headquarters were to move from Hull has been going its rounds. This is now an established fact, and the move was made on July 1st, when Capt. and Adjutant W. T. Howe, O.B.E., and R.S.M. G. Burrows proceeded to Darlington. The move was genuinely regretted by the members of the Hull Company.

Farewell Concert.

Prior to his departure, R.S.M. G. Burrows was the guest of the sergeants' mess, the occasion being a smoking concert arranged by the n.c.o.s. During the course of the evening, Sergt J. Wright, M.M., made a short speech in which he remarked that it was regretted that the move had to take place, and thanked the R.S.M. for his much appreciated efforts on behalf of the Company.

R.S.M. Burrows, in reply, said he was sorry to leave Hull, but that he was going amongst friends, and not severing his long connection with the 50th Divisional Signals. The concert, which was sustained by many old friends, was a huge success.

Sport.

Since our last notes we have not been interested in cricket to a very great extent; and evidently our sporting fraternity are saving themselves for the great offensive we intend to make during the coming winter season. There are still our annual sports to be held, and various competitions to be decided, so next month I hope to have more to write about.

A. O. S.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, July 13th.

The week-end courses held on the 19/20th and 26/27th June gave us nearly a record attendance for such courses. Fifteen officers and 303 other ranks were present on both week-ends, and with exceptionally fine weather, the work was both instructive and pleasant.

Although some of the communications were as imaginary as the troops for whom they were provided, many useful lessons were learnt. The lay-out of Signal offices is vastly improved, and No. 3 Company experts no longer connect their telephone to the centre tap of the transformers. It is not true, by the way, that the tables for Signal officers, which our O.C. insists on having, are installed for the benefit of the Adjutant.

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Seriously, though, the unit can pat itself on the back for some good work done, and also for the fact that (thanks to Col. Llewellyn's foresight) it has held several trial runs with telegraph instruments which have just become part of our establishment; and whether or not Ordnance supply the official sets in time, we shall have both S.C. and D.C. working this camp, as the unit has several private sets.

The news that camp was definitely on has been hailed with great delight by all ranks—also by the licensed victuallers of Porthcawl, not to mention the flappers! We are at present deep in the throes of packing—everything is going into boxes and sacks, and the R.S.M. has had several narrow escapes from being labelled as an accumulator! His electrical energy, I suppose!

No. 3 Company are now not only up to strength, but over it. Well done, No. 3.

We welcome to the unit Mr. W. G. Hayes on his appointment to a commission, and we hear of three other officers-to-be and a unit M.O. What a full house the officers' mess will be!

We look forward to the visit of Col. W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., Deputy C.S.O. Western Command, from 28th to 30th July, when he is setting us a scheme. He is a hard critic, but a really helpful friend of the unit, and we all like to see him. We wonder if he will make a triumphal entry into the n.c.o.s' mess, as he did last year; and who will pack his staff officer's bag on the last day of the visit?

Several operators of the unit have won the bonus offered by the C.O., and more are to try their luck shortly.

All will be well with the advance party, as we hear that Tishy and Dinky will be with them again.

Who was the n.c.o. who mixed up his code call instructions with the diagrams for fitting P.D.G.S. harness?

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Training in the unit is progressing very steadily, and much activity is noticed now on drill nights. Cable and telephone detachments are making nightly excursions to Wanstead Flats, and by the time we get to camp they should be able to lay a line at the pace that Scotty laid his from Bourg to Souphir in September, 1914 (roughly two miles in 8 minutes). Hold tight behind!

Wireless and visual are also going strong, and some useful work should be put in this year at camp. All ranks are looking forward to the 15 days at Dover from 1st to 15th August.

All Companies are taking their full complement of telescopes, ostensibly to watch the boats leaving Calais. (Sigmn Beach will not be at camp this year.)

One Section of No. 2 Company is proceeding to Westdown Camp on the Plains from 25th July to 8th August, being attached to their Field Artillery Brigade (85th) during their practice camp.

Many aspirants for higher rates of pay are attending the Trade Board which is being held here on 22nd July. We wish them all the best of luck.

Musketry was carried out by No. 1 Company at Rainham on June 13th, and details of No. 2 Company fired on June 20th. Pool winners, June 13th, Sergt Helling and Sigmn Safferty tied with a score of 92 each. Recruits' prize, Sigmn F. Tanner (53). On June 20th, 1st, L/Corpl P. J. Jones (85); 2nd, Sergeant Beauchamp (82). Recruits, 1st, Sigmn A. J. Barnett (59); 2nd, Sigmn Trollope (57). Top score among permanent staff, R.S.M. Adams (96).

Competition is very keen for the regimental whips which are being presented to newly-enlisted men who come up to 12 words a minute on buzzer. So far two have been won by Signalmen Morcom and Hole. There are more to be won, so come on, you youngsters!

Great interest is still being shown in the miniature range competitions. Results for last month will be found under Sports Notes. Cricket and boxing notes are also under that heading.

We beg to offer the unit's congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Smith on the arrival of young Edgar Richard—posted some time ago, joined for duty 27/6/26, Army No. not yet allotted. (We are still short of a few operators, visual).

Y. E. D.

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What you're sending, I don't know:
Emma, Esses, Beer or N—
Hang the blooming lot of them.
Waggle, waggle, little flag!
How I wonder what you wag:
G or C, Ack or D—
They all look alike to me.
Twinkle, twinkle, little lamp!
Twinkle like a drunken scamp.
Is it Toc? or is it K—
D——n the thing, put down a J.
Tick the ticker, ticker tick,
Tick the ticker, tick it quick,
Till the time when I shall be
Op. visual, Group E.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Road, July 16th

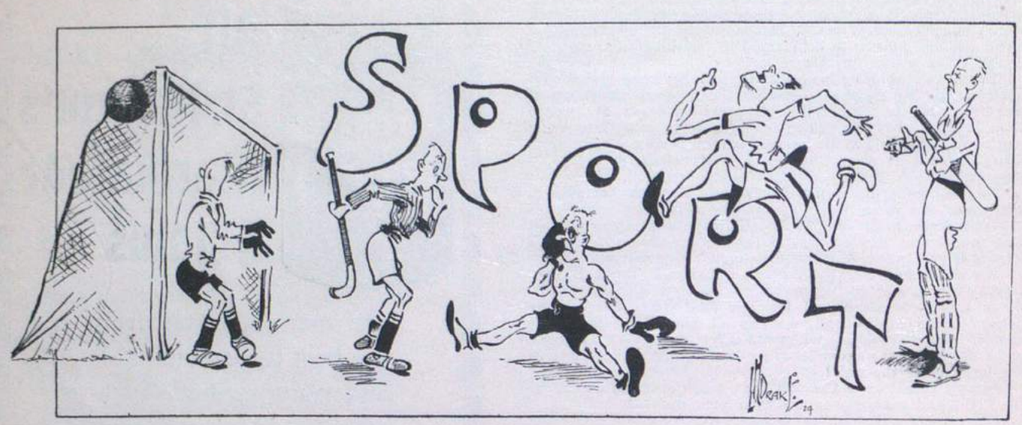
We are going to Dover on August 1st for this year's annual training, and preparations are in full swing. Everybody is talking about it now that the time draws nigh. The weather has promised to be good to us, and if rumours are anything to go by we shall have a good attendance.

The annual musketry course took place on June 20th at Shoeburyness ranges. We were blessed by an ideal day, although one or two complained that it was a little too warm. Sigmn Raynham is to be congratulated on topping the list for this day with a score of 83.

R.S.M. Adams came all the way from Stratford, and his assistance at the firing point was a great help. The fact that high scores were frequently obtained by his pupils proves that.

Sigmn H. J. Bulwer kindly came along with his "tin lizzie" containing the best half of the Company canteen. This was greatly appreciated by all ranks, especially as the weather was so warm. The only drawback was that he did not bring along enough "scoff and ginger."

DREITER.



Catterick Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals v. An R.E. XI.

Played at Catterick on June 15th and 16th, ending in a draw, owing to the curtailment of play by rain.

R.E. XI.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Capt H. A. Baker b Phillips	12	st Downer b Phillips	19
R. J. Walker c Parsons b Scott	63	b Carpenter	5
L. F. Hancock b Carpenter	10	not out	35
E. C. R. Stileman c Drayson b Carpenter	7	c Cobb b Carpenter	1
R.A.V. Monteith c Scott b Phillips	3	b Carpenter	3
L/Corpl Leutchford b Scott	0	b Williams	3
A. Minnis b Scott	2	c Downer b Williams	0
Q.M.S. Parslow c Downer b Scott	7	not out	0
Capt J. H. Mousley b Scott	0		
Q.M.S. Adams not out	0		
L/Corpl Chant b Williams	0		
Extras	6	Extras	2
Total	110	Total for 6 wkts (dec)	68

Bowling—Major Phillips took 3 wickets for 58; T. A. R. Scott 5 for 56; Sergt Carpenter 5 for 38; Sigmn Williams 3 for 7.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

	1st Innings		2nd Innings.
Capt H. A. J. Parsons b Minnis	5	not out	14
L. C. Boyd b Minnis	6	b Baker	1
E. L. Vulliamy b Minnis	8		
Major F. A. Drayson b Minnis	0	not out	2
E. J. Hatfield c Stileman b Baker	34	run out	0
Sigmn Williams b Minnis	0		
Maj. L. G. Phillips c Hancock b Baker	3		
Sergt Carpenter c Adams b Baker	3		
Major F. R. Cobb not out	0		
T. A. R. Scott c Monteith b Baker	4		
Sergt Downer b Minnis	2		
Extras	4	Extras	2
Total	69	Total for 2 wickets	19

Bowling—A. Minnis took 6 wickets for 41; Capt Baker 5 for 24.

Royal Signals v Durham County Pilgrims.

Played at Catterick on June 17th and 18th, ending in a draw.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
E. J. Hatfield b Groves	2	c and b Groves	24
E. L. Vulliamy b Groves	0		
E. S. Cole b Groves	7	c Groves b Nimmo	27
Major F. A. Drayson c Groves b Alderson	52	c Law b Newman	50
L. C. Boyd b Groves	0	lbw b Morgan	16
J.A.I.Watts cYoungman b Nimmo	15	c Morgan b Alderson	63
H. O. Pargeter b Morgan	8	st Kinch b Morgan	5
Major L. G. Phillips lbw b Morgan	0		
Major F. R. Cobb b Morgan	4		
T. A. R. Scott c Squance b Youngman	7	not out	0
Sergt E Downer not out	2		
Extras	11	Extras	8
Total	108	Total 6 wkts (dec)	193

Bowling—Mr. Groves took 5 wickets for 41; Major Morgan 5 for 73; Mr. Newman 1 for 37; Mr. Youngman 1 for 16; Mr. Nimmo 2 for 40; Mr. Alderson 2 for 16.

DURHAM COUNTY PILGRIMS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Mr Newman c Hatfield b Scott	48	not out	38
Mr Smith c Downer b Scott	9	c Downer b Phillips	6
Mr. Alderson c and b Phillips	38	c Vulliamy b Phillips	28
Mr Youngman c Drayson b Cole	53		
Mr Groves b Phillips	50		
Mr Read c Downer b Cole	3		
Mr Squance b Phillips	2		
Mr Kinch b Phillips	3		
Mr Law b Cole	0		
Major Morgan absent	0	not out	3
Mr Nimmo not out	0		
Extras	6	Extras	2
Total	212	Total for 2 wickets	77

Bowling—Major Phillips took 6 wickets for 98; T. A. R. Scott 2 for 75; E. S. Cole 3 for 45.

Royal Signals v. York Garrison.

Played at Catterick on June 22nd and 23rd, ending in a draw.

YORK GARRISON.

G. G. J. Clifford c Parsons b Cole	14	b Cole	1
J. N. Carter lbw b Phillips	40	b Phillips	1
R. E. Goff b Cole	33	b Phillips	23
A. C. Shaw b Phillips	0	c and b Cole	3
Capt W. Y. Price st Downer b Phillips	16	b Cole	3
Col. H. C. Fernyhough b Cole	1	not out	8
Gen. Sir C. H. Harington b Cole	5	b Phillips	8
Lieut.-Col. C. G. Maude b Cole	5	not out	1
Capt P. H. Davies c Watts b Carpenter	35	b Cole	3
Major W. Clemson lbw b Carpntr.	2	c Boyd b Cole	6
Capt G. R. S. Love not out	1		
Extras	26	Extras	8
Total	178	Total for 8 wkts (dec)	65

Bowling—Major Phillips took 6 wickets for 83; E. S. Cole 10 for 78; Sergt Carpenter 2 for 32.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

Major F. A. Drayson lbw b Davies	19	c Harington b Love	11
Capt H. A. J. Parsons c Maude b Love	4	b Carter	0
E. J. Hatfield c Goff b Love	19	not out	2
J. A. I. Watts b Carter	20	c Harington b Love	43
L. C. Boyd b Carter	1	c Maude b Davies	9
E. S. Cole b Davies	13	b Davies	2
E. L. Vulliamy not out	25	b Davies	0
Sergt Carpenter b Davies	0		
Maj L.G. Phillips c Price b Davies	5	b Davies	11
Sigmn Williams b Davies	0	b Davies	3
Sergt Downer c Maude b Love	8		
Extras	32	Extras	6
Total	146	Total for 8 wickets	87

Bowling—Capt Davies took 10 wickets for 76; Capt Love 5 for 83; J. N. Carter 3 for 25.

Royal Signals v. Craven Gentlemen.

Played at Skipton on June 28/29th. Signals lost by 95 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

Major F. A. Drayson b Luckhurst	6	b Shepherd	77
E. L. Vulliamy b Luckhurst	8	b Shepherd	0
E. J. Hatfield st Coates b Austin	27	c and b Austin	4
L. C. Boyd lbw b Luckhurst	5	c Coates b Austin	14
E. S. Cole b Luckhurst	0	st Coates b Luckhurst	53
H. O. Pargeter st Coates b L'hurst	0	c Smith b Luckhurst	0
Major L. G. Phillips c Barrett b Austin	11	st Coates b Luckhurst	24
R.S.M. Anderson b Austin	11	b Shepherd	0
T. A. R. Scott lbw b Luckhurst	15	lbw b Luckhurst	0
Sergt Carpenter not out	42	c Smeeth b Luckhurst	26
Sergt Downer c Barrett b L'hurst	4	not out	1
Extras	4	Extras	19
Total	133	Total	218

Bowling—F. Luckhurst took 11 wickets for 96; G. C. Shepherd 3 for 72; E. H. Austin 6 for 99.

CRAVEN GENTLEMEN.

H. Barrett c Downer b Scott	81	lbw b Scott	19
H. Betts b Phillips	12	c Downer b Cole	0
E. M. Smeath st Downer b Carpenter	52	b Phillips	4
H. G. Coates c Boyd b Scott	27	c Scott b Phillips	58
E. H. Austin c Cole b Scott	10	c Downer b Cole	23
C. G. Shepherd c and b Carpenter	40	c Downer b Scott	13
G. H. Smith lbw b Cole	37	b Cole	1
H. P. Shackleton b Carpenter	0	b Phillips	13
Rev. A. Edgar b Cole	10	b Cole	0
E. Earnshaw not out	2	c Downer b Phillips	6
F. Luckhurst b Carpenter	3	not out	12
Extras	19	Extras	4
Total	293	Total	153

Bowling—Major Phillips took 5 wickets for 124; T. A. R. Scott 5 for 93; E. S. Cole 6 for 67; Sergt Carpenter 4 for 104.

Catterick Shooting Notes.

The S.T.C. Rifle Club held the first two rounds of the inter-Company league competition on the small bore range. The results have been exceptionally good, and brought to light some very promising shots who, with practice, will help to keep the name of the Corps well to the front, as in other branches of sport.

The league list up to July 5th is appended, and it may be noted that the aggregate for the two shoots is something to be proud of for a young club.

	Fired	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points	Agg'te.
Drill Companies	2	1	0	1	3	1141
F Company	2	1	0	1	3	1117
C Company	2	1	1	0	2	1101
E Company	2	1	1	0	2	1036
D Company	2	1	1	0	2	993
School	2	0	2	0	0	834

The S.T.C. Rifle Club challenge any unit of the Corps to a postal shoot under the following conditions: Distance, 25 yards; 20 rounds on S.M.R.C. match targets (10 on 5-bull and 10 on 10-bull); any .22 rifle that complies with S.M.R.C. rules in their handbook; open or aperture sights and slings allowed, but no artificial rest; sighting shots and coaching at discretion of team captains.

Replies to this challenge to be addressed to the Officer i/c S.T.C. Rifle Club, Training Battalion, Royal Signals, Catterick Camp.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket has started well, and one outside fixture has been played, our opponents being the Sappers. We lost the toss, but were sent in to bat; maybe the concrete wicket frightened the enemy. Things went very badly, four wickets falling for seven runs; and it was left to L/Corpl Welch to save the side. His 27 was unquestionably a vigorous innings! No one else made much impression, and the innings closed for 48. Things still looked dark until Sigmn Payne came on to bowl and took 6 wickets for 2 runs in five overs—a great performance, which was largely responsible for D winning by 15 runs.

On July 7th we played our first league match against F Coy. We were unsuccessful, the scores being 100 to 68. Nevertheless, Corpl Watterton made a very useful 24 for us.

Another form of inter-Company competition which has lately come to the fore is miniature rifle shooting. We have fired two matches, winning one and losing one. Results:—

E Company beat D by 518 to 468. D Company: C.S.M. Hughes, 88; L/Corpl Welch, 70; Sergt Lane 69; Sigmn Lay, 76; Sergt Squirrell, 95; Capt Straight, 70.

D Company beat School by 525 to 481. D Company: Major Snatt, 83; Lieut. Scott, 94; Sergt Lane, 85; Sigmn Lay, 83; Sergt Squirrell, 94; L/Corpl Greenwood, 86.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott

Cricket.

A good start was made this season, but owing to the strike and other reasons, several good fixtures could not be carried through. The team is strong, with Sergt Minns and Corporal Morphew as our star performers, but unfortunately the claims of the Aldershot Signals XI. have often robbed us of them when we most needed them. It is pleasing to note the promising form of several "colts," who are coming on very rapidly and should be in great form next season.

The following are results of unit matches:—v. School of Hygiene, lost by 28 runs; v. Depot R.A.M.C., lost by 28 runs; v. Command Signal Company, won by 52 runs; v. R.A.F. Medical Services, won by 105 runs; v. 3rd Pack Battery R.A., lost by 30 runs; v. Ewshott, won by 1 wicket. Senior N.C.O.s v. Other Ranks: Other Ranks 100 for 3 wickets (match abandoned owing to rain).

Athletics.

The unit is now training for our sports. Keen enthusiasm prevails, and the question at the moment is who will win the Commanding Officer's cup for the best all-round athlete and horseman.

No. 3 Company.

Cricket.

Results of matches to date:—v. A Company R.A.M.C.: No. 3 Company, 121 (Morphew 57, Carter 25); R.A.M.C. 150 (Sparks

25, Page 31). Return match—A Company R.A.M.C. 146 for 3 wickets; No. 3 Company, 163 (Minns 25, Roberts 53).

The Company has a sound all-round team, with reliable batsmen in Sergt Minns, Corpl Morphew, L/Corpls Blanchard and Roberts, and Sigmn Carter; a good wicket-keeper in Signalman Addis; and some useful bowlers in Sergt Minns, Corpl Morphew, L/Corpl Roberts, and Sigmn Jones. The last-named should develop into a good all-round cricketer in the near future.

No. 3 Company, 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

Cricket.

Results—Away, v. 11th Field Company R.E., lost by 11 runs. At home, v. A Company R.A.S.C., won by 17 runs. At home, v. 5th Field Company R.E., won by 35 runs.

Capt D. A. Brown, M.C., Royal Signals, officer commanding No. 3 Company, has very kindly put up a shield for inter-Section competition.

H Section met J, and emerged the victors by 27 runs. K Section were defeated in their match against J, so that the final competition rests between H and L Sections.

Tremendous keenness has been displayed in all the matches, and it has been rather difficult to pick out the stalwarts.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

Cricket.

Several Section cricket matches have been played during the past month, and the most important of these was the fixture between A and B Sections. B had earlier in the month defeated two Section teams of No. 2 Company, and naturally expected to easily damp the optimism of the more lowly Wireless Section, who fielded a team picked at random.

The game proved interesting, and the efforts of the wireless 'erbs, inspired by the enthusiasm of their O.C., were almost herculean. B were a trifle superior to A, and at the end of an innings apiece had 38 runs to 34. In the second innings A showed far better form and fully deserved their lead at the close of play—B obtaining 59 and A 121.

It was a real sporting match controlled by good umpires, and the presence of the Section officer in each team further helped to strengthen the friendly rivalry, especially when the O.C. B bowled the O.C. A Section.

Company Sports.

The first sports meeting of the Company was held on No. 72 Ground on July 8th. The whole show was an astounding success, due in no small measure to the Company sports officer, Lieut. S. L. Collier, who was responsible for the whole of the arrangements. He was admirably helped in his enterprise by Capt. C. E. Sketch, officer commanding, Lieut. E. H. C. Harris, O.C. A Section, and the committee consisting of C.S.M. Eves, Sergt Radford, L/Corpl Haisell, Signalmen Warren, Graves, Munt, and Harbury, and Drivers Dimmer, Moseley and Temlett.

His effort to provide "something different" for the lads included a great innovation—tea for all on the sports ground. This appealed to the Company more than anything else, for it helped to make the show a social success as well as sporting. A civilian contractor made all arrangements for the tea and provided a well-laid table, the contents of which were enjoyed by all. The tables were tastefully decorated by Mrs. Sketch and Mrs. Collier. Music was provided by an impromptu orchestra consisting of Signalmen Cannell and Carter.

The programme consisted of 34 events, tabulated below. Sigmn Cannell appeared in many clownish impersonations, and ably amused the crowd during lulls in the programme. The various post-entry events provoked much laughter from the many ladies and children present.

The mounted events attracted much attention, and the competitors were ably judged by Maj. G. M. H. Henderson, O.B.E., M.C. and Lieut A. E. L. Brown. At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Sketch. The evening was wound up with a dance on the ground, and it was apparent that everyone was satisfied and tired with the day's excitement.

It is hoped that an event of this sort shall be more than of yearly occurrence, for it helps to strengthen that "esprit de corps" feeling. I should like, on behalf of the Company, to thank the sports officer for his wonderful efforts to give the lads a treat.

100 yards—1, Harbury; 2, Webb; 3, Graves.
220 yards—1, Harbury; 2, Graves; 3, Webb.
440 yards—1, Graves; 2, Harbury; 3, Webb.
880 yards—1, Hill; 2, Thomas; 3, Masterman.
Mile—1, Hill; 2, Thomas; 3, Masterman.
Putting the weight—1, Edwards; 2, Sergt Walker; 3, Winn; 4, Dovey.
Long jump—Harbury, Innes, Graves, Andrews.
High jump—Wathen and Graves, 4 ft. 8 in.
Hurdles—Edwards, Dicker.
Best turned-out single horseman—Webb.
Best turned-out pair in harness—Dvr Swann.
Pair jumping—Dvr Morris.
Individual tent pegging—1, Sergt Penfold; 2, C.S.M. Eves; 3, Sigmn Fuller.

The honours went to B Section, who obtained 24 points against A Section's 13.

No. 3 Company

Inclement weather has caused us to postpone or abandon many of our matches, but between the showers one can always find the practice nets being put to good use.

Inter-Section matches are taken up with much enthusiasm, and the keenest rivalry is shown in the field. It is with great pleasure that we note the good work by several of our cricketers chosen to play in the Corps team. We hope they may continue to shine throughout the season.

Next month we hope to include in our notes a detailed account of the athletic talent displayed at our Company sports, to be held on or about July 20th. All those participating have put in hours of practice, and, although not expecting records to be broken, we shall look for good times.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

The annual sports meeting was held on the Beacon Hill ground, Bulford Camp, on June 14th and 15th. We were fortunate in the selection of these dates, as except for a slight shower on Monday afternoon, the whole affair passed off in brilliant sunshine.

The mounted sports were held in the Bulford Fields on June 16th. This was a really hot day.

The band of the Wiltshire Regiment attended the finals of the dismounted sports on the Tuesday, and their music was much appreciated. E Troop from Tidworth joined forces with us for the sports, and turned up almost to a man.

We must thank those individuals whose work on the field before and after the sports contributed so much to the success of the meeting. They were the lads who, although unsung, were not really forgotten. We all know what those big marquees must have been like after the heavy rain on June 17th.

DISMOUNTED SPORTS.

100 yards—1, Sigmn West; 2, L/Cpl Walters; 3, Cpl Cogswell.
220 yards—1, Sigmn Thorne; 2, L/Corpl. Walters; 3, Signalman Holman.
440 yards—1, Sigmn Thorne; 2, Sigmn Carnell; 3, Sigmn Wood.
880 yards—1, Sigmn Wood; 2, Sigmn Carnell; 3, L/Corpl Cole.
1 mile—1, Sigmn Wood; 2, Sigmn Leslie; 3, Sigmn Warman.
3 miles—1, Sigmn Wood; 2, Sigmn Donoghy; 3, Sigmn Hood.
Hurdles—1, Lieut Wall; 2, Sigmn Winton; 3, Sigmn Farmer.
High jump—1, Lieut Wall; 2, L/Corpl Peerless.
Long jump—1, Sigmn Cotterell; 2, Lieut Wall.
Putting the shot—1, L/Corpl Franklin; 2, Sergt Boulter.
Throwing the javelin—1, Sigmn Cotterell; 2, L/Corpl Walters.
Throwing the discus—1, Sergt Griffin; 2, L/Corpl Franklin.
Throwing the hammer—1, Sergt Griffin; 2, L/Corpl Franklin.
Children (under 8 years)—1, Mary Doyle; 2, Stanley Black; 3, Baby Fletcher.
Children (8 to 12 years)—1, Archie Rees; 2, Betty Layes; 3, Doris Black.
Needle and thread race—1, Sigmn Simm and Miss Mussell; 2, Capt Schneider and Mrs. Simm.
Band race—1, Bdm. Heath; 2, Bdm. Tuck; 3, Bdm. Bush.
Veterans' race—1, C.S.M. Nichol; 2, Sergt Morgan; 3, R.S.M. Adams.
Tug-of-war (inter-Section)—Final, B Cable beat K Section.
Relay race (inter-Section)—J Section.
440 yards (open)—1, Corpl Comer; 2, Bdr. Skelton; 3, Pte Perry

MOUNTED SPORTS.

Alarm stakes—1, K Section; 2, J Section.
Signalmen and Drivers jumping—1, Sigmn Bray; 2, Signalman Willis; 3, Sigmn Hill.
Tug-of-war—1, A Team No. 2 Company; 2, A Team No. 1 Coy.

Open jumping—1, Sigmn Willis; 2, Corpl Searle; 3, L/Corpl Fee
Pair jumping—1, Dvr Smith; 2, Dvr Ritchie.
Obstacle race—1, Dvr King; 2, Dvr Smith; 3, Sigmn Ball.
Pillow fighting—1, Dvr Brealey; 2, Sigmn G. T. Smith; 3, L/Corpl Harding.
Wrestling—1, E Troop; 2, A Team No. 1 Company.
Pair turn-out—1, Dvr Compton; 2, Dvr Reed; 3, Dvr Hamilton.

Our three days' sports concluded with a very successful dance in the men's recreation room. The unit band, under Professor Barleux, performed brilliantly whenever they could be persuaded to leave the bar!

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

We are holding our own in the Colchester and District Cricket League. Up to date we have played 9, won 4, lost 3, and drawn 2, with 10 points.

Lieut J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., was responsible for the magnificent solo score of 194 for the Colchester Garrison versus "The Flamingoes" (Gentlemen of Denmark).

The scores in our league games since last month were:—
26/6/26—4th Signals, 146 (Capt G. P. Pavey 56); Paxman's, 52 (Sigmn Chapman 3 for 5).
3/7/26—St. Stephens, 130 (Sigmn Johnson 6 for 38); 4th Sigs., 78 (Sigmn Chapman 26).
5/7/26—1st Essex Regiment, 157; 4th Signals, 94 for 6 (Capt Pavey not out 50).
10/7/26—4th Signals, 155 (Lieut Walford 73); Leicestershire Regt. 34 (Lieut Walford 4 for 9, Sigmn Chapman 5 for 13).

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Cricket.

We played the R.A.S.C. in the N.I.D. tournament on June 29th at Cliftonville, and suffered defeat by 29 runs. The game on the whole was fairly even, although our side were a bit nervous.

Our next match was with Lisburn C.C., and we defeated them by an innings and 2 runs.

A match played between two teams drawn from the new draft brought forth a promising bowler in Sigmn Hansford, and quite a lot of useful material which only needs to be brought to the front.

Our latest match against Headquarters N.I.D. resulted in a win for them by 9 runs.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

Games.

As promised last month, I am sending along the League tables in respect of the inter-platoon hockey and football:—

Hockey.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals. For	Agst.	Pts.
No. 1	5	3	2	–	17	2	8
No. 7	5	4	–	1	12	5	8
No. 6	5	3	1	1	7	1	7
No. 5	5	2	1	2	11	7	5
No. 4	4	1	1	2	3	3	3
No. 3	5	1	–	4	5	18	2
No. 2	5	–	1	4	5	10	1

Football.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals. For	Agst.	Pts.
No. 7	4	3	0	1	15	4	6
No. 1	4	3	0	1	8	2	6
No. 4	3	3	0	0	7	3	6
No. 5	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
No. 2	4	1	0	3	3	13	2
No. 6	4	0	0	4	1	5	0
No. 3	2	0	0	2	1	8	0

A Divl. Signals Detachment, Nowshera.

Boxing.

In a 4-round light-weight contest, Sigmn Douglas knocked out Tpr Mills (5/6th Dragoons) in the third round, after a good and very hard fight. Prize—a silver cup.

Games.

At the moment we are very much below strength owing to courses and leave, and it has been difficult to raise complete teams; nevertheless, we have more or less held our own, results during the month being as follows:—

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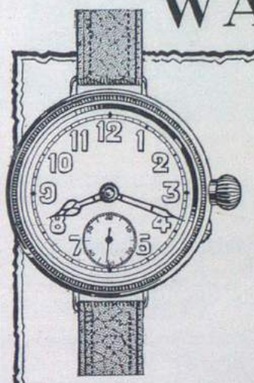

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Hockey.

We have played eight matches, of which four have been won, two drawn, and two lost. The best wins were versus 23rd Field Ammunition Column R.A. (5—0), and versus 89th Field Battery R.A. (3—0).

The Hockey Team, 1926

Cricket.

Our first game of the season, against H.Q. 23rd Field Brigade R.A., was lost by 60 runs, but we hope to be able to record better results in future.

D Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Football.

Combined Signals v. R.A.F., Lower Topa, won 4—1; v. "A" Company K.O.R. Regt., won 2—1; v. Royal Sussex Regt., drew 2—2 and lost 2—0.

The results of the Murree Brewery football tournament, as far as Signals are concerned, are as follows:—

1st round, a bye.

2nd round, won by the odd goal in three (T/Q.M.S. Smith and Sigmn Nicholls). This proved a hard fought game, full of excitement; and we surprised 'em. It was seen at this stage that our chances to win through were far from remote. The King's Own Royal Regiment played well.

3rd round, versus R.A.F. Hill Depot, won 4—0. This match lacked the excitement of the previous round, but nevertheless it proved a well deserved victory for us.

4th round (final) versus Royal Scots Fusiliers, lost 1—0. This game was looked upon as a potential debacle, as our opponents had devastated all in their path for some considerable time, and in the words of our C.O., we gave them the hardest fight they had had for many a long day.

The game opened with visions of a defeat running into double figures, but in the first ten minutes everyone present saw that the ultimate winners would be deserving of their victory. The first half ended slightly in our favour, with no score.

In the second act the favourites managed to score one, and although we played good football right to the bitter end, there was n'owt doing. So the tournament ended in Combined Signals being beaten by one goal to nil by the team who have designs on the "All India" 1927.

Hockey.

Combined Signals v. Royal Sussex Regt., won 1—0; v. R.A.F., drew 1—1; v. "D" Company K.O.R. Regt., won 3—1; v. K.O.R. Regt., won 1—0.

E Divisional Signals, Ranikhet.

The main item at present is the Ranikhet football league. Although nearly all the first teams are basking in the sun at Meerut, our second string have done remarkably well, and have great hopes of pulling off the cup. The matches played resulted thus: E Signals 2; A Company Welsh Regt. 1. E Signals 1; B Company Welsh Regiment 0.

G Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.

Hockey.

On the 13th March we opposed Christ Church in a local hockey league, turning out the strongest possible combination that could then be found. The result was a draw of 2 all.

Our next match in this league was on the 18th April, against the Scinde Horse, whom we defeated by 2—0. This game was undoubtedly an improvement on the previous one, and evidence tells which was actually the better team.

In our final match of the league we opposed G.C.F. "B" team, and much to our regret we returned losers by 3—2.

In a friendly game with Christ Church we managed to creep away with a draw of 3—3. Usually this team is rather a formidable one, and our players put up a most excellent show.

On June 10th, in a friendly against Gymkhana, we had another quite successful win of 4—2.

Chowbe Hockey Cup.

On the 29th May our representatives again emerged to shine at hockey, defeating the 71st Field Battery R.A. by 2—1. We next opposed the 40th Field Battery R.A., running out winners by 1—0.

In the final, on 3rd June, we had opposed to us representatives of the S.T.C., India. From the commencement the game was fast, and both sets of forwards were extremely dangerous. Throughout they were ably supported by their defensive men.

The first half of the game saw only one goal, this being obtained by Sergt.-Inst. Thorpe, A.E.C. (attached), who had been included in the team vice Sigmn Semmence.

From the change over we kept up the attack for quite a time, but when at last our defence tired the S.T.C. were enabled to reverse the order of things, and our goalie was on several occasions called upon to save the situation. A second goal fell to Foy and Earl, who were jointly responsible. Hinchley soon added a third, followed closely by Page with a fourth. We thereby ran out winners by 4—0. The cup was presented by Colonel-Commandant Beach, commanding 21st I.I. Brigade.

Football.

On April 15th we were unfortunate enough to suffer defeat by the S.T.C. (India) by 2—1.

In a tournament match for the Wallace cup, we were successful in gaining a victory of 2—1 over the 48th Field Battery R.A., Child and Hinchley making themselves responsible for our goals, the second of which was netted one minute from time.

May 20th saw us opposing the 40th Field Battery R.A. We had most of the play in the early stages of the game, and Hinchley netted twice in the course of a few minutes. From the change over our team seemed to fall away, and we were finally defeated by 4—2.

On June 6th a friendly was witnessed between teams of w.o.s, sergeants and corporals v. signalmen. The latter were declared the winners by 2—1. A peculiarity of this game was that juniors who usually play in defence were in the attack. McDougall obtained both goals for the signalmen, and Sergt (Tich) Marshall obtained one for his side from a penalty.

Iraq Signal Section.

Cricket.

Floods having now subsided, we have restarted cricket, and are easily holding our own. Old members will be interested in the following. Up to date we have played Casuals, No. 1 Squadron R.A.F. (twice), 55, C and B Squadrons, M.T. Section, 2nd King's Regt., No. 2 Wireless Section, and the Hinaidi C.C.

In our cup match with 2nd King's Regt. we disposed of them by an innings and 55 runs. Our reverses were with Station H.Q. British Hospital, and last but not least, No. 2 Wireless Section. Signalmen McKinlay, Carpenter, and Jarvis, Corpl Schofield, and L/Corpl Sorrell are proving themselves with the willow!

The bowling of Signalmen Marshall and Carpenter is great, their efforts resulting in the fall of 27 wickets for 210, and 23 for 231 respectively. The team's fielding generally is the talk of all local enthusiasts.

Boxing.

Signalmen Dunbar and Carpenter both lost on points in special contests during the inter-Service championships. A good fight was put up by each man, and Dunbar's reverse verdict was generally commented on afterwards.

Sigmn Osborne unluckily damaged his hand in his fight with Pte Scott, 2nd King's Regt., and was certainly holding his own when he was forced to retire. Scott in his next fight beat his man, thus becoming Services light-weight champion of Iraq.

Sigmn Denton fought L.A.C. Bishop, R.A.F., putting his man out in the third round, and his fifth cup in his box.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Football.

The Island team have entered the 1st Division of the Singapore League. This is one step higher, as in previous years we were only in the second. At present four games have been played, two being won and two lost.

We were beaten by the Duke of Wellington's Regt. to the tune of 11—1. The Singapore Chinese also beat us by 6—1.

The latter game was not so one-sided as the score would suggest. The papers say that our goalkeeper (Lieut Chevis, R.E.) gave the finest display of keeping seen in Singapore football for a considerable time, and as Lieut Chevis was then only a reserve, it was a great credit to him. This officer is now a fixture in the team, and it will take a Sam Hardy to make him lose his place. The Signals representatives were Signalmen Lomax, Trickett and Kenneally.

On June 15th we played the Royal Artillery and beat them by 3—1. The net rattlers for the Island were Crammond, Fitzwilliams, and Anderson. The Signals representatives in this match were Signalmen Lomax, Trickett, Kenneally and Anderson.

Hockey.

The Island team played H.M.S. "Ambrose," and were beaten to the tune of 2—1 after a very exciting game.

Malta Signal Section.

Athletic News.

Owing to the oppressive heat, water polo seems to be the favourite occupation, as can be well understood.

In May last the Command inter-Company and Battery sports took place, and the Section ably assisted the Sappers (24th Fort Company R.E.) in gaining third place amongst nine other units that had entered.

L/Corpl Bevis, Signalmen Walters and Vyse did their bit in bringing home the lion's share of the 400 yards and 880 yards relay races and the mile honours. Three first's, two second's, and two fourth places, making the Royal Engineers' total 45½ points, brought them into third place. Only the small margin of 5½ points separated the first four teams, which speaks for itself how closely contested the meeting was. We hope to be second to none at the next meeting.

The results of the A.A. championships have been keenly awaited from home. Now that they have arrived, we are pleased to see that the Corps has once more obliged. Congratulations to Joe and all others who gained honours.

Rhine Signal Units.

Athletics.

We had a return athletic fixture with the Worcestershire Regiment, who were all out to wipe off their previous rebuff. They managed to defeat us with a score of 13 points to 11, so the honours are even. The rubber match is keenly anticipated. The Worcesters team is led by Lieut J. J. Abbott, the noted Army runner, and his eyebrows lifted somewhat when we found someone to beat him in the half mile.

The return of some of our best men from practice camp in France gives us a very rosy chance in the Command athletic meeting on August 9th and 10th, and in the open events in other units' sports, which we are to go all out for.

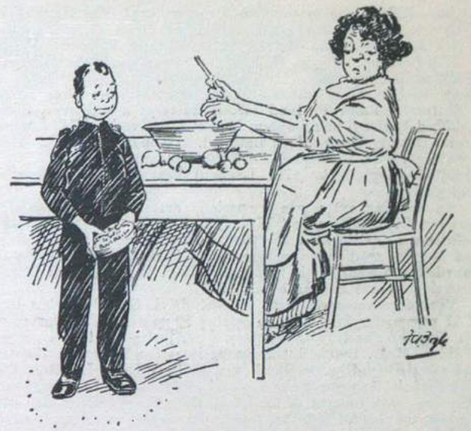
Cricket.

At the time of going to press we are undefeated in league cricket, but owing to the scarcity of playing grounds I'm afraid we shall not get much of it. Promising players are showing fine keenness, and we were complimented on fielding by critics in a recent match. We are waiting to take on the Military Police, and remembering the times they have caused us to run to avoid them, we hope to return the doubtful compliment.

Tennis.

The tournament was a good success, and I must congratulate Sergt Nash and L/Corpl Emsley on winning the doubles. Our thanks to the sports officer for so kindly doubling the prizes, and to Mrs. Nixon for presenting same.

As a result of our beating the R.A.S.C., the rest of the Command embarrass us by offering to take us on. We shall accept them all in due course. There may be a chance of representing the unit in the Garrison championships, so I hope each man will practise to that end.



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Swimming.

This is not enjoyed as in Cologne, bathing in the open Rhine being forbidden, and there being no other place allotted. To get a swim now, it is necessary to have a close hair-cut, the scantiest of costumes, and a guttural accent, so as to try and pass off as a Jerry—which should not, of course, be necessary. Perhaps the sports officer can help!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals, Cardiff.

The final inter-Company football match was won by No. 2 Company from No. 3, amid scenes of great excitement, by 4 goals to 3. It was a keenly contested game, the only casualty being a spectator, who nearly bit off his tongue in his excitement. Don't ask No. 2 Company's store for pressed tongue!

The C.O. presented the cup to the O.C. No. 2 Company and the medals to the team, at the conclusion of the W/E course on June 27th.

54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

Boxing.

The outstanding event since last month's notes has been the inter-unit boxing tournament, on July 2nd, between units stationed in West Ham and vicinity. The following participated: 232nd (Med.) Battery, 175th (Heavy) Battery, 54th Divl. Signals, 17th Battn. London Regiment, and 6th Battn. Essex Regiment. The meeting took place on the parade ground at T.A. headquarters, The Green, Stratford. Teams of six from each unit were put up, and the bouts took place under I.S.B.A. rules. Results:—

Flyweights—Sigmn Detenon beat L/Corpl Sykes (17th London Regiment).

Bantams—Dvr Mercer (Signals) beat Gunner Read (175th Batty.)

Pte Jolly (6th Essex) beat Boy Langley (175th Battery).

Feathers—Gunner Evans (232nd Battery) a walkover, Sparrow (6th Essex) being absent. Pte Murray (6th Essex) a walkover, Zimmer (175th Battery) being absent. Gunner Bennett (232nd Battery) a walkover, Collingwood (6th Essex) being absent.

Lights—Rifleman Mayers (17th London) beat Pte Hough (6th Essex). Bmdr. Bray (232nd Battery) beat Corpl Standley (6th Essex). Sigmn Warner (Signals) beat Rifleman Francis (17th London). Sigmn H. Sawford (Signals) beat Sergt French (232nd Battery).

Welters—Dvr Middleditch (Signals) beat Gunner Bray (232nd Battery). Bmdr Putland (175th Battery) a walkover, Steers (232nd Battery) being absent. Rifleman Everitt (17th London) beat Gunner Cross (175th Battery). Gunner Bloomfield (175th Battery) beat L/Corpl Mills (17th London).

Middles—Corpl Mills (17th London) beat Sigmn W. Sawford (Signals).

An amusing extra was a specially arranged 3-round contest between Boys O'Shea and Wedge, R.A., who have had a slight difference to settle for some time. Both boys got down to it, and a very good show was made. As *both* contestants were awarded the fight, it is understood that the difference is still unsettled (status quo ante bellum).

The tournament was won by 54th Divl. Signals with a total of 11 points, the 17th London scoring 10 points, 232nd Battery 8, 6th Essex 6, and 175th Battery 5. At the conclusion, Major Wilkins, R.A., thanked the competitors for their fine display, and asked Brig.-Gen. R. B. Colvin, C.B., T.D., D.L. (Hon. Col. 54th Signals) to present the cup and medals to the winning team. The cup was presented to Lieut.-Col. E. A. Edwards, 54th Signals, on behalf of the team, the team receiving medals. Medals were then presented to the 17th London team as runners-up. L/Corpl Sykes (17th London) received a medal for best loser.

Cricket.

The unit played its second cricket match of the season at Leyton Playing Grounds, on July 10th, against Shaftesbury Cricket Club. Unfortunately there's not much to write home about, as we lost by 24 runs.

Shooting.

Results of miniature range competitions:—

June 13/17th—Ten-ringed bull's-eye competition.
Class A—1, miniature silver cup, Sigmn Nutt; 2, bronze medal, L/Corpl Park; 3, bronze medal, Sigmn. Safferty.
Class B—1, miniature silver cup, Sigmn Gillham.

June 22/24th—Snapshooting competition.
Class A—1, Signals spoon, Sigmn Warner; 2, bronze medal, Sigmn Nutt; 3, bronze medal, Sigmn Safferty.
Class B—1, Signals spoon, Sigmn A. J. Barnett.

June 29th/July 1st—Individual, Service target.
Class A—1, Signals spoon, L/Corporal Parker (after 3 ties); 2, safety razor, Sigmn Morcom.
Class B—1, Signals spoon, Sigmn Manning.

July 6/8th—Individual, Service target.
Class A—1, Signals spoon, Sigmn Warner (handicapped); 2, safety razor, Sigmn Fish.
Class B—1, Signals spoon, Sigmn Hemmings.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Boxing.

The boxing tournament, held at Stratford, was an inter-unit affair, and we are proud that the Sawford Bros. of this Company were chosen as members of the 54th Signals team. The elder Sawford unfortunately received the knock-out in the second round during some close fighting. Up to this point he appeared to have the fight in hand.

The most exciting fight was the last bout of the evening, in which the younger Sawford took part. The Signals had to win this to win the cup. This caused considerable excitement, and a good fight was expected. Nobody was disappointed. A right good fight it was, there being not a dull moment from beginning to end. Sawford won the bout, and received unstinted applause from the onlookers.

Tug-of-War.

Lieut Weber coached the Company tug-of-war team to victory on the occasion of the annual sports meeting of D Company 5th Essex Regiment. This was held in Priory Park, Prittlewell, on July 3rd. The Essex team were reported to be a hot lot, and all except the Signals expected them to have a "cake walk" in this event. Our team, however, pulled like heroes and never lost a pull. Good luck to them! The team was as follows: Corpl Maries, Signalmen H. J. Bulwer, Davies, Barratt, Cooley, Mc Menamin, Rixon and Bickford.

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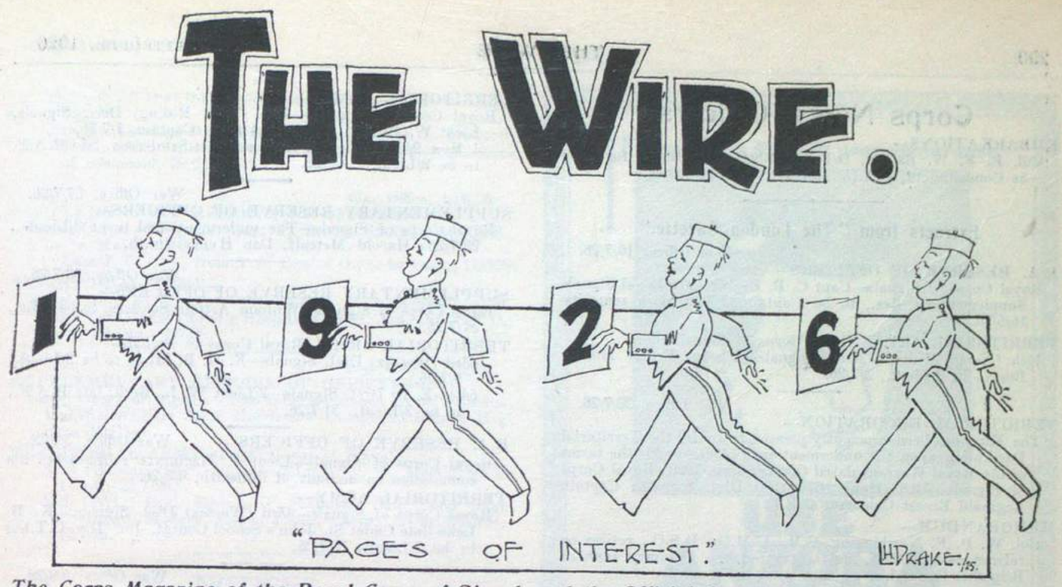

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Editorial Notes.

Will those readers who wish to be supplied with a bound copy of THE WIRE for 1926 kindly send in their names as soon as possible. The supply is limited, and early application will prevent subsequent disappointment. Price 8s., post free.

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An interesting experiment has just been worked out on the downs behind Peacehaven, Sussex, where the Territorial Artillery Brigades have had their summer camp. For the first time in military history the 65th Brigade have adopted mechanical haulage, and their efficiency in comparison with their companion horse-drawn Brigades has been closely observed during the manœuvres of the past fortnight.

It must be admitted that from the moment when Fordson tractors were attached to their twelve 18-pounders and four 4.5 howitzers at Woolwich, down to the breaking-up of camp, the superiority of mechanicalisation has been most marked. The journey from London was accomplished swiftly, without breakdown or any of the inevitable delay which is associated with the entraining and detraining of limbers, guns and horses. And during the succeeding days, the value of these tractors as power units in battle practice has been amply proved, even to the most fervid admirer of horses. They run on rubber tyres, with double rear wheels, each of which has sunken metal cleats running between the rubber tyres that can be pulled out and placed across the wheels, giving a purchase on soft ground that no horse could ever acquire. This at once widens the possible sphere of operations for each gun without any fear of bogging—that ever-present bogie of horse-team drivers.

And yet another advantage held by the mechanicalised Brigade is that the Fordson tractors, in combination with motor lorries, represent a big potential reserve in the event of sudden hostilities. One wonders whether the 65th Brigade will hold a monopoly of such mechanical transport next year.

❀ ❀ ❀

Attention is again drawn to the fact that *the 16th of each month* is the closing date for all matter intended for publication, and the Committee cannot guarantee the inclusion of any article which arrives after that date.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts from Branches, etc.:—

Rawalpindi Branch	£75	3	11
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot	1	4	0
Singapore Branch	0	10	0
Chiswick Branch	1	0	0
Edinburgh Branch	2	12	0

EMPLOYMENTS found for the month of August:—

Road Patrols	3
Batmen	2
Ship's Steward	1
Switchboard Operators	2

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Signal Section, Hong Kong.
1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Signal Section, Singapore.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.
Sergeants' Mess, 4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1.—Ex-Sergeant Royal Signals, in permanent employment but recovering from a very serious illness and ordered away by hospital authorities for a complete change of air. £5 advanced from funds for this purpose.
2.—Ex-Signalman Royal Signals, discharged as medically unfit and unable to secure employment. £2 advanced from funds, and temporary accommodation provided.
3.—Ex-Signalman Royal Signals, discharged medically unfit and unable to secure employment (a widowed mother his only relative). £5 advanced from funds.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

EMBARKATIONS—
Col. E. F. W. Barker, O.B.E., D.S.O., for India, for duty as Commandant, S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 16/7/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Capt C. B. Pecker, late Royal Signals Supplementary Res., to be Captain, 3/7/26, with seniority 16/5/25.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
46th (North Midland) Divl. Signals—L/Sergt Ernest Horace Bee to be 2/Lieut., 3/7/26.

War Office, 20/7/26.

TERRITORIAL DECORATION—
The King has been graciously pleased to confer the Territorial Decoration upon the undermentioned officer under the terms of the Royal Warrant dated October 13th, 1920: Royal Corps of Signals—44th (Home Counties) Divl. Signals: Captain Reginald Ernest Coleman, O.B.E.

MEMORANDUM—
Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., retires on retired pay, 21/7/26, and is granted the honorary rank of Brigadier-General.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Lieut J. V. R. Ravner relinquishes his commission on account of ill-health, 21/7/26.

War Office, 23/7/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Lancelot Chapman to be 2/Lieut., 24/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals.
Lieut W. Brown (Res. of O.) to be Captain, 1/7/26.
Hon. 2/Lieut Dona'd Hector Stuart Sanderson, late R.A.F. to be 2/Lieut., 17/6/26.

War Office, 27/7/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—The undermentioned to be 2/Lieuts., 28/7/26: Harold Metcalf, Dan Henry Smith.

War Office, 30/7/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—William Arthur Sanders, to be 2/Lt., 31/7/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—E. G. B. Moss, to be 2/Lieut., 9/7/26.
54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut W. L. Beck, late R.A.F., to be 2/Lieut., 31/7/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS— War Office, 3/8/26.
Royal Corps of Signals—Lieut J. Macintyre relinquishes his commission on account of ill-health, 4/8/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals. K. B. Lake (late Cadet St. John's School Contgt. Jun. Div. O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 12/7/26.

War Office, 6/8/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—J. H. A. Hallett, M.M., to be 2/Lt., 7/8/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—Lieut E. W. R. Harrison is seconded under para. 137 T.A.Regs., 7/8/26.
46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut J. Lander to be Lieut., 1/7/26.

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55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Lieut J. C. Moston to be Capt., 22/2/26.
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Lieut.-Col. H. L. Howard, M.C., relinquishes his commission on completion of tenure of command, 29/6/26.

War Office, 10/8/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—Capt P. B. W. Stanley, late R.E., to be Major, 11/8/26.
Capt J. C. Cree, from T.A. Res. of O., to be Capt., 11/8/26

TERRITORIAL ARMY—
Royal Corps of Signals—53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals. H. Lock (late Cadet Christ's Hospital Contgt. Jun. Div.,O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 1/7/26.

War Office, 13/8/26.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS—
Royal Corps of Signals—The undermentioned to be 2/Lieuts., 14/8/26: William John Henderson Campbell, Robert Hepburn McGann.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut W. T. Martin, to be Lieut., 25/7/26.
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—T. Walmsley (late Cadet Sergt, Southport Modern School Cadet Corps) to be 2/Lieut., 12/7/26.

NOTICES.

Educational Tests in the Army.

War Office, July 16th, 1926.

An Army Council Instruction states that it has been brought to notice that there are still serving in the non-commissioned ranks of the Regular Army soldiers enlisted before November 11th, 1918, who have proved themselves exceptional leaders of men in the field, but who have not been promoted to warrant rank because they have not been able to benefit by the educational training provided in the Army to the extent of obtaining a first class certificate. Accordingly the Army Council are prepared to consider whether in such cases the possession of a first class certificate as a condition of promotion may be dispensed with, and General Officers Commanding-in-Chief are informed that the cases of non-commissioned officers of outstanding merit who have made a definite effort to obtain a first class certificate may be submitted for consideration.

Soldiers and National Health Insurance.

War Office, July 23rd, 1926.

An Army Order published yesterday states that a soldier who during his service is a member of the Navy, Army and Air Force Insurance Fund should, on discharge from the Army, take steps to join an approved society. But if, owing to the state of his health, he cannot obtain admission to an approved society, he may, if he makes apolication within the prescribed period after his discharge (normally six months), be re-admitted to the Navy, Army and Air Force Fund.

It has also been decided that a soldier already re-admitted and a soldier re-admitted in future to the Navy, Army and Air Force Insurance Fund after discharge shall, in addition to the normal benefits, become entitled to receive additional benefits, and that for this purpose he will be treated as if he had been a member of the fund from the date of his enlistment. The additional benefits will be liable to variation according to the financial position of the fund, but initially they will comprise—

3s. a week addition to the normal sickness benefit.
1s. 6d. a week addition to the normal disablement benefit.
6s. addition to the normal maternity benefit.
Dental treatment.
Ophthalmic treatment.

It has further been decided that a soldier who during his service or within the prescribed period after discharge has become, or in future becomes a member of an approved society, shall be treated for the purpose of additional benefits as if he had been a member of the approved society from the date of his enlistment.

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Corps Promotion Roster.

Subsequent Amendments.

To be W.O. Class I. (R.S.M.)—
2306172 Fry, T. 18/1/26

To be W.O. Class II. (C.S.M.)—
1850267 Barber, H. 1/1/26

To be C.Q.M.-Sergeant (F. of S.)—
2306648 Sherman, B. 8/2/26

To be Sergeant—
1858931 Beresford, J. 13/2/26

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—
1850175 Tebby, C. 27/4/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—
2307642 Coleman, C. 7/5/26
2308155 Williams, E. 8/5/26
2306803 Archer, W. 25/5/26

To be Corporal—
2310828 Peters, J. 29/1/26
2311015 Wornham, C. 13/2/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—
1850273 Austen, C. 8/3/26
2314039 Golder, L. 4/4/26
1855006 Jobbins, G. 26/4/26
735542 Kemp, A. 25/5/26

Discharges.

2306964 Sergt T. Gillin, 12/7/26
2308883 A Sergt W. Steele, 30/7/26

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2309461 Corpl V. Claydon, 11/5/26

MANFIELD-HOTSPURS continue to spread over the map. In all parts of the world, wherever Football goes, they go. They are nearly always on the winning side, but, to be quite fair, one must add on the losing side too. Four-fifths of the British League teams wear them, also 100,000 other players of all nationalities.

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KARACHI.

Illustrated with Photographs by the Author.

Karachi, the capital of Sind and the air-port of India, lies some forty miles west of the mouths of the Indus. It is essentially a commercial city, and owes its mercantile importance to the trek in medieval days of the merchants of Kurrack, a few miles westward at the mouth of the Hub River, whose prosperity had been threatened by the silting up of that river.

The only siege the city has ever undergone was due to a chief of the hinterland, who was jealous of the city's prosperity. The siege, however, was unsuccessful.

Since the British occupation in the last century, the environs have been developed, and residential suburbs have sprung up at Clifton and Ghizri to the south of the Cantonment. The islands of Kiamari and Manora have become respectively the port and the harbour defences, whilst the latter possesses convalescent and leave camps which are open for the summer.

Fast mail steamers of the British India line run weekly to Bombay and Basrah, and intermediate and coasting steamers thrice weekly. The principal European lines using the port are the Ellerman, Hansa and Marittima Italiana.

Mail trains run daily to Lahore and Quetta, journeys of twenty-four and forty hours respectively.

The headquarters and terminal of the Indo-European telegraph system are situated in the port, and the powerful wireless station for marine and commercial traffic has recently been improved and brought up to date.

The city is still the chief centre of commerce, but the shopping centre is in the Cantonment, its hub being Elphinstone Street. A good selection of merchandise is to be found in the small shops of the Sadar Bazaar to the east of Elphinstone Street. The only local food products are fish and eggs, and in consequence of everything having to be brought to the city, prices are rather high. There are two good municipal markets: the Empress in the Cantonment, and the Boulton in the city.

The principal newspapers circulating are the "Daily Gazette" (Karachi), the "Civil and Military Gazette" (Lahore), and the "Times of India" (Bombay); whilst the "Statesman" and the "Englishman" (Calcutta) and the "Pioneer" (Allahabad), together with all the leading European dailies and weeklies, are regularly obtainable.

There is an extensive public library at the Frere Hall, and subscriptions are very moderate.

The principal clubs are the Sind, the Karachi, the Gymkhana, the Yacht, and the Boat. There are several Masonic Lodges.

There are several cinemas, of which the Palace, the Capitol, and the Crown give European programmes, whilst the Star and the Koh-i-noor give native programmes varied by an occasional "feature" picture. The Palace has good variety companies at intervals; and a first-class amateur dramatic club performs at the Frere Hall.

Dances are held regularly by the Auxiliary Force Club, the Cantonment Railway Institute, the Traffic Club, and the Signals Association; and all the above, with the R.A.F. and the Preventive Services Club, give occasional large public dances.

The Government Gardens to the north of the Cantonment are a combination of park and zoo, and a native regimental band occasionally plays there. The band of the British Infantry Battalion plays on Friday evenings in the Frere Hall Gardens.

Mangho Pir, ten miles north of the city, attracts many visitors on account of the sacred crocodiles maintained there. Picnic parties are to be met at Clifton and Sandspits, where sea-bathing is to be had—a very popular pastime in the summer moonlight. Other regular bathing places are Bath Island and Manora.

There are several hockey and football cups to be competed for, and the garrison enters for these with enthusiasm. Rugby and tennis are popular. There is a golf course, but as grass is not available, the "greens" are replaced by "browns."

Karachi has very little to offer the "shikari" beyond snipe and an occasional wild duck. Pigeons abound in the neighbourhood, but they are protected. Further inland, at Jungshai, there is good small game shooting, and black buck are to be found in Khairpur State.

Tramways radiate from the Sadar Bazaar—westward to Kiamari, southward to the Cantonment Station, and north-eastward to the Soldiers' Bazaar; whilst a branch line runs northward from the city to the Government Gardens. The fares are very moderate.

Gharries are of two classes—1st and 2nd, and fares are respectively 1 rupee and 12 annas, and 12 annas and 8 annas for the first and subsequent hours. One should beware of taking a gharry outside municipal limits, as the fares then become exorbitant. For rapacity and abuse the Karachi gharri-wallahs are second only to those of Madras. Taxi-cabs are somewhat dearer, and carry taximeters solely as ornaments.

Good accommodation at reasonable rates for soldiers on leave is provided at the British Union Jack Club, about which a notice appeared in THE WIRE during the summer of 1924. This Club, together with an Indian Club and two sports fields, constitutes the city's war memorial. There is also a Cenotaph to the Indian regiments.

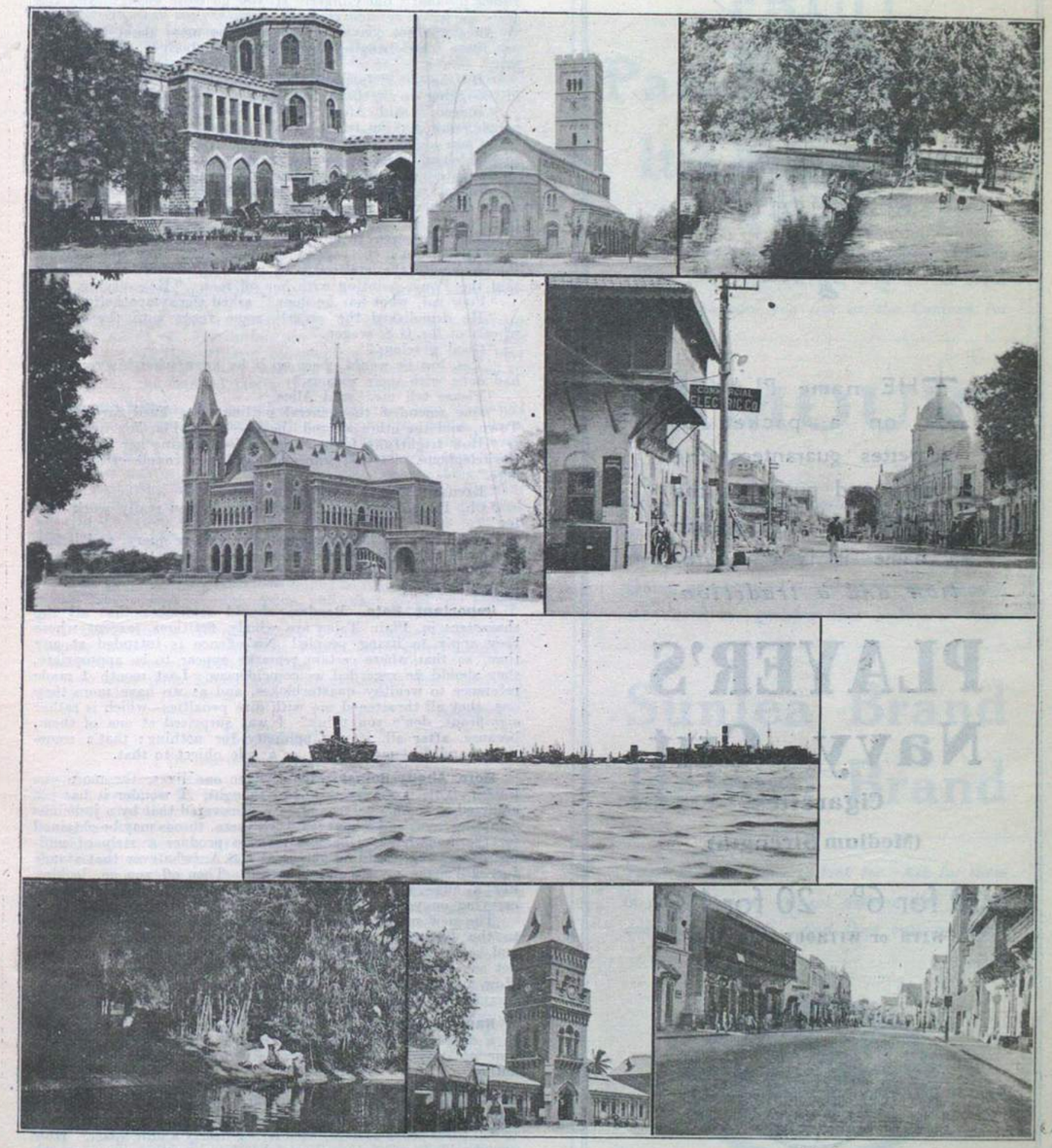
There are churches of four denominations in the Cantonment: Holy Trinity (C. of E.), St. Patrick's (R.C.), St. Andrew's (Church of Scotland), and a Wesleyan Church. Manora has St. Paul's (C. of E.) and St. Anthony's (R.C.).

Karachi is the headquarters of the Sind-Rajputana District, and has a garrison of approximately a Brigade. A detachment of Heavy and a Battery of Medium Artillery, with a Defence Light Section R.E., garrison Manora; whilst in the Cantonment are a British Infantry Battalion (less one Company at Hyderabad), two Indian Infantry Battalions, "A" Corps Signals, and a M.T. Company. The R.A.F. Depot at Drigh Road, some seven miles from the Cantonment, is being improved and extended to accommodate the airships and airplanes of the projected mail services, which will materially enhance the prosperity of the port.

Next to the lines of A Corps Signals is the Overseas Rest Camp, which during the trooping season is crowded with new arrivals and time-expired men who make the Cantonment seem much too small. Any members of the Corps passing through are assured of a hearty welcome from A Corps.

L. N. LLOYD, Signalman.

Views of Karachi



Top Row—1. British Union Jack Club 2. Holy Trinity Church 3. Government Gardens
Second Row—4. Frere Hall 5. Elphinstone Street
Third Row—6. The Harbour
Bottom Row—7. Government Gardens 8. The Empress Market 9 Elphinstone Street

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P.1242

Plain Tales.

Alice in Stableland.—"Oh look," cried Alice; "there's a horse with no tail." "Rubbish," said the Sergeant, rather rudely; "that's old Ginger. If you go close enough, you can just see it."

Alice was not convinced, but said no more about it "Why are those wires hanging from that one's body?" she asked at last.

"Ha, ha, ha!" laughed the Corporal, completely forgetting his dragging up; "that's his legs."

"Indeed," said Alice, huffily. She felt that these stable people were making fun of her.

"Come along," snorted the Pack Pony who had brought her to Stableland; "let us go and see the Young Drivers."

They tripped gaily down the long stable, and Alice was full of admiration for the orderly rows of new bass brooms, pitchforks and shovels sparkling in the bright afternoon sunshine. (Hi! what's all this?—Ed.)

"Everyone seems to be fading away," said Alice to the Pony.

"Quite right; everyone does about now—they are dodging the bloke with the late feed book. See that Driver over there?" said the Pony, pointing with her off fore. "He's crying."

"Poor lad, what has he done?" asked the sympathetic Alice.

"He demolished the orderly room fence with the off-side wheels of his G.S. wagon."

"Good gracious!"

"Yes, but he would cheer up if he knew what his comrades had done with their wagons."

"Please tell me," said Alice.

"One amended the general outline of a Ford car in Tin-Town, and the other altered the site of a pillar-box in Sling."

"How frightfully funny," said Alice, parking her gum under the telephone. "I say, someone has left a couple of suit-cases here."

"Excuse me, miss, they're my boots."

"Oh, I'm so sorry, Mr. Storntun; do you really work here too?"

A loud burst of laughter greeted this naive query, and before she could ask any further questions the scene dissolved, and she found herself in a long dining hall. That, however, would be another story.

Important Note.—Readers should remember that all the characters in Plain Tales are wholly fictitious, except where they apply to living people! No offence is intended at any time, so that where certain remarks appear to be appropriate, they should be regarded as coincidences. Last month I made reference to wealthy quarterblokes, and as we have more than one, they all threatened me with dire penalties—which is rather significant, don't you think? I was surprised at one of them, because, after all, it was publicity for nothing; that's something, and Scotsmen do not as a rule object to that.

More About Homes.—The longer one lives, the more one learns. This is a very profound thought. I wonder it has not occurred to anyone before. I have discovered that by a judicious wangling here, and a honeyed word there, things may be obtained for the household. One has then to produce a strip of millboard, and the presiding genius at E.S.A. (whatever that stands for) will make mystic signs thereon. Then off you go, looking like a huge lady-bird because of a bath, sitz, one, you are carrying on your head.

The new married quarters at Sling are a source of delight to the fortunate occupiers. They are equipped with coppers and baths, windows that do not rattle, and walls that you cannot see through. What joy! They even have real chimneys. How much better it is to have a chimney than to be continually carrying the smoke out through the back door in old salmon tins.

Happy (?) Days.—After long and deep thought, I have come to a decision regarding the location of the junior n.c.o whose tour of duty was so entertainingly described by an unknown author.

Those lucky individuals who functioned in a similar capacity last winter will recall the delightful experience of slithering round the frozen huts at 3.30 a.m. in a praiseworthy endeavour to call three cooks at once, each living nearly a mile apart. How one chuckled, and hummed snatches from popular revues as one stood shivering in a north-east gale striking matches in an attempt to read the number of the room. With what lingering regret one marched off duty! G-r-r-r-r.

In a few years' time we shall refer to all that as "the good old days." One has one's memories.

Quien Sabe?—There is a possibility that the author of Plain Tales ("that's me," he said modestly) may find himself in quite a different part of the country before long. Not for keeps, however (sighs of resignation). As your humble scribe (I'm not really—humble, I mean) has never been in that part of the kingdom, a thrilling article entitled "Devonshire Cream" or "How K Section lost the Cup" (sounds as of bricks being gathered) is almost certain to appear. If not, then otherwise. Order your copy early. The Editor's decision is worth two in the bush.

The Terriers.—The 48th Divisional Signals, who are in camp for a fortnight on Bulford Fields, accompanied the 3rd Divl. Signals on a scheme on August 4th. They rather surprised some of the lads in the regular unit by their efficient handling of the jobs allotted to them. Of course, there are a few old sweats in the 48th, and this makes a difference.

On the other hand there was at least one bright spark who innocently enquired after the valves of a "seven plus four." "Isn't that your Ack set?" he asked. I don't think I am allowed to record what Corpl X. said, but I am told that the Terrier went away quite unconvinced. He is certain that there should be some valves on it somewhere.

The evenings appear to be spent in celebrating something or other whilst the Territorials are here. The Sergeants' Clubs and Messes are the scenes of considerable gaiety. Lorries may be seen in the early hours, removing the heroes who elected to sleep under the billiard tables the night before.

For the Ladies.—I am rather surprised that THE WIRE has not, up to the present, included a column for the ladies. It is a well known fact that Signals wives look forward to the Journal just as eagerly as their unworthy husbands. There are so many subjects of interest to the dears, when you come to think of it.

For instance, Mrs. Mons might have discovered, after two years, that C.R.A. is *hard cash*, and not a mythical sum that goes to the credit of Sergt Mons. Hence Mons' black eye, and the desire of Mrs. Mons to broadcast the information to her unsuspecting friends. You see, there has been no outlet for this sort of thing hitherto.

Then again, we might be entertained to read: "Mrs. Cambrai would like to hear of Mrs. Arras, and what about our frying-pan?"

I think Auntie Alfreda (whom I once employed on H.Q. Gazette) might like to contribute a short (very short) article on "Cosmetics—Secrets of Skilful Use."

I do hope some kindly soul will commence this "Married Patch" column very soon.

BARLEUX.

Bermuda.

[By courtesy of THE BALANCE.]

The first impressions of Bermuda (after what is *always* the worst passage in 25 years!) are relief and joy, followed by a shock at the bleak appearance of the east end of the islands. However, the trooper soon continues its journey to the westward, and anchors in Grassy Bay, whence the tender takes us into Hamilton Harbour, surely one of the most beautiful in the world. The colour of the water is a succession of all known shades of blue and green, with many hitherto unknown, and one feels like the man from Wigan who looked at the giraffe in the Zoo and exclaimed, "It's a lie—there ain't any such creature."

The houses, all white and of Spanish colonial type, tucked away in odd nooks or on hilltops, look like toys or the ornaments on a wedding cake.

The dark green of the cedar trees (Juniperus Bermudiana) is the prevailing colour of the landscape the whole year round, enlivened in the spring and summer months by the brilliant colours of the oleander and hibiscus, which flourish in all parts of the islands and line the hundred miles of roads which run through the twenty square miles of territory.

Transportation there is none. About sixty per cent. of the inhabitants use push bikes. Only tourists and coloured labourers can afford carriages (cab fare, town to camp, 1¼ miles, 6s.), and local water transport is uncertain and risky, the "W.D." vessel being scheduled to make certain trips, but more often than not the schedule is cancelled.

One's preconceived notions of life in a tropical or semi-tropical country are early washed out; visions of being pelted

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with cocoanuts by monkeys and being sworn at by parrots soon disappear for good and sufficient reasons, viz., cocoanuts do not fruit here nor do parrots flourish, though a few poor creatures exist in cages. The guide books (at 8s. each) tell you that sharks are unknown in the surrounding waters, but never mention that the shopping district swarms with them (the land or tradesman variety). The same silence is preserved as to the rainy season; officially, there is no rainy season, but rain may confidently be expected during the months of September, October, November, December, January, February, March, April, May, and sometimes June, July, and August.

Quarters are good, being mostly of the bungalow type, semi-detached, roomy, and with verandahs.

The climate is for the most part delightful, though the excessive humidity is found to be very trying by some; last year, for the months of May, June, and July, the humidity averaged 80 per cent. August and September are the months when hurricanes may be expected, but arrangements have now been made for timely warning to be given.

There are no rivers or springs, and the water supply is obtained by means of catchments. Each quarter is provided with a tank, and the head of the family may provide himself with good physical exercise, daily, at the pump. The tanks are subject to regular and efficient inspection and treatment in the war against the ubiquitous mosquito, which is a dangerous pest at some seasons of the year. The Colonial Government are discussing measures for the extension of the war and the eventual extinction of this menace to the public health, but their mills grind very slowly.

Clothing should be brought from home (as freight rates are high and there is a heavy import duty on all goods): white linen suits for summer wear, or other tropical clothing—crash, poplin, etc. Cream flannels are not recommended, as they are soon ruined in the wash, while ordinary sports coats and grey flannels are useful for winter wear, and for knockabout purposes a good light-weight rainproof is essential. Panama hats are more useful than other forms of headgear. Coloured clothing soon fades as the dyes will not stand the sun, and womenfolk are advised to bring with them plenty of light-weight white clothing, *not* of the more fragile fabrics, as all clothing rots in the humid atmosphere, and it is more expensive to feed cockroaches on crêpe de chine than on cotton. Children require plenty of changes of shoes and clothing, unless one is stationed at an outlying district, when a bathing suit is sufficient for eight months in the year. Do not spend all available cash on leather goods, but a supply of rubber-soled canvas, suède, or buckskin shoes is advised.

Individuals are recommended to get into touch with those whom they are relieving and ascertain full particulars relating to their own circumstances, as general notes of this nature may be misleading if applied in particular cases.

Everything which has to be bought locally is very expensive, with the exception of postage stamps and picture post cards. One can get both of these essential commodities in delightful colour shades for as low as a farthing and a halfpenny respectively. Food ranges from 100 to 300 per cent. above home prices, and furniture, carpets, etc., are anything up to 500 per cent. dearer. Families are advised to bring a few China mats or rush matting, with a rug or two for the linoleum-covered floors. It will be found that there is usually a quantity of used furniture, etc., for disposal by the outgoing families. It is purposely not called second-hand, as it is well known that some of it came over with the late Sir George Somers in the "Sea Venture" in A.D. 1609.

Every kind of sport is available, but for golf one requires a private income of about £1000 a year! Cricket, hockey, football, and tennis are played in their respective seasons. Gear for the first three is supplied by the Garrison Recreation Club; for tennis one should bring the best quality racquet obtainable, as local prices are prohibitive.

Allowances are fixed by local regulations, the present rate of ration allowance being 2s. 3d. per day for all ranks, plus half ration for wife and quarter ration for each child. Colonial allowance (for officers and warrant officers) is paid in accordance with Allowance Regulations.

If any married man thinks that he will save money during his tour of service here, he has another "think" coming. Normally, it will cost every penny of his pay and allowances, and in some cases result in an adverse balance. Many of the quarters have good gardens, and if one is fond of gardening and not afraid of hard work, it is possible to keep down the household expenses, as vegetables grow quickly in the fertile soil, which will produce abundant crops—vegetables being the most expensive item on the home bill of fare.

During the past year an innovation in the life of the married families of the Bermuda Garrison has been introduced. On the suggestion of the S.M.O., approved by the G.O.C., and supported by the heads of departments, a married families summer camp was instituted at Warwick on the south shore of the island. Some thirty families availed themselves of the opportunity for change and rest by living under canvas and enjoying the incomparable bathing. All work was done by the camp staff, and the relief from household drudgery was much appreciated by the wives especially. The only charge made was for food. The whole scheme was voted by the participants so successful that efforts are being made to get the camp officially recognised, and placed on a permanent basis.

Any tendency to rheumatism or tuberculosis should keep one away from Bermuda, as the climate is very trying to sufferers from these complaints. Finally, to those who like outdoor life, a quiet existence, sport all the year round, with beauties of scenery, and who do not hanker after theatres and town excitements, Bermuda will prove an attractive station. For those who would not be satisfied with these attractions, and must have social gaiety, the advice is to stay away.

SENEX.

On the Road. BY AN R.P.

Have I been a road patrol long, sir?
Oh! just about a month or more;
But such a sample of weather
I never did meet before.

I think that will do for this time, but if it is appreciated I may try *a little more* next month. The way one is greeted when on duty (avec bicyclette) on the road is a subject on which one *could* write verse (that is, if one had the genius).

There is the driver who smiles as he returns your salute.

There is the driver who does neither, and looks as though he wonders what he pays his subscription for.

Then there is the lady driver who either smiles, nods, or salutes, or does all three at once (they never omit one of the three).

As a rule, most motorists look as though they are pleased to see you, and hope it keeps fine for you, etc.

Since I took to roaming the country I have had ample opportunities of studying nature, and there is one conclusion I have come to, which has to do with the cuckoo (the harbinger of spring?). Every time I have heard him "cuckoo!" it has rained before the day was out, so I vote he is renamed the mocking bird.

Owing to the enormous success of having summer on Thursday last year, I understand that "Barleux" is arranging for an extension to include Friday this year.

I have compiled a few "Don'ts" for motorists which I hope will help even the most experienced.

When passing through country districts, *don't* under any circumstance sound your horn if there is any danger of waking the R.P. or the local policeman. "Sleep and let sleep" should be your motto.

If you have lost your way and happen to come across an R.P. snaring rabbits, catapulting pheasants, or otherwise studying nature, *don't* interrupt him—please pass on.

Should you run out of petrol, *don't* hesitate to ask the R.P. (push cyclist preferred) to tow you to the nearest garage.

When going downhill to a blind turning, *don't* slacken speed, keep on your own side of the road, or sound your horn. What are hospitals and doctors for? Besides, why pay insurance or take "The Daily Wail" if you are *never* going to have a smash.

Don't stick to the route suggested by the R.P. It may be too easy; or on the other hand he may be sending you in the wrong direction, just to make it harder.

When buying a new car, *don't* buy any old make. Choose one with a homing instinct in case of wet nights.

When going on long journeys, *don't* bother about taking the spare wheel; it adds weight, and besides, you may never get a puncture or a burst. The wheel might be kept at home, hung up in the hall, where it would serve as a decoration.

Then as to tools. *Don't* be bothered with such things as spanners, pumps, etc. Look at the number of motors there are on the road these days, the drivers of which are only too anxious to lend you anything you want.

WATT.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

We are very glad to welcome Capt. M. F. M. Parkes back as O.C., and hope that his wanderings are at an end.

At present things are very quiet. A large percentage of the Company partook of August leave, and most of those who stayed behind attended Catterick races. The result was the same, for we all came back broke except the quartermaster-sergeant—but who ever heard of a "quarterbloke" being broke?

C.S.M. H. Julott, 55th (Lancashire) Divl. Signals, is with us for a fortnight's holiday. So far he has refrained from giving his opinion on the beauties of Catterick.

Considerable speculation is taking place as to how a certain member of the cadre would have fared had he lived in the days of Zenelophon or Zenobia. Perchance it is that he is trying to find Zulekia?

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to the following who joined during the month: Sergt J. Nutt from Rhine Command Signal Company; Corpl C. Adams from No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, Biggin Hill.

Departures.—Corpl Peck and Signalmen Marks, Stockman, Ball, Massey and Barber have left us for civvy life, and Sigmn Hopps for the 1st Divl. Signals. We wish them the best of luck.

Unofficial Amendments to I.T. Vol. I.—(1) The Company will fall in in alphabetical order, remainder on the left. (2) In future, when a roll is being called on parade, all men must answer their names whether they are there or not.

Personal.—Some of A Company cadre would like to hear from Sigmn Styles, late of B Company.

TONY RED.

B Company, Depot Battalion

We regret the omission of last month's notes, but we will try to be regular in the future.

We cannot help chuckling over A Company's remarks re the Commandant's inspection; but then, B set them the example.

Say, Ack, you spoke too soon about the shield, for we returned first three places in last month's sports. "Let sleeping dogs lie," for the shield is not likely to be lodged in A Company for several months to come; and what about the shooting trophy, kindly presented by Lieut.-Col. H. Lee-Wright, D.S.O., to the worthy winners, 56 Squad? Well done, Beer—see them, win them, retain them.

Medals.—Hearty congratulations to Sergt Shoebridge on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. "That's a short 'un," Shoey.

Drafts.—Many ears wag when the word is mentioned. Up to date we have only been called on for two, but Dame Rumour keeps the mind wandering.

HOPS.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

We are just realising that there is a coal strike. We not only have to bathe in cold water, but our "burgoo" has been deleted from the diet sheet. The troops seem to thrive just the same; they certainly seem more buoyant.

There have been several jumping competitions held in the vicinity, and Lieut. C. Knowles, R.B., and Dvr C. Whyte have been doing very well. At Darlington, on July 24th, the ground was in a treacherous condition, but despite this, Dvr Whyte came second on "Baby," and Lieut Knowles on "Mystical" was just unlucky. At Bedale, on the 28th, Lieut Knowles made up for his previous performance by sharing the first place with a local farmer. At Middleton Tyas, on August 4th, the couree was a bit out of the ordinary, as the jumps were 5 feet high, 4 feet thick, and without wings, but Dvr Whyte and Lieut Knowles came in first and second respectively with little difficulty.

Royal Tournament.—Capt. J. Crowley, M.C., and Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming, R.A., competed in the officers' sword, lance and revolver competition, which was won for the second year in succession by an officer of the Royals.

Sgt C. Young, on "Alp," had very bad luck in the other ranks' sword, lance and revolver competition, getting four misfires out of six, but for which he would probably have qualified for the final. Dvr C. Whyte put up a very creditable performance on "76."

In the dummy thrusting, Lieut Hemming, riding "Betty," made a good second round, but failed to reach the final on his total for the two runs.

Our team for the other ranks' team jumping competition left here on the 15th July, and the horses were detrained at mid-day on the 16th after being in their boxes for approximately eighteen hours. A trial run was held next morning, and although they had only a few hours to recover from the effects of travelling 250 miles, the horses jumped well. The team consisted of Sergt Young on "Chance," Corpl Cutler on "Billy," Corpl Searle on "Liza," and Dvr Whyte on "Baby."

Our first round in the competition was held in the afternoon of the 17th, and we lost 19½ points—Billy 8, Liza 5½, Chance 4,

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WRIGLEY'S

E.C. 76

TRY

BEACH'S

Jams

and

Marmalades

and Wonderful

Lemon Curd

and Baby 2. We had a chance of being second in the final order, and quite hoped to get at least third place with some faults to spare. Our second round was in the evening. The electric lights had just been put on, and the mixed light (natural and artificial) was not satisfactory, with the result that we lost 45 points this time, our money (if we had any on), and any chance of a place.

Once again our hopes have failed to materialise, but "nil desperandum." We beat three or four cavalry regiments, including the 12th Lancers, who were jumping on the same day as ourselves. We have one consolation, however: "Baby," in clearing the triple bar, jumped 22 ft. 6 in. I wonder if he ever will have a chance of winning the King's cup.

We have just received eighteen remounts, and we may be able to pick a team for next year from them.

I Say!—I must tell you these; they are all the way from England (Knightsbridge):—

Voice from without: "Who's in here?" Voice from within: "The Coldstreams." Voice from without: "I don't care a —— if it's the river Thames; I'm coming in."

This conundrum is too ambiguous, too subtle for me, but I'm assured that you will understand it: "Why does a Guardsman wear a red tunic? and what is the colour of his shirt (if any)?" It won't come out by algebra; I've tried it.

Departures.—Sigmn F. Congram to 3rd Divl. Signals; Sigmn T. Smith to A Company D.B.

Marriages.—Corpl W. H. Webber to Lucy May Cornick at Richmond on 7/8/26. Dvr G. H. Holiday to Florence Rubina Barnett at Peckham, S.E., on 30/6/26.

S.O.S.—Corpl E. Lloyd would be glad to hear from L/Corpl Gould.

FIFI.

F Company, Training Battalion

We apologise for the non-appearance of notes during the past months, but hope in future to let all F-ites have an inkling of life and doings in the old Company. Best wishes to all old F-ites who have been sent further afield. We hope their journeyings have been to their advantage.

New Arrivals.—We still get the weekly drifting in of new wirelessops from the Depot. Amongst other arrivals we welcome Corpls Jeffers and Newmarsh from Palestine, and hope their stay will be a happy one. We hope the Catterick ice, snow and mud will not be too hard on Corpl Jeffers, and that ere long he will get back his old form and be amongst the "knobs" at cross-country.

The Company was well represented in the T.B. team in the Army athletics. We are sorry the shield did not return to its old home, but like most things, I guess it will benefit by a change. Perhaps next year it will find its way back again. "Perhaps" the terrors of last winter had a little to do with it; and also, the "sunny sun" of Catterick does not appeal like that of Sussex. We congratulate Sigmn Broadley on coming in third in the 3 miles.

We were very pleased to read that an old F-ite was near the top in tennis way out East. Good old Bill! We should like to hear a little more of you. What about the old willow this year? We hope it isn't "no can do."

I wonder if a certain Signalman has learnt by now how to adorn a horse with its "drapery" in Army style.

Now that summer is drawing to a close, we are looking forward to soccer, rugger and hockey, not to mention cross-country. We hope to be "in amongst it" with a vengeance.

In answer to Smudge, Les says "He no compré."

ICNOCHIGS.

F Company Boys

August found the boys on leave, but Lieut Wilson found them back on the 10th. The choir boys were journeying on the Scottish express on the "glorious 12th," but they thought they would call in at Catterick for the "grousing" season.

Departures.—Sigmn (ex-boy) E. Brooks has left us for the long queue in civvy street. Doleful, Eric, eh? Good luck!

Musketry.—The B.iii boys fired their practice on the open range, with the good average of 73.2. Let's hear from you in the classification, lads—just keep B Company's record of 85 in your minds!

Sports.—L/Corpl Boy Beaumont won the boys' sports. F Company were second. On the whole the boys did very well.

Our giant Sadler obtained six standards; well done, "Cally."

The following did very well in their respective events: L/Cpl Boys Snow and Barlow, and Boys Wilcock, Saunders, Jury, Bury, Hurley and Kenneally.

Straight from Barnards.—1st Hobo: "Who was the first person to hear the rain fall?" 2nd Hobo: "Dunno!" 1st Hobo: "Why, Noah; because he said 'Ark.'"

Personal.—Boy G. Kenneally would like to hear from his brother, Sigmn J. Kenneally (Singapore).

Not so much sarcasm with your French lessons, Algy!

LES TROIS GARCONS.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott Camp.

Unit Headquarters.

Ceremonial parades, for the double purpose of taking photographs of the unit and awarding long service and good conduct medals to R.Q.M.S. Edwards and C.Q.M.S. Betteridge, have been among our many activities since we last contributed to these pages.

The first attempt to photograph the unit in panorama proved unsuccessful, and a fresh endeavour was made by another photographer with more satisfactory results.

Last month we extended a welcome to R.S.M. Craig, M.M., who came to us from Colchester. We hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

The regimental sports were held on August 11th, and proved a huge success. The weather was threatening at first, especially an hour before the sports began. Everything was ready to commence; the 80 ft. wireless masts were flying the Union Jack and the Corps flag; and the plentiful bunting was looking splendid—when a heavy storm broke over Ewshott. It did not last so long as we at first feared, and just before the first event the sun appeared and lasted for most of the afternoon. A full account of the sports is published elsewhere in this issue.

At the conclusion of the programme, the w.o.s and sergeants held a dance in the Ewshott Dance Hall, to which the C.S.O. Aldershot Command and all officers of the unit were invited. The room was full of people thoroughly enjoying themselves, and much credit is due to C.S.M. Caulfield in organising such a successful function.

No. 1 Company.

On July 22nd we were inspected by the Chief Signal Officer Aldershot Command, and luckily the weather proved kind to us. It was a nice sunny day, and the parade was carried out in a very satisfactory manner. We append the special order issued by the commanding officer regarding this inspection.

Special Order by Lieut.-Col. R. M. Powell, D.S.O., Royal Signals.—The Chief Signal Officer has expressed his satisfaction at the turn-out of the personnel, horses and vehicles of the unit on the inspection parade yesterday, and his appreciation of the manner in which the march past and drill movements were carried out. The Commanding Officer wishes to thank all concerned for their efforts to make the parade a credit to the unit.

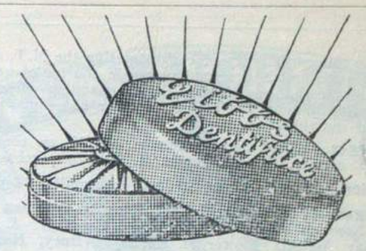
(Signed) C. K. THURSBY-PELHAM, Capt. and Adjt.,
A Corps Signals, Royal Signals.

Ewshott Camp, 23/7/26.

The unit sports were held at Ewshott on August 11th. These comprised a varied programme of mounted and dismounted events. Here, again, we were fortunate as regards the weather, for though during the morning it rained heavily, early in the afternoon it cleared up and the sun appeared at frequent intervals. Everybody seemed to enjoyed himself, and some events produced very fine competition and enthusiasm. The inter-section tug-of-war and inter-section relay were especially well contested.

The Company at the present time is a little split up, No. 1 M.T. Construction Section being away at Bramley, where it is carrying out diversion of the existing permanent routes at the Ordnance Depot. It is rumoured that they are having a wonderful time there, and certainly seem to have been able to put in many useful hours in recreational training.

This section entered three teams in the inter-section events, and therefore had rather a better chance than those who were only able to enter one representative team. Nevertheless, the results proved that there was very little difference between the teams, but that the extra training gained in the end.



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We take this opportunity of congratulating the M.T. Section on gaining both first and second places in the tug-of-war, and also C Cable Section on winning the commanding officer's cup for the section gaining the highest number of points in both section and individual events.

Discharges.—230888 Sergt Steele on 30/7/26, on completion of 21 years' service. 2313035 Sigmn H. Goss by purchase.

Extension.—2312471 Sigmn Stedman to complete 12 years.

Marriages.—2315432 Dvr L. W. Bunn to Angelina Mabel Stone at Norwich on 31/7/26. 2314232 L/Corpl H. A. Brown to Ivy May Matilda Flower at Hartley Witney, Hants, on 12/8/26.

No. 3 Company (Crookham)

Section training is drawing to a close, and preparation is now being made for the autumn and winter individual training season.

The results of this year's Section training have proved the value of the extra efforts made in the early part of the year to improve the trade abilities of all n.c.o.s and men in the Headquarter and Wireless Sections. Communication has been well maintained, and all sections have proved their capabilities on the numerous schemes which have been carried out

The instrument and wireless huts will soon be in the hands of experts who, with pliers and T.13, will wrestle with the indoor wiring, in readiness for future seekers of higher rates. There should be a record crop of B.ii. candidates in January for the next Trade Board.

The Company carried out a 48-hour wireless exercise just before the Whitsun holidays. The country over which the scheme was worked was a considerable distance from camp, in the Hindhead-Haslemere district. The weather was fine and warm, and the country most picturesque, and everyone who participated thoroughly enjoyed the change.

In the unit sports we entered eight teams for the inter-section events. We were up against some well-trained teams from No. 1 Company, but nevertheless H.Q. Section were third in the C.O.'s cup competition, and the Wireless Sections produced some useful teams and individual competitors in the mounted and dismounted events.

Last year the Wireless Sections were entered as one team, but this year they entered as separate teams, and were numerically weaker than other sections in the unit.

We congratulate C Cable Section on winning the C.O.'s cup, and also No. 1 M.T. Construction Section on gaining second place.

Arrivals.—Sixteen new arrivals have reported from the S.T.C. since our last contribution to THE WIRE. The overflow of No. 3 Company is now accommodated at Ewshott with No. 1 Company.

Drafts.—It is possible that when the first transport leaves for the outposts of the Empire this trooping season, about sixty n.c.os and men from A Corps Signals will form part of its freight. Some of the junior n.c.o.s say that this foreign service business is becoming a regular habit!

Marriages.—Corpl Prior and Sigmn Styles. Congratulations and good wishes to them both!

Personal.—Corpl G. Murphy sends his best wishes to all old friends on the Rhine.

Congratulations from this Company to L/Corpl Brudenell on obtaining the appointment to lance-corporal.

Departure.—We understand that we shall shortly be losing Lieut. R. H. O. Coryton, Royal Signals, who is leaving the Company on being posted to India. We were lucky in having him with us on manœuvres last year, and then early in the year he joined the Company from Catterick. We wish him the best of good luck in his new unit, and trust that he will have a really enjoyable sojourn in the East.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

Arrivals.—The following have joined the unit during the last month: Signalmen C. A. Bailey, E. Clarke, A. Brierwood, W. Gardner, R. Hopps, R. Hayward, L. Earnshaw, from the Training Battalion, S.T.C. Sigmn A. Waldron from School of Signals, S.T.C. Dvr W. H. Baker from A Corps Signals. Dvr G. Gullon from Command Signal Company.

Departures.—Sigmn E. L. Sumner left us on 13/8/26 upon transfer to Army Reserve. The absence of his weird "barrow" will be felt in Aldershot and district!

Appointment.—Sigmn S. Utting to be U/L/Corporal.

Awards.—C.Q.M.S. A. Gambleton awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

Apologies.—The brevity of our notes for this month will be made good in the October publication.

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Summer Leave.—The whole Company took good advantage of the generous facilities offered them during August. No doubt the relaxation from duties will polish them up a little for the coming Divisional exercises in September. We think a certain "presser of clothing" greatly appreciates these holiday periods, for he does good business. We should like to know what attraction Brighton has for a certain n.c.o.

Impending Departures.—A number of n.c.o.s and men have been ear-marked for service in India and Iraq. The Indian draft leave us in December. Signalmen Howes and Hancock will embark about the middle of September for No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand, so we hope the many ex-2nd Divites will give them a hearty welcome.

Several of our n.c.o.s were disturbed at the thought of leaving us for duty in the Catterick Depot. Our Company quartermaster, receiving an indent for winter clothing from one of the affected, was preparing to lay in a stock for the remainder. We are pleased to say their fears have been set at rest for the time being.

Musketry.—The Company are having a short period of preliminary musketry during the mornings. The 3rd class shots are having plenty of miniature range practice, and this has benefited them a great deal. They still have hopes of that "possible" and carrying off the promised prize, and many have missed by one point only.

Arrivals and Discharges.—We welcome the following from F Company, S.T.C., and hope they like the congenial Aldershot area: Signalmen Cordell, Hillier and Dodd. The best of luck in their civilian future to the following, discharged during August: Corpl C. Garrod and Sigmn J. Hardwick.

HAMO.

No. 2 Company

Once more we have all returned to the fold, less casualties, one horse lost, and one left at Larkhill sick, ably nursed by Sigmn Roberts. We hope he enjoyed the tattoo and the horse show.

Practice camps and storming villages in the south of England, or at least laying trap wires for rabbits, have now been replaced by leave. One party has already returned, and the second party are away—some at Brighton, some hoping to see the final test match. The C.S.M. would not tell me the number of passes made out for Larkhill.

E and F Sections, on their return from Larkhill, joined the unit at Ewhurst Park for the Divisional exercise on July 26th. Oh, yes! we had quite a lot of exercise, dodging rain all the morning and spending the afternoon looking for rations and ginger beer. The Company's work during the day was very good, and I think everyone enjoyed the week-end, including D Section. The unit marched into barracks at midday on the 27th.

Musketry.—Squads once more raid the football field every day for squinting and resting drill, and everyone will be glad when the actual firing comes. The general remark is, "Blowed if I am going to be a 3rd class shot!" That's the spirit, lads; keep it up, and I'll let you into a secret. I was once orderly sergeant, and having a little time to spare on roll call I read the notices in a barrack-room porch. One was: "Earn a fortnight's leave by becoming a 1st class shot." It *may* have been a 2nd Divl. Signals notice; but on the other hand, it may not.

Equitation.—Refresher rides have now started under Corpl Deamon. They are to be made fresher by taking place at 6.15 a.m. Our new riding school at Small Shot is not completed, so we shall continue to use the Dust Heap.

Personal.—C.S.M. Purkiss would like to hear of or from C.Q.M.S. James, late North Ireland Signal Company. Sergt J. Gordon would like to hear of Sigmn (Blinker) Madely, late of 3rd Div. Sigmn Girdwood (Jock) would be glad to hear of Corpl Low, late A Corps.

NICK.

No. 3 Company

Now that August has arrived, all schemes and rapid moves (night or otherwise) will be forgotten; musketry practice put aside, and replaced by thoughts of a complete rest made by the welcome break in our annual training. Some are fortunate and get ten days' leave; others must content themselves with seven—but all prepare with smiling faces.

Congratulations.—We all congratulate L/Corpl Pinkney on his return from the "muscle factory": he is now the proud possessor of an n.c.o.'s diploma for refereeing, judging, and organising sports, in addition to his P.T.A.I. certificate. Also to Sergt Evelyn on his marriage at Ash on the 16th inst., and to L/Sergt Webster on his at Catterick on July 17th; our very best wishes go to these n.c.o.s on their adventure in "double-harness." We also congratulate L/Corpl (unpaid) S. Pearsall on his appointment.

Arrival and Departure.—We have to welcome Sigmn Holmes from Catterick. Sigmn Hockey was posted to 1st Divl. Signals after having a very short stay with us.

War Savings.—An extremely easy and safe method of saving money has now been put forward, and it is hoped it will be taken up. Any amount from 1s. upwards can be set aside at the pay table, and it is then entered to the credit of the man in the form of war savings certificates, which can be drawn in emergency from any Post Office.

THREECO.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, August 13th.

"Wire" Sales.—Units who can throw a 100% membership in our faces have got us beaten, though it should be remembered that we neither entreat nor threaten to swell the membership. We do not imply that anyone else does.

Our challenge has been accepted in two places, so here you are. Percentage of members: May, 75; June, 80; July, 82. Nothing startling, you say? Watch these figures grow!

What Relief!—At the moment, more than half the unit are on a well-earned eight days' leave. Those who are due for the second spasm are eagerly awaiting their return. We hope that everyone will have had a good time ere these notes appear again, especially the lad who announces his intention of giving Mummy all his money and receiving 6d. per diem for dissipation: twopence on the tram, a penny for bullseyes, twopence home again, and a penny for a comic paper. Let us remove our headgear to him!

The Tattoo.—The Southern Command searchlight tattoo has been a great success. Fortunately the weather conditions were perfect. Nearly the whole of the unit visited the show, and no one has regretted it. E Troop Signals are to be congratulated on their remarkable firespitting dragon and its offspring. Couldn't the little one even spit a few sparks?

An Amendment.—We were a little previous with our announcement regarding the winners of the inter-Section shooting cup. This was carried off by the 2nd M.A.B., who are now a part of the 3rd Divl. (Larkhill) Signals. K Section were the runners-up.

Congratulations to the 2nd M.A.B.; but watch K Section next year, or they will have it from you. Look out for Rhodes: he is going to study shooting.

Arrivals.—Dvrs Abel, Arnold, Brewer, Bull, Carter, Cross, Fostekew, and Greener, from Depot Battalion on 19/7/26. Sigmn A. Cooke from Training Battalion on 22/7/26. Signalmen G. Newberry, A. Smith, R. Hakesley, F. Lloyd, Parker, and B. Shaw, from Training Battalion on 4/8/26. Signalmen W. Hodge and G. Marples from Training Battalion on 9/8/26.

Transfer to the Army Reserve.—Sigmn A. Doughty, on 11/8/26.

Birth.—To L/Corpl F. Harwood (2nd M.A.B. Signal Section) a son (Frederick Henry), born at Larkhill on 22/7/26.

Appointments.—To be L/Corporals (paid): L/Corpl W. Hirst, w.e.f. 29/5/26; L/Corpl Panting, w.e.f. 30/5/26; L/Corpl Walters, w.e.f. 31/5/26; L/Corpl Shiner, w.e.f. 1/6/26; LCorpl Healey, w.e.f. 2/6/26.

Discharge.—Dvr F. Gunner on 10/7/26.

Service Re-engagement.—Sergt T. O. Thomas to complete 21 years with the Colours, on 26/7/26.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester.

The recent publication of the draft list has caused much comment and feverish delving into the hidden recesses of the brain to bring forth "original" excuses for getting off. Others, having omitted to submit a chit stating station preferred, are now endeavouring to swop. But we shall see what we shall see! If the draft wallahs will take the advice of one who knows, they will not spend all their money (if they ever have any, after paying the preceding week's debts), but hang on to as much as possible until they get on the big ship. Lots of money is required, even on a trooper, to supplement the very frugal fare provided by the Q.M.G.; and I might add they will find it difficult to borrow aboard ship.

Another great anxiety is "What has become of the credit which has accrued to individual accounts as the result of the last trade test?" For the benefit of the uninitiated, I take the opportunity of informing them that the regimental paymaster has the last word in these matters, and until he says "Go," we must, like the waves, be still. In all probability, though, the credit (if any) has gone the way of all good credit ere these notes are published.

Most everyone has taken advantage of the inter-training leave period from 1st to 14th August. Judging by the trouble I had to get the last few subs for the Signals Association, I should say they enjoyed themselves immensely. The money press squeezed them pretty dry, apparently.

Mentioning the Signals Association reminds me. Our membership I think, the last time we wrote, was 76. Since then it has increased to 109, and still they come. What about that for a start?

Follow Suit

1/- PER OZ.
1 oz. tin, 1/-, 2 oz. and 4 oz. airtight tins, 2/- and 4/-.

Many thousands of pipe smokers are giving you a lead by smoking 'High Card' tobacco. Once a man tries it, the rich natural flavour wins instant and lasting approval.

Cope's 'High Card' is a well-cut flake of pure Virginia tobacco.

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'High Card'
VIRGINIA FLAKE
TOBACCO
COPE BROS. & CO., LTD., LIVERPOOL, LONDON & GLASGOW

H.P. sauce
Delicious with tomatoes — makes them still more appetising and refreshing

Sig...
G. Gu...
...your Canteens.

So far, we have only been chasing new members for what they can give us, but we are at last going to show that we also can put something up. As a "feeler," we have arranged a whist drive and dance for the 23rd August, which we have every hope of making a success. This is only a fore-runner of many similar events which we hope to run fortnightly during the coming winter. So roll up, all jazz fiends, etc., who have not yet trotted out ye ninepences, and see what good value ye olde firm offers.

We tender our congratulations to R.S.M. T. J. Fry on attaining the highest rung in non-commissioned rank, and trust that he may even yet become a quarterbloke. One never knows!

The same remarks, modified slightly, apply to Corpl C. J. Wornham on his promotion to substantive rank.

Greetings to L/Corpl Bill Williams on his return from Feltham, that Mecca of all M.T. brains, covered in glory, as usual.

A. E. W. congratulates A. J. K. on the coming of Ronald Arthur.

Sergeants' Mess.—We have very little of a startling nature to report this month. Our dance of July 15th was the usual great success, and the limber gunners still hold the record for fancy dancing.

Several of our members are going abroad this season, but we are awfully pleased that, so far, Records have not interfered with our Fittings in Fumaline.

We had a glorious outing to Ewshott on August 11th, on the occasion of the sports, and enjoyed the visit very much. We are hoping to return the invite shortly. The pleasure of meeting many old friends was superb. We had our wives and families with us, so of course our exhausts were silenced to a great extent. Our poor old opera hat enjoyed itself 100%, and on returning we had to put it on a special sick report.

Au Revoir.—Before next month's notes are prepared, we shall have lost one of our old mess mates: Sergt Courtney, who retires after 21 years' service. The best of good fortune smile on you, Stan, also on Mrs. C. and the Nib.

Mess Etiquette.—We hope, each month, to give some of our mess rules for the guidance of our members who only dine with us on washing day, etc.

1. When dining in mess, never read the newspaper in which your lunch was wrapped up.
2. Do not turn round too quickly, or you may knock the peas off your fair partner's knife.

As no funeral resulted from No. 1 of the 4th Divl. Odes, we have decided to "chance our mitt" again.

No. 2.—ODE TO A QUARTERMASTER.

A Quartermaster true was he,
And for the sake of poetry,
We'll have to say that we could see
He, as a Quarter, liked buckshee;
And thus to satisfy convention,
We must foster the contention
That a Quarter, if he heads the bill,
Is a candidate for Pentonville.
Now a jemmy is a burglar's tool—
But if the stores were of them full,
Dost think the Quartermaster, then,
Would substitute his fountain pen?
For though a jemmy's way may frighten,
It won't write off a ledger item,
Nor will it call a plug a pin,
Or take the C.I.M.T. in.
His influence is far and wide;
His mind a Scotland Yard inside.
One look from him, and scroungers grease;
His slogan is "Just sign here, please."
So take heed ere it be too late,
And you've been caught on a LO.8.
Try not your wit with his to pair,
And keep well clear of the Quarter's lair,
For virtues, Hope and Faith, knows he,
But has lost sight of Charity;
And if you try the breach to span,
You'll die a sad, but wiser man.

Agony.—Corpl E. G. Rogers would like to hear from Sigmn Watterton, of the Tientsin Detachment.

Heard in the Stables at Last Moment.—1st Driver: "You don't 'arf look 'ot." 2nd Driver: "'Oco do?" 1st Driver: "You don't!"

BLANKANDBANS.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, August 12th.

Musings.—Autumn brings its golden colours—everyone is aware of that; but also it brings manœuvres—and that we also know. The prospect of a couple of weeks in the open, amongst woods, valleys and fruit orchards, away from the barracks, is alluring, but the return is more eagerly looked forward to. It generally rains, too, as we begin the trek, ending with a vicious downpour just about the grand slam before the cease fire sounds.

We are to have a couple of weeks' intensive manœuvres, to test the year's training and the signal exercises we have been having.

Royal Signals Wireless Station, Wiesbaden

The re-classifying of the operators, visral, meant keenness and hard graft, and Major Pain personally commended and rewarded Sigmn Lace on passing each test with top marks. The choice of a main road for lamp reading was hardly wise, I should imagine, it being difficult to keep an eye on the flickering light as well as other objects, especially feminine, that happened to distract a susceptible eye.

Furlough.—It is about this time that the Jew's course commences, and one begins to write letters home again to find where the caravan rests. If a somnolent War Office would cast an eye over our yearly training, it would find we do not have any slack season. Leave in winter means staying indoors most of the time and missing the delights that warm weather offers. Not being able to follow the swallows on Group "E" C.1 pay, we might do worse than draw credits in francs and bust the lot in Paree!

Horse Show, Rhine Army.—Didn't know horses and limbers could look so nice. The cable wagon is a delight to behold, the animals sleek and shiny like the driver's borrowed bandolier.

Whilst scribbling these notes I learn that our two entries—2nd Brigade Signal Section pair with limber G.S., and 8th Brigade telephone wagon—have won first prizes against all units of the Rhine, including the French, for which we tender cordial congratulations.

Signals Association.—The activity of this Branch is praiseworthy, and the prompt arrival by post of the Corps Journal gains new adherents. The projected Rhine trip in August would have cost too much, so instead there is to be a grand dinner, concert and dance to members. Arrangements are nearing completion under C.S.M. Jones and committee.

Corpl McDowell has taken over the reins as secretary, and is doing his utmost to square up the tangle.

The 9d. per month scheme is proving a great success, and I am sure that a greater success is coming our way. At the time of writing there are 66 members in the Command Company, and 76 in the Field Company. Come along, Field Company! you are three times as strong in numbers.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

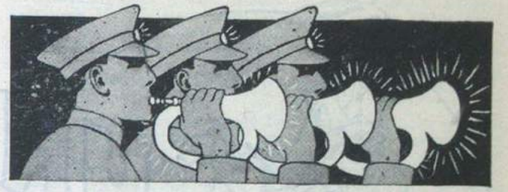
PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor



Jump to it!

On parade! The usual hurry and scuttle. A hurried glance to see that everything is absolutely right. However, there is no need to trouble about badges and buttons, etc., if these have been cleaned with Bluebell because

BLUEBELL

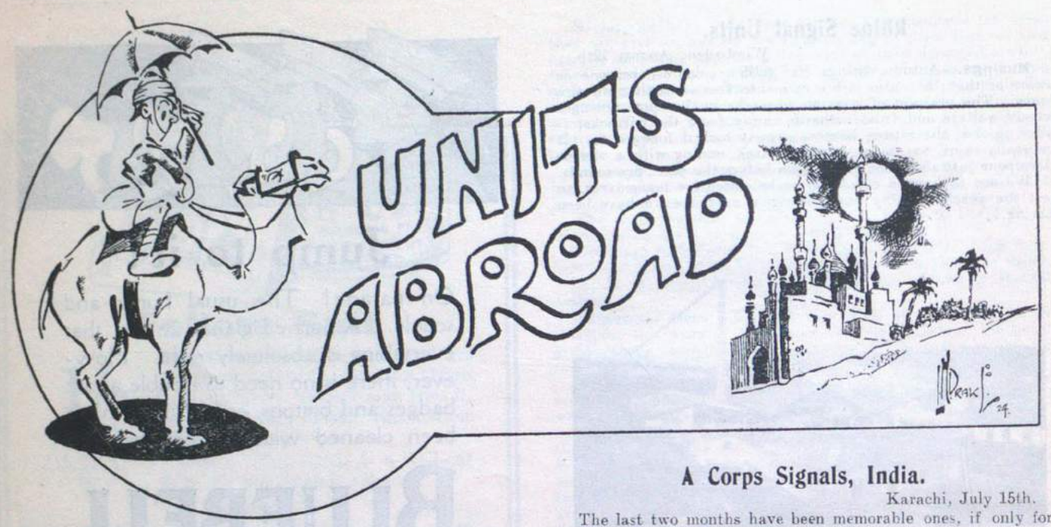
brings brightness and brings it quickly

RECKITT AND SONS, LTD., (BLUEBELL POLISH CO.,) FULHAM, LONDON, S.W.

Sergt. W. Laycock being presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, Wiesbaden

N.C.O.s' Mess.—Their trip on the Rhine was a wonderful show, and by general consent the best ever. They seem to have cultivated the happy knack of entertaining.

Barring a shoot where no one got shot, the re-decorating of the mess so that the foot sinks in crimson carpet and the caterer peeps coyly through the royal blue curtain, a change of caterer, the great mangel-wurzel swindle, the fishing club and the poor little sprat they dragged from the Rhine, there is nothing record.



Signal Training Centre (India).

Jubbulpore, July 23rd.

General.—It is doing its very best to rain, and the occasional showers have cooled things down. We are experiencing a very peculiar "rainy" season. Except for a few heavy showers one can hardly realise that it is monsoon time. In fact, we are already being rationed, in a small degree, as regards our water supply. Should the shortage of "pani" become really acute, it may mean the closing down of our recently-opened swimming bath, which has proved a great boon to all ranks.

We have now started our annual musketry training, and each morning squads may be seen behind the tripods laying regulation aims. The first squads commence firing the first week in August, when we trust the bull will be found sufficient times to bring scores up to the first class standard.

One of the chief topics of the day is the forthcoming trooper, and rumours and conjectures are rife regarding various people's chances of getting back to England this year. Many are sweating on the buckshee year.

A welcome from all ranks is extended to Col. E. F. W. Barker, C.M.G., D.S.O., who has assumed command of the S.T.C. (India) vice Lieut-Col. P. Paulson, O.B.E., who has proceeded on Blighty leave. We trust Col. Barker's stay with us will be a happy one, and that Lieut.-Col. Paulson may have an enjoyable leave.

Corporals' Mess.—The corporals' mess is very quiet these days, but several functions are on the board for the near future.

One of our sources of amusement, the tennis court, is temporarily out of action owing to small patches of grass springing up all over it as a result of the monsoon showers.

Preparations for the winter evenings, when outdoor pastimes are finished, are proceeding apace. We have acquired a piano and are negotiating for a billiard table, so that evenings of music and mirth will soon be the order of the night. Billiard and snooker tournaments will also provide some enjoyable evenings.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of L/Sergt H. C. Hansford, from heatstroke, on 19/6/26. The late sergeant was highly respected by all ranks, and our deepest sympathies are extended to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

SIGTRAIN.

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, July 15th.

The last two months have been memorable ones, if only for the prodigious amount of work that has been got through. Musketry, schemes for manœuvres, and King's birthday parades all help to take a large slice out of the daily loaf of time; and this, combined with the climatic conditions prevailing in a station on the plains of India in mid-summer, goes a long way to disprove the theory that India is a nice place to live in.

I remember listening to a debate on this subject many years ago (under cover, please), and the individual claiming that India was *not* a nice place to live in told the following story: His wife, he said, one day on entering the kitchen found the cook standing with his back to the fire, and with a guilty look on his countenance. Whenever she went in the kitchen, so he managed to keep his back concealed from her. Curious, she approached him and discovered a most remarkable thing: he was cooking the pudding in the tail of his shirt!

But I digress: I am not doing what I set out to do—record the events of the Corps for the last two months.

Musketry went off with great credit to the instructors, credit to those who fired, and thanks to those who marked. It is not unusual to be buttonholed two or three times a day by proud individuals with "A hundred and five, laddie; a hundred and five"—or "1st class, my boy, think of that."

As one man the Corps marched past on the King's birthday parade. To the tune of "Don't throw the lamp at ma," we sailed past the saluting base heads up, chests out, admiring the surprised look of the General, and catching scraps of nice remarks passed by the fairer spectators.

The wireless schemes turned out a great success, and it was conclusively proved that when it comes to the pinch the Corps will be right there.

We welcome the arrival of Capt. R. W. Tobin from a Signals course in the U.K., and trust his stay with us will be of very long duration.

It is with regret I have to announce the departure of Lieut F. R. L. Goadby, M.B.E., to B Corps Wireless, on transfer. We wish him the best of luck, and trust he will sometimes spare a thought for his old unit.

Sport.—The inter-section sports have been lately on a small holiday, but it is hoped to complete the football and hockey fixtures by the end of this month. The cricket team is making a name for itself in the station. L/Corpls Ward and Rawson have astounded everyone by their repeated performances with the bat. For the last month, including twelve fixtures, the team has not suffered a defeat.

F Divisional Signals.

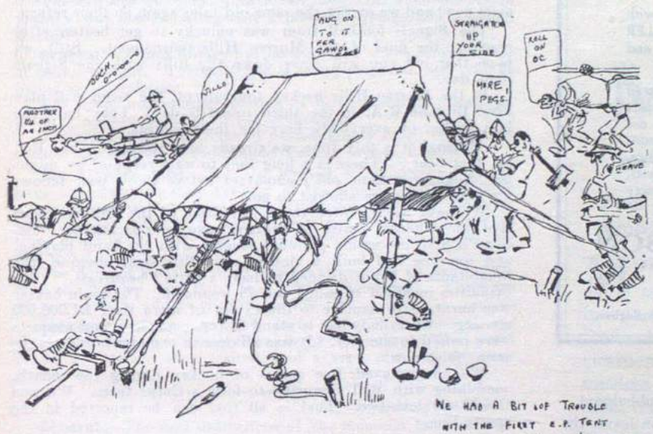
Kohat, July 17th.

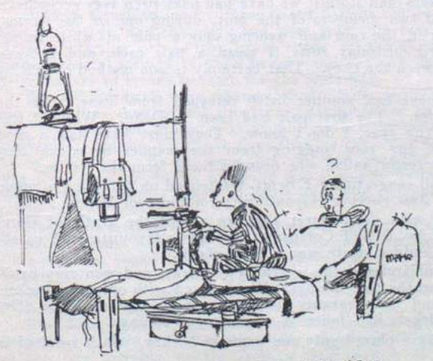
We must apologise for the absence of notes for June. Our regular correspondent was on leave, and his deputy neglected his duty, for which he has been let off with a caution. We feel very grateful to the editor and all who said such nice things about us in the May WIRE. After all, we have only done our little bit. Most certainly we feel proud of the Corps Journal and the unique position it now holds. May it go on to even greater circulation!

Kohat has been very warm during June and July; the mercury rose persistently, the highest official figure being 119, with 100 at night. We in New McQueen lines always feel like adding on a couple of degrees. These hot stuffy nights are the blight of this place: Turkish baths all night long, and for nothing. Now then, stand back the Scotsmen!

Interesting news is very scarce. Nothing seems to happen. Last year, by this time, there had been funerals. This year, we have had several accidents; dances are things of the past; pictures are a thing unknown; nothing in the entertainment line comes to "KT"; work goes on during the morning; we rest (some even sleep!) during the afternoon; and thus time passes. What a life!

At Parachinar, hard training for higher rates is the order of the day. Several trips up on the snow-covered peaks in the vicinity were arranged. Another visit was paid to one of the Afghan border outposts, where tea was taken with the Afghan captain. We are endeavouring to persuade a certain scribe of this unit to describe this trip in his own way, also his trip into a frontier village for the night with the Political Agent of the Kurram Valley, as guests of the "head man." Meanwhile, a few of the happenings at Parachinar, as seen by our cartoonist, are sent with these notes.





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and Machinery for the Pork Butchering and Bacon Curing Trades

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The larger "SIMPLEX" MACHINES are fitted with HOFFMANN SELF-ALIGNING BALL AND ROLLER BEARINGS to the Knife Spindle and Worm Shaft, and also to the Loose Pulley if required.

Our productions are made of the highest grade material available, and by the most skilled labour, under expert supervision. These Machines will be found to be not only the best obtainable, but strictly competitive in cost. Your enquiries for them, and for Filling Machines, Lard Presses, Bread Presses, Beef and Tongue Presses, Wall Hoists for Slaughter Houses, and all machinery of a kindred nature will be promptly handled.

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G Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore.

Command.—Capt G. S. Hurst having departed on leave, the command of the unit has been temporarily taken up by Capt C. A. Murray, Royal Signals.

Appointments and Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Signalmen V. B. Weaver, F. Kimber, and A. E. Page on being appointed unpaid lance-corporals; to Sergt Sargeant on his promotion to that rank; and to Corpls Foy, Harper and Lawson on their appointment as lance-sergeants.

Arrivals.—We accord a welcome to 2311594 Sigmn F. W. Draper from the Signal Training Centre (India), and feel sure his stay with the unit will be a long and pleasant one.

Hats Off.—We doff our hats to the Signalman who went on parade with pliers and jack knife reversed, and when asked why, replied, "Sir, I am left-handed."

Dances.—A couple of rather successful practice dances have been held during the month. The first of these was attended by what might be termed a large band, most of which was unit talent.

Billiards.—In a billiard tourney ended on July 9th, Corpl Bonnor was declared the winner, he having defeated Corporal Murphy by 200—154. Two third prizes were awarded to Signalmen Jones and Knowles. Corpl Murphy was successful in securing the prize for the biggest break of the tournament with a score of 30.

Concert.—The Signals Association committee are to be congratulated on the production of a successful concert, held in the unit on July 21st. All the items were good, and all the artistes were well received and applauded. The "Signals Orphans" were as popular as ever, and entertained with some exceedingly good items, as did also the renowned Ned, Mr. H. M. Boucher, and Mrs. Maguire. This was the first occasion on which we had the pleasure of listening to Mr. H. M. Boucher, but visitors to the show would like to hear him again at some early date.

No. 1 (Line) Company B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, June 30th.

Unit notes must be very short this month, as there is so little to write about. It is rather like making the proverbial bricks without straw.

We are now in the midst of our summer, and the coming of the cool weather will be appreciated by all.

The linemen's course finished at the beginning of the month. Most of the aspirants to higher ratings were successful, and they have our hearty congratulations. Those who did not quite manage to improve their standing have our sympathy and best wishes for success next time.

The first of the leave parties has returned from the hills, and we have heard of lurid times spent during the last month. The fellows have come back with the usual empty pockets and bank books, and no doubt with pleasant memories. Some of them certainly appear to be thinner than when they went, so we can assume that they had a good time. Another batch has gone now, and we expect the same old tales again on their return.

The Signals football team was unlucky to get beaten after reaching the final of the Murree Hills tournament. Still, we hope that old cup will come down the hills with the Signals some day.

In the Murree Hills hockey tournament, the team will play 22nd Brigade R.A. in the third round to-day. They have the best wishes of everybody here for their success.

Although it is only June, we already hear the old cry of "Roll on, that boat." There is a long time to wait yet, and we might get caught for some old manœuvres before those poor fellows for repatriation are allowed to go.

We have been treated to an exhibition of the brotherly love that the different castes of Indians have for one another. Because a Sikh procession passed a mosque with the band playing, and someone had built a cinema near this same mosque, the inhabitants of Pindi decided to have a little "beanfeast." The casualties included 16 killed and 75 wounded. The grain bazaar was burnt, with damage to the extent of more than £1,000,000 sterling. Everybody had to stand to for some time, and picquets were posted in the city. It was all over in one night, and things seem quiet now.

We have played five games of hockey during the month, combining with W/T Company to form a Corps team. We won three and lost two. That is all that can be reported in the sports line.

Rawalpindi, July 28th.

The weather is still hot and cool alternately, and some of the showers (and storms) we have had have been very acceptable. I noticed two members of the unit, during one of the storms, standing in the rain and wearing only a pair of white knicks over their birthday suits (I mean a pair each, and not one pair between the two). That certainly is one method of getting cool.

We have had another batch returned from leave, with the usual tales. The first pair had been to Delhi. Why, at this time of the year, I don't know. They must have had a good time, at any rate, judging from the manner in which they paid the tonga wallah who brought them from the station.

We all congratulate F/Sergt Whitehead on becoming a proud father. Just another responsibility for the poor Farrier!

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Corpl Ellis, of No. 2 W/T Company. He was a favourite with us all, and his sudden death was a great shock.

The unit played the sergeants at cricket and won very handsomely on the first innings. We declared with only two wickets down, and the sergeants just managed to top our score after eight wickets had fallen in their second innings.

We have played only one game of hockey, which resulted in a draw.

The corporals played the sergeants at a combined match of tennis, billiards and snooker. The sergeants had easily the better of the day in all branches. The events were followed by a smoker, which was voted great fun by all present. It is a pity the boss of our concert party was not there to take notes of all the talent displayed.

Congratulations to all who were mentioned for promotion on the Corps roster.

B LINE SIGS.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, Punjab, June 29th.

Signals Association.—The voluntary subscription list is assuming a very healthy appearance. It is encouraging to feel that such ready support is at hand.

Things suddenly decided upon often turn out well. So it was with our first picnic, which was organised without lengthy consideration. The party consisted of the O.C., Capt Neale, who accomplished the journey by motor cycle, and ten B.O.R.s, who managed by some strange means to squeeze into a five-seater Overland.

We halted at Sambarial, some fourteen miles out of Sialkot, and selected a shady spot on the bank of the canal. Unfortunately the water was too deep for any but the best swimmers. Several members struck pleasing attitudes for the benefit of the photographic section. Then the appetites of eleven hungry men were appeased; and the air was rent with such cries as "No thanks, I really couldn't" and "Stick a few in your pocket."

The sun was well down and the air delightful when the return journey was made. Altogether a pleasant change and a happy memory.

General.—A unit library has been formed. The total number of books is eight. The catalogue is being prepared, and will be issued on completion.

The usual hot weather routine is being observed; remount training appears to be the chief occupation.

The great festival of Bakr'Id passed quietly here. A wireless station was erected in the Sialkot Fort in case of trouble.

The Lighter Side.—We are pleased to announce that we have the champion steer thrower of the Punjab in this Troop; a man of iron who can hurl bison after bison to the ground with unerring skill. But he is very modest, and usually accomplishes these deeds in the early hours of the morning. He can also ride any make of motor-cycle.

The King of Macedon cried because there were no more countries to conquer. Our Peter is in a like predicament. There are no more jobs to add to the five he does now.

Sergeants' Mess.—A small party motored to Jammu, the winter residence of the Maharajah of Kashmir. The usual places of interest were visited, and a very pleasant day was spent.

Sialkot, July 27th.

General.—The first indications of the monsoon have reached us, and we have had a short respite from the depressing heat.

Last week we held our third Sunday picnic, but it was hardly a success. The spot chosen was a point on the Chenab river, twelve miles from camp.

A large Overland car had been hired (it was not possible to obtain a lorry), and the party had been split into two sections. After traversing one of the worst roads in the district, the leading party arrived at the Chenab, and the car driver was given orders to return to camp for the remainder.

We will not dwell upon what followed. Sufficient to say that the water was shallow and altogether unsuitable for swimming; and that the car driver, who should have been miles away, suddenly re-appeared with the news that his car was stuck in the sandy river bed. By the time this evil was remedied the day was too far advanced for anything but a speedy return. The second section, during their four hours wait, had thought of some really cutting remarks.

The men's mess of this unit, not being at present in a position to have a tennis court, has had to temporize with Badminton. This does not sound like a soldier's game, and would no doubt be scorned if it were not that it is a case of Badminton or nothing. Owing to lack of accommodation we have no recreation room, and of course no billiard table.

The Troop library, our latest venture, is making excellent progress. Parcels of well-chosen books, mostly of an instructive nature, are arriving weekly from a leading firm of Bombay booksellers. We have several of the most modern works on horsemanship. These deal with the subject in a scientific and commonsense manner, and are decidedly interesting.

A tennis match was recently held between the sergeants' mess and the junior n.c.o.s and men's mess. Nine games were played on the American system, and the conclusion found the junior mess 10 points in the lead. Considering the fact that, on an average, not one of the winning team had had a game for something like two years, the result was very creditable.

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The tennis was followed by a whist drive, an informal affair held in the open. The attendance, considering the heat to which we are subject, was quite fair.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Collins, Signalmen Neale, Crawford, Gildea and Symonds, from No. 2 Wireless Company, Rawalpindi. Corpl Arnell from S.T.C., Jubbulpore. Signalmen Ennever and Gibson from vocational courses at Rawalpindi.

B. O. M.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Wellington Barracks, July 4th.

Having completed a tour of inspection and classification of regimental signallers, East Yorks Regiment, at Tientsin and Peking, Capt Bridgland, our O.C., returned to Hong Kong on June 12th.

Enquiries in Peking and Tientsin pertaining to the Signals Association lead one to believe that the membership would be forthcoming if some individual were sufficiently energetic.

Since the reference in the May WIRE to the amalgamation of the Royal Signals and Indian Signals, our n.c.o.s are on tenterhooks as to whether they go up or down.

Musketry.—Preparations to blotch off the scheduled 55 have proceeded apace, enthusiasm being stimulated by grouping the linemen as the right section, and the S.B.O.s, clerks, etc., as the left section. A Section trophy, to be presented by the C.S.O., will be held for one year by the Section with the highest average per man. (Our Foreman of Signals objects to the "etc.," so will shoot with the linemen.)

Extension of Service.—2313643 Corpl W. H. Bowler permitted to extend his service to 12 years with the Colours. May we remind him that the M.S.M. is awarded when the recipient is about 93.

Works.—Favourable weather has permitted us to carry on with our cable jobs, and it is hoped very soon to inform the R.A. that their lines are "through."

Our instrument breakers are refitting and adapting 30-watt W/T sets for artillery target practice. Peculiar results are obtained with these sets, reception being nil about half a mile from the transmitter, whilst good a mile farther on. Presumably blind spots. On and around Hong Kong, 5 miles seems to be the limit of the range of these sets. Would other stations put in a line of their results, please. Don't rush, Johnnie!

Personal.—Q.M.S. Roberts wishes to inform Q.M.S. Floyd at Singo that since the receipt of the good luck letter, all the routes have capsized.

JOINT BOX.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

British Legation Guard, July 22nd.

The annual inspection by Major-Gen. Luard, G.O.C. China, took place at the beginning of the month, and the Guard assumed the mantle of whitewash and Brunswick black common to such occasions. As far as Signals were concerned the immediate result of the inspection was an urgent indent for a larger size in topees, so everybody's happy.

A violent thunderstorm last week resulted in some seven or eight miles of our line (carried on Chinese railway poles) going west, and we anticipated a lengthy spell of W/T communication. We were, therefore, agreeably surprised to find that after a couple of days the line was "through" again, repairs having been carried out by the railway telegraph staff. For this mercy, many thanks!

What has happened to F Company, whose notes in THE WIRE are now conspicuous by their absence? Verily it must have fallen on evil days since the move to Catterick!

PEICHING.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, July 26th.

Arrival.—The Section has much pleasure in welcoming the new C.R.E. and O.C. Signals, Lieut.-Col. F. B. Legh, O.B.E., M.C., R.E., who arrived per s.s. "Orita" on June 30th.

Musketry.—On Monday, July 8th, the Section, with the exception of four, concentrated at St George's to fire the annual musketry course. Everybody felt very jolly about it, as it meant a five days' change, which is a great thing here. Much of the joy departed when it was learned that reveille was to be at 4.30 a.m., and one heard remarks concerning "night 'ops." This early start was made to avoid shooting during the hot part of the day, an idea that was greatly appreciated by all.

The results found us with an average of 72.8, and Sigmn Sayers at the top of the list. (I.R.s must all have "dead eyes.") One firer had an acute "attack of dith" whilst firing his last five rounds, but just managed to get his 1st class o.k. The F. of S. fired a revolver course, and the Section took it in turns (in pairs) to spend a frightful morning amid a shower of concrete and wood splinters, "marking"—nuff said.

The Cricket Match.—The gathering of the clan for musketry enabled us to raise a cricket team, or rather, nearly enough (we had to borrow two members of the R.A.).

The match, Command Signal Section v. 27th Company R.E., took place one cool evening, the Signals fielding first. Great keenness and two wonderful catches, one by Sigmn Birch and the other by C.Q.M.S. Simmonds, enabled us to dismiss our opponents for a total of 54. Mention must be made of our wicket-keeper, Sigmn Gilkes, who made sure of stopping the ball by placing himself directly in the line of fire and chancing where it hit him!

Our innings was opened by Sands and Piper. Three wickets fell, but we had passed our opponents' total ere the fourth went, with Piper still batting. Our score was 86. Thus ended our one and only match. "'Twas a famous victoree."

We would like to record our thanks and appreciation of the kindness and consideration shown us by the O.C. 27th Coy. R.E. during our stay.

Dame Fortune Frowns.—Deep gloom has been cast over the lives of L/Corpl Horsey and Sigmn Mitchell, Records having informed them that their presence in Bermuda is desired for yet another year. Promises to wire us half-time results during the forthcoming soccer season have thereby come to naught.

A Disclaimer.—Paddy of Boaz fame states that there is no connection whatever between his bicycle and the recent Luxor discoveries.

This Month's Agony.—Will Sigmn Peirce, of the North China Signal Section, please communicate with L/Corpl Barry, of this Section.

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

Signal Section, Sierra Leone.

July 20th.

No notes were sent in June owing to our scribe being in hospital. One evening whilst searching in the native quarters for "She" of Rider Haggard fame, he was attacked by an enemy, commonly called "Mosquitus Africanus," which resulted in a month's course on that life-giving tonic, quinine.

Several times during the last two months our linemen have been invited to visit the Governor's House or the G.O.C.'s quarters. It was not a case of "evening dress optional," but just a little matter of a faulty phone.

An exciting event took place in the Exchange this week, when by special request a new night bell was installed. Some bell! it even woke up our pet chameleon, who had settled down for his monthly nap. Our night operator is afraid to get in bed for fear the vibration might be mistaken for the hum of a mosquito.

A very enjoyable smoking concert took place in the R.E. canteen on Friday, July 17th. Only old coasters will realise how the famous coast songs were appreciated, especially "Glory Elder Dempster" and "Three black crows," not forgetting that "Good morning, sergeant-major; hee, hee, hee."

Sigmn Westley, late of D Troop, Aldershot, would like to hear from Paddy of D Troop, and also from Len, also of D Troop and Egypt.

WINKLE.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo, Aug. 7th.

Training.—There is very little to report, except that both Companies are now going through the usual pokey drill prior to firing the annual course at the end of the month.

Trooping Season, 1926-27.—By the time these notes appear, we should know the names of the new Polygonites. Whoever they may be, they can rest assured that there is a warm spot for them just on the edge of the "Great Unknown."

Casualties, Officers.—Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., and Lieut P. H. Owens have returned from leave in the United Kingdom. We wonder if they like the new barracks? Capt R. A. Bagnold, Royal Signals, proceeded to England on leave on July 28th.

Entertainments.—I learn on good authority that we are soon to see the Morse Key Toes in their latest production. Come on, Tich; bustle them along!

Outing.—The Camera Club (No. 1 Company) went on an outing to the Barrage on Sunday last, and I believe the whole thing went off with a bang. Corpl Corbett (the Chief Rabbi) carried out the agenda in approved style. These trips seem to become more and more popular, and soon it will become a Company affair.

Bliss!—News reaches us that Corpl Bill Prior (late of No. 1 Company) is to join the gallant band of benedicts. One and all wish Mrs. Prior and yourself every happiness for the future, Bill.

BEN.

Sergeants' Mess.

The "Mess warmer" was held on Wednesday, July 1st, when the members were honoured with the presence of our C.S.O. (Col. H. L. Mackworth, C.M.G., D.S.O.), Majors G. E. Sampson and G. G. Rawson (commanding Nos. 1 and 3 Companies respectively), and the officers of both units. Commander Gretten and staff from Abu Zabal W/T station, and visitors from the various Garrison messes, were also present. The "warmer" was in the form of a smoking (and drinking) concert.

A quite unexpected turn was Major Rawson at the dominoes, singing to his own accompaniment, and he was heartily encored. The artistes included Sergt Bawden, Corpl White, Sergt Norcross, Sergt Norman, Sergt Kendall, L/Corpl Robertson, L/Sergt Brett, the Garrison Sergeant-Major, Corpl Mound (R.A.S.C.), Mr. Rankin, and Mr. Sinclair Smith. Everything was a huge success, and a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close at —er—well! you know, the usual time!

Yet another cup has been added to the mess collection. Sergt Max Linder faded away from the mess on Saturday, August 1st, to return on Bank Holiday Monday with the "Donkey Derby" cup, which he had won at Abu Zabal W/T station. Interviewed by a Press representative, Max said, "I won it with kindness,

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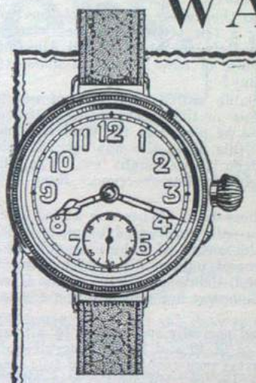

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without spur or whip, but simply coo'ed 'carrots' into the ear of my knowing steed. Oh, yes! I did a certain amount of training, my main diet being 'black velvet.' I have not seriously thought of retiring, but if I do, I shall certainly furnish my home on the Grade system 'delivered in plain vans.'"

A most interesting decision has now become common knowledge, and a certain member is wondering if the item "a leader of men in the field" includes "a leader of mules bearing rations."

M.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Signals Barracks, Polygon.

We have the pleasure of welcoming back our commanding officer from leave to the U.K., and judging by the interest he already shows with regard to our new quarters, we await his desires with considerable curiosity.

We are also curious as to the reason of the dolorous looks one encounters when meeting a few of our satellites who have been keeping 'em back on the Polygon, Moascar and Alexandria fronts. Did they expect a bed of roses? Isn't it about time some of them *saw* the Company?

We hear from a very reliable source that some of our late members are finding their *feet* in the sports world at home—Carp, strutting about because he played at the Oval and made 40 not out, and Tubby with his 54 in the final at Aldershot. But we knew that they could do it—we taught 'em. The whole Company join in wishing them further successes. Keep it up, Arfer and Tubby.

Startling things happen these days. When one walks through the camp after dark, one is usually confronted by an apparition gazing at one from round the corner of a hut, or you see an animal with nose to the ground pulling his keeper along the road; or sudden whistles sound, shouts of "Turn out the Guard" arise, lights flash (half the Company are undergoing a course of Sanatogen for the nerves).

Gazing at a portion of land partially surrounded by a trench, one sees (between the hours of 06.30 and 11.00) a vast cloud of dust; railways, horses and carts; men rushing to and fro; people yelling "A little more off the top" or "Up a bit"; a brandishing of weapons (picks and shovels, R.E., w/handles).

Is it a revolution, a gold rush, or an earthquake? No! it's only "us" working on our sports field (and the Editor asks for snaps, ugh!) But we understand that the sports field keeps one fit. Opinions are not always universal—ask Tich the tar expert, or Fiery the grave-digger, or Vurrze the wrecker of homes.

Sigmn Lillie wonders whether the "Indian" that he left on the Rhine is still in running order, and whether Dusty is still running or riding.

L/Corpl Butler (Charlie) would like to hear from any of the "Uplift Society."

Lighter Side of Things.—An old sweat recounting an episode of the Great War of 1925, and the hardships that they endured: "Yes," said he; "we were wet to the skin, and had to *lie down* in what we *stood up in*."

A billet doux left by a Driver: "Sigmn ——, you will find the hamer and chisle bye the hole bye the exorst pipe."

B.

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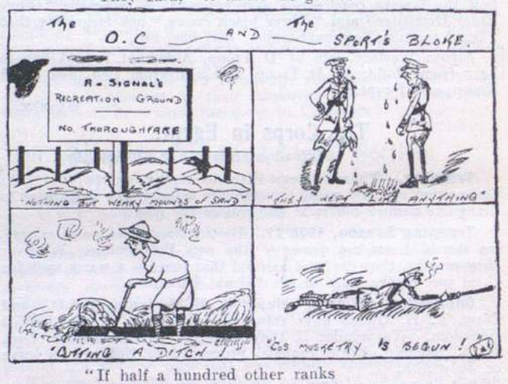
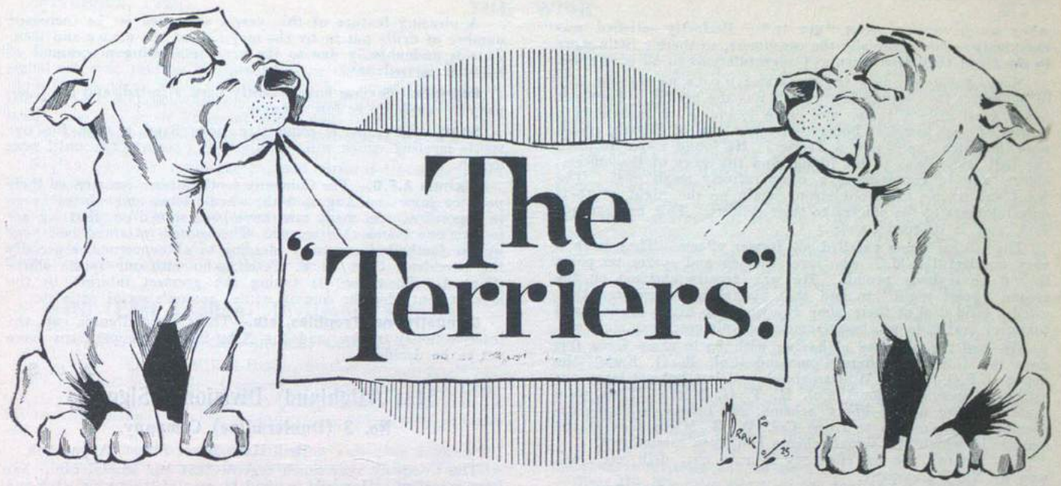
"The O.C. and the Sports Bloke"

(With the usual apologies to the author of "The Walrus and the Carpenter.")

The sun was shining in the sky,
Shining with all its might;
And everything was looking wrong,
'Cos nothing there was right;
And not a blade of grass was seen,
'Cos no grass was in sight.
Instead, the desert there appeared
Stretching for miles and miles,
No break in its monotony,
No hedges, gates or stiles;
Nothing but weary mounds of sand
In piles and piles and piles.
The O.C. and the Sports Bloke
Were walking hand in hand;
They wept like anything to see
Such quantities of sand;
"If this were only cleared away,"
They said, "it *would* be grand."



"If half a hundred other ranks
Worked for about a year,
Do you suppose," the O.C. said,
"That they would get it clear?"
"I'm blooming sure they wouldn't,"
Said the Sports Bloke, with a tear.
"Of course, we'll try," the Sports Bloke said,
Having a look around;
"Here, in this corner, we will make
A full-sized footer ground,
Cutting a ditch, say 3 foot 6,
The whole lot to surround."
Said the O.C. to the Sports Bloke,
As he shook his weary head,
"Before we ever get it done,
I think we'll all be dead."
The Sports Bloke looked around him.
Then: "No such luck," he said.
"The time has come," the O.C. said,
"To talk of many things:
Of guards, hut orderlies, etcet.,
And duties that time brings,
And how to get some volunteers
Out in the evenings."
The Sports Bloke looked at the O.C.
And grinned all o'er his face.
"I'm very much afraid," said he,
"The troops wont stick the pace,
And all you'll get is sick and lame
Dotted around the place!"
The O.C. and the Sports Bloke,
They looked a trifle glum.
"It seems a pity, now," they said,
"To leave the thing undone,
But still we'll *have* to leave it,
'Cos musketry's begun."



42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Burlington Street, Manchester.

The lack of contributions from this unit to these pages for several months has been due principally to re-organisation in our social arrangements, and is regretted. In future we hope to write regularly, and according to our Divisional motto, "Go one better," by giving full support to THE WIRE.

We welcome our new commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. R. S. Newton, M.C., who is no stranger to the unit, having served with distinction with the 42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signal Coy. R.E. throughout its four-and-a-half years' service abroad in Egypt, Gallipoli, Sinai Desert, France and Belgium, after many years as a signaller in the old pre-war Division.

On June 5th a unit parade was held at which the C.O. presented the new unit trophy to No. 3 Company. All ranks congratulate them on their achievement.

The Divisional training under canvas on Salisbury Plain at Whitsuntide was cancelled to our great disappointment, and we have had to be content with a three-day camp as a consolation. This was held at Altrincham during the August holidays, when all Companies were well represented, and much useful training was carried out in magnificent weather. Visits to the camp were made by Lieut.-Col. Orange-Bromhead, C.S.O. Western Command, and by Col. Martelli, the C.R.A., on behalf of the Divisional Commander.

Whilst at Altrincham a general parade witnessed the presentation of the Territorial decoration to Major A. G. Jameson by the commanding officer, who in offering congratulations on behalf of the unit, spoke of the long service and good work of the recipient. As we understand that Major Jameson is shortly transferring to the Reserve, we wish him good fortune in the future.

No. 3 Company 2nd Corps Signals (S.R.) took over our camp, and are fortunate in being able to spend a fortnight there.

Capt G. R. Nichols has just returned from a course of attachment to the 2nd Divl. Signals at Aldershot, full of praise of the hospitality and the benefits received.

It is with very great regret that we have lost the services of Lieut E. W. R. Harrison, Croix de Guerre, who has accepted an appointment in the U.S.A. He was a member of the old Divisional Signal Company and a most valuable and capable officer. His return in two or three years' time is looked forward to, and in the meantime he has our best wishes.

As our headquarters were designed for an infantry battalion, our work and training takes place under some difficulties, but the traditions of the 42nd Division and its Signals are great—and with these in mind, and with the willing help of all ranks, we can overcome every difficulty. A headquarters committee has been formed to assist the C.O. in making the best use of headquarters, and in arranging the many details which tend to make an efficient and happy Territorial unit.

At a later date we shall say more of our social affairs.

Obituary.—It is our sad duty to report the death of the wife of Driver L. Garnett. Our deepest sympathy is felt for him and his relatives in their bereavement.

Signals Association.—Our Branch members are flocking to the fold with annual subscriptions, and our worthy secretary, Sergt McVittie (P.S.), has secured a few more members. We hope to recommence our monthly social evenings in the near future, but more of this later.

We expect to have a 100% membership in the unit by the time we forward our next notes.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

We are full of camp this month! Our annual fortnight was spent at Littlemoor, near Weymouth, from July 26th to August 8th. One wag said, "Littlemoor" was a most appropriate name for it.

Fine weather favoured us, and without hesitation we say it was the best camp we've ever had. We undoubtedly reap the reward in camp of all the preparation that goes on in the months preceding. Several people work pretty hard beforehand, especially the poor old P.S., but their faces brighten up when they watch the big machine doing its work well. They deserve all the thanks we Terriers can bestow upon them. No doubt, when the round of annual dinners comes along, they will tell us that *we* are "the people," etc.

One hardly knows how to describe an annual camp in the space our Editor allots (he keeps reminding us in each issue that "there are others") so I'll make mention of a few points only. Readers of these notes are expecting quite a lot of "titbits," but those who were so ready—late at night, of course—to help with "copy" for the next WIRE have soon forgotten their promises, and that much-maligned "Old Spark" is left to ply his pen in solitude and try to pick up the threads of the wonderful fortnight.

One runs through the various shows and tries to visualize all the scenes. Ah! some of the scenes must *never* be written up. I've had a chat with the camp policeman, and although he is in possession of a good many *facts*, he begs me to lie low, so my notes must be shorn accordingly!

I'll pass along to the heavier side. The most important feature of any camp is undoubtedly the men's mess. A close study of each year's arrangements has brought us to a position

when we have just about "got it." Perfectly satisfied was everybody—more especially the consumers, so there's little more to say about that department. Congratulations to all concerned.

Next of course comes the w.o.s and n.c.o.s mess—that holy of holies! "Better than last year," was the verdict. They put out a good cricket team, and were fortunate in possessing a bowler of such merit as Boulger—Royal Corps of Signals, please note the name; he is now a Terrier! He found a spot to pitch the ball which was to his liking, and the score of the officers' eleven was in consequence a comparatively small one. The w.o.s and n.c.o.s came out strong again on the night of their entertainment of the officers to their concert. This mess stands firm, and is in good hands.

The officers' mess excelled all former efforts. They have a very wonderful P.M.C. who loves the job and spares no pains to "do everybody proud." He was greatly shocked on the second "guest night" to find that his friends considered they owed a good deal of their camp enjoyment to him. Their small token of gratitude was spontaneous, unanimous, and *sincere*.

We had the pleasure of having with us in camp for a few days the C.S.O. Southern Command (Col. R. G. Earle), the deputy C.S.O. (Col. J. W. Danielson), and last but not least, our esteemed honorary colonel, Col. H. T. G. Moore. They were present during our 36 hours' scheme, and before departing expressed their pleasure to Lieut.-Col. W. G. Michelmore at the manner in which the signal scheme had been carried out.

Col. Moore's cup for efficiency in turn out, drill, etc., was won by No. 2 Company.

OLD SPARK.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Gateshead-on-Tyne) Company.

Training.—An enjoyable 3-day camp was held at Whitburn on July 17th, 18th and 19th, at which a considerable amount of useful work was accomplished. Another is to be held at the same place on August 13th, 14th and 15th. The above are in lieu of annual training.

Supplementary Reserve.—No. 3 R.A.F. Signal Section are now up to strength, which will add additional interest to the inter-Section competitions.

Socials.—A meeting has been held to further the advancement of the winter socials, and an interesting programme has been arranged.

A. F. S.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Training.—We held the first of the series of week-end camps, in lieu of annual training, on the 17th and 18th July. We paraded in the Drill Hall on Saturday, and held an indoor signal scheme. On Sunday we paraded and marched out to Marton Hall Park and held a signal scheme which was very satisfactory. We arrived back in the Drill Hall at 5 p.m. after a hard day's work, everyone enjoying the day out immensely.

We are holding the next week-end camp on the 14th and 15th August, and will proceed to Marton Hall Park on the Sunday for a signal scheme, where the Company will be inspected by the G.O.C. 50th Division and the C.S.O. Northern Command.

Notices.—A charabanc outing was held on Sunday, August 8th. From the sergeants' mess we proceeded to Pickering, where we had lunch, and then over the moors to Whitby for tea. Leaving Whitby we went over the moors through Guisborough, arriving home at 10.15 p.m. after a very enjoyable day out.

We have arranged an indoor tennis court in the drill hall, and hope to hold a few tournaments in the near future. So now, you lads, let us see a little bit more of you than we are doing just at present, and then we can get things moving.

A. C.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Training.—With the end of the season drawing near, there is very little to record about the Hull Company. We have been training hard since February, and much really good work has been got through: and although our little trip to Catterick was cancelled, we still have "a bit up our sleeves" in readiness for next year's campaign.

A pleasing feature of this year's activities is the increased number of drills put in by the majority of the n.c.o.s and men. This is undoubtedly due to the very interesting programme of training carried out.

Recruits.—Several have recently been attested, and the Company is nearly up to full strength.

Sport.—The sports committee have fixed a date for our sports meeting which will not allow of a report of it until next month.

Signals A.F.C.—The Company football team commenced their practice games on August 14th, when "blues and whites" were in opposition. So many men have been signed on, that we are to run two teams this season. The success attained last year by our footballers was very pleasing to all concerned, especially the president, Capt R. E. Petch, who with our sports officer (Capt G. Thompson) is taking the greatest interest in the arrangements for the coming winter season's social activities.

Competitions, Trophies, etc.—The Colonel Dennis cup, the inter-sectional trophy, and the Nibs trophy competitions have yet to be decided.

A. C. S.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Dunfermline) Company.

Drill Hall, Bruce Street, August 9th.

The Company very much regrets that our annual camp has been cancelled. However, we had by way of training a week-end camp, followed by a five days' instructional tour, which gave us a week under canvas. We secured a nice camping ground at Kinghorn, and the weather was very good with the exception of the first day, so we were able to carry out all our schemes.

During the course of the week we had a visit from Lieut.-Col. Bald (C.S.O. Scottish Command) and Lieut.-Col. Forsyth, our C.O. Both seemed pleased with the Company, this being very encouraging to the O.C. and his instructors.

On Tuesday evening a smoker was held in the sergeants' mess, when our latest members entertained the Company with their humorous songs and stories.

We had our Company sports on Thursday afternoon, which (thanks to the arrangements made by C.S.M. Mackay and Sergts Cooper and McVey) were a great success.

Our pipe band accompanied us to camp. Although they have not yet received the long-looked-for dress, they are going strong—so much so that a special request from the Provost of Kinghorn for the band to play in the public park was received the second day we were in camp. From comments by experienced pipers who had the pleasure of listening to them, there is no doubt that Pipe-Major Brand and his men are worthy of full dress. One of the remarks heard by the orderly sergeant was to the effect that to give the band a dress would be a good investment.

Although Nos. 1 and 2 Companies were not with us in camp, we nevertheless enjoyed ourselves very much.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, August 13th.

Camp is now a thing of the past, except for the unfortunate Q staff, who will be endeavouring to square the inevitable after-camp discrepancies.

This year the camp has been memorable for two main features—weather and work. The weather was excellent, except on the one day our C.O. chose for a route march.

Work, the curse of all men, was with us all the time! Our programme got rather badly upset by the alteration of the date of visit of the D.C.S.O., Col. W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., who set the unit a rather ambitious signal scheme to carry out.

The Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the first week were devoted to this, the unit remaining out from 9 a.m. on Thursday until 4 p.m. on Friday, after working all Thursday night. We made many mistakes, and one or two people are very sore about the work still; but considering that we had "green" horses (most of them colliery horses, after three months' grazing) and were only in our first week's training, it was not so bad that we eventually *did* establish communication in each position according to plan.

On Bank Holiday afternoon, we had a visit from Major-Gen. Sir T. O. Marden, who inspected the camp.

Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week were spent on signal schemes, that on Wednesday being visited by the G.O.C.-in-C. (Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. Butler), the Divisional Commander, and by the C.S.O. Western Command (Lieut.-Col Orange Bromehead), who also spent Thursday and Friday with us.

On Thursday afternoon we had the unit sports, which I hope to describe in my next notes.

Friday was our route march, and Saturday saw us again packing up for the return.

There is so much to say about camp that it is impossible to select any special items for comment. Next month, I hope to mention one or two which stand out particularly. I must, however, mention our new M.O., Lieut Lindsay, M.C., who in his first camp made himself a great favourite.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Rd., Aug. 15th.

By the time these notes appear in print, the fifteen days' training at Swingate Camp will be completed, and our stay at Dover will gradually become a recollection, but a very pleasant one.

With our numerical strength standing well over a hundred, the attendance at camp was somewhat disappointing. The fifty odd men who turned up are of opinion that the absentees would like to have been with us.

The transport arrangements left nothing to be desired. Favoured with glorious weather on Sunday, August 1st, the Westcliff party thoroughly enjoyed the sea trip to Herne Bay plus the road journey to Dover in charabancs.

As a fine weather camping ground, Swingate affords attractive features, and the first eight days in camp (which our notes cover) passed smoothly. During the first week tests were carried out in connection with the efficiency cup, and we are pleased to chronicle that this was won, for the first time, by No. 3 Coy.

DREITER.

Supplementary Reserve, Royal Signals.

No. 3 Company, 2nd Corps Signals.

Burlington Street, Manchester.

Following the cancellation of annual training at Bulford, owing to the general strike, sundry rumours eventually materialised in a "voluntary" camp at the R.A.F. Depot, Altrincham, from August 2nd to 14th. As the 42nd Divl. Signals marched out from their long week-end camp, our Company marched in and quickly settled down under ideal conditions.

Major Waddington (R.A.F.) and his staff, both military and civil, spared no effort in making our stay enjoyable. Our very best thanks are due to them, and we hope it will not be long before we are again marching past the "Bay Malton."

Under the command of Major Roby, who was supported by Lieuts Hamilton, Halsall and Bottomley, various training programmes were carried out, and with 85% of the Company present at the week-end, a busy traffic scheme was in full blast when the C.R.A. and staff of the 42nd Division inspected the Company. No stone was left unturned to merit a good report.

It was regretted that Major-Gen. Solly-Flood was unable to visit us owing to an accident, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

On August 12th we were honoured by a visit from the assistant postmaster of Manchester (Mr. A. E. D. Wilson), Mr. Fitton, chief superintendent, and Messrs. Maynall, Leigh, Escott and Vaughan, of the engineering department of the Post Office. It is all to the good that the local chiefs of the Post Office should take such a kindly interest in the Company.

It is Rumoured.—That in addition to the shower bath, a running track will be provided when next we go to Altrincham, for doubling practice.

That the "wood pecker" intends to remain in the country.

That if the C.Q.M.S. and his staff set up a restaurant in town, their fortunes will be made.

That the magnetic storm on the morning of August 9th was really due to the unwelcome activity of one of the permanent staff; and that the storm ceased when the Sherlock Holmes's of No. 3 Section got on his track.

That the lines officer is about to take a rest cure.

And that if you wish to die quickly, you should mention "procedure" to the operators, line.

ACK ACK ACK.

L.M.S. Railway Telegraphs.

Summer Training.—On Wednesday, July 28th, two special carriages were attached to the 8.57 a.m. train Preston—Euston, to convey the Railway Telegraphs, Signals, into camp at the Royal Engineers Railway Training Centre, Longmoor Camp, Hampshire, and by 6 o'clock the same evening the Company had settled down in "Applepie Camp" under canvas, four officers and 107 other ranks being present.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday were chiefly devoted to the drawing of arms, elementary instruction in handling them, and cleaning up generally, together with technical instruction in the service instruments and practical permanent line, and air line constructional work.

Officers and N.C.O.'s of Headquarters Railway Telegraphs, Royal Signals (Special Reserve) Preston, Lancs.

Headquarters Railway Telegraphs, Royal Signals (Special Reserve) Freston, Lancs.

On Monday (Bank Holiday) really serious business commenced, the full complement of officers having joined for duty, namely: Major H. J. Hill, D.S.O., O.B.E., commanding; Capts. R. Tandy and S. H. Gould; 2/Lieuts. V. Mitchell and R. C. Smith. Capt P. Jennings, M.C., Royal Signals, was attached to us from A Corps Signals, to assist with training.

A special train drew into our W.I.M.R. camp siding at 8 a.m. and was loaded with permanent line and air line stores, and the whole Company moved off to commence building a permanent route of four wires along the newly-constructed military railway from Railway headquarters in Longmoor Camp to the head of the Steel, about two miles from Liss.

The work was pushed quickly ahead. One of the air line parties actually erected fifty poles, complete with wires, over a very long carry, on the first day. The route to head of the Steel was completed, and instruments installed and working, by noon on Tuesday, and an interesting railway telegraph signal scheme followed.

Wednesday saw the commencment of the other side of a soldier's life, or what is commonly called in the Army "spit and polish"—and elbow grease used in large quantities on buttons, boots and bandoliers, soon made us feel we were really in for a ceremonial parade of the Company, and a march past the Commandant of the Railway Training Centre, Royal Engineers, booked for 10.30 a.m. on Saturday. The manner in which the whole unit put its back into the work of preparation reflected the greatest credit on all ranks.

At the actual inspection, the Commandant (who was accompanied by Major J. A. Mair, M.C., Royal Signals, and Capt. C. de L. Gaussen, M.C., R.E.), remarked that he was very well satisfied with the general turn out and drill of the Company, and especially so with the unit's steadiness on parade.

On Sunday the whole unit marched to church under the O.C. Company.

Monday and Tuesday, August 9th and 10th, were devoted to the dismantling of permanent line and air line routes constructed for training, and the two weeks' training concluded with a cricket match, Signals (Railway Telegraphs S.R.) v. R.E. (R.T.C., R.E.) Longmoor. The result was a victory for the Sappers, Signals scoring 74 and the R.E.s 114.

These notes on our summer training of 1926 cannot be concluded without hoping that before next year's camp we shall have been brought up to full strength (of which we are still approximately 80 other ranks short). The only trades that can now be accepted are line operators, telephone switchboard operators, M.T. drivers, and linemen. Applications should be sent, stating trade qualifications, direct to the O.C. Railway Telegraphs, Royal Corps of Signals (S.R.), 6 East Cliff, Preston.

Headquarters Railway Telegraphs, Royal Signals (Special Reserve) on Parade, Preston, Lancs.

Cricket Notes.

Royal Corps of Signals (Catterick) v. Cryptics.

Played at Catterick on July 14th and 15th, ending in a draw.

ROYAL SIGNALS (CATTERICK).

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Maj. F. A. Drayson b Youngman	50	lbw b Youngman ...	30
E. J. Hatfield b Frost	6	c Wilkinson b Frost	14
Sergt E. Carpenter run out	3	c Webster b West ...	32
L. C. Boyd c Webster b West...	19	b Youngman.....	12
E. S. Cole b Shorter	24	c Shorter b West ...	18
Capt H. A. Parsons b Youngman	17	not out	28
Major L. G. Phillips b Goldup...	20	c and b West	0
H. O. Pargeter c & b Youngman	1	not out	14
Major F. R. Cobb st Webster b Youngman	8		
T. A. R. Scott c Symes b Shorter	28		
Sergt E. Downer not out	1		
Extras	16	Extras	4
Total	193	Total 6 wkts. (dec.)	152

Bowling—J. G. Frost took 2 wickets for 76 runs; R. N. Shorter 2 for 55; F. A. Youngman 6 for 116; C. H. West 4 for 48; S. T. Goldup 1 for 16.

CRYPTICS.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
C. H. West c Hatfield b Phillips	14	not out	24
F. A. Youngman c Scott b Phps.	8	c Parsons b Cole ...	47
Dr. J. Hale b Cole	9		
B. G. Symes c Downer b Phillips	0	c and b Scott	11
C. M. Keble run out	5	c and b Cole	13
S. T. Goldup b Cole	10	b Carpenter	4
Capt. J. N. Chamberlain b Cole	10	c Hatfield b Scott ...	5
J. G. Frost st Downer b Carpntr	28	not out	4
N. R. E. Wilkinson b Scott.....	5	b Carpenter	34
R. N. Shorter b Cole	6		
J. T. Webster not out	5	b Cole	5
Extras	14	Extras	5
Total	114	Total (for 7 wkts)	152

Bowling—Major Phillips took 3 wickets for 73 runs; T. A. R. Scott 3 for 57; E. S. Cole 7 for 40; Sergt Carpenter 3 for 47.

Royal Corps of Signals v. Royal Tank Corps.

Played at the Oval, London, on August 4th and 5th, Signals winning by 36 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Major F. A. Drayson b Grant ...	50	c Keller b Davies ...	6
Capt. G. P. Pavey b Keller	2	c Pedder b Keller ...	29
J. E. S. Walford b Keller	6	lbw b Grant	2
Capt F. A. H. Mathew c MacLeod b Uniacke	18	c MacLeod b Loup	18
R. H. O. Coryton b Grant	16	b Davies	40
L. C. Boyd not out	38	run out	15
Capt H. A. J. Parsons b Grant	0	cMacLeod b Dunolly	25
Sgt E. Carpenter c Uniacke b Grant	6	not out	25
T. A. R. Scott b Grant	5	c Hulton b Loup ...	0
Major L. G. Phillips c Uniacke b Loup	34	c Grant b Loup	93
Sergt E. Downer run out	3	not out	1
Extras	14	Extras	10
Total	192	Total for 9 wkts(dec)	264

Bowling—Capt Davies took 2 wickets for 125; Capt Keller 3 for 105; Lieut Uniacke 1 for 56; Lieut Grant 6 for 97; Capt Loup 4 for 49; Lieut Dunolly 1 for 0.

ROYAL TANK CORPS.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Lt.-Col. J. M. Hulton b Carpenter	6	c Phillips b Walford	87
Lieut F. R. Caley b Phillips	16	b Phillips	103
Capt G. Pedder b Phillips	29	c Coryton b Walford	2
Capt G.D. Loup c Coryton b Walford	5	c Carpntr. b Walford	19
Lieut E. L. Grant c and b Scott	22	c Mathew, b Walford	3
Capt R.C. Keller c D'yson b Scott	0	c Mathew b Walford	15
Capt P. Havelock Davies run out	4	c and b Walford	0
Lieut R. S. Dunolly lbw b Scott	35	lbw b Carpenter	0
Capt D. J. MacLeod b Scott	11	c Carpntr. b Walford	1
Lieut H.V. Dunbar lbw b Phillips	12	not out	11
Lieut R. D. Uniacke not out	0	c Downer b Scott ...	8
Extras	24	Extras	7
Total	164	Total	256

Bowling—Major Phillips took 4 wickets for 102; T. A. R. Scott 5 for 83; Sergt Carpenter 2 for 79; J. E. S. Walford 8 for 127.

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Royal Corps of Signals v. Royal Engineers.

Played at Aldershot on August 6th and 7th, the R.E. winning by 8 wickets.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Major F. A. Drayson c Young b Lucas	23	c Hammond b Hnck	14
L. C. Boyd c Young b Hancock	21	c Young b C.-Rogers	3
J. E. S. Walford c Young b Hck	3	c Hmnd. b C.-Rogers	36
Capt G.P. Pavey b Coxwell-Rogers	25	c Young b C.-Rogers	4
Capt F.A.H. Mathew c De Brett b Boyd	9	lbw b De Brett	3
R. H. O. Coryton c Lucas b Hck	36	c and b Lucas	7
Major L. G. Phillips c Foster b De Brett	2	c and b C.-Rogers	7
E. S. Cole b De Brett	1	st Young b Hancock	20
Sergt E. Carpenter not out	11	not out	32
Sergt Minns c Hammond b Hnck	2	c Kirke b De Brett	0
T. A. R. Scott c Hammond b Hck	4	c Kirke b C.-Rogers	5
Extras	9	Extras	9
Total	146	Total	140

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Capt J. A. Graham lbw b Cole	5	not out	28
R. N. Foster b Carpenter	14		
Major E. St. G. Kirke c Cole b Scott	19	not out	42
L. G. Thomas c and b Carpenter	38		
E. S. De Brett c and b Walford	44		
Capt N. A. Coxwell-Rogers b Scott	33		
O. B. K. Young b Walford	1		
Capt H. F. Lucas b Walford	3		
L. F. Hancock b Carpenter	17	run out	14
N. L. Hammond b & b Carpenter	10		
J. H. Boyd not out	5	b Phillips	3
Extras	10	Extras	3
Total	199	Total (2 wickets)	90

Royal Corps of Signals v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Played at the Oval, London, on August 19th and 20th, the R.A.O.C. winning by an innings and 16 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Maj. F. A. Drayson lbw b Clarke	25	c Spinks b Clarke	0
Sergt E. Carpenter b Clarke	5	c Skinner b Clarke	41
Je E. S. Walford c Sheppard b Spinks	18	lbw b Love	27
Capt F. A. H. Mathew b Clarke	47	c Palmer b Spinks	33
E. S. Cole b Clarke	8	st Skinner b Spinks	8
Capt H. A. J. Parsons c Palmer b Clarke	27	c Skinner b Clarke	3
L. C. Boyd b Clarke	6	c Hoare b Clarke	0
Capt C. K. Thursby-Pelham lbw b Clarke	5	c Skinner b Clarke	7
Major L. G. Phillips c Clarke b Spinks	3	c Hoare b Clarke	0
T. A. R. Scott not out	0	c Hoare b Spinks	19
Sergt E. Downer b Spinks	0	not out	1
Extras	10	Extras	4
Total	154	Total	143

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS.

Lieut.-Col. L. L. Hoare c Mathew b Scott	51
Capt. G. W. Palmer run out	39
Col. J. H. Sheppard b Scott	83
Lieut.-Col. W. T. Sheppard c Phillips b Scott	21
Lieut.-Col. H. L. Wethered c Phillips b Scott	62
Major E. Spinks c and b Carpenter	21
Lieut.-Col. Fernyhough c Downer b Scott	8
Capt. H. R. Skinner not out	8
Cape. G. R. S. Love not out	1
Extras	19
Total for 7 wickets (declared)	313

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Catterick Shooting Notes.

S.T.C. Rifle Club.—The following is the inter-Company league table up to August 9th:—

	Fired	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Aggte.
Drill Companies ...	7	6	1	0	13	3981
C Company	7	5	0	2	10	3809
F Company	7	4	1	2	9	3653
D Company	6	2	0	4	4	2934
E Company	6	1	0	5	2	3114
School	5	0	0	5	0	2191

The highest possible aggregate score for the seven shoots is 4200. The best individual averages are: R.S.M. Nolan (Drill Companies) 97.28, and Sergt Stone (Drill Companies) 96.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

Cricket.—The unit has had several good matches this season, and have quite a useful eleven. Lieut Coryton and Sergt Minns have continued to play for Royal Signals, Aldershot Command, and they have also played in Corps matches at the Oval.

Regimental Sports.—The annual sports of A Corps Signals, D Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, and the Aldershot Command Signal Company, were held successfully on Wednesday, August 11th, at Ewshott. Happily the weather was fine, and the programme of mounted and dismounted events was witnessed by a large gathering of spectators.

The antics of the clowns, Signalmen Horne and Steele, afforded considerable amusement.

Lieut.-Col. R. M. Powell, D.S.O., commanding A Corps Signals, presented a cup for the section gathering the highest total of points, and this was won by C Cable Section with 24 points, No. 1 M.T. Construction Section being second with 12½, and H.Q. Section No. 3 Company third with 8½.

The band of the Royal Army Medical Corps rendered an enjoyable programme of music during the afternoon. At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were distributed by Mrs. R. M. Powell.

100 yards—1, 2/Lieut C. H. Lyddon (C Cable); 2, 2/Lieut T. W. Boileau (No. 1 M.T.); 3, L/Corpl Jones (C Cable). Time, 10 1/5 secs.

Inter-Section 600 yards relay (six ran 100 yards each)—1, No. 1 M.T. Section; 2, C Cable Section; 3, No. 1 W.T. Section. Won by inches and 10 yards. Time, 1 min. 11 secs. Winning team: 2/Lieut Boileau, Sergt Betts, Corpl Baines, L/Corpl Voller, Signalmen Taylor and Girling.

One mile—1, Sigmn Smith (H.Q.); 2, Sergt Bagiley (C Cable); 3, Sigmn Hope (H.Q.). Time, 5 min. 10 1/5 secs.

One mile invitation relay (220, 220, 440 and 880 yards)—1, 2nd Divl. Signals; 2, 1st Pack Brigade R.A.; 3, A Corps Signals. Won by 6 yards and 3 yards. Time, 4 min. 7 secs. Winning team: Signalmen Webb, Shewring, Graves and Dowdell.

120 yards hurdles—1, Corpl Williams (C Cable); 2, L/Corporal Larkham (No. 5 W.T.); 3, 2/Lieut Lyddon (C Cable). Time, 19 2/5 secs.

High jump—1, Corpl Davey (H.Q.), 5 ft. 1 in.; 2, L/Corporal Westwood (No. 1 W.T.), 5 ft.; 3, Corpl Williams (C Cable), 4 ft. 10 in.

Inter-Section tug-of-war—No. 1 M.T. Section (A) beat B Cable Section by two pulls to nil; No. 2 W.T. Section obtained third place. Winning team: Sergt Churchill, L/Corpl J. H. Russell, and Signalmen Newson, G. H. Martin, Stanley, Girling, Lowe, Yardey, Cowe and Stock; coach, 2/Lieut T. W. Boileau.

Inter-Section mast erection (teams had to each erect a 48 ft. wireless mast)—1, Command Signal Company (Sergt Wattley, section commander, L/Corporal Walker, and Signalmen Varley, Staerck and Morley); 2, No. 1 W.T. Section (commander L/Cpl Westwood); 3, No. 6 W.T. Section (commander Sergt Minns). The winners' time was 6 min. 29 secs.

Tilting the bucket—1, L/Corpl Westwood and Sigmn Marsh; 2, Signalmen Board and Hartland; 3, Corpl Todd and L/Corpl Clarke.

Novelty race—1, Sigmn Green's team; 2, L/Corpl Jones' team; 3, Corpl Mears' team. This was a team event, combining sack race, boat race, and walking the greasy pole.

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Band spot race—1, Sergt Mills; 2, Bandsman Crewe; 3, Bandsman Hobbs; 4, Corpl Vidler.
Veterans' 100 yards—1, Sergt Carter; 2, Sergt Grant; 3, Sergt Squirrell.
Ladies' balloon and thread the needle race—1, Mrs. Smith; 2, Mrs. Carter.
Children's race—1, Stanley Goldman; 2, Joan Bowker; 3, Master Newton.
Dog race—1, Mr. Hendry; 2, Sergt Lindsay.

MOUNTED EVENTS.

V.C. race—1, Signalmen White and Walters; 2, Signalmen Smith and Grown; 3, Signalmen Slater and Hartland.
Ball and basket race (w.o.s and sergeants)—1, Sergt Lane; 2, Sergt Rowe; 3, Sergt Carter.
Mounted wrestling—1, No. 1 M.T. Section; 2, C Cable Section; 3, A Cable Section.
Jumping competition (for ranks below lance-sergeant)—1, Corpl Wybrow (C Cable); 2, Sigmn Staerck (Command Signal Coy.); 3, Sigmn Samuels (H.Q.) and Sigmn Stack (No. 1 M.T.) tie.
Drivers' pair jumping—1, Dvr Doherty; 2, Dvr Allen; 3, Dvr Martin.
Section tent-pegging (open to Royal Signals, Aldershot Command)—1, 2nd Divl. Signals, 44 points; 2, A Corps Signals, 11. Winning team: C.S.M. Eves, C.Q.M.S. Ruffle, L/Corpl Bishop and Sigmn Munt.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

We gave a good account of ourselves in the unit sports meeting reported below. Although we only carried off the 440 yards relay prize in the dismounted events, we won the whole of the mounted items. The arrangements were far in advance of the previous year's, and were much appreciated.

It is hoped at the conclusion of the summer training season to get our rugby and soccer teams at work, in the hope that we shall be able to improve on last season's record.

No. 2 Company.

Hear us smile! Why? Well, I'll tell you. On July 30th a battle royal was fought, partly on the green turf known as 75 Ground and partly amidst the dust of the Dust Heap. It was a three-sided battle. A little band known as "Threeco" were going to show people how to win cups and trophies, but during the last few days prior to the battle a smaller band had collected its forces, known as "Twoco," who thought otherwise.

At 10.30 a.m. the battle started (though not a tin hat or a gas mask was seen) with the 440 yards relay. Oneco came first and Threeco second, Twoco taking third place to encourage them. Putting the shot, the mile team race, and the long jump all went to little Twoco, with Threeco second. The mile relay race, however, was taken by Threeco, with Twoco relegated to second place. The pair jumping and Section tent-pegging went to Oneco, Threeco being second and Twoco third. A halt was then called for lunch.

The battle recommenced at 2 o'clock, with betting even. Twoco won the 2 miles relay race, Oneco being second. Twoco also won the high jump, with Threeco second and Oneco third. The latter were successful in the final of the tug-of-war, Twoco being second and Threeco third. This order was reversed in the 480 yards relay race, won by Threeco, with Twoco second and Oneco third. Threeco also won the 880 yards relay race, Oneco being second and Twoco third.

The tea interval was then taken, with interest fully maintained by the level scoring of points by Twoco and Threeco. After tea everyone made their way to the Dust Heap for the last event—the team-jumping competition—for it rested with our four-legged "chums" to decide the destination of the trophy.

Oneco jumped first, all three competitors making a splendid round. Twoco followed them. C.S.M. Purkiss was heartily cheered for a faultless effort on "Flux"; Corpl Deamon on "Dusty" was "not so dusty"; and Dvr Hancock on "Doris" followed—and as a team effort these three provided the best round of the evening. Unfortunately one of Threeco's team failed to complete the course, which was bad luck for them—but we always had them "guessing" with the jumping. Oneco again did well in the second round, but Twoco failed to reproduce their previous form, and the final placing was Oneco first, Twoco second, and Threeco third.

And so, by a very narrow margin, little Twoco won the trophy. A real hard fight made the victory very sweet—and what the Captain put in the trophy was sweeter still! Now everyone is happy, and I hear the drivers volunteered to forfeit a month's issue of "Bluebell" to keep it clean. Now, boys! our name is on it *once*, but that's not enough: we want to see a whole string of "Twoco's" on it!

Every competitor that day put his heart and soul into his job. We hope next year *every man* in the Company will do likewise, to retain the trophy. It *can* be done.

No. 3 Company.

Sports.—Our Company sports were held on July 23rd on No. 75 Ground, and proved a very great success, thanks mainly to the officers and C.S.M., who, by their untiring efforts, made a very enjoyable day for all. Many keenly contested races were witnessed and quite a number of dark horses were unearthed. A most laudable performance was put up by that gallant old veteran, Lieut G. W. Odell, who surprised us all in putting the shot. Tea was provided on the ground, to which wives, families and friends of the n.c.o.s and men were invited, a favour which was greatly appreciated. The Company musicians turned out in force after the proceedings, and a pleasant hour was spent in dancing on the lawn. The individual winners of the dismounted events were as follows:—

100 yards flat race—1, Sigmn Shewring; 2, Sigmn Hardy; 3, L/Corpl Skitt.
High jump—1, Sigmn Shelley; 2, Lieut Rance; 3, Sigmn Hayes.
880 yards flat race—1, Sigmn Earp; 2, Sigmn Blunt; 3, Driver Hammond.
120 yards hurdles—1, L/Corpl Gow; 2, Sigmn Hose; 3, Sigmn Holmes.
Putting the shot—1, Lieut Odell; 2, Sigmn Silk; 3, Sigmn Pinson
220 yards flat race—1, Sigmn Hardy; 2, Sigmn Shewring; 3, L/Corpl Skitt.
Long jump—1, Sigmn Richardson; 2, Lieut Rance; 3, Sigmn Shewring.
440 yards flat race—1, Sigmn Hardy; 2, Sigmn Earp; 3, Sigmn Archer.
Sack race—1, Sigmn Shelley; 2, Sigmn Hayes; 3, Sigmn Pratt.
Slow cycle race—1, Sigmn Holmes; 2, Sergt Coffin; 3, Sigmn Robins.
Tilting the bucket—1, Signalmen Green and Sweetland; 2, Signalmen Richardson and Shelley; 3, Signalmen Kingswood and Murray.
Ladies' potato race—1, Mrs. Bayliss; 2, Mrs. Tinsley.
Mile flat race—1, Sigmn Blunt; 2, Sigmn Carruthers; 3, Driver Hammond.
Boat race—1, L Section; 2, K Section; 3, H Section.
All ranks' relay race—1, J Section; 2, K Section.
Section relay race—1, H Section; 2, J Section; 3, K Section.
Wheelbarrow race—1, Signalmen Robins and Collins; 2, Signalmen Hayes and Hamer; 3, Signalmen Shelley and Richardson.
Tug-of-war—1, L Section; 2, H Section.

The inter-Section trophy was won by H Section with a total of 22 points, J taking 18, K 12, and L 5. The mounted events proved a most exciting and spectacular display, to the great amusement of all present, the fortunate competitors being:—

Calling race—1, Dvr Treleaven; 2, Sigmn Sjoberg; 3, Dvr Collins
Pair jumping—1, Dvr Elsey; 2, Dvr Coglan.
Musical chairs—1, Corpl McCormick; 2, L/Corpl Skitt; 3, Sigmn Husk.
V.C. race—1, Dvr Stevenson and Sigmn Pinson; 2, Dvr Roper and Sigmn Owen; 3, Dvr Elsey and Sigmn Henry.

Cricket.—Cricket has been rather at a discount owing to inclement weather, but we are glad to note that many of our Company players are still called upon to assist the Corps and unit teams.

Rhine Signal Units.

Athletics.—We were very disappointed in losing the Rhine Army small unit athletic championships to the Royal Engineers by six points after making a splendid start. The destination of the cup hung upon the last jump in the hurdle race, and when one of our team unfortunately knocked it down, causing us to be disqualified, it slipped from our grasp. Those who competed deserve every credit for their keenness and strenuous efforts under a blazing sun.

We were first in the high jump (Corpl Bramwell, Sigmn Jessup), long jump (Signalmen Thompson and Roby), 880 yards relay, mile team race, and 3 mile team race (L/Corpl Hibbs, Signalmen Orpwood, Nicks and Irving).

We were second in the 100 yards and 220 yards (L/Corporal Hibbs, Signalmen Peake and Thompson, and Dvr Whittingstall), 440 yards (L/Corpl Slater, Signalmen Orpwood, Westmore, and Mumford), discus (L/Corpl Warren and Sigmn Say), javelin (Dvr Whittingstall and Sigmn Hamilton), pole jump (Signalmen Peake and Thompson), and 120 yards hurdles (disqualified) (L/Corpl Warren, Signalmen Owen, Hinks and Peake).

We congratulate the teams on receiving runners-up medals.

Cricket.—The past month having proved barren of matches, August brings a fixture list that makes us wonder how we shall get through. We are still on top of the league, and unless we get a shock we should stop there; so we shall have to arrange that the shock doesn't come whilst one or two of the Sections are out at camp with their respective brigades.

The inter-Company games have been very keenly contested, and there is more pleasure and fun gained from them than any league matches where points only are the objective.

Tennis.—The re-stringing of racquets and loss of balls has caused a temporary lull. The casualties in the latter will soon cause Slazenger's to take on extra hands. The cry of "Thank you" or "Do you mind" has become a warning to avoid the court when play is in progress. The benefit derived from the court is noticeable by the continued success of our units in the Rhine Army other ranks tournament.

Football.—The season is rapidly approaching, and it is pleasing to see a good number out training every evening. Don't forget the old motto, "Fitness wins." The league into which we will enter appears to be a good one as well as a large one, but involving no great amount of travelling the same as last season.

Hockey.—The first meeting in respect of hockey is due in a week's time, so we shall have to get prepared. With a few trials I am sure that we shall improve upon last year's team, but once again the ground question is a difficult one—but we have solved these difficulties before.

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Sports.—Owing to our depleted ranks, sport in Kohat has been at a complete standstill.

At Parachinar, however, a fair number of games have been played. The results are as follows:—

Football.—Versus 6th Armoured Car Co., lost 1—5, lost 0—1, and drew 2—2. Versus 5/13th Frontier Force Rifles, won 3—0.

Hockey.—Versus 110th Pack Battery R.A., won 2—1 and lost 1—2. Versus Sappers and Miners, won 6—1.

G Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.

Rugby.—A number of rugby matches have been played during the course of the month, the results of which are given below:—

5/7/26—Friendly v 48th Battery R.A., draw.
8/7/26—Friendly v. S.T.C. (India) B Team on R.C. Ground, won 9—0.
10/7/26—Friendly v. 71st Battery R.A., draw.
14/7/26—Friendly v. 40th Battery R.A., won 3—0.
16/7/26—Tournament: Harwood-Little Rugby Tournay v. Jubbulpore Gymkhana, won 11—0.
19/7/26—Friendly v. Hampshires Right Wing, lost 5—0.
24/7/26—Tournament, v. Hampshires Left Wing, draw.
26/7/26—Ditto, replay, draw.
28/7/26—Ditto, second replay, won 3—0.

Cricket.—A number of inter-Company matches have been witnessed between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, but no startling results are recorded.

Soccer.—On July 29th a team representing the unit met a team from the 14th Scinde Horse on their own ground, losing by the odd goal in five.

That extra ounce—

TOWARDS the end of a hard-fought game of Soccer or Rugger, it's the man who can pull out that "extra ounce" who most frequently gets the winning goal or try. The whole crowd cheers, and it's good to be that man.

* * *

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* * *

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B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Sport.—It has since been suggested that the "new talent hockey match" was *not* a hockey match, but a variation of comic golf. In any case, it was often highly amusing. The general idea was to give new players a chance and to discover "shining lights." Two teams of British and Indian players were scraped together and the game commenced. We make no remarks on what followed; we are looking forward to the next game. The "shining lights" were eventually found by one of the outside-rights, who retired just before half-time.

We played the Queen's Bays at hockey (away) and lost by 1—0

The Troop cricket club played a match with the Veterinary Hospital on Sunday, 28th inst., and won by 33 runs.

We congratulate Corpl Brice, who is proving a great help to the Combined Signals team competing at Murree.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Aquatics.—A very successful swimming gala was held by this Company on Thursday, July 15th. The programme was arranged in a most excellent manner, and all events were keenly contested. The successful participants were as follows:—

30 yards (novices)—1, Sigmn Andrews; 2, Lieut Kennett; 3, Sigmn Burnham.
60 yards (novices)—1, Sigmn Winfield; 2, Lieut Kennett; 3, Sigmn Burnham.
Plate diving—1, Corpl Corbett; 2, L/Corpl Lee; 3, Sigmn H. S. King.
Diving—1, Sigmn H. S. King; 2, L/Sergt Archer; 3, Sigmn Bloomfield.
60 yards back stroke—1, Corporal Corbett; 2, Sigmn Walsh; 3, Sigmn Riley.
440 yards—1, Sigmn Sparkes; 2, Sigmn Walsh; 3, Sigmn Ryder
180 yards (open)—1, Sigmn Sparkes; 2, Sigmn Walsh; 3, L/Cpl Lee.
90 yards (open)—1, Sigmn Sparkes; 2, Sigmn Walsh; 3, Sigmn Riley.
60 yards (open)—1, Sigmn H. S. King; 2, Sigmn Sparkes; 3, Sigmn Winfield.

Blindfold race—1, Corpl Corbett; 2, L/Corpl Lee; 3, Sigmn Richards.

Bobbing for corks—Signalmen Richards and Rice tied for 1st; L/Corpl Lee and Corpl Corbett tied for 2nd.

B Cable Section won the inter-section water-polo, with Nos. 1 and 2 Sections as runners-up. No. 3 Section won the inter-section relay, with Nos. 1 and 2 Sections in the second place.

Cricket.—The Company have only played five matches during this month, resulting in two wins, two losses, and a draw, as below:—

July 7th—v. 216 Squad R.A.F., draw (Signals 139 for 9, R.A.F. 138 for 9).

July 8th—v. 3rd A.C.C., R.T.C., lost by 35 runs.

July 10th—v. 47th Squad R.A.F., won by 48 runs.

July 16th—v. 9th Co. R.A.O.C., won by 1 wicket and 57 runs.

July 21st—v. H.Q., M.E., R.A.F., lost by 90 runs

43rd (Wessex) Divisiona' Signals.

Annual Sports.—This festival proved the most successful affair of its kind the Wessex Signals have ever held. The team spirit in the three Companies has developed considerably, and each Company put in its best efforts on sports day, both in regard to organisation and competition. The results were as follows:—

100 yards flat final—1, Sigmn Maunder (No. 1 Company); 2, Sigmn Rowe (No. 3); 3, Lt M. N. Ford (No. 3). Maunder won easily.

Driving for challenge cup (open)—There were 24 entries for this event—1, Dvr Pike (Crediton) (No. 3 Company); 2, Dvr Snelling (No. 2); 3, Dvr Ingram (No. 1).

Driving, recruits, for challenge cup—1, Dvr Pike (No. 3 Coy.); 2, Dvr Warrington (No. 2); 3, Dvr Andrews (No. 2).

Miniature cups suitably engraved (presented by Capt C. A. Murray, former adjutant) were given to the winners of the driving events. Dvr Pike carried off both.

Tent pitching—1, Corpl Ward's team (No. 1 Company); 2, Corpl Kettell's team (No. 1).

440 yards—1, L/Corpl Newman (No. 3 Company); 2, Sigmn Maunder (No. 1); 3, Sigmn Williams (No. 1). Newman just beat Maunder a yard or so from home.

Horseback wrestling—1, F/Sergt Allen's team (No. 1 Coy.); 2, Sigmn Fewing's team (No. 3). A very hard-fought contest

Relay race—1, L/Corpl Newman's team (No. 3 Company); 2, Sigmn C. S. James' team (No. 1).

Pole and ball (mounted)—1, Sigmn Glatworthy (No. 1 Coy.); 2, Dvr Warrington (No. 2); 3, Sigmn W. A. Kettell (No. 1).

V.C. race—1, Sigmn W. A. Kettell (No. 1 Company); 2, L/Cpl Gregory (No. 1); 3, Dvr Beautyman (No. 2).

Tug-of-war—No. 1 Company's team ("The Toughs") won in a canter.

Obstacle race—1, Sergt Gibbon (No. 3 Coy.); 2, Sigmn Gore (No. 3); 3, Sigmn Rowe (No. 3).

Marching order "alarm" race—1, L/Corpl Clark (No. 2 Coy.); 2, Corpl Marks (No. 3); 3, Corpl Field (No. 3).

One mile—1, L/Corpl Newman (No. 3 Company); 2, Sigmn Dunscombe (No. 3); 3, Sigmn C. S. James (No. 1).

Consolation race—1, Sigmn Prouting (No. 2 Company); 2, Sigmn Wakeling (No. 3); 3, Sigmn Maidment (No. 2).

Ladies' race—The Misses Paterson and Hollett tied for 1st place, and the Misses Bridle and Sergeant for 3rd.

A solid silver cigarette case (presented by Miss Levack) for the highest number of points in certain events was awarded to L/Corpl Newman of No. 3 Company.

Scoring for the sports cup presented by Capt C. A. Murray was as follows: No. 1 Company, 25 points; No. 2, 4; No. 3, 19. The cup was therefore won by No. 1 Company.

The football shield was won by No. 1 Company, who beat No. 3 by 4—1 in the final match.

The prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. W. G. Michelmore (wife of our C.O.).

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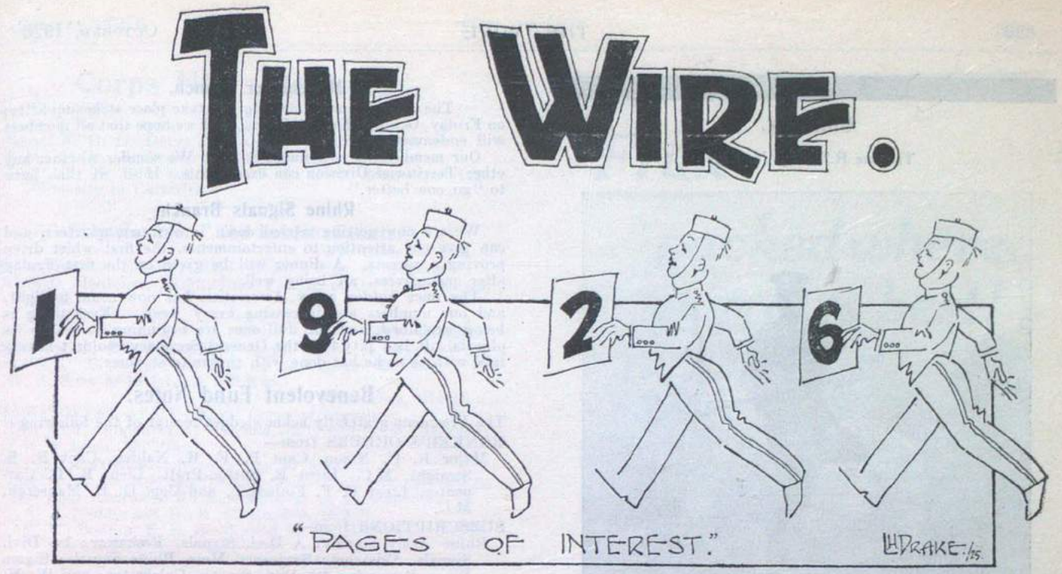

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VOL. VII.—No. 80 OCTOBER, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

The sympathy of all ranks of the Corps goes out to Major W. E. Pain, M.C., whose wife died at Wiesbaden on Aug. 26th.

In reply to numerous enquiries which are being received concerning the publication of a second edition of the Corps Promotion Roster, we would direct the attention of our correspondents to a paragraph of the Editorial notes in the February issue, which is republished for general information:—

"In view of the impending amalgamation of Indian Signals with Royal Signals, and the fact that such amalgamation will necessitate a complete revision of the present roster, it has been decided that no further action shoud be taken for the time being. An explanatory article dealing with the whole question in detail will be published in THE WIRE at an early date. [This article, entitled "Amalgamation of the Indian Signal Corps with the Royal Corps of Signals," was published in the May issue.]

As soon as the above-mentioned revision has been accomplished, therefore, and the information is available for publication, the Committee will give this matter due consideration.

In the meantime, may we venture to warn our readers that "Pie Crust" is at all times a commodity which should be handled with the greatest caution. It invariably covers a variety of things, palatable and otherwise. We were faced with some a short while ago, disguised (in journalistic parlance) as "copy." and treated it with that awe and reverence which it merited. The ingredients in this instance, however, had been carefully selected and skilfully handled, so much so that no ill effects followed its consumption. May it ever be thus!

A selection of Corps Christmas Cards for the forthcoming season has been circulated to all units for criticism. The Committee would be glad to receive unit orders as early as possible, with a view to estimating bulk requirements and ensuring early delivery, etc.

Will those readers requiring copies of the bound volume of THE WIRE for 1926 kindly communicate their requirements to this office without delay? Price 8s., post free. Only a limited number will be available.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following Banker's Orders, and amounts from Branches, etc.:—

BANKER'S ORDERS from—

Major R. C. Nixon, Major Julian Watson, Capt F. S. Straight, M.C., Capt R. F. H. Nalder, Lieut J. M. C. Hoblyn, Lieut A. E. Latham-Brown, Lieut R. Sutton-Pratt, Lieut R. L. Carpenter, and Lieut C. F. Fothergill.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Baghdad Branch	£1	12	0
Manchester Branch	12	11	0
Mr. R. Steel	0	2	0
A Divl. Signals, Peshawar	3	13	2
Dera Ismail Khan Branch	18	13	0
Dover Branch	1	10	0
President S.A.B.F.	8	0	0
W. H. Brann, Esq.	0	5	0
Chiswick Branch	1	10	0

EMPLOYMENTS for the month of September:—

Telegraphists	2
Labourers	2
Valet-Secretary	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Hong Kong Branch.

An enjoyable outing took place on Bank Holiday, when a steam launch conveyed the members and their friends to Island Bay and Junk Bay.

Starting off at 10 o'clock, troubled waters were soon encountered, and it must be put on record that in two cases only sheer grit kept body and soul together until Island Bay was reached.

Heavy seas prevented our remaining for long at this Bay, and calmer conditions were sought in Junk Bay. Here the rain poured continually, but it could not dampen our spirits. Cricket and football in bathing costumes, water polo, oh!—and fishing, occupied our time.

Home was made at 7.30 p.m. after a splendid holiday.

[*Continued in column 2 next page*]

Obituary.

The late R.S.M. J. Newlands.

All ranks of Royal Signals will regret to hear of the death of ex-R.S.M. J. Newlands, after a very brief illness, at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, on August 22nd. He leaves a wife and four children, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Manchester Branch.

The annual general meeting will take place at headquarters on Friday, October 29th, at 8 p.m., and we hope that all members will endeavour to attend.

Our membership now numbers 328. We wonder whether any other Territorial Division can exceed this. If so, we shall have to "go one better."

Rhine Signals Branch.

We are now getting settled down in our new quarters, and can give our attention to entertainments, the first whist drive proving a success. A dinner will be given on the first Friday after manœuvres, all being well.

The once hidden away Association has now come to light, and our numbers are increasing every week. Everything is being explained, and the dull ones are beginning to realise its objects. It is a pity that the General Secretary couldn't have a talk with us as he has done with the units at home.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

BANKER'S ORDERS from—
Major R. C. Nixon, Capt R. F. H. Nalder, Capt F. S. Straight, M.C., Lieut R. Sutton-Pratt, Lieut R. L. Carpenter, Lieut C. F. Fothergill, and Capt G. E. Mansergh, M.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Rhine Army Signals; A Divl. Signals, Peshawar; 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Sergeants' Mess, Rhine Signals; Sigmn Piper, Bermuda; 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester; and W. H. Brann, Esq.

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from—
Capt J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., Capt J. A. Barry, R.A., and Capt W. U. Tyrrell.

APPEALS dealt with:—
1—Widow and family of ex-R.S.M., Royal Signals (recently deceased). £11 from funds.
2—Ex-Corporal, Royal Signals, with wife and family, proceeding to Western Australia as "settlers." £6 from funds.
3—Ex-Signalman, Royal Signals, down and out. Employment found, clothes provided, and £3 advanced from funds.
4—Ex-Signalman (West of England), with domestic difficulties. £5 from funds.
5—Ex-Signalman, Royal Signals (Ireland), with domestic difficulties. £2 from funds. Further enquiries being made.

Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

Appointed Q.M.-Sergeant—

2306253 Grigg, W. 18/1/26

To be W.O. Class II. (C.S.M.)—

2306256 Grist, G. 14/10/25

To be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals)

1853151 Clarke, C. 8/2/26
2310788 Aslett, J. 8/2/26

To be Sergeant—

1860324 Quick, P. 8/2/26
1857073 Wheeler, A. 13/2/26
2311121 Button, A. 13/2/26
1850361 Stevens, S. 14/2/26
1850362 Lewis, H. 14/2/26
1850375 Nicholls, H. 14/2/26
1856959 Shilton, E. 14/2/26
1856183 Merritt, W. 14/2/26
1857017 Judge, A. 14/2/26
1856944 McEwan, P. 14/2/26
1860669 Dunn, P. 14/2/26

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—

1857022 Prebble, F. 26/4/26

To be Corporal—

1850427 Nesbit, J. 20/7/23
1859062 Morris, W. 13/2/26
2309431 Babbage, H. 13/2/26
2310646 Moore, H. 13/2/26
1850113 Clark, F. 13/2/26
1857284 Berry, F. 13/2/26
2310924 Thorpe, A. 13/2/26
2312295 Evans, H. 15/2/26
2309747 Howard, T. 16/2/26
2309056 Newmarch, A. 16/2/26
2310861 Sibley, T. 16/2/26
2312521 Costello, A. 16/2/26
2311102 Flett, C. 2/3/26
2308431 Evelyn, R. 2/3/26
1850426 Miles, G. 2/3/26
2310997 Stickland, C. 2/3/26
2310863 Conyers, J. 2/3/26
2309050 Talling, R. 8/3/26
3433747 Holland, W. 8/3/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—

2303979 Ramsden, H. 1/4/26
1850101 Masters, E. 1/4/26
2312497 Tully, V. 26/4/26
2310781 Bennett, F. 26/4/26
2312288 Fullerton, W. 26/4/26
2310625 Luff, A. 26/4/26
2314009 Cartwright, C. 26/4/26
2311276 Porter, S. 26/4/26
2311279 Clark, H. 26/4/26
2312237 Child, C. 26/4/26
2310549 Hayles, B. 26/4/26
2309699 Andrews, A. 26/4/26

Discharges.

2306142 C.Q.M.S. A. Atkins, 27/7/26
2306111 L/Sergt C. Adair, 1/8/26
2307681 Corpl C. Garrod, 15/8/26
2307921 Corpl W. James, 21/8/26

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2312020 A/Corpl W. Stoten, 24/8/26

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS—
Capt. T. H. L. Turner from Iraq to Aldershot.
Lieut. F. G. G. Davey from Catterick to Woolwich.
Lieut. P. M. H. Lemon from Woolwich to Aldershot.
Lieut. N. H. Edes and Lieut. F. C. Curtis from Cambridge University to Catterick.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 17/8/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Capt D. Mackenzie, M.M., from T.A. R. of O., to be Captain, 18/8/26.

War Office, 20/8/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut. C. E. Price, from T.A., to be Captain, 21/8/26.
W. J. Sims to be 2/Lieut., 21/8/26.

War Office, 24/8/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
47th (2nd London) Divl. Signals.—2/Lieut. R. W. Hardisty to be Lieut., 25/3/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut C. H. Beattie, M.C., retires, receiving a gratuity, 26/8/26
The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants—
A. J. Keddie and H. H. C. Burdett, 26/8/26.
T. W. Boileau, F. R. Booth, and W. D. Horniman, 27/8/26.

India Office, 27/8/26.

The following Appointment has been made in India:—
Chief Signal Officer, Western Command—Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C., Royal Corps of Signals, 1/6/26.

War Office, 3/9/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut J. F. Charlesworth, from Middlesex Regt., to be Lieut., 4/9/26, retaining his present seniority, and is seconded whilst employed at the School of Signals.
2/Lieut. K. H. Treseder to be Lieut., 30/8/26.
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the Royal Military Academy, to be 2/Lieuts., 30/8/26:—John Buchanan Adams; Derek Nigel Van der Goot; David Maitland Smyth; Wilfred John Spencley Gray; Ivan St. Quintin Severin; Geoffrey Basil Bell; Lewis David Malcom Patterson; Leslie Watson James Dryland; John Norman Barker; James Montague Carew Hoblyn; Maurice Gordon Gordon-Wilson.
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the Royal Military College to be 2/Lieuts., 30/8/26:—Corpl Raymond Leslie Carpenter, R.E.; Christopher Francis Fothergill; Kenneth George Cecil Hay; Thomas James McOran Campbell.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut L. A. Bull ceases to hold a commission in the T.A., 4/9/26.
46th (N.M.) Divl. Signals—Lieut W. F. Billingham to be Captain, 26/5/26.
Capt (Prov.) N. G. Baguley is confirmed in his rank, 1/3/24
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut D. P. Stokes resigns his commission, 4/9/26.
53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut D. E. Jones-Thomas to be Lieut., 27/7/26.

War Office, 7/9/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Major A. G. Lee, M.C., to be Lieut.-Colonel, 8/9/26.

War Office, 10/9/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut. D. C. M. Johnson, from T.A. R. of O., to be 2/Lieut., 11/9/26, and relinquishes the rank of Lieutenant.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
51st (H) Divl. Signals—C. W. Mackie (late Cadet-Corporal Merchiston Castle School Contgt. Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be 2/Lieut., 11/9/26.
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Lieut. E. L. Wade resigns his commission, 11/9/26.

War Office, 14/9/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut. F. W. Deans, M.C., from R.A. Res. of O., to be Capt., 15/9/26.

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P.1242

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals—Capt. J. Chapman resigns his commission and is granted the rank of Lieut., 15/9/26.

T.A. RESERVE—Royal Corps of Signals—
49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals—Capt. J. Boyle, M.C., having attained the age limit, relinquishes his commission and retains his rank, 30/8/26.

[These Notes were received too late for inclusion under the "Units Abroad" heading, and have been somewhat condensed to fit here.]

G Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, August 30th.

General.—Capt G. S. Hurst being on leave, the command of the unit has been taken up by Capt C. A. Murray.

The monsoon has come at last and broken the long spell of warm weather. It has brought with it another blessing—reinforcements for this Company.

The order of the day is individual training, everybody being deeply immersed in circuits, and the barrack-rooms resound with heated arguments on the various subjects. We have great expectations for the next Trade Testing Board.

In this connection we must congratulate the following on obtaining higher ratings at the last Test Board: L/Sergt Harper, B.i O/L and B.iii L/M; Sergt Westwood, B.ii L/M (additional qualification); Sergt Warner, L/Sergt Bell and L/Corpl Page, C.ii O/V; Sigmn Castell, C.iii O/V. We hope the large number at the next Board will be as successful.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on their recent attainments in the I.U.L.:—L/Sergt Sergeant to be Sergt.; Corpls Harper, Foy and Lawson to be L/Sergts.; Signalmen Page, Weaver and Kimber to be L/Corpls.

Service.—Congratulations to the following on receiving that well-earned reward, the long service and good conduct medal: R.Q.M.S. Dixon, Sergt Wise, and Corpl Davey.

Cricket.—This is still an inter-Company affair held twice weekly, and up to the present No. 2 Company hold the upper hand. The O/V's played and beat "the Rest" handsomely, but then it is brawn v. brains. The Corporals played the Signalmen, the former being beaten to the tune of 97 to 70.

Rugby.—This game has been much to the fore of late. In the Harwood-Little cup competition we defeated the Gymkhana by 11—0, and in the second round we disposed of the Left Wing Hants Regt. by 3—0 after two drawn games; but in the semi-final we lost by 3—0 to S.T.C. (India) after a drawn game.

We supplied nine of the Combined Signals rugby team against 26th Field Brigade R.A. in the District tournament. Result, lost by 5—3.

Rifle Club.—Our meetings are very popular, and the last two have been well attended. The meetings, however, have had to be curtailed owing to the rains. The following have won spoons at recent meetings: Capt B. S. Watkins, L/Sergt Harper, and Sigmn Lambkin. The "jammy ones" at the pool-bull are Sergts Warner and Bennett.

Entertainments.—Practice dances are now being held in the unit, and we hope to turn out a few who will excel in tripping the light fantastic.

This Branch of the Signals Association has once again blossomed out on its own, and we are expecting great things from the committee in the way of dances, concerts, etc. Up to the present we have held one concert and one dance. The latter was a huge success, and the best attended dance yet seen in this station.

Sergeants' Mess.—Owing to the inclement weather and the inaccessibility of our mess, dances, etc., have had to be discontinued. Monthly billiard tournaments have been held, and the winners of cues are Sergts Wise, Hinchly, Littlefield, Warner and Marshall. The Spencer billiard cup was won by Sergt Wise, and a presentation cue by Sergt Hinchly.

Last month we played the Depot in a billiard match and were sadly defeated. A return match was played shortly afterwards, and this also resulted in a defeat for us.

Corrigendum.—Re Appointments, in August issue: For "L/Corpl Grant appointed A/Corporal," please read "Signalman Grant appointed A/L/Corpl."

DAZI.

"A" Divisional Signals, India

1. Signal Section Camp at Dedar
2. No. 11 Indian Infantry Brigade Section on the way to Manœuvres
3. A Brigade Signal Section Camp at Hassanabdal
4. The N.C.O.s of No. 11 Indian Infantry Brigade Signal Section
5. A Turkish Delegate
6. A Delegate from Nepal
7. General Birdwood discussing the General Faiha-ud-Din during Manœuvres
8. The Cook of No. 11 Indian Brigade Signal Section
9. Aeroplane circling round prior to dropping message
10. Field Post Office of 11th Indian Infantry Brigade at Dari Camp
11. Aeroplane coming towards Popham Panel (in foreground)

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Remarks on Vocational Training

BY MAJOR F. K. HARDY, D.S.O.,
Army Educational Corps.

It has come to my notice that although the trades taught at the Army Vocational Training Centres are set out in detail in Army Council Instruction No. 590 of 1924, many n.c.o.s and men, not having the opportunity of consulting that Army Council Instruction, are ignorant of the range of classes for which they can apply.

For this reason I give a complete list of the classes at Catterick and Hounslow, with some explanatory notes on those held at Hounslow. The trades taught are:—

At Catterick.—Bricklaying, Plastering, Carpentry, Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Smithing, Boot Repairing, Overseas Settlement, General Farming, Dairy Farming, Pig Farming, Poultry Farming, Market Gardening, Fruit Farming, and Groundsman.

At Hounslow.—Bricklaying, Plastering, Carpentry, Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Smithing, Boot Repairing, Plumbing, Building Construction, Handyman, Electric Wiring, Fitting and Turning, Moulding, Motor Mechanics, Acetylene Welding, Private Service, Gardener-Handyman, Upholstery, and French Polishing.

The Choice of a Trade.

Non-coms. and men would be well advised to remember, all through their service, that the day will come when they have to find civil employment. There are many ways of preparing for that evil day, but the three most important, to my mind, are: Deciding upon the district in which to settle, choosing a trade which offers prospects in that district, and keeping in touch with friends and relations who can help in the search for employment.

To emphasise these points, it is not generally recognised that some trades are universally practised throughout the British Isles; others may be localised to certain definite areas. Take as instances Carpentry—a trade which is found in every town and village in these islands, and Thatching—which is only found in some purely agricultural districts. Human nature being what it is, it is obvious that a friend who is in good employment and well considered by his boss or foreman can, if he wishes to, assist another into a vacant job over the heads of countless unknown applicants.

The State of the Labour Market.

Non-coms. and men are apt to be over-confident about their ability to find employment. There is no doubt that a man who is determined to get work will do so sooner or later, but there is always the danger that the man will, in despair, join the ranks of the unemployed or take up some ill-paid uncongenial work for the sake of his wife and children. It must be realised that when there are over a million men out of work in Great Britain, competition for employment is very fierce. Remember that our total population is under forty-eight millions, which means that one in every forty-eight persons of our population is unemployed.

Experience shows that it is not unusual for two or three hundred applicants to apply for a comparatively desirable job. It is this that the soldier must be prepared to face on his return to civil life.

The Hounslow Trades.

Bricklaying.—This trade, which is suitable for young men, will be found all over the country. In six months a higher standard of skill can be reached than in many other trades.

Plastering.—Requires a powerful and flexible wrist. It is a young man's trade, for which excellent openings exist.

Carpenters and Joiners.—There is a good demand up and down the country for carpenters who understand fixing. Bench work and joinery require skill and experience to ensure constant employment. A small woodmill provides training for those who need it.

Painting and Decorating.—This trade suffers from serious depression in the winter months. All branches of this trade are taught, and those who wish can specialise in sign-writing or in coach-painting. Spray-painting is to be introduced shortly.

Building Construction.—Unless a man has some definite end in view, it is inadvisable for him to undergo this course.

Plumbing.—Experience plays a large part in this trade. Students are taught one or more branches according to their wishes or ability.

Estate Handyman.—This training consists of rough woodwork, plumbing, painting and general household repairs. Care of electric light and pumping plant can be given if required.

Electric Wiring.—This consists of indoor wiring for lighting, telephones and bells, and the care of electric light plant. Employment is not easily found in this work, which demands considerable theoretical knowledge. Applicants should have a distinct bent for electrical work.

Upholstery.—This trade is largely done by piece work, which means that in order to secure a good wage speed is essential. Speed cannot be taught in six months, though an adaptable student should be able to compete with anyone after further experience.

French Polishing.—This is taught as an adjunct to upholstery, but applicants with a definite object in view can take it as a separate subject.

Boot Repairing.—Speed cannot be taught in six months. It only comes with experience. For this reason direct employment is not easy to obtain. There are fair openings for those who wish to set up on their own, but for success they must have the business sense and choose their locality with care.

Motor Mechanics.—The openings in this trade are fairly good. Although driving is taught, it is not possible to guarantee that every n.c.o. and man attending this class can get driving instruction. Every endeavour, however, is made to give this form of instruction.

Fitting and Turning.—Employment is found fairly readily for those with some previous experience.

Smithing.—There is very little opening to-day for the farrier. This course will give him instruction in general smith's work, tool making, and acetylene welding, and so widen his chance of employment.

Moulding.—Only small work is done, but n.c.o.s and men who have had previous experience can get back their skill. Employment is good.

Acetylene Welding.—Taught as an adjunct to Smithing, Fitting, and Motor Mechanics. Can be taken as a separate course by those who have a definite object in view.

Gardener-Handyman.—The aim of this class is to turn out a man useful in the garden and in looking after poultry and a pig or two. Specialised or large scale work is not done.

Private Service.—The training includes valeting, table work, care of silver, glass, china and furniture. Good posts in private houses, clubs and hotels are available for suitable men. Applicants should be unmarried, bear an exemplary character, and have an unblemished medical record. A man whose wife has been in service and is ready to return will find good opportunities, provided that there is no family.

Army Council Instruction No. 590 of 1924 imposes restrictions on certain of the above classes. These are "previous experience" and "promise of employment," but I can say, authoritatively, that an applicant who can prove that he has a sound reason for wishing to undergo any particular course will be considered for a vacancy as if he had the experience or promise normally required.

Plain Tales.

Wrong Again.—My location forecast, in common with my occasional weather forecasts, was hopelessly wrong. I expected to be miles away from Bulford by this time, but things have not gone according to plan (my plan, to be precise). The promised Devonshire cream must be held over. Not, mark you, that I am itching to get away from here. This is a delightful spot, hence the invasion of several knowing lads from Catterick (see 3rd Divl. Signals "Arrivals"), and the restlessness of others still there but trying to get away. The thing that puzzles me most is why anyone should want to leave Catterick. Frightfully jolly place in the winter!

It's Anzora that Masters the Hair!

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Anzora Cream for greasy scalps, will not soil hat linings or pillows, and Anzora Viola for dry scalps, containing a little oil of violets. Both are sold in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles by hairdressers, chemists, stores & canteens.

Refuse all Substitutes

Society News.—Very fast moving people, such as Norton riders and possibly Brough Supers, will be interested to learn that the Hon. C.C. has left the 3rd Divl. Signals to take up an appointment as secretary to a stonemason's understudy, or something: I wouldn't be certain. Such is the fascination of Bulford that the Hon. C.C. returned for a fleeting moment to gaze upon the troops from the seat of his car. He smiled sweetly at the lads, glanced at his chamois leather gloves to make sure that they were turned down at the top, and drove away with great dignity. The cheering drowned the jingling of the mudguards, tools and spare parts.

The Higher Education.—There is no doubt about it. Even my 50-day weather forecast predicts that evenings will gradually become darker. With the approach of winter many studious youths, and not a few die-hards, will make an onslaught on the 1st class certificate of education. This takes a lot of getting, you know. A good memory is essential. Of course, not everyone is gifted with a memory like mine. I obtained the first half of my "third" with scarcely any trouble. The great thing is to take advantage of every opportunity. What was it dear old "What's 'is name" said in 1630?

"Catch, then, O catch the tum-te-tum hour;
Improve each something or other as it flies;
Life's a houjah-ka-piv, etc., man a flower,
He dies; alas! tiddley-om-pom"

—or words to that effect. Personally, I think a thorough mind-training course an excellent thing. I took Hoffman's system (whilst he wasn't looking) with remarkable results. I'd willingly loan the books to anyone interested if I could remember where I put the blessed things.

The Next Best Thing.—Have you ever stood at the "slope" or the "port" and wondered whether the inspecting officer was looking at your finger nails? If you *have* thought about it, then there is hope for you. The owners of black and broken finger

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nails cannot possibly be proud of them. Neither, in the majority of cases, are they ashamed. They just don't bother to think about it. A little patience in the beginning and a few seconds' attention per day will keep the nails quite good-looking, no matter what work is being performed. It is useless to dress up in Oxford bags, pork-pie hat and horn-rimmed glasses, with the object of impressing people, unless you can put your hands down anywhere without having to apologise for them. "Cleanliness is next to godliness." I hate to add this, but some dull wight (not you, of course) is almost certain to ask the meaning of the sub-heading.

Stableman's Cuide.—We often get a youth in the stables who frankly admits that he has never noticed horses before, but is anxious to learn all about them. Now, this is all very well, but in addition to knowing all about horses, one has to acquire a working knowledge of stable personnel, equipment and fittings. There is hope for any smart lad, and he who applies himself diligently to the study of horses and horse furniture may rise to be no end of a nib. With a little extra graft he may even become a Farrier. Who knows? However, I'm all out to help, and with this object in view I have compiled the following useful little thingamajig for the young beginner.

Horse.—Erroneously described in children's books as a noble animal. Does not give milk like the cow. Advantage: saves walking when on schemes. Disadvantage: has to be groomed on return.

Stable.—Large building intended for accommodation of horses, but men often seen vainly endeavouring to get a sleep therein.

Bass Broom.—Useful sanitary implement, now nearly extinct. Block of wood holding fifteen bristles and a long handle. Designed to prevent weary drivers falling to the ground.

Log.—A hole with some wood round it. In pre-war days headropes were passed through the manger and log, and a knot tied. Anyone finding these things lying about should immediately hide them, as they are only issued for people to play with nowadays.

Drivers.—Peculiar people with uncertain tempers. Usually to be found throwing horses all over the stables. Principal occupations: (a) just going to do something, and (b) just finished something.

Grooming Kit.—A miscellaneous collection of gadgets for improving the appearance of a horse. Should be lost as speedily as possible, as a body-brush is only 3/11. This is a mere flea-bite to an independent young signalman.

Corporal.—A kind-hearted individual who goes about encouraging young stable lads with cheery advice. Keenly interested in their troubles. Yes! I think so!

Sergeant.—Similar to Corporal, but has more markings above the elbow. Gives more advice, but is if anything less kind-hearted. Very fond of horses, but does not take them home to play with. Very noisy!

1926 Soldier.—Officer (at kit inspection): "Hallo! here's a pair of socks with scarcely any feet to them. What about it?" Intelligent Signalman (no, not you!): "That's quite all right, sir. I don't wear them. They are only for kit inspections!" (Further outlook unsettled.) BARLEUX.

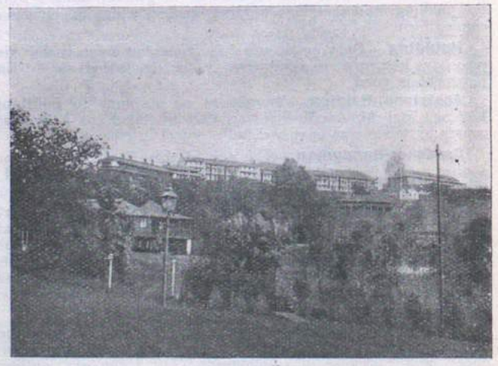
SIERRA LEONE.

In endeavouring to describe this station for the benefit of those who would like to serve in it, the writer hopes that it will also be interesting to all readers of the Corps journal.

The name of the Colony is rather fascinating, and is said to have been given it by Spanish seafarers engaged in the slave trade about five hundred years ago, who paid frequent visits to this part of the West African coast.

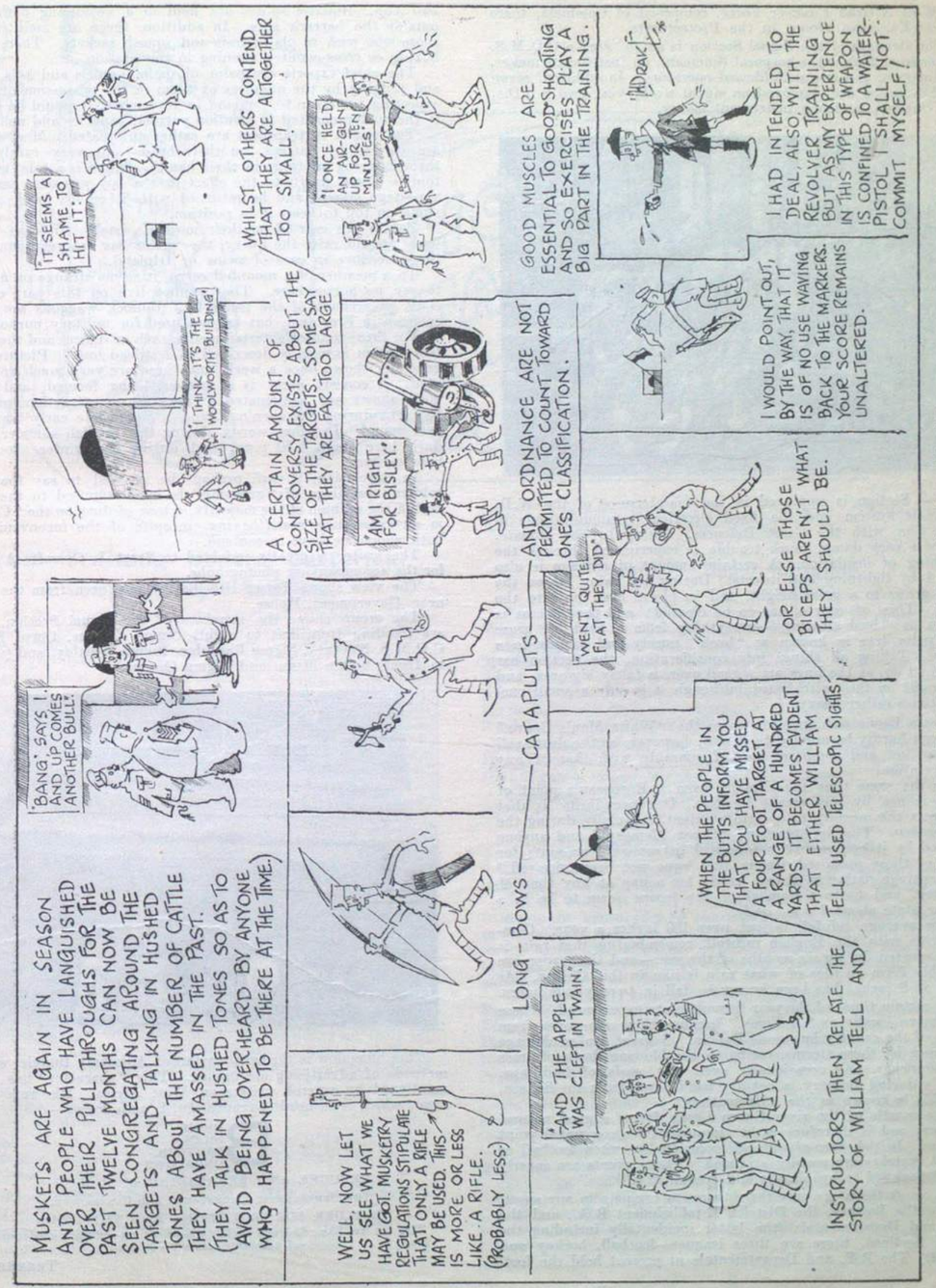
Sierra Leone is situated roughly 600 miles north of the Equator and 700 west of the Greenwich meridian. To get to it one embarks at Liverpool on an Elder Dempster boat, and after a voyage of ten days arrives at Freetown, the capital of the Colony, known as "the Liverpool of West Africa."

From the boat, the city of Freetown and its surroundings present one of the most beautiful scenes in the world. As soon, however, as one steps ashore and walks through the streets, the scenery is forgotten and one probably recalls that old adage, "see Naples and die."



The distance from the wharf to the barracks is less than half a mile, but the barracks stand on the top of Tower Hill, nearly 400 feet high. The hill derives its name from the remains of a tower built by the Dutch, which now serves as the base of a water tank. The reader can probably imagine the condition of the new draft on arriving at their destination. For their benefit, the "Old Coasters" (as some of them like to be known) usually fix a board in a conspicuous position, on which is painted "Welcome, young Coasters; drink water, and walk slow." The advice as to walking seems scarcely necessary, as it is hard to walk quickly except on a few level stretches.

The country is divided into two parts: the Colony and the Protectorate. The former is garrisoned by Imperial troops. The Europeans number about 200, and there is a battalion of the West African Regiment stationed about three miles from Freetown. With the exception of the officers and n.c.o.s with



the West African Frontier Force, composed of Colonials, there are no European troops in the Protectorate.

The strength of the Signal Section is seven, viz., a C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals), a corporal (lineman), an instrument maker, two linemen, and two switchboard operators. In addition, seven non-Europeans are employed on signal work, viz., two S.B.O.s, four linemen, and one instrument maker.

The Section is employed in the maintenance of the W.D. telephone system and the fixed electrical communications in connection with the Coast Defences. Owing to the climate, which is very damp, much trouble is experienced through the perishing of insulation. A certain amount of damage is also caused by lightning and insects. During the rainy season the grass grows to a great height, and in places even up into the wires. This, of course, has to be cleared; and the process is known as "bush-clearing"—everything from a blade of grass to a palm tree is known as "bush" purely and simply to a native. Taking all things into consideration, the Section has plenty to do, as the lines are spread over a fairly big area, and the traffic on the switchboard (although it is only a small one) is at times rather heavy.

Sierra Leone was once known as the "White Man's Grave." This can hardly be applied to it now, however, as the death-roll is very low and compares most favourably with that of any other station.

At the same time the climate, from a European's point of view, is not by any means healthy. One peculiarity is that it affects the memory to a certain extent, especially during the wet season. This is known as "Coast Memory," and anyone affected by it becomes very forgetful (it probably accounts for some of those promised letters that have not been received!) The average native is always ready for a nap at any time of the day, and quite a number of the troops seem to be in a similar state about 2 p.m. daily.

The average rainfall is just over 150 inches a year. Compare this with the English rainfall, remembering that rain is only expected during six months of the year—and the reader can probably form an idea of what rain is like in this Colony. As much as 8 inches has been known to fall in twenty-four hours.

At certain times of the year tornadoes are experienced. These are known locally as "Bullams," because they come over from a part of the country known as Bullom. A great deal of damage is caused by these storms, owing to the blowing down of trees and branches, and occasionally even the roofs of buildings. Usually during January, a hot dry wind blows from the Sahara, and this is known as the "Harmattan."

The mouth of the river Sierra Leone forms a good natural harbour, and is therefore rather important from a naval point of view. British men-of-war call occasionally, when football or cricket matches are usually arranged. These events are eagerly looked forward to by players and spectators alike.

Although there are only three teams to compete in any sport, namely the Battery, the District Establishment R.A., and the R.E. and Departmentals (the latter incidentally including the Signal Section), there are three leagues—football, hockey and cricket. The R.E. and Departmentals at present hold the football cup. Aquatic sports are held in a swimming bath just outside the barrack gate. In addition, there are facilities for those who wish to play tennis and squash rackets. There is no boxing or cross-country running in this station.

The chief exports are palm oil, palm kernels and kola nuts; and judging by the numbers of them in the possession of those expecting to return to England in November, it would be unfair if the writer omitted to mention parrots, canaries and monkeys.

The means of transport are rather antiquated. Most things are carried by natives, on their heads—one very rarely sees them carrying anything in their hands. There *is* a tale, usually told to a new draft, to the effect that a boy was once sent for a postage stamp, and he returned with it on his head, and a stone on top to keep it in position.

Babies are carried on their mother's back. (In case "Barleux" should raise the query, the writer has not yet found out the procedure in case of twins or triplets).

To a member of a mounted corps, it seems strange on arrival to see no horses here. They cannot live on this part of the coast on account of the tsetse fly. Bullock waggons are quite common in Freetown, but are not used for military purposes.

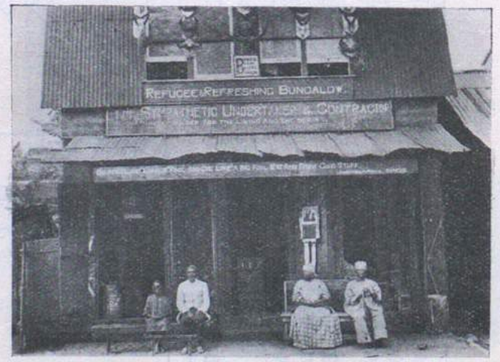
For those fond of entertainments, such as dances and theatres, this station is usually described as a "dead loss." Pictures are generally shown once a week, and these are very much appreciated. A concert party is at present being formed, and some good shows are anticipated. There is no attraction outside barracks during the evenings, and it "gets late early" all the year round. In other words, during the English summer it is dark here about 6.30 p.m., and during the winter about an hour earlier.

In conclusion, it will perhaps be as well to say that the soldier's privilege of "grousing" is here exercised to the full. But in the opinion of the majority, a tour of duty on the "Coast" is an experience worth having, in spite of the inconveniences with which we have to contend.

The writer is greatly indebted to Sergt J. Oscroft, A.E.C., for the accompanying photographs.

The view shows Tower Hill Barracks as seen from the road near Government House.

The group shows the members of the Signal Section, who are (reading from left to right) Sigmn Graves, Corpl Knox, C.Q.M.S. Sweeney, Sigmn Ramsden, Sigmn Westley, and (seated in front) Sigmn Mizen and Sigmn Gavins.



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"Do not live like a fool, and die like a big fool: eat and drink good stuff!"
—*Undertaker's Advice.*—BUNGIE

TREKKER.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

We extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieuts. J. B. Adams, W. S. Gray, and L. D. M. Patterson, who joined the Company from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on 30/8/26.

We congratulate Lieut. K. H. Treseder on his promotion.

Congratulations to No. 69 Squad on winning the shooting cup. For the benefit of friend Hops (and other small Beers) will someone waken up the "sleeping dogs" referred to in his notes last month. They appear to have *over*slept.

The Recruit Squads are still going strong, and thriving on the new messing just introduced into the Depot. One rookie was heard to remark that the sea pie is "just like mother makes." Has this anything to do with his enlistment?

Rumour has it that C Company, having seen our gardens, commenced cultivating a mushroom bed. Alas! on examination by our experts, it turned out to be a highly-coloured group of toadstools. Really, C, you must be more careful next time.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to the following, who joined the Company during the past month: L/Corpl E. Best from C Company, and L/Corpls G. Sell and F. Bunn from B Company.

Departures.—The following have left us during the past month: Signalmen H. Pimborough, J. Dunnell, and A. Rayns for the Army Reserve. Signalmen L. Wardley and R. Smith to 1st Divl. Signals. Sigmn Myddleton to 2nd Divl. Signals. Sigmn W. Chesters to 3rd Divl. Signals. Signalmen H. Rafferty and C. Jefferies to 4th Divl. Signals. L/Corpl F. Eldred to B. Company. Sigmn B. Veale to F Company.

Appointments.—We congratulate the following on their respective appointments: L/Corpls R. Cook, J. Adkins, J. Lambert, F. Eldred, E. Best, G. Sell, F. Bunn, and U/L/Corpl Hooper.

Marriage.—Sigmn T. Geater to Margaret Ellen Patterson Stevenson, at Milford, 3/8/26.

Births.—To Sergt P. McGrath, a daughter (Elizabeth Jean), at Charleston, Glamis, Scotland, 18/7/26. To Sigmn W. Brider a son (John Alfred), at Catterick, 31/7/26.

Award.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Hart on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

Heard outside the N.A.A.F.I. (south end) at about 9.30 p.m.—Old sweat: "Didn't I meet you somewhere in India?" Young sweat: "I've never been to India." Old sweat: "Neither have I; it must have been two other fellows."

TONY RED.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

"U" Lines, Sept. 9th.

Promotions, etc.—Heartiest congratulations to L/Corporals Whyte and May on attaining that rank.

Marriages.—Corpl Webb to May Jane Hewitt, at Radwinter, 21/8/26. Sigmn Staples to Gertrude Elizabeth Walker, at South Acton, 1/8/26. I have the strongest reason to believe that another n.c.o. has taken the plunge whilst on leave, but I won't mention his name in case he is still a bachelor. I don't want to be "up" for defamation of character, libel, or whatever they call it.

Postings.—L/Corpl Best to A Company. Sigmn Paine and Dvr Jackson to 3rd Divl. Signals. Sigmn Cannell to 2nd Cav. Divl. Signals. Sigmn Wright to 2nd Divl. Signals.

Command.—C.S.M. Kneebone held on command with 2nd Cav. Divl. Signals (T.A.), Chelsea.

D Company, Training Battalion.

An apology is evidently required for our non-appearance in last month's WIRE. We are hoping this will be our last apology—until the next. A possible conjecture!

Since the appearance of our last notes, a permanent fixture in our orderly room has become unstuck and has found its way to the south—emulating the swallows. Some people know how to do it. However, our best wishes are extended to Sergt Nicks on his departure to Bulford.

We welcome his successor, Sergt Shergold, from No. 3 Coy. Egypt Signals. We hope he will appreciate the forthcoming winter season after "wintering" for so long in sunny climes. He did mention something of Chamonix, but decided on Catterick as he believes in supporting home industries. After all, why go to Switzerland?

We are very pleased to inform all old "Dons" that the recruits (*new* ones) inflicted upon us for so long during the summer are now "non est." We are back to normal! Consequent upon that, the fluctuation in the price of liver is not so great—the only big dealer in that estimable commodity being "Joe," our canine disturber of the peace (and disperser of the pieces).

The "glorious 12th" having arrived and the moors being denied to us, we are having good sport among the slugs in our Company gardens. Many and various are the means employed to exterminate the "game." Our bag already assumes gigantic proportions.

We are all looking forward to the winter games. That may sound funny. It is, however, meant in all sincerity, for we in Catterick don't joke about *our* winter. It is usually of the Christmas card variety, with a vengeance; and by "winter games" we mean quite a lot. F'rinstance, twenty men all trying to dry a double set of clothing round one fire at once is fine sport; and another good game is trying to keep upright on sheets of ice, especially down hill. It *has* been accomplished—I have in mind a church parade. Oh! darn good.

Of course, the other games, rugger, soccer, hockey, boxing and cross-country will come in for their share, and we expect to give a good account of ourselves in all of them. Rumour has it that curling, ski-ing, and tobogganing will figure among our official fixtures; but of that we cannot say too much.

Drafts.—Very shortly we are to lose thirteen "Dons" (all of them old members of the Company) to Jubbulpore. It may be interesting to some to know their names: Sergt Lane (beds in line), Corpl Watterton (Watty), L/Corpls (Jock) Welch and (Bill) Frost, Signalmen (Jock) Ridding, Lambert, Lawrence, Macey, Garrett, E. A. Clarke, Taylor, Brunton, and Dolan. We wish them luck.

Musketry.—We have just fired our annual weapon training course, and went far to beat all records with the average of 93.21. Very good, "Don"; keep it going. The following reached the 100 mark: Capt. F. S. Straight, 106 (Coy. shot); Sergt Downer, 105; L/Corpls Greenwood and Pronger, 104; C.S.M. Hughes, 102; Sergt Leath, 100.

Birth.—To Corpl and Mrs. F. W. Guy, a daughter (Audrey Winifred) at Aldershot, 30/7/26.

Personal.—Corpl (Inky) Udell would like to hear of or from ex-Boy Darlington, late of C Company, Crowborough.

By the Way.—Who was the signalman with D.R. tendencies who lost a silencer, and afterwards had an argument with a horse? We did hear that he was unhurt and very "blythe" about it.

THE DON.

D Company Boys.

The summer leave was too much for our novelists, poets and playwrights, and in consequence no notes were sent last month. Ah, well; such is leave! At any rate, it seems to have done everyone good, and that is a great point.

The first thing to be done on returning from leave was to get rid of the Drill Squad. This task we have successfully accomplished. Strange to relate, Sergt Leath's hair is not yet grey.

One of our best performances this month has been that of L/Corpl Boy Twiss (now, alas, no longer a Boy), who carried off the "stick" at the Depot Battalion, although opposed by nineteen of the F Company Boys. No discredit to them, of course, as we hear that the whole squad was particularly good; but at the same time we take off our hats to Twiss.

We have also lost L/Corpl Boy Estorffe. Good luck to him!

Congratulations to "Blood" Knowles on his appointment as L/Corpl Boy. It seems only right that he should proceed still further, get a commission, and in the fulness of time become "Captain Blood."

Among the recent arrivals from Liverpool we have found quite a promising young comedian, "Broody" by name. We are awakened every morning by his "Cluck! cluck! cluck!" We are still hoping for an extra egg ration one of these mornings.

Overheard recently in S.22.—First boy: "How did you get on in the last 1st class exam.?" Second boy: "Oh, very well! I managed to get extinguished in maths."

THE YOUNG'UNS.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor

E Company, Training Battalion

The absence of notes for this Company for the last two months is regretted, but we have spent so much time on the various playing fields in winning the Mackworth trophy that something had to give way; and after all, the correct procedure is to do the job first and talk about it afterwards.

We should like to congratulate the members of the teams upon their successes, for with the present standard in the Training Centre, nothing is to be won unless those concerned put their whole heart into it.

The Company responded extremely well to the efforts of those who organised affairs, and it is to be hoped that they will realise their reward when the trophy is presented. True, we had to rely upon a cross-country champion for the long jump and a sprinter for the high jump upon one occasion. We would like to have seen fresh faces, but so long as the trophy is in the family, it matters little which particular member did most towards securing it. It is well to remember, though, that families frequently break up, and that next year it may be necessary for others to see that "what we have we hold."

Musketry has passed off very well, the Company results, though nothing wonderful, being well up to average. The premier honours fell to R.S.M. Shave with a score of 108, whilst the prize of 30s., given by the O.C. for the best shot amongst junior n.c.o.s and men, was won by Sigmn Williams of the band. "Cloggy" registered 107 points. The "odds and ends" squad, composed of C.Q.M.S.s and W.O.s, had an average of 96. It has been remarked that, in view of this, they are quite qualified to take the early morning instructional parades next season.

During the week we have lost many old faces, drafts taking them to various parts of the globe. They are too numerous to mention individually, but we wish them all the best of luck in their new stations. Sergt Hailes has left us for Bulford, though rumour has it that he is back here on leave. Queer taste!

Corpl Nokes and his fellow-workers are to be congratulated upon winning the prize for the best gardens in the Company lines. The band hut had bad luck, sheep carrying off everything which showed its nose above ground and, naturally, their chances of success.

We extend a hearty welcome to the new officers who have just joined the Company from Sandhurst, and hope that their stay will be a long and happy one.

THE PARSON.

F Company Boys.

September brought us a bouquet, not of orchids, but of "new kids," who are at present being initiated into the mysteries of foot drill by L/Corpl Iveson.

Bookworms' Moans.—When is our worthy librarian going to buy a watch to mark the opening hours of his library, and not the closing time? We wish he would "forbe-hair" in the indulging in refreshments and issue the musty tomes he has in his charge. Don't go up in the "hair," Harold!

Manœuvres.—On September 9th six of our tribe journeyed with the Composite Brigade across the adjacent moors in an endeavour to form communication between the troops. There was a blue moon that night—the redoubtable "A" sets worked!

Sports.—F Company boys beat D boys on September 8th by the narrow margin of the odd goal in nine.

Personal.—All the boys wish to be remembered to their old paternal instructor, Corpl Parsons.

Agony Column.—The boys also wish to be remembered to L/Corpl V. Cole, and want to inform him that the sandpit is now disused.

This cross-country season we shall miss the familiar figure of Sergt Donaghy "tripping" over the moors. Is there any snow at Aldershot, "Steve"?

LES DEUX GARCONS.

School of Signals.

Many spuds have been peeled since notes from the School last appeared, but for that we apologise. What more can we do?

No more do we slink past the personnel of the Training and Depot Battalions with our aristocratic noses to the earth. We have a canteen of our own now; the worm who saucily termed it "a rabbit hutch" is no more! The Corporals also have a Mess!

No. 89 Course is now with us, working diligently, and as a consequence there is much dashing hither and thither (by numbers).

Wire Sales.—Although notes from the School have been conspicuous by their absence for about three months, the WIRE sales have not altered; and we can still "burn our load" (although we wouldn't dream of doing so) about our 100 per cent. membership.

Departures.—Capt. G. M. Elliott, M.C., left us to rejoin his unit. Our best wishes go with him.

Arrivals.—Lieut. R. D. E. Eve from the R.A. We hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Revivals.—Oh! where did you get that hat? (Hoch! awa' mon!)

Re-engagements.—Drivers Shaw and Joy, to complete 12 years with the Colours. Can it be that they like it, or is it that the rissoles are exercising their uncanny spell? We wonder!

Agony.—Sergt H. E. Tate, R.War.R. set sail on the sea of matrimonial bliss with Kathleen Lilian Wood as skipper. Dvr R. W. Thompson also set out on the same little sea, accompanied by Miss Elizabeth Blackett. We hope that their crafts will weather well.

Apology.—We commenced with an apology, and we think it is "up to us" to end likewise, with an apology for the brevity of this month's notes. We hope to "get cracking" next month.

BANGER.

Sergeants' Mess.

Introduction.—Hello, everybody! In the absence of our usual announcer, Uncle A. (recovering—in Brighton—from a recent attack of some virulent *low* disease, probably of the bar variety—though Alf says some vague things about dust and chariot wheels) a soldier takes up the quill. We kick off—horribly—apologising for our non-appearance in these pages of late.

Events.—The influx (and subsequent departure) of various "Terrier" courses has kept us in touch with the sinful outer world, whilst the poor misguided scholars have chanted the praises of our own peaceful sanctuary. That the praises were sung in a language composed entirely of adjectives doesn't matter.

The advent of one, Duleep something, has caused some of us to ask, "Is my education neglected?" From far away Mespot comes he, bringing strange yarns of the Esquimaux and Icelanders there; of Bedouins 8 feet high and so broad that they sleep standing up, because it's easier; of waterless, trackless waste—the latter teaching a man to refrain from the bottle (water, of course).

All these stories, mind you, in a language strange, wherein frequently one hears "rooti" (plural of "fungus," I think), "atcha" (symbolical of whooping cough), "budja" (probably a phonetic of the Yankee "betcha"), oh! and several other wonderful words which are music to our ears, and on which we bite and bite, and *bite*—g-r-r-r!

All these incidents, however, leave us unmoved, for are we not expecting *it?* (Not the *it* whose shadow is gin—but one of our very own). And the training to do *it* justice! Fag-ends in the ash-trays, matches with the fag-ends, buckshee paper in the waste-paper basket; boots, too, must assume a non-mud-covered appearance before their owner enters the mess. Yes, we are getting a new *Turkish carpet*—from Darlington.

A full month's training has almost earned its reward—the carpet may be with us, of us, and about us, at Christmas. Should any reader, after a perusal of the above, break the tenth Commandment, we forgive him—*we* would like to break the sixth. Gone are the glorious days of "Sheerluck Homes," when our embryo 'tecs, by a mere glance at the billiard table, could truly say, "Ah, the stout, bow-legged fellow, guilty of this, was 'diffi' of heelplates, and walked with a lisp"; or, entering the staff-room, and stumbling over some obstruction, with 'nary a glance downwards, would bark "Cuss the woodbines!" How enthralled were we Watsons, marvelling at this uncanny intuition.

Work.—We give a hearty welcome to No. 89 R.S.I. course. May they all get "Dons," return as "Ack Inkies," and join the family. We *will* need more snow-fighters for the coming winter.

Queries.—From a 1st class paper: "How many months as mess caterer would it take to buy (1) a motor bike, (2) a lounge suit, (3) a patrol suit? and (4) collectively, how long?" The answer to Q. 4 was one week. Only one candidate replied correctly.

S.O.S.—Will someone please write to Alf, enclosing some wads, or dough, or whatever it is that keeps a man happy in Brighton—that's where he is.

OKAJ.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott Camp.

Unit Headquarters.

September 10th.

We are basking in the rays of a returned summer's day sun, and alas! the tennis courts are devoid of posts and nets. We *do* appreciate the care bestowed by the groundsman on the courts, but would prefer to see a little more optimism about our English September days. Four players turned up at the courts last night—then—returned home.

Phew! These notes must necessarily be short, as we are delving into the delights of "Small Arms Training, Vol. I.," both on and off duty, preparatory to the instruction of the men in pokey drill.

We fire our course on September 28th, 29th and 30th, and the unit Headquarter Section means to put up a good effort to obtain the highest average—as it did last year.

With the approach of the furlough season, we hear many rumours of impending betrothals and marriages. Even the unit office proposes to contribute one gallant swain to the members booked for married quarters in 1932.

By the time these notes are in print, three other ranks will have embarked for foreign service—two for Sarafand and one for Sierre Leone. To those departing for Sarafand we would say that the Tel-aviv (Joppa) bomonti is an expensive item. The Tel-aviv ladies, by the way, are very charming up to the age of about 22. Probably the Palestinian Vin de Richon contributes towards their voluminous avoirdupois after that age.

Sergeants' Mess.

September 26th.

Entertainments.—We have had no further entertainments since our dance in August, but we have been given to understand that the committee are going to start bouncing when the colder weather comes along.

Monthly Billiard Cue.—The cue for August for the snooker handicap was won by Sergt Pout.

Hospital.—We are sorry to say that C.Q.M.S. Banger King was admitted to hospital last month, but if what we hear is correct we should soon see him again, trying to keep one down.

Alas!—Sergt Lane has left us for a course at Hounslow. One more move only, Rosie, and then no more parades. What's that you say?

No. 1 Company.

September 14th.

We have been rather split up during September, owing to Divisional training taking place on a smaller scale. All the Cable Detachments have done anything from 4 to 14 days' attachment to either the 1st or 2nd Divisions, and No. 1 M.T. Construction moved "en bloc" to the Ordnance Depot, Bramley (and incidentally were runners-up in the R.A.O.C. tug-of-war).

This month has brought some sad news to the Company, inasmuch as we are losing both Capt. D. H. Cunynghame and Capt. P. Jennings, M.C. Capt Cunynghame goes to be O.C. Signal Section, Iraq, and Capt Jennings to be Adjutant of the 50th (Northumbrian) Divl. Signals (T.A.), whose headquarters are in Darlington. We shall feel their loss very much indeed, and in bidding them au revoir we wish them the very best of luck in their new appointments.

Annual musketry is just beginning, and then—furlough or draft leave. Rumour hath it that No. 1 Section is to "proceed overseas" to the Isle of Wight for duty during October. This, however, is only—rumour.

We had our first practice game of hockey on September 8th against No. 3 Company. There will be a rugger trial on 28th September.

YOUR NEW H.Q.

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LONDON and BLACKPOOL

Congratulations to Lieut T. W. Boileau on his recent promotion.

Arrivals.—2312052 Corpl W. Chisnall from A.V.T.C. course on 16/8/26. 16093 Sigmn F. Brentnall from the T.B., 24/8/26. 7338032 Sigmn G. Midson from Eastern Command Signal Coy. on 22/8/26.

Re-engagement.—2304247 L/Corpl J. W. Smith to complete 21 years, on 12/8/26.

Marriage.—1419483 Dvr F. Garnish on 24/7/26.

Departures.—1857265 Sergt F. G. Lane to A.V.T.C., Hounslow, on 9/9/26. 2312052 Corpl W. Chisnall to Army Reserve, on 1/9/26.

No. 3 Company (Crookham Camp)

Now that the training season has almost come to a conclusion, we are all making ready for the period of annual furlough and draft leave—when the musketry is over.

The n.c.o.s of the Company have all completed a course lasting ten days under the R.S.M., and in a few days preliminary musketry for the whole unit will commence. The clicking of bolts and triggers has been the predominant sound in the neighbourhood of No. 1 Company stables of late—how strange it now seems that, by the time these notes appear, rest and quiet will once more reign in Ewshott Camp.

The sudden and overwhelming influx of drivers, I.C., from the S.T.C. and Feltham has caused that "mighty little army" employed in the garage to swell to something like 80 members in all. Indeed, the Company appears to have become so vast that it is rather a problem to know where to accommodate them all. Crookham is full, and we are rapidly filling up some of the spare huts at Ewshott.

We have to record the departure from the Company of Lieut W. Scott, who has been in command of the Tank Signal Section affiliated to the Company in the early part of the year. This officer has left us to go to Cambridge for two years, and we wish him the best of luck. At the same time we welcome to our midst Lieut. P. M. H. Lemon, his successor, from S.E.E., Woolwich

Preparations are well on the way for the football and hockey season. This year we shall have all our work cut out, as we have entered for all the Command soccer leagues and for one civilian cup which we won last year. In addition, rugger promises well this year; practice games have been held, and we appear to have the making of a good unit XV. Hockey also is going strong, and a full fixture list has been arranged.

Sergt Bevan, of "twolight" fame, is still busying himself and his merry men with the intricacies of the D set which reported from the S.E.E. a short time ago. The set, with its full regalia, was conducted to Crookham in a Guy lorry by Sergt Bevan, who has now become quite at home with it and makes it perform most wonderful feats.

Meanwhile the daily Catterick circuit continues. We hoped when this first commenced that we would get all the latest D.B. and T.B. news at first hand, but very little official traffic passes through, though it is useful for practice purposes.

Arrivals.—From S.T.C.: Signalmen Leake, Rayner, Cook, W. Marshall, Elphick, Parry, Sheppard, Brunning, Dobson, F. Williams, Gladwin, Wills, S. King, Meek, F. Brown, Hicks, C. C. Tucker, Williamson, Campbell, Woodcock, G. Taylor, J. Kelly, R. Parsons, Beardmore, Brophy, Lyon, Tant, Watson, H. S. Wood, Gill, Pond, E. Carter, W. Richards, Foster, A. G. Wood, C. E. Horne, and Bain. From 3rd Divl. Signals: L/Corpl Hudson.

Departures.—Sigmn R. J. Downs to the Rhine. Corpl W. James and Signalmen E. Burgess and D. F. Webb discharged.

Marriages.—Sigmn F. Styles to Mabel Mary Oxborough, 14/8/26. Corpl W. Prior to Louise Frayling Spellerberg, 7/8/26. Sigmn S. Long to Fanny Victoria Mabel Harvey, 3/7/26. Corpl Minion to Emily Edith Richardson, 4/9/26.

Appointment.—Sigmn C. Thompson to be U/L/Corpl. 23/8/26

Birth.—To Corpl Murphy, a daughter (Joan Elfreda Hedwig) on 1/7/26.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

The Sword and the Ploughshare.—To the average "man in the street," the popular conception of a soldier associates itself with rifles, pipeclay, burnishers and a vast amount of equipment. Now, up to a point, this is correct. A soldier, in the true sense of the term, would cease to exist without the accessories mentioned. I am, in fact, tempted to make the addition of a bone to the list. But (and this is where the average man in the street begins to sit up and take notice) to those who know, the soldier off parade—that is to say, less his rifle, pipeclay, burnisher, bone, and so on—is an entirely different being.

I chanced to enter a barrack-room a few evenings ago. Therein I found: 3 men engaged in correspondence courses; 5 listening-in to 2 LO.; 1 making a mat (the execution of the many intricate designs was excellent); and 6 drawing wireless diagrams in their note books. This particular room housed 25 men, and I might mention that the balance of 10 were engaged in the popular game of "making out the pass form." But they are interesting figures, are they not?

The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess (with the Officers)
[Photo by F. Scovell, 18 Queen's Road, Aldershot]

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, who have joined the unit during the past month: Sigmn Waldron from the School of Signals, S.T.C., 9/8/26; Signalmen A. Brierwood and L. Earnshaw from the T.B., S.T.C., 9/8/26; Signalmen R. P. Smith and L. G. Wardley from the D.B., S.T.C., 7/9/26; Dvr W. Baker from A Corps Signals, 3/8/26; Dvr C. Gullon from Command Signal Company, 3/8/26; Corpl L. C. Parsons from T.B., S.T.C., 24/8/26; Sigmn J. E. McKeer from D.B., S.T.C., 9/8/26.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. A. Cambleton and Sigmn V. E. W. Wright to Depot Battalion, S.T.C., 1/9/26; Sigmn P. Spouge to Rhine Field Signal Company, 27/8/26.

Discharges.—Our best wishes to the following, who have left us for "civilian street" (I believe that is the correct term): Sergt Laing, L/Corpl F. T. Smith, and Dvr Gibson. L/Corpl Smith is rather well known to the majority of us. He has, in fact, impressed himself very well upon some people's memories. I think he used 8 oz. gloves!

Extension of Service.—Corpl A. J. Mackie to complete 12 years with the Colours. L/Corpl M. B. O'Flanagan to complete 12 years with the Colours on his present engagement.

Marriage.—Our hearty congratulations and good wishes are extended to R.S.M. F. Lawrence upon his marriage at Aldershot on 6/9/26.

Birth.—To Q.M.S. and Mrs. H. L. Fegan, at Aldershot, on 14/9/26, a son (Terence Sylvester).

Bang!—We hear of a case where eight boots were thrown at offending cats during the course of a night's concert. Ammunition boots, we presume!

Things We Would Like to See.

A member of the Army Dental Corps with one tooth.

Caustic.—The fellow who christened his car "the Organ" because it had so many stops.

Wire Sales.—We find that we must ask the 3rd Divl. Signals to permit us another month to prepare our figures. Five chartered accountants are employed in the meantime.

Obituary.—It is with deepest regret that we learn, upon going to press, of the death at Aldershot, on 16/9/26, of the infant son of Q.M.S. and Mrs. H. L. Fegan, to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement.

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

The Final!—We are commencing the final stages of the year's collective training in the shape of Divisional manœuvres on the 12th September. These will be carried out in the immediate locality, and divided into three stages, the final concluding about the 23rd of September.

Musketry.—The annual course will be fired on Ash Ranges during the period 29th September—2nd October. There is increased keenness this year amongst all ranks, and we hope to put up a good show in the endeavour to win the musketry shield. The doubtful shots have been given ample facilities to study bull finding, which was exemplified by a great percentage of success in a series of range practices.

Inspections.—The unit will be inspected by the G.O.C. 2nd Division during the second week in October. Preparations have already started. The barrack-rooms are being thoroughly overhauled and pleasantly decorated by the contractors. The

"Always give and take!"

Some of these old maxims are splendidly true. For what is good comradeship but the pleasure of giving and taking? And what finer thing is there to give and take than McEwan's – "The Soldiers' Beer?"

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E Section Visuals (2nd Divl Signals) in Camp.

gardens are having plenty of attention, and even the former haunt of all the spare bicycles, the Company office garden, now resembles a miniature of the famous Kew.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following who have lately joined us: L/Sergt McKechnie, L/Corpl Evens, Signalmen Shutler, Wood and Myddleton.

Departures.—The best of luck for their civilian future to: Drivers Hepden and Walmsley, transferred to Army Reserve during August.

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corpl J. Bush on that appointment, and to Sigmn E. Howes on his recent marriage.

Postings Abroad.—Signalmen E. Howes and H. Hancock to Iraq, September 17th.

Training.—A welcome innovation—a systematic programme of training in lineman's work, for the H.T. drivers of the Cable Section—has been inaugurated by the O.C. Section. They are receiving every assistance possible, and it is hoped that a number succeed in obtaining a rating when the Trade Board sits.

General.—A phenomenon of nature in the way of a slight earthquake was recorded quite recently in this neighbourhood. Our fatalist friends broadcasted information that far more untoward happenings could be expected. Shortly afterwards the whole Company was very perturbed when it became known that a certain individual has prematurely returned from furlough. The individual concerned being well known for his activities in the social and sporting circles, there were many who endeavoured to probe the mystery of this sudden return to duty. I hope in the near future to be able to set their fears at rest by making a very interesting announcement on his behalf.

In reply to Corpl Charlie of Abbassia, I am pleased to inform him that the remnants of the Uplift Society are still endeavouring to keep up their high reputation. A certain aggler merchant hailing from Birmingham is endeavouring to introduce that Tonbridge fear amongst the recent converts. The ambassador, despite much pressure from the Fleet and York areas, finds the atmosphere of London most beneficial at present.

The autograph feeling at present existing in our sentimental circle shows no sign of abating. Careful inspection of a few of the books will give one the impression that there is a very keen sense of high humour amongst certain of the signatories. Perhaps the owners' influence accounts for a number of contributions.

The barrack-rooms are tastefully decorated with illuminated advertisements showing the advantages of the Savings Association. A local branch has been formed, and although the membership is very disappointing it is hoped that several more will be attracted in the near future. The "burgu" habit recently acquired in the mess-room will go a long way to its ultimate success, although we hope those who acquire the habit manage to buy the necessities of life on a Friday.

Our sciatica friend is still endeavouring to discover a remedy for his disability. His sudden twinges are a sure guide to any sudden change in the weather. Perhaps the Epsom road habit recently acquired will alleviate much of the suffering. HAMO.

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No. 2 Company

The month has been fairly quiet until now, when Sections are moving out ready for the Divisional training, which begins on Monday. G and the A.F.A. Sections had a trial run in the way of two night schemes this week.

Musketry is still the order of the day, and periodically the 3rd class shots are given practical training on the ranges which is improving them and increasing our chances of winning the shooting shield.

There has been a big mosquito campaign during the last fortnight, by the look of the Company office windows. I wonder which guard had the biggest bag.

The n.c.o.s of the Company started on a refresher ride which had to be discontinued after one week owing to Divisional training.

The Company paraded all very nice and clean on Tuesday, August 31st, were sized and stacked, and then photographed—the result being excellent.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Yelloly and McLean from the S.T.C. We wish them a long and happy time with us.

Departures.—Sigmn Gifford to Rhine Signal Coy. Everyone wishes him a happy holiday.

Sympathetic.—Two signalmen returned to barracks one Friday night not long ago, looking as if they had robbed the newsagent of all the racing papers, which they proceeded to study throughout the night. Next day, armed with the absolute latest news, they went off to Windsor, to find their favourite had only one opponent. Smilingly they put their little bit on, and followed the race. Imagine their chagrin when they saw their jockey fall from his horse and their little bit gone! Hard luck, what meeting are you visiting next?

NICK.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Aldershot, September 14th.

General.—While apologising for the absence of notes in last month's WIRE, I hope that those unversed in the language of 'Owdam were able to enlist the services of an interpreter, and thereby enrich themselves at the expense of "the lad." It is deemed advisable to publish further "Wizdum" in English!

Considerable interest is shown in the notes from scribes overseas, and we have either some very fine stations abroad, or some very imaginative writers. Optimistically we believe the former, and hope the latter will continue with their Oversea Station descriptions.

We regret we were unable to participate in the sports held at A Corps Signals camp on August 11th (the Troop being on scheme), but our absence at least gave other units a chance to win an event or two.

Drafts.—This appears to be the season in which Records will be taking great delight in the breaking up of the clans. Sigmn Sartain, in all probability, will have arrived at No. 2 (Wireless) Company, Sarafand; Sigmn O'Callaghan (Jerry) is for Iraq; and Dvr Martin is for Egypt. We also have about a dozen for India, and a proposal has been put forward to entertain them before they sail. Another move is also rumoured, but—more later.

Musketry.—This is the prevailing fashion with us just now, preparatory to the furlough season (towards which everyone is at present looking forward, and hoping that Christmas will be theirs). As our course is fired at the end of September, next month I may be able to give the pleasing (?) results.

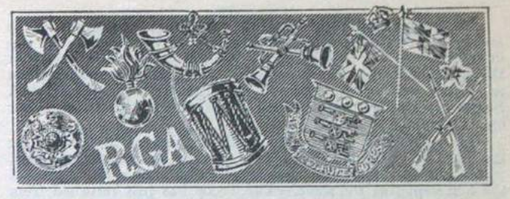
Trade Testing.—The result of the recent Trade Board held at Ewshott was as follows: Sigmn Burtt, opr. visual C.ii; Sigmn Jones, C.iii. What's the matter with the wirelessops?

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corpl Lee to be A/Cpl., 22/8/26. Sigmn Hammond to be L/Corpl (paid), 22/8/26.

Transfer to A.R.—27925 Dvr Livesey, 23/9/26.

Postings.—Sigmn Corner from T.B., 13/9/26. Sigmn Robb from T.B., 20/9/26. Signalmen Govey and Jury from T.B., 21/9/26.

Correspondence.—To Bulford: Thank you! Hard luck, Len! Try agen.



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"WIZDUM"

1—Advice is like kissing: it doesn't cost anything, and it's a pleasant pastime.
2—It's a darned sight easier to find six men who can tell exactly how a thing should be done than to find one who can do it.
3—Love is the wisdom of fools; the folly of the wise.
4—Dancing is a popular exercise, invented by someone who wanted to take one of the other sex into his arms, but hadn't the right.
5—Death, to most of us, is like a farewell benefit: "positively our last appearance."
6—Living on hope is like living on wind: a good way to get full, but a poor way to get fat.
7—Hope is a draft on futurity, sometimes honoured, but generally extended.
8—The heart is wife of the head, and we (who have tried it) all know how persuasive the wife is—especially when she wants something.
9—If the world despises a hypocrite, what must they think of him in heaven?
10—Imagination, too much indulged in, soon is tortured into reality. Take, for example: A man leans over a fence all day and imagines the horse in the lot belongs to him—and sure enough, the first dark night the horse does.

'OWDAM LAD.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

Now that things in general have assumed their normal aspect, we can find time to let the Corps know that we still exist. It is really astounding, the number of fellows who come forward when asked to assist in the compilation of unit notes (I don't think). This is not an excuse for the recent absence of notes: it is more an appeal to our members to supply a few suggestions, and help a fellow when he's pushed.

Southern Command Tattoo and Horse Show.—It was chiefly through these two events that your humble servant was unable to pen his usual notes. It hardly seems credible, but this little unit did more to make these shows a success than any other unit in the garrison, and that is saying something. So we can perhaps be pardoned if we are inclined to blow our own trumpet.

Our small item, the making and manning of the dragon for the St. George and Dragon show in the Tattoo performance, was voted by all a huge success, and takes up a large part of the film depicting the show. The Troop has just returned from the garrison theatre, where the film was screened, and judging by the acclamation our fellows (under the able leadership of L/Corporal W. D. Moggridge) achieved fame in their clever representation of the "Dragon." Apart from the foregoing, we performed many and varied other duties during the shows. The chief and by far the most arduous was the complete organisation of seating accommodation, and the sale of tickets both by advanced booking and at the gates. The sum of £—— (but we must not give away secrets); anyway sufficient was raised to provide a Morris de Luxe 1927 model for each and every member of the Troop. However, in the interest of charity, we propose to still trust to our steeds and push-bikes.

A personal letter of thanks from the Colonel-Commandant 2nd Cavalry Brigade has been received by all who contributed to the success of the Tattoo. Last, but not least of our duties for this, was the erection and maintenance of all communication; and not once was cause given for complaint by the controlling officers.

While all the aforementioned things were going on, a small party of gallants were very busy with paint, burnishers, etc., preparing our L.G.S. wagon for the Horse Show—and a very fine show they made of it, too. The day of the show dawned beautiful and sunny, and it became necessary to don sun spectacles, for the glare from the array of wagons was worse than that from a helio. Many bets were made as to the probable winners, and we were about second favourite. Hearts beat high, and some of our Scotsmen could almost feel the bawbees in their pockets, when, lo and behold, the judge started sorting them out, and 3rd Signals and ourselves were seen to be in the first seven. One Scotsman died, for he couldna stand the shock.

The suspense was almost unbearable, and so was the distance to the mess. Anyway, when all was boiled down, we found ourselves 4th with a "highly commended," and 3rd Signals were 5th. Hard luck, 3rd! but it's all for the Corps; and after all, 4th and 5th is not so bad out of twenty-six entrants. We have now stowed the chariot away in cotton wool and oil, and have placed the gee-gee on a Glaxo diet. Well done, the "Ghurkas" and the wagon men! Next year the pot's ours.

The Director of Remounts is about to hold his annual inspection (for casting), but the two horses we want to cast as worn-out are looking so fit that we doubt whether he will do it.

We have once more entered the second division of the Tidworth garrison football league, and have selected our captain, vice-captain and committee. Now that we have got going, lads, let us pull together and do our utmost to obtain league honours.

Although we cannot raise a hockey team of our own, we hope to have two or three players in the Staff and Departments team.

Training.—Now that combined training is finished, and as soon as pokey drill is a thing of the past, we shall be turning our attention to increased trade rates; so now, you budding Class One-ites, get out your manuals and order your ice.

Troop Outing.—The C.O. has kindly arranged a Troop outing to Southsea, to take place about the end of September. No doubt this notice will recall pleasant memories to those of the Troop who were with us on our last outing.

Appointments.—L/Sergt C. V. Smith to be A/Sergt., w.e.f. 11/6/26. Congratulations, "Smudger." L/Corpl S. Bell to be A/Corporal, w.e.f. 15/6/26.

Arrivals.—Dvr J. Wilkinson from Depot Battalion, 19/7/26. Corpl W. Elphick from No. 1 A.A. Signal Company, 26/7/26. Sigmn H. Stevens from D Company, S.T.C., 10/9/26. Sigmn E. Cooper from E Company, S.T.C., 7/9/26.

Birth.—To Sigmn Lancashire a daughter, 13/7/26. Stick it, "Shoey."

Departures.—Sergt Morgan to D Troop, Cav. Divl. Signals. Good luck, "Molly." Corpl Fishwick to Training Battalion, 27/8/26. Sigmn Kiernan to Egypt, 17/9/26. Sigmn A. Price to Sec. B Army Reserve, 19/9/26.

SANDY.

No. 2 M.A.B. Signal Section.

Larkhill.

We apologise for the non-appearance of our notes last month, but it is said "The first shall be last"—and it was so.

Training.—As far as can be foreseen the combined training is at an end, and the Section is taking a rest in that respect. We have now started a riding school, and individualism is predominant. The musical voice of Corpl Brown may be heard daily to the inexpressible delight of the non-mounted.

Corpl Percy is now fathering a squad of gunners—all budding signallers. It is a source of great satisfaction to the office staff to hear some one else at work.

L/Corpl Harwood retains his usual prominent position in the stables. L/Corpl Humphrey continues to officiate with screwdrivers, etc., and we shall not be surprised if he produces something which will startle the universe of brass tabs.

Departures.—Those who served with the unit a year ago would indeed be surprised at the change of faces. Sergt Slater has gone to 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford (good luck, sergeant! we hope you strike a cushy patch). Dvr Vellows, known as Darky, to civvy street (the best of luck go with him). Drivers Ledsham, Simms and Kirby, after a long sojourn, are now at 3rd Div. awaiting draft leave and then the big boat. Sigmn Twiggs to 3rd Div. (it is suggested that the roads be made wider in that district).

Arrivals.—Sergt Hicks has just arrived, and is busy taking over. Our noted D.R., Sigmn Cross, is only seen at rare intervals amid a cloud of dust. Needless to add, he is the Section storeman. Some say "Good, old sergeant." Drivers Abel, Arnold, Hooker and Sigmn Faulkner reported from 3rd Div. We welcome them.

Vacation.—Sigmn A. N. S. Lee is enjoying himself somewhere up north.

Sports.—We played our paternal unit, the R.E., on the 1st inst., and after a pleasant match the offspring received a spanking by 5—2. A return match is to be played, when we hope to return the compliment.

M. A. B.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, September 14th.

Training.—The unit and divisional training reached its grand finale with a night scheme on the 8th and 9th September. It was originally intended for the 2nd and 3rd inst., but twelve hours' rain proved an efficient damper, and the troops returned at 9 a.m. to wring the water out of their souls.

Those lads with an eye on the future will now begin to delve into their red books and various parts of Signal Training in preparation for individual training.

Musketry Echo.—Never let it be said that we descended to idle boasting, but at least the following will go a long way towards proving that there are no flies on us when it comes to handling a rifle.

A had a rifle, and became a 1st class shot. B, C and D, not being equipped with a rifle, decided to use A's. They all pulled off 1st class shots with a comfortable margin. E, having failed to hit the target the previous year, decided to use the rifle, and made a miraculous 45 points. Let F be the armourer. He has just declared the rifle to be suffering from a bent barrel! —Can anyone beat this?

New Speed Club.—The increasing number of n.c.o.s and men who are taking unto themselves motor-cycles (probably to the acute disappointment of certain spinsters) brings up the inevitable question of the Motor-cycle Club. This might be quite a good thing if properly handled. Apart from the thrills of a freak hill climb up the Beacon, social runs at 20 miles per hour (for the benefit of L/Corpl Little's machine) could be made to the seaside. Aspirants to join the club are advised to save their pennies, as next year may see the project actually launched. Talking of Speed Clubs reminds us of—

The Pedestrian Club.—A certain enthusiastic young motor cyclist borrowed a machine for a trial run. He unwisely set off with one shilling for expenses. Arriving at Bournemouth, he found to his horror that the petrol had come to an end.

It did not take the lad very long to arrive at a decision. He pushed the machine 41 miles, and took three days to do it, proudly ignoring the open doors of the numerous garages, and blissfully unaware that he could have covered 41 miles on a bob's worth of petrol with that particular machine.

At last he arrived in camp, exhausted, unwashed and very unhappy. A passing friend hailed him with "Hallo, G! been for a ride?" This was the last straw. He crawled away and sobbed himself to sleep on the sympathetic necks of Split and Rose, two reliable if not speedy horses. One has only to mention motor-cycles to the disillusioned George to obtain a wonderfully eloquent lecture on the petrol engine in general and Radco's in particular.

Arrivals.—Sigmn F. Harding from T.B., 16/8/26. Sergt W. Nicks from T.B., 21/8/26. Sigmn H. Paine from D.B., 24/8/26. Sergt Hailes from T.B., 2/9/26. Dvr Jackson from D.B., 4/9/26. Signalmen Powell, V. Felton, H. Fisher and C. Hardwick, from T.B., 4/9/26. Sigmn R. J. Hall, from T.B., 6/9/26. Sigmn W. Chesters from D.B. 7/9/26. Sigmn J. Pyne from T.B. 7/9/26.

Departures.—Signalmen F. Abbott and G. Nicholls to Eastern Command Signal Company, 20/8/26, also Sigmn S. Rackley, 24/8/26, and Sigmn J. Bull, 6/9/26. Dvr Mooney to Vocational Training Centre, Catterick, 31/8/26. Sergt Wilson to 49th Divl. Signals (T.A.), Leeds, 7/9/26.

Discharges.—Sigmn C. Coles, 31/8/26. Dvr T. Vellows to the Army Reserve, 6/9/26.

Promotions.—Sigmn G. Harris appointed L/Corpl, 20/4/26. A/Corpl H. Walker to be Corporal, w.e.f. 8/3/26. A/Corpl F. Sykes to be Corporal, w.e.f. 30/3/26. Sigmn E. Cash appointed L/Corporal, 31/7/26.

Extension of Service.—Sigmn C. Brookes, extended to complete 12 years, 18/8/26.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester.

The inter-training leave period is a thing of the past, and everyone has returned to the fold looking very pleased. Of course, we have many Brigade Sections away on training with their respective brigades, but as they maintain a discreet silence in all matters, we can only assume that their portion is hard work and little time to spare. Good luck to them! they will probably enjoy the comparative leisure which will be assured when they return to this station.

Whilst preparing these notes we are in the throes of the G.O.C.'s inspection. By mutual consent we have changed our name to "Weed 'All."

The Signals Association whist drive and dance was a great success, and we are running a grand fancy dress carnival on Monday, September 13th, which we hope to make a success also. The membership is still mounting upwards, and we hope in the very near future to report a 100 per cent. membership.

Congratulations are due to Sigmn Sharvell on the occasion of his marriage at Danehill on 2/8/26.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Sigmn Rafferty from the Depot Battalion, and Signalmen B. West, H. Thorpe, H. Forbes, J. Metcalfe, S. Stratton, W. Crane, J. R. Watts, and E. Chadd from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—The following have left the unit, and we wish them all good luck in their new stations: Signalmen E. Alden, J. Bartley, T. Mayer, C. Mason, D. Savage, and J. Yates to the Rhine. Sigmn A. Barwick to Jamaica. Signalmen A. Dolling, L. Hughes, T. Hatton and A. Underwood to Eastern Command Signal Company.

Discharges.—2308262 Sergt S. Courtney and 2309796 Sigmn C. Jeffries.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—2312250 Corpl A. T. Price; 2312143 Dvr G. Marriott; 2312219 Dvr A. Critchley; 2312209 Dvr C. F. Flinn; 2312217 Dvr F. Jupe.

Promotions and Appointments.—2314929 Sigmn L. Walby to be L/Corporal (paid), w.e.f. 2/9/26. 2313713 Dvr H. Baker to be L/Corporal (unpaid), w.e.f. 8/9/26.

BLANKANDBANA.

Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Belfast.

General.—The weather in this part of the globe seems to have broken up, the only hope of a fine day being a glance at the *Daily Mail* chart and picking one out.

The torchlight tattoo is now all over as far as we are concerned; we have only just finished the last of the clearing up (overhauling cable, stores, etc.). Although the Company did not take part in any of the events, most of us had a job such as assistant controller, seat stewards, box office staff and telephone operators. If the owners of the show ground did not know the holding capacity before, they should now, as in spite of heavy rain on two occasions, the ground was packed and thousands turned away each night. We reproduce a special order issued by the G.O.C.:—

"SPECIAL ORDER by Major-Gen. F. F Ready, C.B., C.S.I., C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding Northern Ireland District—On the successful conclusion of the Command torchlight tattoo, the General Officer Commanding wishes to express his admiration and thanks to Lieut.-Col. A. E. Irvine, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the officers, w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men who have worked so devotedly and successfully in producing such an excellent display, which has given the greatest pleasure to all who have seen it. The keenness exhibited by the performers and the excellence of their display, combined with carefully-made arrangements, reflect the greatest credit on all concerned, and has resulted in substantial funds being available to assist both military and local charities."

On Tuesday, September 7th, the married families had an outing by charabanc to Millisle, where a very enjoyable time was spent. We were unfortunate in not having our O.C. (Capt. P. A. Hitchcock) with us, as he was away on leave.

We opened up with races for the children, our 2nd in Command (Capt. E. J. Murphy) and Mrs. Murphy being handicapper and clerk to the course respectively. All the kiddies had a prize of some sort.

Our next was a game of rounders by the children, with the parents fielding, and many an old score was wiped off on father!

The final crisis came before we adjourned for tea: a mixed cricket match, with no two members of one family on one side, provided the tit-bit of the day. No gentleman could make over twenty runs. One side was captained by Mrs. Swift, the wife of our civilian clerk, and the other by Mrs. Bradbury, wife of Sergt Bradbury. The scorer was Capt. Murphy. At the close of the game both sides stood with a score of 85, and the finish was brought about by putting the two captains in for an extra innings. Mrs. Bradbury won by a short head, and prizes were distributed to the ladies.

We then adjourned for tea, after which we had one or two surprises from the kiddies in the singing and dancing line. Leaving Millisle at 7.15, we arrived back in Belfast at 8.30 p.m., with everyone tired but quite happy.

Arrivals and Departures.—L/Corpl Parker from A.S.P.T., Aldershot, where he obtained a 2nd class certificate and a few more muscles which he didn't know he had. Our A Set Sections are back from the concentration of signallers at Ballykinlar, after having had a fine time both from an instructional and holiday point of view. We said farewell and bon voyage to Signalmen Kerr, Stansfield, McDowall, Baker and Esson on leaving here for the Depot, prior to serving somewhere abroad.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn and Mrs. E. R. Jones on the birth of a daughter.

Agony Column.—To Barleux of "Plain Tales" fame: There is an old saying that "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." May you never suffer from the abuse which is sure to be heaped on you by those whose wives have not heard of C.R.A. or pepper and salt money.

One of our members would like to see a few WIRE notes from the 49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals, T.A. Better late than never!

CHIPPY.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, September 13th.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of the wife of Major W. E. Pain, M.C., who has had but a short stay with us. The respect for our commanding officer was shown by the large attendance of all ranks at the interment.

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Run your tongue across your teeth and you'll feel that film. A slippery coating that absorbs discolorations and keeps your teeth off colour, that invites tooth and gum troubles.

Remove it and you will be amazed at what you see. Discard old ways now. Get Pepsodent from your canteen to-day.

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2069

General.—At the time of writing, training is the order of the day, all Brigade Sections being out with their respective brigades, but when these notes are being read, everyone will be looking forward to furlough, due to take place as soon after manœuvres as possible. The details for furlough have not yet been published, but it is thought they will proceed by trades so as not to interfere with training. It brings tears to one's eyes to read about the well-earned rest of eight or ten days being given in Blighty, but what about Rhine Signals?

2nd Brigade Signal Section, Rhine Field Signal Co.
1st Prize, Rhine Army Horse Show.

It was overheard the other day that the favourite song "Schemes" would shortly be published and placed on sale. I am sure it will be an enormous success.

Promotion.—Hearty congratulations to C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) C. F. R. Walker on his promotion to that rank.

Marriage.—Seems a rage these days, especially as far as the n.c.o.s mess is concerned, C.Q.M.S. Walker and Sergeants Nash and Freemantle having joined the happy throng. What was that: Messing?

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of fourteen signalmen from various units at home, and hope their stay will be a happy one.

8th Brigade Signal Section, Rhine Field Signal Co.
1st Prize, Rhine Army Horse Show.

The Beer Bar held a well-organised concert during the week, and a pleasant evening was spent by those who attended it. They are the fellows to bring forward the talent; but what about another one in the near future? Is it true that the wet bar is getting "larger every day."

Lost and Found.—Sigmn R. D. H. Hardy, of Rhine Signal units, would like to hear from Sigmn L. H. Smith (Larry), somewhere in India.

A Corps Signals, India.

Karachi, August 19th.

A wise man—an Aberdonian, I think—once said, "Never let a pound pass through your hands without leaving a penny sticking to your fingers." Similarly with us, but days—not pounds—are our chief concern; for with the approach of the Western Command manœuvres, never a day passes unless an hour's technical knowledge is left sticking to our brains—knowledge which will assist in upholding A Corps' slogan for efficiency.

But it is not only the soldier who desires to become technically efficient. Civilians, too, will have their little joke, and the following letter from an apparent wireless enthusiast was received this morning:—

"To the Head of the Head Office, Wireless Camp, Karachi:
Respected sir—I would feel obliged if you kindly let me know that is there any school or college where the wireless telegraphy is taught. If there be, by grace of God, any, then kindly to mention its address on the annexed card. I am very desirous to learn the wireless, and, moreover, there are also my many friends who are anxious to join the same. I hope to receive the reply at your early date."

The "friends" are assisting in the forthcoming manœuvres.

The corporals' mess held a very successful invitation dance on July 21st. Although the dancing was billed to commence at 10 p.m., surprise was caused by a few people taking the floor at 9.30 p.m. It appeared they had mistaken the trumpeter's attempt at "First Post" for the jazz band. Thanks are due to the hard-working committee for making the evening such a success, and to the members of the Corps jazz band for their exhilarating music.

The usual fortnightly Signals Association whist drives and dances maintain their popularity. At a recent one, a famous palmist was in attendance. "I see," he remarked to Signalman Blonk, in the course of a reading, "that the Mount of Saturn is very highly developed, and the Line of Life cast too far into the Mount to allow for your future to remain untroubled. As a matter of fact it denotes evil, and unless you are very careful you will always be at evil's beck and call." "Beck!" exclaimed Sigmn Blonk, rising hastily, "Beck's! Gor' blimey, mister, I left a full bottle on the table!"

D Divisional Signals.

Upper Topa, August 17th.

General.—"Try!" that's the word. Everyone and everything tries nowadays. Even our good friend and scribe of the elements tries—in fact, he *is* trying. Rain and mists there are in abundance. Let any eulogist of a pukka Scotch mist trot along to the Murree Hills, and he will verily receive an eye-opener. Nevertheless, within the scope of my limited experience of the khuds (hills), the amount of rain received from heaven—drip for drop—compares very favourably with the tonnage of past years. However, we all hope to see King Sol during the forthcoming hockey tournament.

The various courses are practically all over now, bar shouting. The last one took the form of a Trade Testing Board—a very minor detail, yet one which appears to bring on an attack of ague when mentioned to the candidates. In fact, they appear to get a shake on at the mere thought of the T.T.B. Applications for leave on the termination of the course are beginning to dribble into the orderly room, so there must be a weather-proof haven somewhere in Murree.

To get down to facts: we managed to get four candidates out of five through at the recent Trade Testing Board, in Rawalpindi, for linemen (Hard luck, Joe! nil desperandum):—L/Sergt T. Alder and Sergt A. Barnett, L/M B.i.; Sigmn V. Lulham and Sigmn V. Brindley, L/M B.ii.

Sergt T. Mains, of the K.O.R. Regt., Rawalpindi, would like to hear from H. Mains, who was a Lance-Corporal at Crowborough in 1922.

Murree.—Just one main road and the bazaar. Yet a place full of sentiment, scandal, jealousy and good cheer. The foremost craze amongst the blades and goers at present is jazzing, with a big J. The real indulger can be present at a "Thé dansant" and a late dance all in one breath, so to speak. But such nocturnal dissipation is to be deplored, as the walk home with the milkman or the *Daily Mail* is indeed a "towser."

But notwithstanding (and for the benefit of any fellow not conversant with hill stations) Murree should make an ideal place for leave during the summer months. A month can be spent quietly or otherwise, and the amount of filthy lucre "blued" can be measured by the inclination—expensive or otherwise—of the "bluer." Sandes Soldier's Home (Upper Topa) and the Uniacke Residential Club (Murree) cater in good style for holiday makers, whilst umpteen hotels carry on for the best people. The most congenial period for leave up here is from the beginning of May until the end of July.

Congratulations to the undermentioned on their recent attainments:—

To be Lance-Corporals on the India Unattached List—
Corpls R. R. Isaac and R. Ford.
To be Corporals in the Royal Signals—
L/Sergts A. Negro, R. Rand, and T. Alder.
To be Acting-Corporals in the Royal Signals—
L/Sergt Hayles and Corpl A. E. Andrews.
To the first rung on the ladder of ambition:—
Sigmn G. Skipper.

Birth.—Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. A. Chivers on the arrival of a son (Ronald Douglas), on 7/7/26.

KISMET.

BY APPOINTMENT

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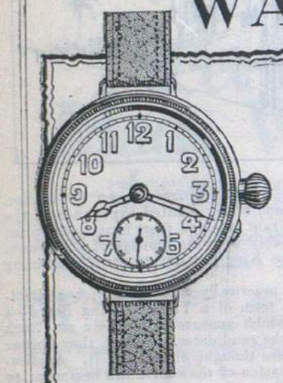
WATCH



FITTED with a fine quality lever movement and contained in a one-piece dust and damp-proof screw case, this watch has a war-enhanced reputation for timekeeping, and the thousands sold during and since the war are eloquent testimony of its reliability both at home and abroad.

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Detachment, E Divisional Signals.

Ranikhet.

Noting the non-appearance of notes from this unit in two successive issues of THE WIRE, I will endeavour to disprove the ill-founded rumour that E Divl. Signals had ceased to exist. The cause can be partly traced to the fact that this unit has taken over Depot duties, and all ranks spend their time cleaning up; so much, in fact, that the R.S.M. was heard to remark that the Signals are—well! we all know.

I will try to follow the shining example set by others, and give some useful information required on a move between Meerut and Ranikhet (young soldiers, please note).

The first intimation received is a notice to the effect that a kit inspection is about to be held. (Enter the Q.M. Branch with several pens). This is followed by a notice that only 80 lbs. of kit per man is allowed (this will be found easy by those fortunate enough to dodge the Q.M.).

Packing and entraining next come to the fore, and after many thrilling escapes from obliteration, all are ready to move off. The first thought when the train starts is to get the many boots, elbows and other extremities from the vicinity of your person. Strong action and even words have been found suitable at times. Of course, if one is travelling with the guardsman, it will be found easier to change carriages; but after a time every one obtains a degree of comfort. A word of advice here would not come amiss: Never sit near the window if you value your clothes.

After a time old sweats can be seen furtively gathering articles of cutlery and enamel together. If one is hungry, it would be advisable to do the same, and be prepared to leap through the window directly the bugle goes (never worry about the train, as it is often done in India, and people *have* been known to hold conversation with the driver even while the train is in motion).

At last all detrain at Kathgodam, and the first sight of the mountains calls gasps of wonder from all sides: even lads from the hill stations of England often murmur, "Hame agen." Then, "Feed away" being finished, the march starts. Whispers reach one's ears, to the effect that there are only twenty-nine miles to go. Of course, everyone says that he hopes it is more. As a matter of fact, it is only thirteen miles the first day (the unlucky number is well in evidence here, as it is all up-hill). When one settles down to steady marching, and has time to look around, sights of great beauty and majestic splendour meet the eye on all sides. The non-nature-loving fraternity say that the best sight is the char-wallah at the half-way halt; but these are not always to be believed. Limes can be bought cheaply on the road, but a taste must first be acquired or else several pounds of sugar brought into use.

In time the first camp, named Brewery (not so wet as it sounds), is reached, and the food is the main consideration. When the beds are down, towels should be obtained (or borrowed, if possible), as a mountain stream rushes down a ravine just outside the camp and entices all to bathe. The scenery here is splendid, and everyone basks in the sunshine and lazily looks upon nature at her best. It is advisable to sleep in the open, as voracious animals inhabit the bungalows, giving one a false impression of the locality.

Next morning all are eager to start away. The road winds in and out of peaks and mountains, a perfect idea of man's conquest over Nature. For a lecture on map-reading it is ideal, and many promising enceoes were wondering how long it would take them to march their squads down for a lesson.

The cry of "Camp in sight" causes the step to liven up. One must be careful not to let the rank behind tread on one's heels. After a short time the column enters Bhowali Camp, and five minutes later everyone has his bed down and is waiting for food. The camp lies in a hollow (or basin, as our educated friends say), and is surrounded by towering pine-clad slopes. Here again the mountain streams beckon to all who have the pluck to bathe.

Next morning, and on the road again. This journey is rather speedily finished, as the road lies down hill until the next camp is reached: Ratighat. This place will be remembered as the passing of the married families; and in the interchange of remarks, one notices how much talent is wasted in the Army.

The next day's march takes the party into Bumshoan, and the only cheerful thing about this camp is that it is the last before reaching Ranikhet.

The last day's march soon passes, and one unloads his kit, finds a bed, and offers praises to the cook-orderly from whom all blessings flow.

A Warning to Guard Commanders.—Orderly officer to sentry: "On what occasion would you fire, my man?" Sentry: "Any suspicious person I would challenge three times; then call the guard commander and shoot him."

SAB.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters, B.T.E., Egypt, Sept. 8th.

Training.—We have commenced our annual pilgrimage to the Polygon ranges, and quite a number are really enthusiastic about it as I understand there is to be a team chosen for the Command shoot.

Casualties: Unaccounted for.—We have to record the marriage, on September 4th, of one of our flock, well known in Egyptian military circles: Corpl (Tosh) Huxtable of No. 3 Coy. (The age of miracles has not passed).

Casualties: Officers.—Lieut. R. C. Woodbridge, Royal Signals, was admitted to hospital on September 2nd suffering from scarlet fever. We trust that he will make a rapid recovery.

Sergeants' Mess.

To quote Mr. Clutterbuck, "Life is simply one thing after another," and that is about all we can say of our mess this month. True, we tried to lay out a garden, and have now succeeded in making rather a nice "sandy path" in between the sand—see what I mean? Even when the roof fell in nobody was hurt, so we can't make a song about *that*, although we *can* boast that things move "pretty slick" (to Americanise). This new mess was opened in July, and commenced to fold up in August, which is rather good going even for a jerry-built place.

According to inside information, the trooping season is going to rob us of five members, but we only get one in return. In case anyone should care to meet them with an address of welcome at Southampton, they are: C.Q.M.S. Shaw, Sergts Tolley and Linder, L/Sergt Adams, and A. N. Other (sorry, but he must remain incognito, because we don't know yet).

Our first whist drive and dance was held on Thursday, 2nd September, and it was most successful. We had the pleasure of seeing all the prizes leave the corps. The winners were: Ladies: 1st, Miss Cameron; 2nd, Mrs. Newman; 3rd, Miss Ellicott. Gentlemen: 1st, Sergt Mook (R.I.F.); 2nd, Mr. Morris; 3rd, Mr. Galington-Smythe.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Signals Barracks, Polygon.

It is strange how locality affects the human elements, how it brings forth hitherto unknown traits in human character, how the hidden strains in man's composition are developed. Please don't think I am rambling, Mr. Editor: the reason for this preamble is that weird and wonderful traits have been discovered in various members' characters.

The sports field requires Nile mud to *make* it a sports field, and men whom we thought were ordinary mortals now adopt the role of mud diviners. Similarly, the tennis court requires more sand (sand with peculiar qualities, or rather properties: it must be binding, red, not too coarse, etc. Therefore we have a special squad of sand diviners and specialists who journey forth into the Desert, pouncing on harmless grains of sand, subjecting them to the closest of scrutinies—weighing, smelling, and even tasting them. We await the result of their analysis with bated breath. Is it "Aye" or "Nay"?

We sympathise with our officers on their being confined to the garrison owing to the outbreak of scarlet fever in the officers' mess. Restrictions are irksome—ask a "janker wallah."

Musketry (the ratepayer's delight).—We are now using up a few buckshee rounds, but we modestly boast that there are few technical units that can average as many 1st class shots as we can, although one does hear some *curious* remarks during poky drill.

Snakes!—Great snakes, little snakes, and sand snakes! We have a snake charmer in our midst. One night a certain celebrity, on entering his bunk, was greeted with an awe-inspiring *hiss*. With great presence of mind he started to sing, and the snake gave itself up. (We hear on very good authority that he adopts this method whenever in danger, especially after dances). The person concerned wishes me to state that, although he had only just left the mess, the snake *was* real, measuring 4 feet from "*nose to croup*."

Camera Club.—We hear that the club had another successful outing to one of the many places of interest near Cairo. On inspecting the "dead marines" and empty cases, we don't doubt the success of the outing, although the organiser did forget his camera and the films for the whole party.

Agony.—To "Smudger" Smith (better known to old S.T.C.-ites as as "The big noise," a la "bow wow"): That's the worst of being "basso profundo," ain't it, Smudger?—From Tich White.

The Morse-Key-Toes.—Sorry I have not kept the concert news going of late, but owing to the energy expended in moving here and preparing "Convict Settlement No. 2," the Morse-Key-

G Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.

Winners of the Jubbulpore (Chowbe) Hockey Cup, 1926.

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Toes found they had no wind left with which to inflate their diaphragms. However, they have now got their second wind, and with it "a new sting and a strong spring"—so you should have long accounts of their activities in the near future.

B.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Wellington Barracks, Aug. 3rd.

"Rain, rain, rain. . . ." So the little bird said. 29¼ inches in twenty-four hours. Forgive the Yankeeism, but "Can you beat it?" Yes!—21.4 in six hours. Such was the rainfall in Hong Kong on the morning of July 19th, the water carrying practically all before it. Houses and streets that were, are not now. Many familiar objects have vanished completely. It is reported that the Public Works Department of the Colony requires over a million dollars for repairs and renewals, and the military almost as much.

Landslides occurred all over the Colony, many telephone routes, both poled and cable, being carried away. Old Hong Kong visitors may be interested to know that Albany Nullah, which runs parallel to Murray Barracks, was completely choked with silt and stones, the overflow washing the palm garden clean out. The wall of Murray Barracks was broken through, most of the masonry being deposited outside the Cable Hut at the Victoria Recreation Club.

The underground nullah at B Block, Kennedy Road, burst, cutting off light and water and somewhat endangering the foundations of the quarters. A 3000-ton boulder smashed Pokfulam pump house, with the result that the Peakites have no water.

The deluge was accompanied by a terrific electrical storm; and what a morning test! 53 "out of orders." Close on a thousand 2 in. fuse tubes and many heat coils were required to restore the circuits. Some photos are to hand, Mr. Editor. If you think they would be of interest, I will send them along. (Not yet to hand.—Ed.)

Then, on the following Saturday, a typhoon missed us by nine miles: quite near enough to get an idea of the real thing.

Transfers.—We extend a welcome to another flag-wagger from the East Surrey Regiment: Sigmn Romain, who by the time he sees this will be in the U.K. He came along in time to help pick up a submarine cable. Well done, Romeo!

Boating.—Having a six-oared gig at our disposal, an endeavour is being made to get a crew together. Whilst none grip the wrong end of the oar, a few think that a support for the back should be provided. One of our "stars" grumbles because the footboards hurt his back. Nevertheless, the talent is with us.

JOINT BOX.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, August 30th.

Obituary.—Old hands in Bermuda, especially St. George-ites, will learn with regret that Mr. Charles Cross, E.S.A., St. George's, died suddenly on Saturday, August 7th, whilst issuing coal at Convict Bay coal yard. He was buried at 4 p.m. that day. The garrison at St. George's and many from Prospect attended, together with many townsfolk of the several societies of which he was a member. His loss will be keenly felt by many in the Command.

Musketry.—The four members of the Section who were unable to fire with 27th Company R.E. at St. George's, in July, went out to Warwick Camp to do their bit with the R.A.O.C. detachment this month, the results being two 1st's and two 2nd's. We always thought that when firing a course, a rifle was one of the necessities. One member of the party departed without his. Perhaps he was a little forgetful, but he didn't forget his banjo, anyway. This is his third summer on the station, and he has recently been warned for the extra year also. We hope he won't develop "lurgee," the St. George's complaint.

Instruments, Musical.—We heartily sympathise with L.H.D. on the question of musical instruments. The "bug" is very active here just now, one fearsome affair in particular; it has no name, at least no printable one. "It" is composed of two vices (bench parallel) between which is stretched about 3 feet of steel wire (one strand of D.8 cable), and in the centre of this is half a biscuit tin. The tune, if any, is produced by tickling the wire with a file. Ye gods! It is at present located in the I.R.'s lair. The other addition to the orchestra is a mouth-organ soldered to an "Army Club" cigarette tin. These instruments, together with the effect of the usual atrocities, have produced an increase in the turnover at the wet canteen.

Birth.—To Corpl and Mrs. C. W. Gale, on August 20th, a son (Donald James). Congratulations, Charlie!

Work (lots of).—On Thursday and Friday, 5th and 6th inst., a wind of semi-hurricane force blew over the islands, laying low some portions of our routes. The linemen, assisted by the T.S.O., spent a busy week-end, from dawn to sunset. By Sunday evening we were "all clear," normal communication was resumed on Monday morning, and the last pole was "planted" and temporary lines cut away on Thursday. The civilian routes, being built on the Bermudian (alleged American) system, are still undergoing repairs, and we have had the pleasure, until a day or two ago, of taking all their traffic between Hamilton and St. George's.

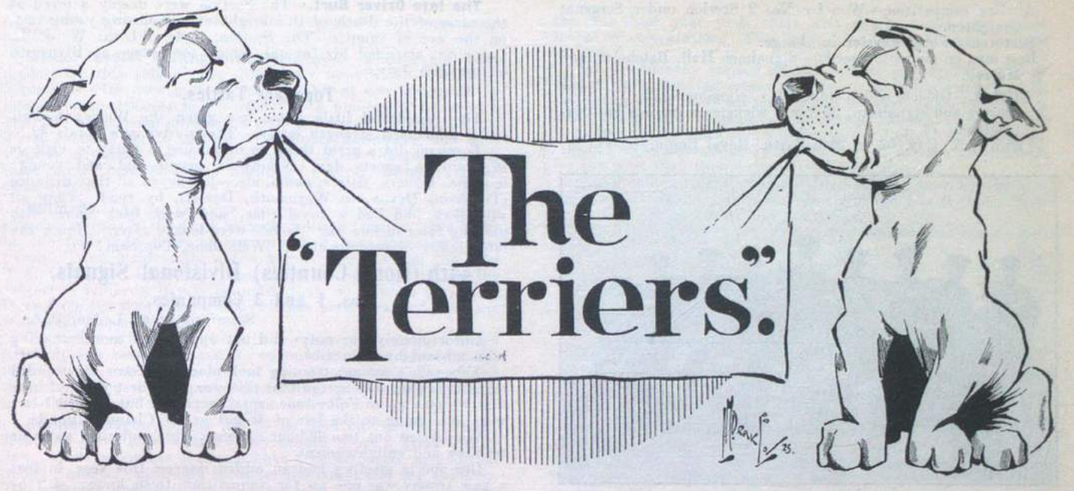
This Month's Agony.—Will Sigmn Curtis, believed to be at Spike Island, communicate with Sigmn Hughes of this Section? No. 1855160 Sigmn G. Sands, of this Section, would like to hear from Sigmn Bob Harmon, late of 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.

We Want to Know—If it is true that there is a revival of interest in the Signals Association? All ex R.E. here already belong to the R.E.O.C.A. What about it?

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

WANTED—URGENT!

Will those Readers who are in possession of bound volumes of "The Wire," and would be willing to dispose of them to a new Royal Signals Mess Library, kindly communicate with this office at once, stating the number of volumes available for sale and price required—The Editor.



26th and 27th A.A. Signal Companies.

Duke of York's, Chelsea.

The Companies offer congratulations to their commanding officer on receiving the rank of Brevet-Colonel.

Strength.—We are glad to announce that both Companies are up to establishment, and a waiting list is now being formed.

Week-End Camp.—We have read with envy of the week-end training camps held by some fortunate units not situated in London, so as an experiment we obtained authority to arrange a week-end camp without the problems of tentage, cooking, etc. We chose a secluded country spot—under the trees at the Duke of York's (our headquarters, to wit)—and had quite a good time. Lectures and schemes in the control room, plus a spot of drill for the good of our muscles, filled up Saturday afternoon and evening, with a pleasant break at 5 p.m. for a real soldier's tea of "sausages and mashed," provided by the central canteen. Then we returned home to bed and paraded again on Sunday morning for a further day of training, ending with an inspection by our commanding officer, who expressed his satisfaction at the good attendance and the progress made.

Trade Board.—A good proportion of men presented themselves at the Trade Board held in July last, and approximately 90 per cent. improved their classification, or, being recruits, were mustered for the first time. Sigmn (now L/Corpl) Scott obtained the distinction of being classified as a Class I. switchboard operator.

Annual Training.—The powers-that-be decided to favour us this year, and chose a camp situation after a Territorial's own heart, for we have had our annual training at Manston, Kent, only three miles from the gay towns of Margate and Ramsgate. In many cases camp is our only holiday in the year, so the opportunity for enjoyment after duty was a great attraction.

A Good Record.—Note the medals in the two photographs of the n.c.o.s of the 26th and 27th Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies.

27th A.A. Signal Company.

The training was from July 25th to August 8th, and the Company was favoured with good weather. Interesting training schemes were carried out, including double air-line building, and sufficient drill to turn out spick and span for the inspection by Major-Gen. Ashmore during the second week.

On Sunday we had a field church parade, necessitating much polishing of medals. The Signals sang the hymns with much vigour and harmony, and we received many congratulations afterwards on our vocal prowess. It is understood that our Company will be designated "The Brigade Choir" in future.

The 27th Brigade Sports were unfortunately marred by heavy rain showers. We managed to win some of the events. In addition to the sports we had Company competitions during camp, with the following results:—

Section air-line competition—Won by No. 5 Section under Sergt Powell.
The best guard—Corpl Price in charge.
The best man on guard—Sigmn Beresford.
The best tent—L/Corpl Collins in charge.

The N.C.O.s of the Company

R.E. Searchlight Training.—To give us some idea of the job on which our R.E. searchlight friends are engaged, arrangements were made to attach signalmen to the searchlights during night operations. We found this a very interesting experience. As a result we know a little more about the lights, and can appreciate that "running the long arm" has no connection with "drawing the long bow," and also that "getting the bird in the beam" is a perfectly respectable term.

Cricket.—We had two good matches, and although beaten, gave the bigger units a good game:—

27th A.A. Signal Coy. 84, v. 27th Battn. R.E., 116.
27th A.A. Signal Coy, 90, v. Surrey Group R.E., 94.

26th A.A. Signal Company.

This Company went to camp from August 22nd to Sept. 5th, and carried out training on similar lines to the 27th Company. The Brigade Commander held an inspection on August 28th, and Major-Gen. Ashmore did likewise on August 31st.

The weather favoured the sports day, and an enjoyable time was spent, resulting also in more prizes for the Signals:—

Air-line competition—Won by No. 2 Section under Sergeant Creighton.
Best tent—Corpl Forster in charge.
Best man on guard (3 guards)—Signalmen Hall, Batchelor, and Murrell.

Cricket.—Officers and n.c.o.s, 52, v. signalmen, 72.
Officers and signalmen, 88 for 3 wickets, v. n.c.o.s and signalmen, 74.
26th A.A. Coy. 62, v. 26th Battn. Royal Engineers, 71.

The N.C.O.s of the 26th A.A. Signal Company

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Burlington Street, Manchester.

On account of holidays we have had a rather quiet time during the last month. On August 29th, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies carried out a very successful attack scheme at Kenworthy, with a gate as our only casualty.

The unit was strongly represented at a Divisional musketry week-end camp held in a continuous hurricane at Fleetwood on September 11th and 12th. Unfortunately we were unable to repeat our success of 1922, when we won the L.F. Brigade prize. However, we were all very keen. It is reported that before the last practice, one of our team was seen polishing his cartridges with Brasso.

Lieut Lloyd is at present attached to the 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot, where we trust he is nobly carrying on the traditions of the Nutcracker King.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. F. W. Stanbury, of No. 3 Coy., on his appointment as Justice of the Peace for the county of Devon. He is a kind-hearted man, and we feel sure that he will dispense justice tempered by an understanding of human nature.

His service as a Volunteer and a Territorial extends over many years, and he is still as keen as ever in Territorial matters. He was a member of the Wessex Signals at the outbreak of war, and served with that Company (known as the 27th Divisional Signals) in France and Salonika. In 1919 he was awarded the Serbian silver medal. The unit is proud of the honour now conferred upon him.

Our salaams to 2/Lieut W. T. Martin on his promotion to Lieutenant. We also offer a welcome—a Signals welcome—to 2/Lieuts E. G. B. Moss and K. B. Lake, who have recently joined this unit.

It was nice, on the eve of our departure for camp, to get a letter from our former adjutant, Capt. C. A. Murray, now at G. Signals, Jubbulpore, India. His good wishes and kindly thoughts are greatly appreciated, and I have been asked to tell him, through the medium of these notes, that should his leave to England next year permit of a visit to our annual camp (wherever that may be) he is certain of a right good Wessex welcome!

OLD SPARK.

Plymouth Section.

Promotion.—Corpl Field has become a L/Sergeant—a well-merited advance.

The late Driver Burt.—The Section were deeply grieved at the news of the death of this bright and promising young man on the eve of camp. The Section, under 2/Lieut W. J. L. Cornelius, attended his funeral, which took place at Plymouth on the 24th July.

Topsham Tattles.

This wonderful little place has given the Wessex Signals much additional strength lately. The muster now totals 42.

Topsham did a great thing in organising a party to visit us in camp on sports day. Ninety-six people—old and young: mothers, fathers, sisters, aunts, etc.—journeyed all that distance (Topsham, Devon, to Weymouth, Dorset), by road. They all said they had had a royal time, and went back home with glowing tales of how the "boys" were looked after. Hence the large influx of recruits since. Well done, Topsham!

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

Unfortunately our notes did not appear last month, having been mislaid by the scribe.

This year's annual training took place at Herne Bay, and I think it is generally agreed that this was "our best yet." I hear that we may go to Folkestone again next year, but—s'hush!—we were *once* going to the Isle of Wight or the Channel Islands.

We carried out two 48-hour schemes, which afforded valuable training and enlightenment.

Our sports meeting had an added interest this year, in that a new trophy was put up for competition, to be known as "the sergeants' trophy." A relay race determines the winning Company, the series being, horse ½ mile, D.R. 1½ miles, cycle (ordinary) 1 mile, and man ¼ mile. This was won by No. 2 (Brighton) Company, who also annexed the Dell cup for shooting. We Londoners weren't in the hunt this year! The all-round success of No. 2 Company has given great pleasure to us all, and we congratulate them.

The sports prizes were presented by Mrs. Firth during a dance interval at the Pier Pavilion, which was specially hired for the occasion, our own renowned orchestra providing the "sounds." Over 400 attended this jazz affair.

The third annual dinner of the sergeants' mess was held at the Cafe Tudor, Herne Bay. A splendid dinner was followed by the Casino concert party, and our orchestra gave a splendid musical programme.

During the same week the corporals held their first annual dinner at the same place. I gather it was highly appreciated, and gave the organisers the greatest encouragement to "continue the dose."

Apropos the sergeants' dinner, some of them must be pretty aged by now, as their affair took place over 600 years ago! (1296, to be precise). The death of a printer was announced after the dinner.

Several members are still congratulating themselves on having accepted "Old Bill's" dictum to "buy some ice," albeit the demand for ices fluctuated with the rise and fall of the bottle.

Before leaving the subject of Herne Bay, it might be mentioned that we appreciate the fact that a ship's syren does sound like a factory hooter. But the "time" of sounding differs.

Last week the unit took part in the Brigade rifle meeting at Bisley. We had the hardest of luck and ran out in the third place.

ACKPIP.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

The End of a Perfect ——!—Commencing last February and continuing up to the end of August, the training season has now been brought to a close. Though we are not in a position to give any actual results, we are certain that no little amount of improvement has been made by our Company during the summer.

The change over from "jacks-of-all-trades" to "cable merchants" has proved very popular, especially on the occasions when we have been able to get out into the country with the wagons and full equipment.

Hull's Military Sunday.—We hope Sunday, September 19th, will see a good muster from our Company taking part in the annual church parade of all the units in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The service is at Holy Trinity Church. In addition to this, there is the usual march through the principal parts of the city.

Winter Social Arrangements.—Already a start has been made with this side of the Company's activities. Saturday, September 11th, saw quite a good muster at our first smoking concert, when (thanks to the efforts of a number of artistes) a first rate programme provided a capital evening's entertainment. These concerts are to be held on alternate Saturdays, and with a series of dances will ensure members of the Company having some social function every Saturday evening throughout the close season.

Billiards.—As in previous years, the sergeants' mess are entering a team in the Hull Services billiards league. We hope, by the time these notes appear, we shall have collected a few "scalps," and incidentally a few points, from some of the local T.A. teams for whom the competition is run. Whilst on the subject of billiards, it may be noted that, as a result of a challenge from the men's mess, a match has been arranged with the n.c.o.s for September 21st.

To further stimulate interest in the game, a Company billiard handicap has been arranged, to commence almost immediately. Amongst the entrants we hear of one or two "dark 'uns," and the competition should prove interesting, more especially as it is of the "flying" variety—21 up.

Annual Sports.—These are to be held on Saturday, Sept. 25th, and given good weather they should prove a great attraction. Quite a number of events have been arranged, in addition to the "usuals," including races for the ladies and the children. The honorary members' race will, we hope, secure many entries. Good prizes are to be given, and we hope to see a large number of the Company and their friends present.

The "Nibs" Trophy.—The comedy side of the sports will be well catered for, as will be realised by those who remember our last year's battle for this trophy, presented by Capt. G. Thompson for annual competition between teams from the married and single members of the Company.

This is to be the concluding item on the programme, and will be decided by a comic football match, the conditions being that each player must appear in fancy or comic dress.

Signals A.F.C.—The soccer merchants have played two games, winning one and losing the other. A good team has been got together, and some good sport should be seen.

A. C. S.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Edinburgh Detachment.

Training.—The annual training is now a thing of the past. Held at Troon, the camp was a successful affair from first to last. Out of a total of 86 all ranks, one man only was unable to attend, but he managed to "scrounge" sufficient time to pay us a visit during a week-end.

Good work was done all round, and one of the most interesting and instructive events was the two days' scheme. This was considered the best feature of the training, and some of us say "Why don't we have more of that?"

We are glad to chronicle several successes at the unit sports held on July 25th.

Casualty.—Congratulations to Sergt Anderson on the birth of a daughter.

Social.—The opening dance of the season will be held on Wednesday, October 6th, in the drill hall, Brandon Terrace. A hearty invitation is given to any Signals or ex-Signals who may be in our district.

Look out for the date of the Association general meeting, and make an effort to be there. The winter programme will be discussed, as well as other important business.

AULD REEKIE.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, Sept. 14th.

Looking back on camp, now that the rush and worry of clearing up is beginning to die down, I think the outstanding feature was the way the unit worked together. There never has been a camp where Companies have so obviously tried to fit in with and help each other. There was keen rivalry, particularly with regard to the unit trophy (a fine bronze Mercury, presented by the commanding officer)—as there has been for the last three years—but there was at the same time a fine spirit of co-operation. This spirit was noticeable also on the schemes.

No. 3 Company carried off the unit trophy again, but they had to fight hard to retain it; and if the unit is together in camp next year, as we all hope it will be, there is quite a chance that the coveted "Jimmy" may change hands. The attached R.A. Brigade Sections and Supplementary Reservists, who combined to make a fourth entry for the trophy, deserve great credit for the good show they made at their first attempt.

The despatch riders' competition, held this year for the first time, was a popular institution, and someone has it that it will be carried out on similar lines next year.

The following are a few unanswered conundrums heard since camp:—

What member of the unit was most regular in attendance at Coney Beach?
Whether a certain Section and its officer ought not to be prosecuted for cruelty to Trojans?
Whether the background on church parade was quite in keeping with the sermon?
Why signalmaster at Advance Division is not a popular job?

To conclude seriously, it has struck me that the Territorial Signals know very little about each other. Would it not be possible to get the Editor of THE WIRE to spare us a little space each month for the publication of a brief history of one of the T.A. Divl. Signals, its present strength and distribution, and a few general remarks about its difficulties and its advantages ("if any," as they say in official language). Surely each Divl. Signals could get an officer or n.c.o. to write up an account of the unit, and I think all other Divl. Signals would be interested.

THE LEEK.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

We regret the omission of notes for last month, due to preoccupation in annual training.

The annual fifteen days in camp was generally favoured with good weather, except one scheme day, when rain damped us to the skin, but did not damp our spirits. Everyone seems to have enjoyed himself. What about a 3 a.m. reveille?

Waiting for the "War" to start.

It is sincerely hoped that the numbers will be kept up for the autumn lectures and buzzer classes, and so maintain the unit's good report earned at camp. We congratulate the West Down Section on their excellent report.

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: Sergts Maries, Miller and Passfield, L/Sergt Long, Corpls Cley, Taylor and Cooley, L/Corpls McMenamin, Savill, Horth, Hele and Coffey, not forgetting "Corpl" Heslop.

The unit's congratulations to Sergt "Shoey" Robson on the arrival of a new Farrier. They say horse shoes are lucky!

Sports.—Well done, No. 1 Company, in being first in the athletic competition and the first to win Brig.-General Colvin's trophy. We also congratulate No. 3 Company on winning the Waley-Cohen efficiency cup. Watch No. 2 Company next time!

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Social.—No. 2 Company are looking forward to their annual dinner sometime in November. C.S.M. Hooper is in charge of the arrangements.

Y. E. D.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Road, Sept. 16th.

We were too busy last month to chronicle details of our second week in camp at Swingate, Dover, but 'tis not too late to refer to such a pleasant time. Except for one day when about 75 per cent. of the Company got soaked, the weather maintained an ideal standard.

Schemes were the order for this week, and there is no need to describe the good results obtained by the Signals. The enclosed press cutting from the *Daily Telegraph* (whose special correspondent devoted a column and a half to "The Battle of Walmer") speaks for itself. When we realise that the majority of the Signals concerned were of No. 3 Company—'nuff said.

"Excellence of Signalling.—As to Signals, both the Brigade Section of the 54th Divl. Signals and the battalion signallers were in their effectiveness as astonishing as any feature of the day, alike in the flow of messages, quickness of transmission, and the way communications were kept up throughout the prolonged advance. Not only was brigade headquarters in constant touch with battalions, and these with each other laterally, but even on the more rapidly moving wing communication was never lost with the Companies."

Practically all branches of the Signal Service were in action, and all functioned with credit. It was the visual personnel, however, who seemed to think that *they* won the war! Everyone realises that they did very well indeed, but during an important phase of the battle, was not a certain visual terminal missing? They were not captured, but lost in a cornfield for the best part of an hour. We hope that they did not give vent to their feelings, for even the corn hath ears!

The staff were overwhelming with praise of the communications, and that is praise indeed. Messages were cleared speedily, thanks to the efficiency of the Signal office personnel. Sergt Brook was i/c at Brigade Headquarters.

As mentioned last month, No. 3 Company won the efficiency cup. In addition we had hard luck in not winning the wireless competition trophy, offered by Brigadier-General Colvin, C.B., T.D., D.L. Corpl Cooley and his team tried hard, but were unfortunate; but to quote a Cooley-ism, "Wait till next year; and then we'll show 'em what the old scaley backs can do."

"Heavo, heavo, heavo,
Lash 'em and stow."

Sports day proved to be very successful, and great credit reflects on the committee for the splendid arrangements. No. 3 Company carried off the relay race, much to the surprise of a certain Company. Our team comprised Signalmen Godward, C. H. Johnson, S. H. Barratt, and G. W. Smith. The latter surprised all by his good turn of speed.

We also topped the boxing list with points to spare. Our chief exponents in the manly art were: L/Corpls J. McMenamin and E. Holder, Signalmen C. H. Johnson, G. W. Smith, W. G. Hall, and A. G. White. Mac carried all before him, whilst Sigmn Hall, although not winning either of his fights, was very plucky.

Other events that were carried off by No. 3 Company were the alarm race, won by Sigmn W. C. Sawford, and wrestling on horseback, won by the Company "roughs."

We proved no match, however, for No. 1 Company in the tug-of-war, but we might have got second place had not one of our team faded away, leaving us with only seven men. 'Tis rumoured that he was "square pushing," whatever that may be.

We lost the sports shield by a very narrow margin.

During sports day the band performed with much credit.

The two weeks came to an end all too soon, and many wished that the camp lasted a month.

DREITER.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Hello, everybody! Liverpool and District calling. I am afraid that notes from this unit have been very conspicuous by their absence during the last few months; but, really, all our literary talent has been so busy with our own little monthly journal, which is just in its fourth issue, that we haven't had time to compile notes for THE WIRE. We will, however, endeavour to make up for our laxity in the future.

It has been a source of regret to all ranks that the training we had all been so anxiously looking forward to had to be abandoned, but we managed to put in two very successful weekends at Knowsley Park, and tried to *imagine* that we were at Pwllheli. It took quite a lot of imagination to create the desired effect, as the Lancashire accent isn't a bit like Welsh. The only "sea" available was that with which they spell coal (specimen may be seen at the British Museum), and the nearest pier and lighthouse were billeted at the neighbouring town of Wigan. We were, however, fortunate in this respect, that for those of us whose imagination could not stand the excessive strain, the ever-hospitable portals of the County Asylum at Rainhill loomed in close proximity to the camp. Our only grouse was that it didn't last long enough!

The 88th and the 210th R.A. Brigade Signal Sections of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies respectively were more fortunate, inasmuch as they were enabled to spend fifteen days in camp with their Brigades at Trawsfynydd in the Welsh mountains, from which they returned covered with honour and glory, to say nothing of mud; and several of them were heard to remark, "The weather was rotten in general, and the beer not much better; but you can't beat Wales for 'birds.'" In fact, it is rumoured that the whole contingent have promised to return to "the only girl they ever loved" in the very near future—that is, if their wives let them.

In Liverpool a unique competition is taking place between the members of the sergeants' mess. Several sergeants have scored points during the last few months, but Sergt Jimmy Smith (P.S.) heads the list with a double score of one girl and one human being on the 8/4/26. Keep it up, Jimmy!

The Wireless Section is putting in a great deal of overtime lately, and seem to be in camp somewhere or other every week end. We congratulate Sergt T. White on his promotion to that rank and the charge of this Section, but we hope that all the extra work and worry entailed, above and beyond his ordinary civil duties, is not going to make him lose flesh. His *fine* figure (so often remarked upon) is already beginning to show signs of his unswerving attention to duty. Besides, fancy trying to convince the wife that it *is* a wireless set that keeps him out late nearly every night and every week-end. Do you expect her to believe you?

Several of the senior n.c.o.s have just returned from that Mecca of all good signalmen, Catterick, where they have been taking a course of instruction in various subjects. We sincerely hope that they will now be able to enlighten us as to what procedure is. Everyone talks about it, but like electricity, they have only a hazy idea of what it is. Perhaps we shall know now: and perhaps we won't!

The training season is now on its last legs, and in a few weeks we shall be up to our necks in our off-season programme, with its dances, whist drives, smoking concerts, hot-pot suppers —and, most important, its winter classes, which we hope will be attended in greater numbers than even last year. The experience and knowledge gathered may be of the greatest assistance to you. You never know, as Sir Garnet Wolseley said; or perhaps it was Lord Nelson—I am not certain which; but at any rate, as *somebody* said, "Hidden beneath the signalman's cap may be a sergeant-major's bald head," or better still, a quarter-bloque's bank book, which also carries the aforementioned B.H. with it.

No. 3 (W.L.) Company, 1st Corps Signals
(Supplementary Reserve)

This Company was born just a little over a year ago, and after a series of minor set-backs, from which all babies suffer more or less, we have developed into a full-grown and robust Company, with more would-be recruits than we can take in.

To see the Company on parade is a sight never to be forgotten. On sunny days the officers are forced to wear blue glasses to protect their eyes from the glare of the multi-coloured ribbons that adorn the manly chests of the assembled warriors. Ex-sergeant-majors are as common as empty pockets on a Friday morning, in the ranks; and it was rumoured that an ex-Brigadier-General broke his heart when we couldn't enlist him as an assistant lineman.

No. 3 (W.L.) Coy. 1st Corps Signals (Supplementary Reserve)
Winners of the Altcar Challenge Cup, 1926

Back row (*left to right*)—Sigmen J. Barrigan, P. Jacobs and T. W. Frodsham
Centre—Sergt T. Scott, Major W. G. Wilson and L/Corpl C. Grayson
Front row—Signalmen D. Turner and J. R. T. Lewis.

Sergt Johnsey (P.S.) is the man of affairs, and as the C.O. remarked, what he doesn't know about birth and marriage certificates, Somerset House can't tell him—and let me whisper it, winners as well!

The Company is commanded by Major W. G. Wilson, who with the rest of his officers—Capts B. L. Bastin and M. H. Williams, and 2/Lieuts R. T. Ratcliffe, T. A. Kesterton, and R. Jackson—has had a long experience with the old R.E. Signals; while the w.o.s and senior n.c.o.s were, in the majority of cases, in the Signal Service when Adam was a lad.

A few weeks ago we had the pleasure of walking off with a brand new trophy, the Altcar challenge cup, presented by Col. G. Rollo, C.M.G., D.S.O., late 1st Lancs. R.E. (Vols.). The practices were those laid down for the ordinary musketry course, and we sailed home with 55 points to spare. The team of eight, skippered by the C.O. himself, was actually selected on the range at little or no notice, but we managed to find a team that in most cases had been on this game when bows and arrows were the chief weapons of offence and defence.

It is proposed to form a Rifle Club in the Company within the next few weeks, and we are out to gather as many cups and other trophies (to say nothing of money) into the fold as we can possibly lay hands on.

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Training Battalion (Catterick) Cricket.

Training Battn. v. 4th Batln. Royal Tank Corps

Played at Catterick on August 25th. The T.B. won by 85 runs.

TRAINING BATTALION.

L. C. Boyd b Browning	50
Sigmn Morstadt c Tuson b Browning	0
E. S. Cole c Richards b Browning	7
Sergt Carpenter b Davies	0
Sigmn Ferrier c Martin b Davies	2
Sigmn Atkinson c Tuson b Davies	0
Sigmn Jones b Davies	0
T. A. R. Scott b Milton	48
Sigmn Williams b Browning	7
Sigmn Heffernan c Crotty b Browning	8
C.S.M. MacGregor not out	0
Extras	1
Total	123

4TH BATTALION R.T.C.

Lieut Caley b Cole	0
Pte Martin b Cole	2
2/Lieut Tuson lbw b Cole	0
Major Hartop b Cole	0
Pte Crotty lbw b Cole	7
Capt Davies b Carpenter	3
Sergt Browning b Cole	0
Lieut Richards not out	3
Lieut Young b Carpenter	5
Sergt Waters st Heffernan b Carpenter	5
Pte Milton b Carpenter	6
Extras	7
Total	38

Bowling—Cole took 6 wickets for 14 runs; Carpenter 4 for 24.

Training Battalion v. Richmond

Played at Richmond on Sept. 1. The T.B. won by 69 runs.

TRAINING BATTALION.

Sergt Carpenter b E. Cherry	6
Sigmn Ferrier c Husband b Hammond	4
Corpl Watterton c Kennedy b E. Cherry	10
Lieut Cole run out	18
Sigmn Morstadt c Kennedy b Worswick	11
Lieut Scott b Hammond	37
Lieut Edes c Husband b E. Cherry	0
Sigmn Williams run out	1
Sigmn Payne c D. Cherry b E. Cherry	3
Sergt Downer b Hammond	0
C.S.M. McGregor not out	10
Extras	13
Total	113

RICHMOND.

E. G. Hart b Cole	2
H. Wheatley lbw b Cole	1
W. Lawson b Carpenter	22
D. Cherry b Cole	0
Lieut Kennedy c Edes b Scott	1
C. Husband b Cole	4
E. Cherry lbw b Scott	3
F. Hammond b Scott	0
W. Watson b Carpenter	4
A. Worswick not out	1
B. Close b Carpenter	0
Extras	6
Total	44

Bowling—Cole took 4 wickets for 9 runs; Scott 3 for 12; Williams 0 for 8; Carpenter 3 for 7.

Training Battalion v. Boroughbridge

Played at Boroughbridge on September 4th. The T.B. won by 38 runs.

TRAINING BATTALION.

Capt. H. A. J. Parsons c Martin b Appleyard	7
Major F. R. Cobb b Appleyard	41
Sigmn Morstadt c Appleyard b Pickard	1
E. S. Cole c and b Pickard	80
T. A. R. Scottt lbw b Rawlinson	9
Corpl Watterton lbw b Rawlinson	0
Sigmn Ferrier b Burrell	11
N. H. Edes not out	6
Sigmn Williams b Burrell	0
Sigmn Saunders b Burrell	0
Extras	10
Total for 9 wkts. (declared)	165

BOROUGHBRIDGE.

Pearson c Scott b Cole	3
Burrell c Edes b Cole	3
Rawlinson b Cole	2
Appleyard c Scott b Cole	10
Skilbeck c Saunders b Cobb	19
Montan b Williams	19
Pickard, b Scott	30
Whitler c Edes b Cole	14
Pullan c and b Cole	16
Appleyard b Scott	0
Extras	11
Total	127

Bowling—Scott took 2 wickets for 30 runs; Cole 6 for 38; Cobb 1 for 37; Williams 1 for 11.

Catterick Shooting Notes.

S.T.C. Inter-Company League.—The final results of this tournament are appended:—

	Fired	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Ag'gte
Drill Companies ...	10	9	1	0	19	5666
C Company ...	10	7	0	3	14	5444
F Company ...	10	6	1	3	13	5225
E Company ...	10	4	0	6	8	5242
D Company ...	10	3	0	7	6	4986
School of Signals ...	10	0	0	10	0	4649

The results are very satisfactory. Everyone congratulates the School of Signals on their very sporting spirit in turning out a team, often under adverse circumstances. Another league will be commenced as soon as possible after the S.T.C. small-bore championships, which take place on the 27th, 28th and 29th of September.

S.T.C. Rifle Club.—The results of the competition in August are as follows:—

S.T.C. Competitions—The Lord Roberts medal, N.R.A. medal and *The Sunday Times* certificate, won by Sergt Stone.

Depot Battalion Competitions.—Bell medal, 1st, Sergt Stone; 2nd, Sergt Seabrook. S.M.R.C. bronze medal, 1st, Capt. Collings; 2nd, Sergt Seabrook. *Daily Telegraph* certificate, 1st, Sergt Stone; 2nd, Sergt Seabrook. *Sunday Times* certificate, R.S.M. Nolan. *The Times* certificate, 1st, Sergt Stone; 2nd, Sergt Seabrook. *Daily Mail* certificate, 1st, Sergt Stone; 2nd, Sergt Seabrook.

A Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Sport.—We opened our football programme for the season with a defeat, the 19th M.T. Company R.A.S.C. beating us by 3 goals to 1, after a hard game.

Hockey, which should have started last week, has been postponed pending the completion of the ground.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

We are still being well represented in the shows held locally, and as it may be of interest to old members of this Company, I give the names of the prize-winners:—

Bedale Hunt Show, August 11th—Jumping: 3rd, Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming, R.A., on "Baby."

Barnard Castle, August 12th—Open Jumping: 1st, Lieut. W. E. G. Hemming on "Red Rover" (owned by Lieut R. M. Carr, R.A.). Local jumping—1st, Lieut C. Knowles, R.B., on "Mystical."

Hunton, August 14th—Pony class: 2nd, Corpl Searle on "Redstone." Jumping: 1st, Sergt Young, on "Chance"; 2nd, L/Corpl Whyte, on "Baby"; 3rd, Lieut W. E. G. Hemming, on "Sausage." Tent pegging: 2nd, L/Corpl Whyte. Wrestling on horseback: 1st, ——. Best turned-out pair of horses in draught: 1st, Dvr Corbett; 2nd, Dvr Broadhead.

Richmond, August 18th—Best turned-out rider: 1st, Sergt Goodman; 2nd, Sergt Cranham; 3rd, Sergt Waller. Best turned-out pair in harness: 1st, Dvr Worthington; 2nd, Dvr Corbett. Best turned-out pair in draught: 1st, Dvr Worthington.

Leyburn, August 21st—Open jumping (officers): 2nd, Lieut W. E. G. Hemming, on "Billy." Open jumping (O.R.s): 1st, Sergt Young, on "Chance"; 2nd, L/Corpl Whyte, on "Baby"; 3rd, Corpl Wilmot, on "Sausage."

Hudswell, August 25th—Open jumping: 1st, Sergt Young, on "Chance"; 2nd, L/Corpl Whyte, on "Baby."

S.T.C. Cymkhana.—As I expect a full report of the gymkhana will be given elsewhere, I merely give the names of prize-winners of this Company:—

Subalterns, jumping—2nd, Lieut C. Knowles; 3rd, Lieut W. E. G. Hemming.

Musical chairs—1st, Corpl Farmer; 2nd, Dvr Andrews; 3rd, Dvr Merritt.

Pole jump—1st, Dvr O'Neill; 2nd, Corpl Miles.

Inter-unit cable laying competition—The D.B. team won easily.

Hassel Cup—1st, Sergt Gregory; 3rd, Sergt Young. As there appears to be some discussion as to the number of points lost, I quote figures which may be taken as authentic:—

Jumps—	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Style	Total
Sergt Gregory ...	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
L/Sgt Bracken ...	0	0	0	4	2	1	7
Sergt Young ...	0	2	0	4	0	3	9

A note for the P.R.I. —"SKIPPERS"

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Heymann Cup—The cup for horsemanship, so kindly presented by Lieut.-Col. F. A. Heymann, will be competed for on or about September 25th. All our riding instructors have entered, but very few stable n.c.o.s. I cannot account for the latter. The test will be hard.

Cricket.—On August 10th we concluded our match against A and B Companies, and won by a few wickets. On Sept. 7th we met F Company, and lost. I must congratulate Lieut. Knowles on performing the hat-trick.

Shooting.—We have finished second in the inter-Company shooting league, which is very good, really. The combination of A and B Companies as one unit for shooting purposes makes them much too strong for any other team in the S.T.C.

Boxing.—Dvr Howard fought Corpl Boreham, of the Green Howards, in a special four-round contest at Richmond on August 19th, and won on points. It was a very good fight of the stand-and-deliver type.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket.—D Company played the School of Signals on Sept. 7th, and the School won by 5 wickets. A very good game, helped along by bursts of friendly "barracking." D Company batted first, and succeeded in making their best score of the season.

Scores: D Company 83 (Lieut Scott 35; Corpl Watterton 26). School, 93 for 5 wickets (Major Drayson 25; Lieut Hatfield 19; Lieut Eve 17 not out). Corpl Watterton took 2 wickets for 12 runs.

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Sport.—As may be gathered from the Company notes elsewhere, everything in the sports line went as per book. Capt. Plummer and the committee worked well in organising and arranging the various items, and much of the credit is due to their efforts. Even with a strong Company, it is not so easy as one would think to find teams for the various events; but everyone had the chance of turning out and doing his bit.

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We finished second in the inter-Company athletic relay, and tied with F for first place in the team championship. Special mention must be made of Lieut Craig, who is undoubtedly the finest all-round athlete in the Training Centre. Beside the 100, 220, 440, and 880 yard events and the long jump, he competed in the high jump at a moment's notice, and cleared 5 ft. 1 in. Much of our success is due to his efforts.

By defeating the School we annexed the cricket shield and, of course, a few more points towards the trophy. We heartily congratulate Sergt Carpenter on being awarded his cricket cap, as well as his performances in Corps and Battalion matches. Since his return from the Oval, we all feel quite intimate friends with Mr. Martin, the famous groundsman—"Brusher" Martin to Arthur, of course!

Royal Signals, Aldershot.

Cricket Season, 1926.—The Command team have played 22 matches during the season. Of these, they have won 10, lost 8, and drawn 4, as shown below:—

May 12—R.A.F., Farnboro', 92 for 4 wkts.; R. Signals, 66 (lost)
,, 15—Royal Signals, 106; 3rd Pack Brigade R.A., 57 (won).
,, 22—Royal Signals, 122; 2nd K.R.R.C., 88 (won).
,, 25—R.A.S.C., Al'shot, 162; R. Signals, 152 for 5 (drawn)
June 3—1st Pack Brigade, 100; Royal Signals, 74 (lost).
,, 5—A.E.C., Aldershot, 53; Royal Signals, 63 (won).
,, 10—Royal Signals, 40 and 81 for 6 wkts.; 2nd Grenadier 42 and 41 (won).
,, 12—2nd Tank Corps, 163; Royal Signals, 131 for 7 (drawn)
,, 17—1st Brigade R.H.A., 167; R. Signals, 86 for 5 (drawn)
,, 26—R. Signals, 147; Wellington College, 148 for 5 (lost).
July 3—R.A.M.C., Aldershot, 163; Royal Signals, 95 (lost).
,, 5—Royal Signals, 181 for 5 wkts.; Etceteras, 61 (won).
,, 6—Royal Signals, 88; R.A.O.C., Aldershot, 125 for 4 (lost)
,, 9 and 12—R. Signals 242; Service Cos. R.A.S.C. 224 (won)
,, 17—R. Signals, 76; Training College, R.A.S.C., 154 (lost)
,, 22—1st King's Regt., 185; Royal Signals, 188 for 9 (won).
,, 27—Royal Signals, 150; Etceteras, 143 (won).
,, 31—1st Pack Brigade, 156; Royal Signals, 158 for 9 (won).
Aug. 13—Royal Signals, 324; Fleet C.C., 326 for 9 (lost).
,, 21—1st Brigade R.H.A., 133; Royal Signals, 93 (lost).
,, 27—R.A.S.C., Aldershot, 222 for 9 (dec.); Royal Signals, 117 for 7 (drawn).
Sept. 2—A.E.C., Aldershot, 55; Royal Signals, 118 for 2 (won).

BATTING AVERAGES.

	Inn.	Runs	Not out	Highest	Aver
Capt. Mathew	20	472	0	91	23.6
Lieut Coryton	16	319	1	68	21.3
Sigmn Tomlinson	6	97	1	41	19.4
Sergt Minns	12	199	1	73*	18.1
Sigmn Wellock	13	155	3	36	15.5
L/Corpl Askew	20	267	2	47*	14.8
Lieut Rance	18	218	3	48	14.5
Sigmn Wiggins	4	43	1	26	14.3
Major Hichins	14	182	0	34	13.0
Capt Thursby Pelham	15	190	0	66	12.7
Sigmn Aldridge	8	44	4	13	11.0
Sigmn Hayes	11	105	1	31	10.5
R.S.M. Cussens	15	133	1	29	9.5
Lieut Burridge	4	31	0	17	7.7
Corpl Morphew	9	67	0	21	7.4
Sigmn Ewers	9	26	5	7	6.5

The following also batted: Sergt Kingman 2; Sigmn Davenport 3; Corpl Berry 10* and 0; Major Walsh 2, 15 and 2; Sigmn Varey 0; Sigmn Faulkner 0; C.Q.M.S. Todd 6; Lieut.-Col. Willan 0; Sergt Ratcliffe 2; L/Corpl Leary 0; Sigmn Pinson 7*; Sergt Hoare 4*; Sergt Bellew 10 and 0; Sigmn Bennett 2 and 8.

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Overs	Runs	Wkts	Average
Sergt Bellew	14	96	12	8.0
R.S.M. Cussens	263	791	73	10.8
Corpl Morphew	42	163	12	13.6
L/Corpl Askew	235	690	47	14.4
Sigmn Ewers	71	236	14	15.0
Sigmn Wellock	70	256	15	17.0
Sigmn Hayes	55	190	11	17.3

The following also bowled: Lieut.-Col. Willan, 1 for 12; Cpl Berry, 1 for 55; Sergt Kingman, 2 for 48; Sigmn Tomlinson, 2 for 29; Lieut Coryton, 0 for 7; Lieut Rance, 1 for 46; Sigmn Davenport, 0 for 19; Sergt Minns, 0 for 48; Major Walsh, 0 for 30; Sergt Ratcliffe, 0 for 16.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

After a pleasant if not very exciting cricket season, our thoughts have once again turned to rugby, soccer and hockey.

Football.—Our first soccer trial was held a few days ago, in the form of a match between Nos. 1 and 3 Companies. No. 1 won by 6—2. Corpl Baines and Sigmn Edwards have the knack of making goal-scoring look easy. The result of this match was that a useful team was selected to play the 1st Pack Brigade R.A. in a friendly match. We lost 4—3, which proves nothing, however.

This season the unit senior team has stepped up into the Command senior league. Therefore the Aldershot junior cup, which we won last season, will have to be defended by the reserve team, which is also entered in the Command junior league. In addition, both Companies have teams in the Command inter-Company knock-out. The reserve team players are going to be busy this year!

Nothing has yet been decided about the Army cup, although the matter should be settled by the time next month's notes are required.

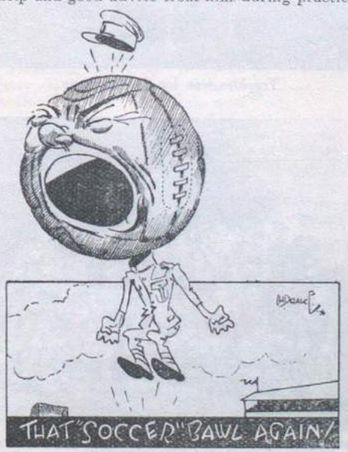
Rugger and Hockey.—The arrangements for these games are in the hands of Lieut Boileau, Lieut Thompson, and Sergt Dormer. Up to the present only one hockey trial has been played; but on September 22nd the unit hockey team will be battling with the R.A.M.C. Depot.

By the end of the month all winter sports will be going strong, and we should be able to publish some pleasing results in the near future.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot

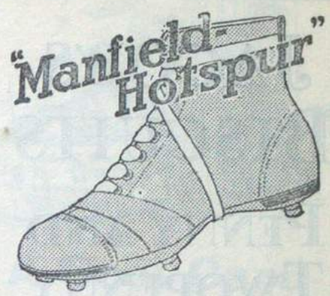
Rugby.—As last year, we shall form a XV. which we hope will do the unit credit. We lose one or two of the old hands this trooping season, but amongst those who have joined us from the Depot are a few who can handle a ball.

Q.M.S. Fegan has been elected an Army referee, and we anticipate help and good advice from him during practice games.



The outlook in the unit for the football season is a good one. A decision of the Command football committee has grouped us with D Troop Cav. Divl. Signals as a Signal unit, and we look forward, with their co-operation, to some keen and enjoyable games during the season. We are out to make "Sigs. of the South" a bye-word in the Command. Incidentally, we open the season with a match against A Corps Signals on September 15th.

Hockey.—Our fixture list, so far as away matches are concerned, is nearing completion. We are handicapped in not knowing at present which ground is allotted to us for home matches, and the dates available. However, this branch of sport has keen followers, and as soon as we *can* get down to our first "bully," we shall endeavour to make the programme a successful one. As last year, we shall run a Company league in the unit. We invite Companies of other Signal units to offer our Companies dates.



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Cross-Country.—We fielded three representatives in the Royal Signals Command team last year, and our effort is to improve on that this year, if possible. Practice runs are being arranged in the near future. Runners, watch your Company sports notice board!

No. 1 Co. 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

August is usually the "dead-end" month in regard to sport, caused by the partial disorganisation due to summer leave. A glaring notice on the Company board reminded us all that August also marks the beginning of keen competition for the 1926-27 unit trophy. We have had time to reflect on last season's record, and have learned the lesson that no success is secured except by hard work. We know also that jerry building in sport does not pay, even though the reward for hard work seems so slow in arriving.

To ensure that we have a strong foundation for fostering all branches of sport in this Company, a special sports meeting was convened by the Company sports officer, Lieut S. L. Collier. Various suggestions were put forward, and the forming of a responsible committee was successfully accomplished. We are unfortunate this year in losing so much of our known talent, and the committee will have a hard task set them. They should know that hard work and unremitting labour pays, and leads inevitably to success sooner or later. Anything short of their best is mere waste of energy.

We have yet to taste the trophy "wine," and although we are not going to be sure of success next year, we are going to optimistically "slog on" in our efforts to reach the goal. To encourage the dark horses of this Company, an inter-Section trophy has been provided.

The Company sports committee comprises the following members, allotted to sub-committees dealing with the various sports:

Soccer—A Section: Signalmen Warren and Osborne. B Section: Signalmen Munt and T. Innes.

Rugby—A Section: Signalmen Warren and Wild. B Section: Signalmen Taylor and Harbury.

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Hockey—A Section: L/Corpl Haisell and Sigmn Stephens. B Section: Corpl Anderson and Sigmn Edwards.
Cross-Country—A Section: Signalmen Thomas and Hill. B Section: Corpl Battrick and Sigmn Munt.
Cricket—A Section: Sigmn Andrews and Dvr James. B Section: Sigmn Varey and Dvr Dimmer.
Shooting—A Section: Signalmen Powell and Bush. B Section: Sergt Penfold and Corpl Anderson.

Our rugby and football teams are putting in several hours of training during the week, and it is hoped to play our first Company fixtures about the second week in September.

No. 2 Coy. 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

We have followed the lead our friends abroad have given us, and are publishing a few snaps of the Company's sports teams and trophies taken by Corpl V. Deamon.

The Boxing Team.

The Cricket Team.

Trophies won for the Company.

The men who helped to win the Trophies (less the photographer)

Rhine Signal Units.

Cricket.—Judging by recent results, cricket is getting stale, only two matches having been played of late, both of which we lost, so we will now have to look to

Football.—The committee has not functioned up to date, but we hope to hear from them in the near future.

We are hoping to make a big name in the B Football League, our only dangers being the Battalion Reserve teams. As most of our team proceed to India and England, we are very thankful for the kindness shown by the 2nd and 4th Divl. Signals in supplying us with substitutes. One trial has already been held, and it showed that we have some good reserves to fall back upon.

It is very difficult to arrange fixtures at the moment, owing to so many Sections being on training, but we have managed an odd one here and there.

Swimming.—This sport has been very disappointing this year, no meeting having been held. It is hardly likely that one will be held now, owing to training and furlough.

Rugby.—This is to be run on the same lines as last year, i.e., friendly games with a knock-out cup later on.

Hockey.—There is to be a meeting of two representative sides of the Rhine Army, in which we hope to place three or four players. Grounds are the "bugbear" out here, but with a little work and patience one *could* be fixed up on the exercise platz. What about it, hockeyites?

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Cricket.—Owing to bad luck, bad pitches, and bad livers, cricket has been a forbidden topic, but with the improvement—or I should say, the return to form—of the batting members, things have much improved, and a few of the best performances are as follows:—

v. Gymkhana, lost (Bosworth 43, and 6 for 21).
v. Sind-Raj District, won (Rawson 53; Gordon 3 for 3, Bosworth 2 for 2).
v. Northamptonshire Regiment, lost (Newman 5 for 22).
v. C Company 58th Regt., won (Ward 32, McKenzie 5 for 21).
v. H.Q. Wing 58th Regiment, won (Pierce 52, Webb 50; Newman 5 for 25).
v. R.A.F. Depot, draw.
v. H.Q. Northamptonshire Regiment, won (Webb 22; Quinlan 6 for 11; McKenzie 4 for 21).
v. C Company 58th Regiment, won (Webb 19, Langham 15; McKenzie 5 for 25).
v. H.Q. Wing 58th Regiment, won (Rawson 25, Quinlan 49; McKenzie 7 for 24).

Football and Hockey.—Only Section games have been played so far, but it is hoped to commence outside matches next month.

D Divl. Signals, Upper Topa.

Hockey.—Of nine matches played by the unit team, five were won, three drawn, and one lost. Results:—

v. K.O.R.R., drew, 2—2.
v. M.T.'s, Chaklaia, lost 1—0.
v. B Company, K.O.R. Regiment, won 6—1.
v. N.C.O.s Royal Sussex Regiment, won 7—1.
v. K.O.R. Regiment (Battn.), won 2—1.
v. R.A.F. (Details), won 5—3.
v. Royal Sussex (Battn.), won 3—0, drew 1—1, and drew 1—1.

The sergeants of the Signals and Royal Sussex Regiment played a drawn game, each side scoring once.

In the Lintott shield tournament, played at Murree, we were unfortunate in coming up against the ultimate winners in the third round. The scores in the three games were:—

v. Fort Club B, won 3—0.
v. Lawrence School B, won 2—0.
v 23rd Brigade R.F.A., lost 2—0.

Football.—Attached Signal personnel beat D Divl. Signals by 1—0. In the next match the scoring was reversed.

We now have people up here from various Signal units in the Northern Command, and are busily engaged in picking the team for Simla, to take part in the Durand cup tournament.

A selected team drew with the K.O.R. Regiment. Since this match, the team has been altered a great deal. I take it upon myself, on behalf of all Signals, to wish the final team the very best of luck in Simla.

The Corporals' Club beat the n.c.o.s of R.A.F. details by 5—1

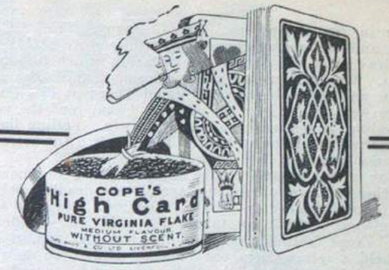
Rugby.—In the Murree Hills tournament we *just* managed to lose to the K.O.R. Regiment. Score: 22—0. We won on casualties! In a scratch match versus the Royal Sussex Battn. team, we managed to win by 5 points to 3.

Tennis.—The sergeants, corporals and signalmen each held a successful tennis at-home. Judging by the number of spectators the famous "Long-legs" might have been playing.

The Corps in Egypt.

Command Swimming Championships.—The following are the results in the various finals:—

75 yards dash—We were the successful competitors in this event, being followed home by the R.A.S.C., 3rd K.O. Hussars, and R.I.F.
75 yards back stroke.—This was won by the 3rd K.O. Hussars, our team being unplaced.



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180 yards free style.—The Signals carried off this event.
Diving championship.—We gained second place to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
Unit relay.—1st, Royal Signals; 2nd, R.A.S.C.; 3rd, 3rd K.O. Hussars.
400 yards.—This was won by the R.I.F. We got into third place.

Water Polo.—The position of the League is as follows:—1st, R.A.S.C., 31 points; 2nd, 3rd Hussars, 30; 3rd, Royal Signals, 28; 4th, K.O.S.B., 23; 5th, R.I.F., 20; 6th A. and S.H., 10.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Cricket.—We have only played one Company cricket match this month, that being against F Battery R.H.A., on the 21st August. The Company won by 21 runs.

The Section matches are now in progress, and the results will be forwarded next month, together with that of the Pritchard cup match against No. 3 Company.

Swimming.—We heartily congratulate the members of this Company who have been selected to compete in the Command swimming championships.

Football.—The commencement of this sport is due next month (September), and we again look forward to possessing a good team. Judging by the interest shown, it will be a hard task for the selection committee to pick a representative team.

Hockey and Rugby.—Although the facilities for these games are somewhat restricted, we hope to record quite a number of victories during the forthcoming season.

No. 1 Section No. 2 W/T Coy., Sarafand.

Cricket.—During the past month we had several enjoyable games. Of seven friendlies played, five were won and two lost. Corpls Smith and Napper returned some remarkable averages with the ball in these games, and have also batted well.

On the 21st August we journeyed to Ramleh, to play off the first round of the Command cup, our opponents being a very

strong side in No. 2 Armoured Car Company. The A.C.C. batted first, and declared at teatime with their score at 141 for 6 wickets, leaving us about ninety minutes in which to knock off the runs. We made a bad start in losing C.S.M. Bramley before a run was on the board, and Sigmn Theed at 18. Corpl Napper then went in, and by the way he "went for" the very accurate bowling, it seemed that we *might* win. Failing light, however, resulted in his being bowled for 31, with the score at 87. The game was then left drawn.

The replay on our ground, on the 30th, produced an amazing game. Batting first, we failed badly against the deadly bowling of the A.C.C., well backed up by clever fielding. Our total was only 40—and our outlook on taking the field was decidedly pessimistic. Corpl Smith commenced the bowling, and in his first over held a return from one batsman and clean bowled another. Corpl Napper, bowling at the other end, secured one wicket in a maiden over. These two, backed by some truly wonderful fielding, skittled out A.C.C. for 25 runs in little more than the same number of minutes. Smith took five for 16 and Napper five for 9 runs.

Our object on resuming was to play out time, and our opening batsmen neglected several scoring chances. Wickets, however, again fell rapidly, and to our consternation we were all out for 25, and with still half an hour for play, we held a lead of only 40 runs. A.C.C. went in to *win*, and this they accomplished in the very last over after losing six wickets in a brilliant and deservedly successful effort.

There were R.A.F. visitors from the Palestine General Hospital, and from the Transport and Repair Section. Everyone voted it a most thrilling match.

Tennis.—At present tennis is in full swing in this Command, and consequently we have had quite a considerable number of friendly and league matches. Two teams have been entered from this unit for the Command tennis league, but up to date we have not particularly excelled—due primarily to having had to meet better players than ourselves, and secondly to the fact that Fortune has been looking at us obliquely.

No. 2 Armoured Car Company and Palestine General Hospital have both more personnel to pick from and more convenience for playing (the former have three concrete courts), and we are at some disadvantage when competing with teams of their calibre.

The standard of play is particularly high in this Command, as members of "A" team (five of whom have played in Baghdad) have found out to their cost.

Our latest opponents (No. 2 A.C. Company) were without doubt superior to us, but nevertheless some good games were witnessed—some were almost Wimbledon-ish—and as they are a good sporty crowd, we have not felt at all disheartened at our losses. Meanwhile we are fighting fiercely to maintain our position at the *bottom* of the league—a position which we shall defend to the last "double."

53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals, Cardiff.

The annual unit sports were held at Porthcawl on Thursday, August 5th, and thanks to the careful preparations made by Capt. F. N. Fawcett, the sports officer, ably assisted by the R.S.M., the events went with a swing.

A large number of excellent prizes were competed for, and whilst I refrain from mentioning the names of winners owing to the space it would take, I think one or two events ought to be mentioned.

The Company relay race was won by No. 3 Company. The tug-of-war gave us several very good pulls, and was eventually won by No. 1 Company.

The officers' race was *not* won by the commanding officer, but he was not very far from the tape when Lieut K. C. Cooper broke it. I think the adjutant, the sports officer, and the M.O. ought to have run in this race!

The ladies' race produced a good show of running, though the winner seemed to find the adjutant a very good steadying post.

Throughout the afternoon the unit band, under Mr. A. O. Foxhall, rendered an excellent programme, much appreciated by the numerous visitors—who were mostly of the fair sex.

After tea some excellent jumping and tent-pegging brought a very successful meeting to a close.

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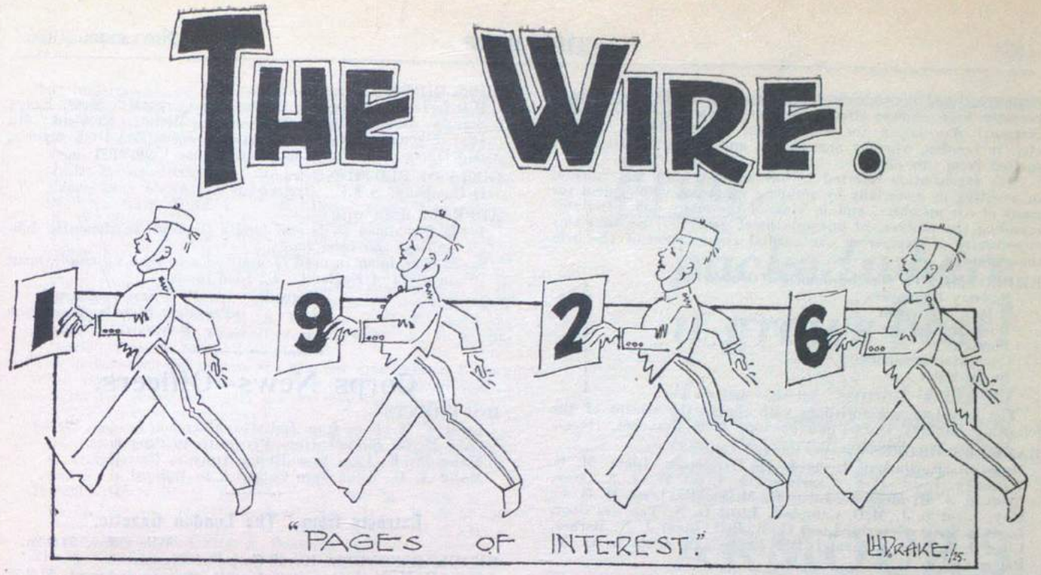

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VOL. VII.—No. 81 NOVEMBER, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

Will those readers who are in possession of bound volumes of THE WIRE, and who would be willing to dispose of them to a new Royal Signals Mess Library, kindly communicate with this office at once, stating the number of volumes available for purchase and the price required. Volumes for 1921 and 1923 are particularly desired at the earliest date.

❀ ❀ ❀

Orders for 1926 bound volumes can now be taken. Those readers requiring copies are asked to submit their requirements as early as possible. Only a limited number available for issue. Price 8/- post free.

❀ ❀ ❀

We are able to publish in this issue a very interesting page of photographs from Egypt, together with an explanatory article describing each illustration. In thanking those responsible for their contribution, may we take this opportunity of appealing to other Signal units for similar descriptive and illustrated articles.

❀ ❀ ❀

Will those units of Royal Signals who have not yet commenced to contribute monthly notes for publication in the Corps magazine, or who for various reasons have been unable to keep their contributions up-to-date, kindly give this matter consideration.

This appeal is made at the request of many readers who are keenly interested in the activities and welfare of their old units and comrades, and regularly scan the pages of THE WIRE in the hope of finding news of their friends in other stations.

❀ ❀ ❀

We are pleased to welcome A Divisional Signals, Peshawar, India, into the new scheme of Association membership, WIRE subscription, etc. A brief letter from that unit is published under the Signals Association Notes, and in thanking them for their support and co-operation, the Committee trust that their lead will be quickly followed by other oversea Signal units who are not yet participating.

❀ ❀ ❀

In conclusion, the Committee invite all readers to submit *constructive* criticisms of their Corps journal, and to forward any suggestions which, with due regard to any additional cost entailed, would be calculated to improve the magazine.

THE EDITOR.

[LATE EDITORIAL.]

We acknowledge the receipt of unit notes, photographs, etc., from C Divisional Signals, Dera Ismail Khan, and also from the S.T.C. and Depot, Jubbulpore, India—both of which contributions arrived too late for publication in this issue.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

Correspondence.

Peshawar, India, August 12th.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR—I have much pleasure in forwarding you minutes of General Meetings recently held in Peshawar, and am pleased to announce that the *modus operandi* of the new scheme of membership, as given in the Annual Report for 1925, will take effect in this unit as from January 1st, 1927.

I note that the scheme is progressing on very favourable lines at home, and only hope that it will not be long before it is *universal* throughout the Corps, as an income secured on such sound lines is much more to be appreciated by any who have the welfare of the Association at heart than a periodical appeal for funds.

Wishing the scheme the utmost success, both abroad and at home.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F. C. SMITHERS, Hon. Branch Sec.,
A Divisional Signals.

It is notified for general information that the Committee have recently been able to effect a working arrangement with The National Association for Employment of ex-Soldiers, Sailors, etc., in London, whereby nominations and recommendations are invited from this office.

The organisation referred to has already been instrumental in assisting us materially by securing congenial employment for many of our members, and in view of the many difficulties surrounding the problem of unemployment generally, we take this opportunity of expressing our cordial appreciation of the help thus afforded.

EMPLOYMENTS for the month of October:—

Railway Employees	3
G.P.O. Wireman	1
Domestic Service	1
Potman	1
Carpenter (temporary)	1
Butler-Valet	1
Clerk-Typist	1

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following Bankers' Orders and amounts from Branches, etc.:—

BANKERS' ORDERS (5s. per annum) from:—
Major R. E. Barker, Lieut J. L. Henderson, Lieut M. S. Wheatley, Lieut J. F. Charlesworth, Lieut W. J. S. Gray, Lieut E. J. H. Moppett, Lieut D. M. Smyth, Lieut H. G. C. Hay, Lieut T. J. McO. Campbell, Lieut D. N. Van der Goot, Lieut I. St. Q. Severin, Lieut G. B. Bell, Lieut J. N. Barker, Lieut L. W. J. Dryland, Lieut L. D. M. Patterson.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from—
Major F. Penfold, 5s.; Chiswick Branch, 10s.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Committee particularly desire that all cheques, postal orders, money orders, and other remittances representing subscriptions or donations to the Association Benevolent Fund, shall be made payable (and forwarded *direct*) to:—

The Hon. Treasurer,
Signals Association Benevolent Fund,
Room 54, Horse Guards,
Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

The payment of such remittances to the General Secretary of the Signals Association causes a considerable amount of inconvenience and additional clerical labour which it is particularly desired to avoid.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

BANKER'S ORDERS from—
Major R. E. Barker, Lieut J. L. Henderson, Lieut M. S. Wheatley, Lieut J. F. Charlesworth, Lieut W. J. S. Gray, Lieut E. J. H. Moppett, Lieut D. M. Smyth, Lieut H. G. C. Hay, Lieut T. J. McO. Campbell, Lieut I. St. Q. Severin, Lieut G. B. Bell, Lieut J. N. Barker, Lieut L. W. J. Dryland.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
P.R.I. 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Corporals' Mess, Egypt Signals; Officers' Mess, S.T.C.; W. Moffatt, Sheffield; 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester; Sergeants' Mess, 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Aldershot Command Signal Company.

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from—
D Company, S.T.C., Catterick.

APPEALS dealt with:—
1—Ex-Signalman, wife and family (Ireland) in domestic difficulties. £5 from funds.
2—Ex-Signalman in need of assistance to take up employment in south of England. £2 from funds.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association
Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS—
Lieut F. T. Pope from India to Aldershot.
Capt E. G. Sinnott from Plymouth to Singapore.
Major W. E. Pain from Rhine Army to Catterick.
Major A. C. Allan from Catterick to Bulford.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 21/9/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut P. M. H. Lemon is restored to the establishment, 31/8/26
Lieut F. G. G. Davey is seconded whilst employed at the Signals Exptl. Establishment, 31/8/26.

MEMORANDA—
Lieut.-Col. A. H. French, D.S.O., h.p. list, late Royal Signals, to be Colonel, 7/9/26, with seniority 28/6/24.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut. H. L. Collingbourne, late R.E., to be Lieut. 18/9/26.
W. A. Edgson to be 2 Lieut. 18/9/26.

War Office, 24/9/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
G. A. Jones to be 2/Lieut., 25/9/26.

War Office, 28/9/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
J. C. Rixon to be 2/Lieut., 28/9/26.

War Office, 5/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
The undermentioned to be Captains, 6/10/26:—Capt C. H. H. Vulliamy, from R.E., retaining his present seniority and with precedence next above H. A. J. Parsons, M.C. Capt H. D. Beadon, M.C., from Green Howards, with regimental seniority 13/7/19, and precedence next below D. D. Bannerman. (Such seniority not to count for Army seniority, pay and allowances, increase of pay, or retired pay).

Corps Promotion Roster—Subsequent Amendments.

To be C.Q.M.-Sergeant (F. of S.)—

2306713 Walker, C. 17/2/26

To be Sergeant—

1850373 Godfrey, D. 21/11/24

Appointed Acting-Sergeant—

1850363 Bennett, T. 26/4/26

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—

2306226 Minion, W. 4/4/26
2312225 Smith, R. 26/4/26
2306529 Woodcock, N. 27/4/26

To be Corporal—

2309306 Page, W. 27/1/26
2311826 Walker, A. 13/2/26
5877567 Coles, G. 16/2/26
2312224 Negro, A. 2/3/26
1857081 Rand, R. 2/3/26
2311265 Kingham, E. 2/3/26
2312364 Hopkins, F. 2/3/26
2311341 Margrain, E. 8/3/26
1850273 Austen, C. 8/3/26
2309998 Alder, T. 8/3/26
2313600 Lewis, C. 8/3/26
2306627 Walker, H. 8/3/26
2309615 Perry, G. 20/3/26
2312512 Sykes, F. 30/3/26

Appointed Acting-Corporal—

2309306 Page, W. 27/1/26
2313553 Broughton, H. 29/1/26
2309839 Daniell, C. 1/4/26
2307228 Ketteringham, F. 26/4/26
2314986 Bell, S. 15/6/26
2313898 Holmes, W. 16/8/26
6837724 Lee, A. 22/8/26
2310853 Cahill, E. 25/8/26

Discharges.

2308083 C.Q.M.S. E. King, 11/9/26
2306592 Sergt J. Nutt, 30/8/26
1856911 Sergt A. Laing, 17/9/26
2308268 Sergt S. Courtney, 19/9/26
2313005 Sergt W. Watkins, 24/9/26
2306871 Corpl D. Gardiner, 30/8/26

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2312052 Corpl A. Chisnall, 1/9/26
2312235 Corpl J. McIvor, 2/9/26
2312250 Corpl A. Price, 20/9/26

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Lieutenants, 6/10/26, retaining their present seniority:—R. L. M. Rosenberg, from R.A., with precedence next above C. R. H. Firth. E. L. Farnall, from S. Wales Borderers. J. A. I. Watts, from D.C.L.I., with precedence next above A. E. Barton. J. H. Brown, from R.A. M. Duke, from R.A., with precedence next above C. H. Crouch, M.C. R. H. Hooper, M.B.E., from K.S.L.I. F. H. Bury, from R. Fusiliers. R. W. Morgan, from R.A., with precedence next below W. Scott. F. P. L. Gray, from Inniskilling Fus., with precedence next below H. J. Wiseman. C. W. Knight, from R.A., with precedence next below F. R. Goadby. H. R. Firth, from Lancs. Fus., with precedence next below J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E. R. J. N. Solly, from Y. and L.R., with precedence next below M. S. Wheatley. H. H. Anthony, from R.A. W. A. Peachell, from R.W.K. F. I. N. Mc Ostrich, from S. Stafford Regiment.

The undermentioned officers are granted antedates as follows for the purposes of seniority only, such antedates not to count for Army seniority, nor for pay and allowances, increase of pay or retired pay:—

4/8/20—Majors R. Chenevix-Trench, O.B.E., M.C., J. L. Tomlin, C.B.E., D.S.O., C. L. Day, J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E., G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C., C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., and E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.

16/8/22—Majors W. E. Pain, M.C., C. W. M. Firth, M.C., G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., J. A. F. Mair, M.C., E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., H. I. Allen, D.S.O., and Fitz A. Drayson, M.C.

30/8/15—Captains (Bt.-Major) F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E., (Bt.-Major) H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., and A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.

13/7/19—Captains A. Beatson-Bell, H. C. Carey-Thomas, W. M. Miller, M.C., J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., C. P. Prescot, A. L. Harris, M.C., R. G. Williams, M.V.O., H. W. Hose, M.C., E. L. Hill, M.C., J. Crowley, M.C., A. W. Roberts, M.C., J. McConville, M.C. H. G. Henderson, St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler, R. H. Neale, H. V. von S. Thorne, J. L. Collings, R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., D. D. Bannerman, D. H. Cunynghame, C. A. Murray, D. A. Brown, M.C., F. S. Straight, M.C., F. W. S. Jourdain, M. F. M. Parkes, M.C., T. H. L. Turner, T. B. Gravely, and C. Wheeler.

The undermentioned Majors from Indian Army, to be Majors, 6/10/26, retaining their present seniority:—L. Griffith, D.S.O. L. H. Morse, M.C., C. J. S. Le Cornu, M.C., A. E. Meredith, M.C., and A. G. J. Copeland.

The undermentioned Captains from Indian Army, to be Captains, 6/10/26, retaining their present seniority:—G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., R. H. Rayner, M.B.E., G. Tayleur, J. E. F. Paton, M. V. Smelt, B. G. Rowley, E. P. C. Collin, H. N. Brown, and R. Jee, M.C.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut.-Col. H. H. Neeves, D.S.O., M.C., late Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Major, 6/10/26, and relinquishes the rank of Lieut.-Colonel.
The undermentioned 2/Lieuts to be Lieuts:—J. McG. Baxter, 4/5/26; T. G. Halsall, 16/9/26.

War Office, 8/10/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
54th (E.A.) Divl. Signals—James Walter Atkins to be 2/Lieut., 29/9/26.

T.A. RESERVE—Royal Corps of Signals—
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Lieut A. E. MacLagan, from Active List, to be Lieut., 9/10/26.

War Office, 12/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut M. S. Wheatley to be Adjutant, vice Capt J. C. Mc Dona'd, M.C., 10/10/26.

SCHOOL OF SIGNALS—
Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., Royal Signals, to be Instructor (Class Z), 17/9/26.

MEMORANDA—
Col. A. H. French, D.S.O., retires on retired pay, 13/10/26.
Lieut J. C. H. Shaw, h.p. list, late Royal Signals, retires on retired pay on account of ill-health, 13/10/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals—Lieut G. W. B. Mitchell resigns his commission, 13/10/26.

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Plain Tales.

Devonshire Cream (and Cyder).—Especially cyder! The cream, of course, was sent off to relations and friends from a convenient shop. This necessary duty having being performed, the renowned K Section (who had arrived in Plymouth for training with their brigade) proceeded to inspect the famous old town. The Hoe was admired by daylight and by moonlight, but it was generally agreed that Union Street was the more interesting under the latter condition.

Not all the troops spent their time in the streets. One at least there was who visited the public libraries, churches, museums, and other free shows, was not attracted by the Devonshire flappers, and displayed a marked disinclination to partake of crumpets. He assured us that he had seen the actual steps down which Drake did not slip when he spied the Armada. He had more money than most of us on the last day!

The real work done by the Section, under the command of Lieut C. A. H. Chadwick, K.O.Y.L.I., was highly successful; not, mind you, that this was anything to be surprised at. On the march, the Signals set a pace that rather puffed the Hampshires. The country is hilly, and the lads were considerably relieved to find that they were not required to ascend Forder Hill (gradient 1 in 9) down which they slithered one morning.

The Section was attached to the 2nd Battn. Hampshire Regt. from 20th to 25th September, and the lads enjoyed themselves hugely. It will be a long time before they forget their happy days in Crownhill Barracks.

Hi! who threw that brick?

Those Quarters.—Some of you married people in Bulford have not yet spent a winter in your tin houses. You have something coming to you. Those in the know are now busily engaged in padding the door-posts. This sounds a curious proceeding, but when you have been blown from the kitchen to the scullery by the fierce winds of December and January, you will get the idea. A sergeant-major, whose word I wouldn't dream of doubting, assured me that he sat by his fire last winter with his overcoat on and chin strap down.

The following newspapers are recommended for stuffing into crevices: Daily Flail, The Chronic, Sunday Twister, and News of the Earth. The last-named is particularly valuable, as it will be found that any little draught which manages to creep past becomes slightly warm.

Sheer Cussedness.—I have made a study of flies, and I realise that they have their uses. To me, however, they are of no use at all. I had thirteen patent flypapers during the past summer, but the results were very disappointing. Either they didn't like the taste of the papers, or one of them had gone round giving the others the tip.

I bought a tin of expensive black enamel the other week. What's that got to do with flies? Wait a minute. I thoroughly scraped and sand-papered the mudguard of my side-car, and enamelled it. (Listen to Shakespeare laughing; he wonders how I can tell the mudguard from the body.) Hung it up on a beam, and gave it 24 hours in which to dry. It looked just like a brand-new mudguard. I felt very proud of it, for I am not handy with a brush of any description.

I took it down very gently, and then—crash! Just like that. The perfect harmony of our little home was shattered. Firmly embedded in the brightest and smoothest part of the enamel were seventeen flies! That's what comes of pampering them. Half-a-crown a small tin. Oh, reck!

Neuralgia.—It is tooth-ache really, but if you say so, everyone will tell you that you ought to have it out. You know this quite well, but you do not wish to be continually reminded of it. "Which one is it?" they ask. "Oh, no particular one; they all ache; it's neuralgia," you reply, knowing full well that the Recording Angel has entered another one up against you. The intelligent reader will gather that I have been suffering. Not silently. Ha, ha! (hollow laugh). Don't be silly. Everyone in our block knows. I'm not one to be secretive.

I've tried everything. Zoggis: a white powder. Throw a handful over your shoulder ten minutes before the pain comes on. No good. The first day I had this stuff the teeth refused to stop aching, so I had no opportunity of testing it.

The following evening I tried a double handful, and the wretched teeth didn't start their games until four hours afterwards: 2 ack emma in fact. This seemed a favourable opportunity to try Capsicum Blisters. I tried them. The skin peeled

(Continued on page 362).

Some Photographic Impressions of "The Land of the Pharaohs"

In view of the Editor's request in the July issue of THE WIRE, the committee of the Cairo Wireless Camera Club have pleasure in submitting the accompanying selection of snapshots taken by Sergt Norcross, Corpl Burns, and Corpl Corbett, of Egypt Signals.

In an endeavour to compete with Indian Signals, whose illustrations are much appreciated by all ranks of Royal Signals in this country, we trust that the Editor will allow us sufficient space for the following explanatory notes describing our temporary but ancient and historical scene of operations. [Note.—The illustrations run in order down the page—first column, 1 to 6; centre column, 7 to 11; and third column, 12 to 17.]

No. 1.—The Sakkara Sphinx (the only female sphinx in Egypt) is at Memphis, and is commonly known as the Floating Sphinx, as this photograph will illustrate. Its height is 14 feet and length 27 feet, and it weighs 80 tons.

No. 2 needs very little explaining, as the youngest of school boys is familiar with this famous view. In the order of the photograph, the three large pyramids shewn are:—

(A) The Pyramid of Mycerinis, in the foreground, built 3633 B.C.; 204 feet high.

(B) The Pyramid of Khephren, 447 feet high, and unclimbable.

(C) In the rear is the Great Pyramid of Cheops, its present height being 561 feet, as the top has been removed. The base of this pyramid covers 13 acres, and the whole contains 85,000,000 cubic feet of stone.

No. 3.—The Nile Delta Barrage—the largest of its kind in Egypt. It was first built by Mohammed Ali Pasha in 1835, and improved by Sir Colin Scott Moncrieff in 1890. This dam ensures an equal water level all the year round.

No. 4 shows a panoramic view of North-East Cairo, with the Coronation Mosque in the foreground (view taken from the Citadel).

No. 5 shows an Avenue of Sphinx at an Exhibition recently held in Cairo—designed to represent the Avenue of Sphinx at Karnak.

No. 6.—A familiar scene to those who have served in Egypt: Red Barracks, built by Napoleon in (approx.) 1805.

No. 7.—Obelisk at Matarieh, erected by Sesostris I. in 2433 B.C. It is made of red granite, and is 66 feet high.

No. 8.—Carvings, to illustrate farming, upon the walls of Queen Helmira's tomb.

No. 9.—A Silver Fox, captured by the Bedouin Chief shown in the picture. The latter is not really up to the film version of that much over-rated gentleman, but a typical reality.

No. 10 suggests a committee meeting of the Sakkara O.C.A., and a somewhat heated dispute in progress.

No. 11.—An old friend visited at Sakkara, probably the remains of a servant of one of the kings.

No. 12 is also well known: The Sphinx, or Aboul Howl (the God of Terrors). It has the body of a lion, a woman's head, and the face of a man. The face was badly disfigured by the Saracens and Mamelukes, who used the Sphinx as a target. It is 66 feet high and 187 feet long.

No. 13.—The Step Pyramid at Sakkara. This is the oldest pyramid in Egypt, being 6000 years old, with a height of 200 ft.

No. 14.—The Virgin's Tree, under which the Holy Family rested after their flight from the wrath of King Herod. Near to it is a spring of sweet water—a remarkable feature, because all other water in that vicinity is brackish.

No. 15.—View of the Sultan Hassan Mosque, built by a Syrian architect in 1356. The dome, which is 180 feet high, covers the tomb of the Sultan.

No. 16.—The new Sports Ground in course of construction.

No. 17 shows an aerial view of our new Barracks (No. 1 Coy. occupying the foremost half of the camp).

We trust that this selection of local views will please our readers, and incidentally be the means of improving our own membership. With all good wishes to THE WIRE from the Wireless Camera Club.

F. H. D.

For Notes on these interesting Egyptian Views see opposite page.

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Plain Tales—

(Continued from page 360).

off my face, and little blue flames flickered round my whiskers. My wife said something about a smell of burnt pork, but I never encourage that sort of thing at 2 a.m.

All this was supposed to drive the thoughts of tooch-ache from my mind. I think the manufacturer must have gone wrong somewhere, or perhaps I ought to have been measured for them. Anyway, it was with genuine relief that I heard the alarm clock burst into song.

The Stable Again.—It was my intention to say absolutely nothing about stables this month, as I have been advised that the subject was getting threadbare. Be that as it may, the activities of two artists (Army trade: D.R.) deserve mention. I cannot introduce them to the Corps generally, beyond stating that one is famous for his feet and the other for his length. One name begins with Staun and the other with Strug. There are no prizes.

These bright lads, then, were detailed to whitewash certain parts of the stable, and were greatly elated at the prospect of becoming nuisances to everyone employed therein. The man with the length found some Portland cement, and his brain stirred sluggishly. "Let us mix this with the whitewash," he said; "it will stick on better." So it came about that the whitewash became grey-wash, and stuck on very well, but did not look at all pretty. This would not have been so bad, but after the manner of D.R.s and artists, they left the brush in the bucket. The next morning found the whole lot solid, no more whitewash, a lot more to be whitewashed, and a general inspection in an hour's time. We draw a veil here, as THE WIRE finds its way into the home circle.

Lost.—Mick Wensley. Medium complexion. Plays football, hockey, and crown and anchor. Answers to a "double Scotch" at any time of the day or night. Finder please notify.

BARLEUX.

Signals Association Branches and Representatives.

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A Corps Signals, Ewshott	Capt C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C.
Aldershot Command Signals	Capt A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.
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Edinburgh Branch	Sergt W. Ross.
Fulham Branch	Sergt L. F. Moorse.
Chiswick and District Branch	Mr. J. Horner.
Dover Branch	Mr. C. C. Cronin.
Belfast Branch	L/Sergt Hall.
Brighton Branch	C.S.M. P. Brown.
Westminster Branch	R.S.M. E. Shepherd.
Newcastle-on-Tyne Branch	Lieut L. V. Younie.
Chatham Branch	Lieut F. A. S. Atterton.
1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot	C.S.M. R. Keevil.
2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot	Sergt N. Grant.
3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford	Lieut C. A. Oliver, M.C.
4th Divl. Signals, Colchester	L/Corpl L. F. Andrews.
Larkhill Branch	Sergt W. Nicks.
Cardiff Branch	Capt L. C. Bell, M.C.
Stratford, East London, Branch	C.S.M. C. J. Sharpe.
Blackdown Branch	C.S.M. A. Hunt.
A Divl. Signals, Peshawar	Corpl F. G. Smithers.
B Divl. Signals, Quetta	Sergt S. Dolbear.
C Divl. Signals, Dera Ismail Khan	Sigmn H. W. Hutchinson.
Rawalpindi Branch	Lieut E. Levett.
E Divl. Signals, Meerut	Corpl D. McMillan.
F Divl. Signals, Kohat	Sergt W. D. Peerless.
G Divl. Signals and S.T.C., Jubbulpore	Sergt H. P. Bell.
A Corps Signals, Karachi	L/Sergt A. R. Godbold.
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Malta Branch	Sigmn W. Vise.
Sarafand and Palestine Branch	Capt T. B. Ferriday.
Rhine Branch	Corpl A. McDowell.
B Cavalry Troop, Sialkot, India	Sigmn B. O. Mayson.
Singapore Branch	Sigmn Bond.
Sierra Leone Branch	C.Q.M.S. G. E. Sweeney.
Bermuda Branch	C.Q.M.S. Simmonds.
Baghdad Branch	L/Corpl F. Brudenell.
Hong Kong Branch	Sigmn A. Durand.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

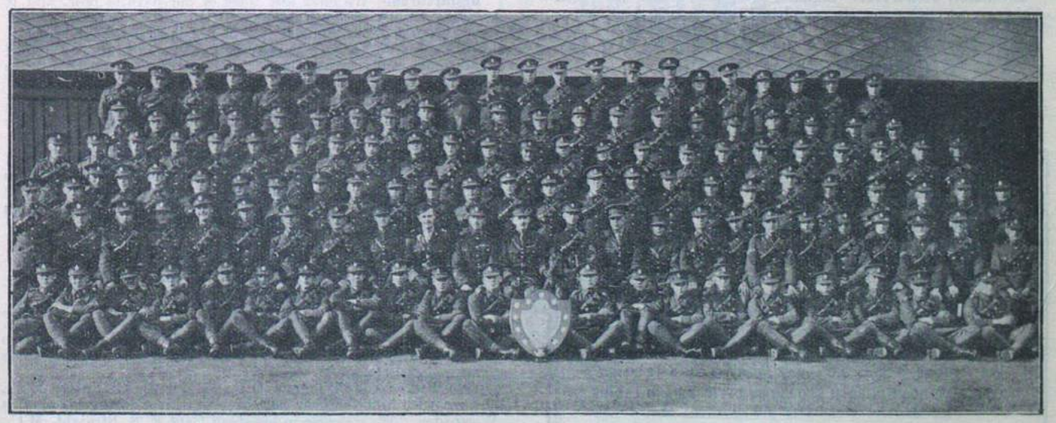
Owing to our inability to extend any hearty welcomes this month, we will commence with a few pats on the back. Congratulations to No. 73 Squad on winning the shooting cup, and No. 77 the inter-squad sports shield. It is rumoured that the "sleeping dogs" awoke in time to see these trophies disappear.

We are glad to notice a number of budding "Jimmies" amongst the latest arrivals. At Association, a team composed of recruits from the Battalion played the recruits of the Green Howards, Richmond, winning a keenly contested match by 3 goals to 2. Other matches are being arranged, and it is to be hoped that this standard will be maintained.

We played our first match in the inter-Company rugby league on September 29th versus D Company. The absence of anything approaching a pack led to our defeat by 15 points to nil. A little more enthusiasm, we venture to suggest, might possibly lead to better things.

Gardening still continues. To the casual observer it might appear that the coming of the cold season has brought these activities to a close, but no! on closer inspection it will be seen that rockeries continue to spring up, transplanting is taking place, and all those other little jobs so dear to the gardener's heart.

Departures.—Nos. 71, 73 and 75 Squads to Trade Companies. Sigmn C. Josey to Aldershot Command Signal Company. Signalmen J. Snow and G. Jerram to 1st Divl. Signals. Sigmn "Dithery" Culver to 4th Divl. Signals. Sigmn J. Ryder to A Corps Signals. We wish them all the very best.



A Company, Depot Battalion.

B Company, Depot Battalion.

General.—My pen having been idle for some months, I have decided that something must be done about it—hence the following. Friend Barleux once reminded me that the pen was mightier than the sword. I am inclined to believe it.

Reading over Ack notes of last month I notice that they make mention of sleeping dogs. For their information I quote an old saying: "Every dog has his day"—but I would like to point out that some (lucky) dogs have two. Hang on, Ack, and you will live to see my words come true.

Beer Company is still going strong, although there are regrets that the beer is not strong, or at least, so I am informed by the Company orderly corporal—and he *should* know (yes—the same orderly corporal).

Many old members of the Company will be sorry to hear that Lieut C. A. Murray-Brown, N. Staffs. Regt., has left us —he having returned to Lichfield by request.

The cadre still reside in U.3 Hut (for the information of those unfortunates posted away).

Driver Mudge, of Crowborough fame, has returned from the R.A.O.C. School of Instruction, having satisfactorily passed a saddler's course and classified Class ii. Good luck!

Dame Rumour has it that "Griff," of A Corps fame, has tied the knot in the East Grinstead neighbourhood. We offer our congratulations if such is the case, and point out at the same time that we have a large stock of A.22's.

We offer our congratulations to Sigmn Starmore on his recent marriage at Darlington.

A branch of the Savings Association was recently opened in the Company—on paper. Our Company pay-corporal has pointed out that this is an extremely easy way of saving money, but strange to say no one has adopted the method. Perhaps the forthcoming Catterick race meeting has something to do with it.

Writing of racing reminds me that one of our number is contemplating the formation of a Tipster Agency—no, not racing; far from that. As far as I can gather the tips will range on transfers to the police—military or civilian, or on farming as a side-line. All business communications should be addressed to "Lackry" by letter, telegram or telephone, as clients will not be allowed to resort to his office. Thinking of safety first, I should advise that no clients are forthcoming.

Two of our old n.c.o.s have at last obtained that which they so very much desired, viz., Sergt Dowie and Corpl West to the G.P.O. for attachment, w.e.f. 1/10/26.

Sergt Stone is patiently awaiting December—he having been provisionally warned for service overseas. It has been suggested to him that there are still such things as R.E. fixtures, and he wonders why.

Birth.—To Corpl A. C. Storey a daughter (Glenna Agnes Mary), at Catterick, on 19/9/26.

Extension of Service.—Sigmn F. Beazley extends the terms of his present engagement to complete 12 years with the Colours, 24/9/26.

R. C. B.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

The cup presented by Lieut.-Col. F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., for the best horseman in the Company, to be competed for annually, was contested on September 27th and 28th. There were eleven entries: C.S.M. Horner, Sergts Waller, Gregory, Hore and Young, Corpls Farmer, Cutler, Wilmot, Sullivan, and Searle, and L/Corpl Whyte. Corpl Searle was posted to the 1st Divl. Signals, and left before the run-off.

The competition was divided into three parts: riding school paces and figures, jumping in the school, and jumping in the open. Competitors were given a programme of what would be required of them, about a month before the competition was held, and the selected horses were drawn for. Each entrant was allowed to practise on the horse allotted him.

The results, judged by Major Fladgate, Lieut Hemming and Lieut Carr (each marking independently) were most interesting, and showed that considerable time and work had been put in during the preliminary practising period—in many cases it was difficult to differentiate between some excellent performances.

The passaging and half-passaging were especially well done, while on the other hand a correct change at the canter proved a stumbling block to some.

The jumping was of a good standard, taking the average of results. In the school, competitors had to ride over three small bush fences without wings, followed by a course of five jumps in the "bird cage" out of doors. The bird cage has to be seen to be appreciated. It is not an aviary, although parrots *have* been heard within it. Here, most difficulty was encountered at the water; the majority of the horses jumping kindly at the wall, pole, and post and rails.

The competition ended in a victory for Sergt Young, with Corpl Cutler close on his heels, only 4½ marks separating them. L/Corpl Whyte was a good third, and Corpl Wilmot reserve. This showed the enormous advantage held by the riding school staff by being regularly in the saddle. Of the others, none of whom were far behind, Corpl Farmer deserves mention for putting up a very stout effort on a difficult horse, and Sergt Gregory showed us that he can still master figures all right.

Poor old Chalky! He heard that the Cameronians were holding a burgoo eating competition at their annual sports, and being the only blue-blooded Scotsman in the Company, he thought that it was up to him to gain a few more points towards the Mackworth trophy. He went into strict training, determined to win the trio of haggises (or is it haggisii?) that were offered for the first prize, but 'twas all in vain. He thinks they cancelled it when they saw his entry form.

At the Northallerton Show on September 17th, Lieutenant Hemming secured second place in the leaping competition, on "Liza." Lieut Knowles on "Mystical" and L/Corpl Whyte on "Baby" were unlucky.

A fairly large party attended the show at Masham on Sept. 18th. L/Corpl Whyte was first in tent-pegging on "76," and Dvr Barber's team were first in wrestling and in the mounted tug-of-war.

Departures.—We have lost some of our fixtures now, and it is a loss too. C.S.M. Kneebone to 4th Divl. Signals. Corpl Cutler to 2nd Divl. Signals. Corpl Searle to 1st Divl. Signals. Corpl Tunnicliffe to E Company, T.B. Dvr Dove to the land of milk, honey and civilian luxury. It would be superfluous to wish them the best of luck.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome to Corpls Green and Wren on rejoining the S.T.C. Neither of them brought their skis. How thoughtless!

Marriage.—Corpl H. S. P. Miles to Clara May Topham at York on 21/9/26. I wonder who will be the next? I have an idea.

Voice from the deep.—L/Corpl May (Spike) would be glad to hear from Sigmn A. B. Ellis, late of Larkhill.

FIFI.

D Company, Training Battalion.

By hook or by crook we intend to figure again this month, even if our notes do not occupy the major portion of this page. There is very little to record, our activities being confined to one or two games of soccer and rugger, the results of which appear elsewhere.

We bade farewell to our O.C., Major P. C. Snatt, M.C., and we wish him the very best of everything during his stay at Wiesbaden. We welcome in his stead Capt F. S. Straight, M.C., who has been with us some considerable time as second-in-command.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

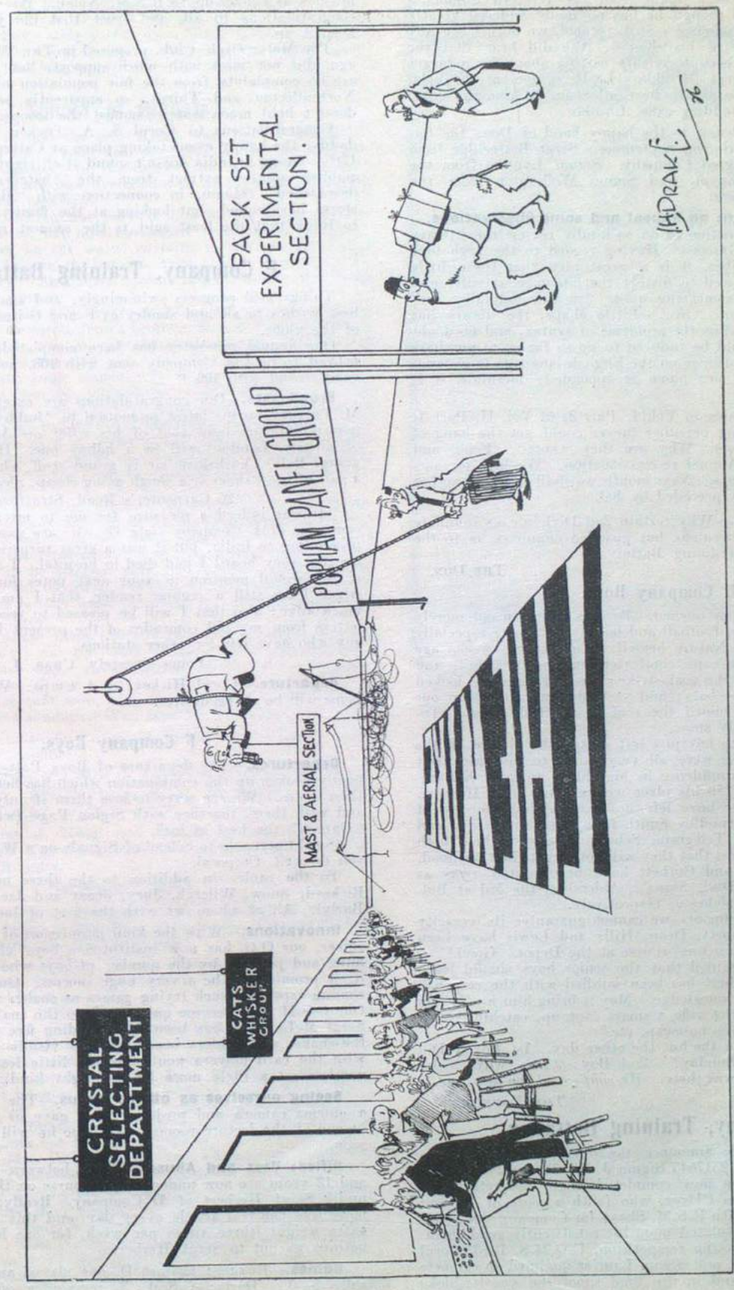
PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

WORKING HOURS—MONDAY to THURSDAY, 8.30 to 6.30
FRIDAY, 8.30 to 7.0 SATURDAY, 8.30 to 12.30

A PRIVATE ROOM IN BOTH SHOPS FOR OFFICERS AND LADIES.

All Members of the Staff are ex-Service Men.

F. SHAKESPEARE, Proprietor



SIGNALS EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT, WOOLWICH

(A SLIGHT EXAGGERATION—BY L. H. DRAKE)

Sergt Herbert is back again from the Western Command Signal Company, and though he has no doubt suffered greatly at the hands of the youngsters at Liverpool, we do not see any appreciable difference in his shadow. We did hear that the sergeants' mess have been feverishly casting about for a larger size in glasses. L/Sergt "Chikko" Leath is now at the helm in Liverpool—we have yet to hear all about it from the boys. S'sh! send us some wedding cake, Chikko.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the happy band of Dons the following, who arrived during September: Sergt Betteridge from Eastern Command Signal Company. Sigmn Lynton from the Border Regt. and Egypt, and Sigmn Wellington from the D.C.L.I. (both transfers).

From the Librarian: an Appeal and some Observations.—Will anyone in the position to do so kindly review the literary efforts of Les Deux Garcons. Having regard to the high tone set by numerous scribes, it is a great pity that these little fellows should be allowed to distort the language at will; and surely, too, there is something queer "in the indulging in." There are several more "ins." Little chaps, the library has among its tomes several on the problems of syntax, and no doubt the powers-that-be could be induced to go so far as to purchase simple—very simple—primers on the English language in general. No wonder a foreign pen name is appended; methinks it is very appropriate.

Wanted.—Any number of Vol. I. Part 2, or Vol. II. Part 1, or Vols. part something or other (never could get the hang of this vol. part business). Why are they wanted? Echo, and some others answer: Annual re-classification. We look for success from all participants. Next month we shall call for another variety of Vol. usually preceded by Sal.

We Want to Know.—Why certain 2nd Divl. n.c.o.s inundate our mail bags with querulous but guarded enquiries as to the cost of living in the Training Battalion.

THE DON.

D Company Boys.

The winter season has opened. By this we mean not merely a quickening interest in football and hockey, but more especially the pranks of Mother Nature herself. Thus, three weeks ago we dressed ourselves in caps, comforter, and boots, Gilgit, and prayed for the end of the coal strike; ten days ago we looked longingly at our cricket bats; and yesterday we pulled up our collars, sat tight, and hoped the roof wouldn't fly away. Tomorrow it will probably snow.

L/Sergt G. V. Leath has just left us to take charge of the boys at Liverpool. We were all very sorry to lose him, but we have the greatest confidence in his ability to keep K Company up to the mark. In his place we welcome Sergt Herbert.

Two of our number have left us on attaining the age of official manhood: L/Corpl Boy Smith from the Trumpeters, and Boy Prebble from the Telegraph School. We wish them both the best of luck, and trust that they will not forget their boyhood.

Boys File, Cairns and Corbett have been posted away as trumpeters to the 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot, the 3rd at Bulford, and the 4th at Colchester respectively.

We have heard a rumour—we cannot guarantee its veracity—that Signalmen Lambert, Dean, Hills and Lewis have been selected for a drill instructors' course at the Depot. Good!

It has now been decided that the senior boys should learn arms drill. Sergt Herbert has been saddled with the responsibility of imparting this knowledge. May it bring him joy! "On the word 'one,' give the rifle a smart cant up, catching yourself on the chin with the nose-cap, etc."

We overheard this in the hut the other day. 1st Boy: "Did you go to church on Sunday?" 2nd Boy: "No; why?" 1st Boy: "Oh, the Bishop was there. He *confiscated* the new font!"

THE YOUNG'UNS.

E Company, Training Battalion.

We deeply regret to announce the death, in the Military Hospital, York, of No. 2317645 Sigmn J. W. Hodges.

The "casuals" have now completed their musketry, and the laurels go to Sigmn Clover, who (with a score of 108 out of a possible 115) ties with R.S.M. Shave for Company shot. He is to be heartily congratulated upon his consistently good shooting. In the S.T.C. shooting competition, C.Q.M.S. Bird, Corpl Gladwell, L/Corpl Tate, and Sigmn Laurier qualified to compete in the championship, and in the final shoot the quarter-bloke finished as runner-up to R.S.M. Nolan. We offer our heartiest congratulations to all, and trust that the younger ones will keep it up.

The Motor Cycle Club, proposed in THE WIRE a few months ago, did not meet with much support, but nevertheless there are no complaints from the fair population of Barnard Castle, Northallerton and Thirsk, so apparently safety in numbers doesn't hold much water amongst the troops.

Congratulations to Corpl S. A. Tucker upon becoming a daddy, the happy event taking place at Catterick on September 17th. Going to India doesn't sound at all right, now. We could publish another extract from the "hatched, matched, and despatched" column, in connection with "Rags," the famous stores bloodhound—but looking at the family, we are inclined to think that the least said is the soonest mended.

THE PARSON.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Things still progress swimmingly, and again we extend our best wishes to all and sundry ex-F and G-ites in various parts of the globe.

Our annual musketry has been completed. Lieut Wilson proved to be the Company shot with 108, and Sigmn Hicks a good second with 106.

Broadcasts.—Our congratulations are extended to Corpl R. M. Peachey on his latest promotion to "hubby." We sincerely hope his future (and that of his wife, *nee* Miss Kitty Green, of Eltham, London) will be a happy one. How's the journey going, Bob? Yorkshire air is grand stuff, eh! If anyone has a pair of snow shoes or a sleigh going cheap, please notify R.M.P.

"26 Carpenter's Road, Stratford, E.15, 7/9/26.

"It was indeed a pleasure for me to meet two of my old comrades of F Company (late G) who are now on leave before proceeding to India, but it was a great surprise when they told me that they heard I had died in hospital. I should be pleased if you would mention in your next notes for THE WIRE, of which I am still a regular reader, that I am still alive, very much alive; also that I will be pleased to receive and reply to letters from my old comrades of the present F, the old G, or any who have left for other stations.

"Yours sincerely, CHAS. J. CHRISTIAN."

Departure.—Corpl Hickey to A Corps. We hope his new home will be all he desires.

ICNOCHIGS.

F Company Boys.

Departures.—The departure of Boys Potts and Waters has finally broken up the combination which has heretofore compiled these notes. We are sorry to lose them if only for this reason, and wish them, together with Sigmn Page (who was the third "Garcon") the best of luck.

Corpl Catchpole to School of Signals on a W/T course. Hope you do well, Corporal.

To the ranks—in addition to the three mentioned above: Rickard, Snow, Wilcock, Jury, Josey and Jackson (great boy, Burly). All of whom we wish the best of luck.

Innovations.—With the kind permission of the commanding officer, our O.C. has now instituted a boys' club in one of the huts, and judging by the number of boys who come nightly to it, it promises to be a very huge success. Our n.c.o.s are becoming expert at such trying games as snakes and ladders, etc. Our C.S.M. has become quite used to the snakes by now, and Sergt McLoughlin has been seen standing five yards away from the snakes and ladders board (at least visibly unaffected). We wish the card players would make a little less noise, and our wireless set a little more (of the right kind).

Seeing ourselves as others see us.—The O.C. has bought a cinema camera and projector, and gave us a splendid show in one of the lecture rooms. We hope he will give us another soon.

Rifles: Uses and Abuses.—Boys between the ages of 17½ and 18 years are now undergoing a course on the above subject, under Sergt Herbert of D Company. Really, we are getting more like the real article every day, and this class has a little extra weight (three times per week, for one hour). Our sympathies go out to Sergt Herbert.

Games.—Rugger: against D, one played and one won; result, 3—0. Darts: C.S.M. 3, remainder of the boys, nil. Snakes and ladders: Boy Chidgey v. Sergt McLoughlin—result, chaos. Singing: Boys' choir v. Daventry—boys won rather easily. Whist: Boy Chidgey still owes Sergt McLoughlin three Woodbines. Ludo: Corpl Jones v. Boy Yalden—match abandoned owing to bad language (result—Yalden on the peg).

EFFRATS.

School of Signals.

The general strike, the coal strike, and the "Charleston" have all come in for a good deal of discussion by members (or should we say students?) of the School; but all these "miner" (ahem!) arguments are now overshadowed by the most absorbing topic, to wit, our canteen.

This canteen, which was only in bud at the time our last notes went to press, has now blossomed forth in all its glory. We have pictures on the walls, curtains to the windows, and you might not believe it, but we have chairs to sit on. Ye gods, what luxury! And there is some talk of our one day being blessed (?) with a piano.

Of course, the lads take every advantage of this edifice erected by John (sorry; we mean John's brother, N.A.A.F.I.), and there it is their wont to sit (on the chairs already mentioned) and discuss the topic of the day.

There has been some controversy in the corporals' mess as to what sort of musical instrument should be bought. The suggestions formed a triangle: (a) gramophone, (b) piano, and (c) wireless set. We believe the gramophone is at present resting on the hypotenuse, so it is priced on the coupons at 10—1. One of our bright youths, who is well acquainted with the junior n.c.o.s, made the remark that he thought a jew's harp would be very appropriate.

Talking of jew's harps reminds us. One of our cricketers (we suppose a batsman may be called a cricketer) got into conversation with a native of the Holy Land the other day, and during the talk the hook-nosed gentleman remarked that "Von of his sons vos to be married next veek." Our representative, trying to uphold the record of the School for intelligence, asked "Is he?"; but he is still wondering why his Whitechapel friend answered, "No, Ikey."

But for all these little troubles and trials (which we are told are sent to try us) the work of the School goes on in its cool, calm, rational way. A.i's continue to A.i., D.R.s to D.R., and cooks to cook—ahem!

Who is the sergeant who, after receiving last month's WIRE, was asking all and sundry: "Who says I'm henpecked?"

Arrival.—Lieut F. C. Curtis, on 28/9/26, on being posted to the School as instructor.

Birth.—To Sergt and Mrs. J. Tovey, a daughter, on 13/8/26.

Appointment.—2306386 Sergt E. H. R. Hayter appointed acting C.Q.M.S. w.e.f. 5/7/26.

Agony.—Sigmn J. King, one time of F Company, would like to hear from Signalmen Sherris and Lawton, believed to be somewhere in India.

Sergeants' Mess.

As a mere nonentity 'mongst the above galaxy of talent, it behoves a poor scribe to broadcast their fame. Congratulations are extended to all who appear in our

Honours List.—C.Q.M.S. F. B. Harris, on being awarded the token of many years' "non-rumbled." We wonder what a quarterbloke could *not* get.

Sergt and Mrs. "Jimmy" James, on the acquirement of a potential chief clerk (Geoffrey Hylton), born September 10th.

Sergt Shaw, of the Loyals, on his courage and fortitude in becoming the latest addition to the mess.

Alfie, on the ozone he brought from Brighton. His great heart would not let him come back without a gift for us all.

Our caterer, on his new menu, wherein appears an item, "Fried *stakes*." Martyrs abound in negative quantities, these Joan of Arc stunts not being too popular.

R.S.M. and Mrs. Anderson, on their 100 per cent. efficiency in making both guests and members happy at our recent dance.

Social.—The dance given in honour of No. 11 Q course (who had just completed their exams.) was a great success. A special band, featuring some renowned performers (Bardoe, Shaw, Jerry Tate, etc., with syncopations from Pro Rastus) persuaded the hale *and* halt. "Come! shake the gladsome leg." We proudly entertained the Colonel-Commandant. The fun waxed high, and the bleak shadow of "lights out at m.n." detracted nothing from the seraphic smiles of the revellers. Indeed, the billiard-room—illuminated by primeval "dips"—was a scene of animation. Here one heard brilliant speeches, "Q" course, instructors, and assistants of that ilk, being responsible—with an intermingling of an occasional lullaby, "He's a jolly good fellow," etc. However, even the best regulated families need rest, and fond farewells had to be taken in voices deep and broken with emotion. By the way, we stock some good nectar. In such a place, *that* may appear to be irreverent; "ye know not."

More Social.—Oh! painful memory. We have just completed two "tilts" against the billiard team of the Junior Conservative Club, Darlington. Right jovial were the evenings—especially the last one. On that occasion we were the guests. After the games, we were entertained to a concert, a la "Sing if you've wined enow." We did. They did. A few old-timers from "his elusiveness" brought down the house. The same artist, abetted by a distinguished Frenchman ("Essam Andre" by name) rendered "Allouette" (terrific applause and calls for encore). The artistry of vanishing liquid followed. Whilst looking forward to our next contest, concentrated practice is the order. For results of games, see the Sports pages. It's not there, but you can look just the same. We're too modest, anyway, so we won't tell.

OKAJ.

It's Anzora that Masters the Hair!

MEN who use ANZORA never need a comb. They know that their hair will stay tidy all day long throughout the most strenuous activities. It is the hair dressing which *really* controls the hair, giving it that smooth, well-groomed appearance. It is simple to use, clean and delicately perfumed. Join the many thousands of discerning men who use Anzora regularly.

Anzora Cream for greasy scalps, will not soil hat lintngs or pillows, and Anzora Viola for dry scalps, containing a little oil of violets. Both are sold in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles by hairdressers, chemists, stores & canteens.

Refuse all Substitutes

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott Camp.

Unit Headquarters.

Since last writing, nothing of much importance has taken place except that one of our number has proceeded on his annual vacation, which we hope he is enjoying to the hilt.

Musketry and annual inspections having been concluded, many of us are now looking forward to furlough and a welcome rest from our daily round of toil.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

YOUR NEW H.Q.

are being constructed by

Sir Lindsay PARKINSON & CO. LTD.

Specialists in Construction

LONDON and BLACKPOOL

Meantime educational and individual training occupy the time of those who are ambitious. The unit musketry average shows an appreciable increase, but there is still room for improvement. May I remind individuals that a little trigger-pressing and snapping now and again will help us to keep our "hand in" and improve matters.

Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Last month we said we had been given to understand that the entertainments committee were going to start bouncing when the cold weather came along. The latter happened alright, but the only thing we have seen bouncing so far is spare sheets of corrugated iron that have been bounced by the wind. Now then, the committee, what about a hop in the hall? The lights will be alright this time.

Our neighbours, the 1st Pack Brigade, set sail for India on the 4th October, and are being replaced by the 5th Pack Brigade from Egypt. Before leaving, the 1st Pack Brigade gave a "farewell" in the form of a whist drive and dance, to which we were invited and to which we turned up in force. Q.M.S. and Mrs. Edwards managed to win two nice prizes at the drive.

Our monthly tournament for the billiard cue resolved itself into a handicap which is now well on its way towards completion. There is one thing about it: providing we live long enough, we will all eventually become the proud possessor of a private cue, as no member is allowed to take more than one.

Casualties.—C.Q.M.S. King did not remain long in hospital, and has since been discharged from the Service on medical grounds. Corporals R. Smith and Minion have been appointed L/Sergeants. This adds two more to our number, and will no doubt help to swell the profits. Sergt Strange proceeded on 28 days furlough on October 2nd.

No. 1 Company.

Furlough is in the air. Everyone is pulling out those boots, etc., which certainly never passed through our Quarter's ledger, and getting ready to spend everything that the pay corporal will give them. (That strong-hearted person is bearing up well, but wishes someone would think of a new excuse for advance of pay.) All the same, we have good reasons this time for wanting a bit of "civvy" leg-stretching, as we have just completed two very successful jobs.

The first of these was the annual musketry training. This took place morning and afternoon, and we were able to see some of those curious old muskets kept by the vast army of "employed" in the open. However, everyone got down to it hard and began to be very learned about foresights and trigger-pressing, etc.

Then came the real thing, and we went to Cæsar's Camp range for three days' practice and classification. On the whole, the shooting was good, and there were only one or two of those curious beings known as G.H.Es. Wagers flew round—we heard rumours of some "pints" hanging in the balance, but one of the competitors was an old sweat—need we say he grabbed the pints. Finally we wound up with an average of seconds—and well on the way to the first class mark.

The story of the chap (not in A Corps) who shot his "rapid" and then found that he had used a clip of dummies, is worthy of note.

Close on the musketry came the C.S.O.'s inspection, and in a very few hours the Company had got stuck into it and everything shone. Huts, stores, etc., were spotless, and luck favoured us with good weather.

The sports side of our show is going strong, and notes on this will be found elsewhere. We have just heard that the C.S.M. has had to buy a new pen. This may be wrong; but it may have been worn down in asking a certain Section for fatigues.

Arrivals.—We have several newcomers from the Depot, and hope they will have a long and successful stay. L/Corpl Burgess, and Signalmen Bevan, Long, Pryor and Soper have returned from P.O. courses.

Departures.—On the 26th October we lose our Indian draft, and our very best wishes go with them. L/Corpl Thomas, Signalmen Urwin and Yardy to P.O. course. Sigmn Rangecroft and Dvr Garnish to civvy life. (We are looking out for new civvy pole jump records.) Corpl Holliss to Sierra Leone. Signalmen Hobby and Burns and Dvr Waters to civvy life. Corpl Bridge to No. 3 Company.

The M.T. Construction Section has departed en masse for furlough, prior to proceeding to the Isle of Wight: and the remainder of the Company is "educationing" or getting ready for trade tests. We hear that the llama shows its gratitude to the unit for giving it a home, by spitting at the drivers.

No. 3 Company (Crookham Camp)

The training season having now come to an end, a great number of n.c.o.s and men have proceeded on annual leave.

The musketry course for the Company was fired at Cæsar's Camp with good results. For the Company shot Corpls Renecle and Devey and Sigmn Worsley tied, each having a score of 99. The following ran them close: Sigmn A. K. Steel, 98, and Sigmn Langley, 97. The Squad averages were as follows:—

	Points	Average
No. 1 Squad (Sergt J. Squirrell), 24 men	1955	81.37
No. 6 Squad (L/Sgt J. Richardson), 23 men	1734	75.14
No. 2 Squad (Sergt T. Dormer), 23 men	1688	70.33
No. 5 Squad (Sergt C. B. Minns), 22 men	1653	70.25
No. 3 Squad (Sergt B. Bevan), 22 men	1432	69.83
No. 7 Squad (Sergt W. M. Taylor), 23 men	1603	67.7
No. 4 Squad (Sergt A. J. Pout), 24 men	1681	65.14

A general improvement all round. The weather did not behave kindly towards us, or perhaps the figures would have been better still.

Musketry Howler.—Instructor: "What would happen if a round was fired through an oily barrel?" Signalman: "The bullet would skid, sergeant!" (Sergeant on sick list).

General.—The Company lines are full, owing to the influx of n.c.o.s and men from Catterick, extra accommodation being found at Ewshott Camp; but by the end of the month a draft will leave for India, which will somewhat relieve matters. About forty other n.c.o.s and men are expecting to proceed on overseas furlough, prior to proceeding to India early in December.

Arrivals.—Corpl Bridge from No. 1 Company. Corpl Hickey, Signalmen Cross, Hardwick, Harvey, Graham, Furney, Webb, Gordon and Pelling from Catterick. Signalmen Christopher, W. C. Jones, Hughes and Harris from Feltham. A hearty welcome is extended to them.

Bereavement.—Heartfelt sympathy is extended to R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. H. L. Fegan (of 2nd Divl. Signals) in their recent bereavement.

Inspection.—The unit was visited and inspected by the C.S.O. Aldershot Command, Col. C. H. Prickett, D.S.O., on September 29th. Everything passed off well, much to everybody's joy, the rest of the day being observed as a general holiday.

To Civilian Life.—We regret to announce the departure of C.Q.M.S. (Banger) King and his wife into civilian life. (Discharge—medical). We hope to hear better news of them shortly. Sigmn C. Arnett has also left us for the same destination.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—Signalmen E. J. Green, L. J. Williams, and A. Thorogood.

SQUIBBS.

1st Divisional Signals.

McGrigor Barracks, Aldershot.

My Gratitude.—To my many benefactors I present my sincere thanks. Month after month I trespass upon their generosity. Frothing freely at the mouth, I poke and prod into their neatly-filed records and bother them with all sorts of idiotic questions in my frantic quest of "copy." But they bear with me; and I am deeply, very deeply, indebted to them all, even the chap who invariably subjects me to terrible abuse when I plead, in husky tones shot with italics, for the temporary use of the "Oliver." Dum spiro spero!

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—The G.O.C. 1st Division inspected the unit on October 1st. No special parade was held, the various departments being inspected at work. The following order was subsequently published:—

"The G.O.C. 1st Division has expressed his satisfaction at the state of barracks, stores, stables, harness, etc.

"The Commanding Officer wishes to thank all ranks for the result obtained."

Arrivals.—The following have joined us during the past month: Corpl L. C. Parsons, Signalmen J. Jackson and H. Snow from the Depot Battalion S.T.C., 24/9/26, and Corpl H. B. Searle, 30/9/26. Sigmn A. Holt from the T.B., 30/9/26. Sergt A. Sherwood from the Permanent Staff, T.A. (42nd E.L. Divl. Signals), 4/10/26. Tptr W. File and Sigmn R. J. Viney from the T.B., S.T.C., 4/10/26. C.Q.M.S. A. Hoare from the Permanent Staff, T.A., 18/10/26. Sigmn C. W. Jerram from the D.B., S.T.C., 18/10/26. Sigmn W. Simpson from the North Ireland Signal Company, 18/10/26.

Arrivals (Officers).—Capt T. H. L. Turner, Royal Signals, has arrived in the unit, and assumes command of No. 1 Coy. vice Major J. A. F. Mair, M.C., Royal Signals.

Lieut F. T. Pope, Royal Signals, joined the unit on 3/10/26.

Departures (Officers).—We quite realise that there *must* be such things as trooping seasons, but it seems jolly hard luck when we lose officers like Major J. A. F. Mair, M.C., and Capt J. C. McDonald, M.C., who have both proceeded on leave prior to their embarkation. We trust that they will always remember the Tribe of the Firstdivsigs, and we wish them the very best luck for the future.

Departures (Other Ranks).—Our good wishes are also extended to the following who have left us recently: Sigmn W. Foakes to No. 2 Wireless Coy. Sarafand, 17/9/26. Sigmn A. Brierwood to South Ireland Signal Section. Corpl P. Green to the Depot Battn. S.T.C., 30/9/26. Sergt E. Kingman to the Permanent Staff, T.A. (42nd E.L. Divl. Signals), 4/10/26.

Education.—L/Corpl M. B. O'Flanagan rejoined on 16/9/26 from the School of Education, Shorncliffe, where he obtained a pass (Class 1). Congratulations, "Flan!"

Courses.—L/Sergt W. Lombard and Sigmn F. Field have proceeded to Brighton, there to undergo a G.P.O. course.

Signalmen Stretch and Jardine rejoined the unit on 1/10/26 from a similar course at Oxford.

Extension of Service.—L/Corpls J. Grocott and F. Redworth extended to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl G. Thorne upon his marriage at Norbiton on 7/9/26, and to Sigmn Bunnage upon his presentation of a son and heir at Winchester on 17/9/26.

General.—The adjutancy of the unit has been taken over by Lieut M. S. Wheatley, Royal Signals, vice Capt J. C. McDonald, M.C.

Obituary.—It is with deepest regret that we announce the death at Aldershot, on 10/10/26, of the wife of L/Sergt G. Morel, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

All Ranks' Dance.—Organised in aid of the Signals Benevolent Fund, an all ranks' dance was held on Thursday, October 14th. The R.A.S.C. theatre was very generously placed at our disposal, and everybody spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Dancing commenced at 7 p.m. and continued until midnight. In spite of the adverse weather conditions, the attendance was sufficient to keep the floor just comfortably crowded. Those responsible for the administration are to be congratulated upon the excellent manner in which the programme was carried out.

Wire Sales.—At last we can reply to the challenge of the 3rd Divl. Signals. Although our *unit* percentage falls below theirs, we can quite honestly say that for a unit of our numbers we shape very well. No. 1 Company heads the list with a score of 75 per cent. But there *are* still a number of fellows who think that "esprit de corps" is something one finds among the entrees on a Lyon's Corner House menu.

Charleston, U.S.A.—Made rather a ghastly mistake at the all ranks' dance the other evening. Saw a number of couples verging on what I imagined to be a nervous complaint of some description, and I drew the attention of several of the committee to those afflicted, who were obviously in great pain. I was informed that the number was called the "Charleston," and, incredible as it certainly did appear, the thing is a recognised dance. Incidentally, it is only those possessing an extraordinarily flexible imagination who can recognise it as such.

"The rhythm of the one step and the fox-trot with its pep
Hold the fascinating germs that always bite us.
But the Charleston's weird gyrations and its like abominations
Make me dedicate the thing to one Saint Vitus."

I await in fear and trembling the inevitable trouncing from those who champion the disreputable thing.

Deriding!—Frightfully fast people such as Rudge and possibly Norton riders will be interested in, and no doubt amused by the following awfully true story.

A corporal of this unit, who for some considerable time past has been addicted to "turning up the wick" of his rather hot stuff little over-head valve outfit, dithered forth the other day astride the familiar O.H.M.S. model pedal bicycle. Two hours later the hospital authorities notified the unit that the condition

of the patient was satisfactory, and that the three stitches in the rear of the cranium were purl and not plain.

In bringing matters to a head, I cannot refrain from pointing out to Barleux that even the best of us have our "off" days!

L. H. D.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company

At last pokey drill and all things appertaining to musketry are over. Prior to the casualties firing, the Company were leading for the shooting shield, but the final result is not yet known.

Strictly speaking, we should be far below the standard of the other Companies, as they were entertained to a very interesting afternoon in the cinema, where a film on how to fire a rifle, etc., was shown.

No. 2 Company arrived there after a very interesting route march, and settled down to enjoy the free entertainment; but all good things seem to go up in smoke, and so did the film. Everyone filed out in an orderly manner, and there were no casualties. The cinema staff explained that it was the first time in five years such a thing had happened. But why do it on No. 2 Company?

Furlough starts to-day. Several men have been seen sewing four or five pairs of puttees together in the hope of making a decent leg. Perhaps someday the Q.M.'s department will issue longer puttees.

The visuals and D.R.s are the first to go. Let's hope the weather improves for them! Several men are already on draft leave for India, and are due to return next week.

I understand that glasses are being supplied to Section n.c.o.s to enable them to see the men they will have in stables next month.

Arrivals.—Corpl Cutler from the Depot Battn., who soon started work, and has now a new ride in training. May he enjoy his stay with us! Sigmn Broomfield has returned from a P.O. course, and we hope he has benefited by it.

Departures.—Dvrs Hancock and Plumridge have taken the big jump to civilian life. (They are reported to have left the vicinity of the Drivers' Club.)

NICK.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Aldershot.

General.—Better "pushed" than never! To-day is the 15th, so I shall have to ask readers to excuse the jumbled notes. "Wizdum," I am sorry to say, will have to go west this month, as there is no time now. (Who said "Good!")

The rainfall at the time of writing equals the Indian monsoon season, and we can now say "Witter has cub." In the throes of the furlough season as we are at present, it is hard to find news of interest, but here is my best.

Musketry.—As we completed our annual course at Cæsar's Camp ranges at the end of September, I am now able to give the result of our endeavours: Firsts 13; seconds, 30; thirds, 5. The Troop average was 71.125, which is considered very good! Competition was very keen, on account of prizes being given by the O.C. for 1st class shots. This no doubt is the reason for the big scoring. (No, 'Owdam Lad was unlucky!)

Casualties.—2306372 C.Q.M.S. M. W. Walsh discharged on completion of 21 years, 3/10/26. Sergt H. Bellew to G.P.O., Birmingham, for course in operating. Latest result from A.C.T.B.: Sigmn W. H. Forrest qualified as clerk, C.ii (additional).

Drafts.—It has now been ascertained that our 'Erbs detailed for India will sail on December 3rd next. This is on a Friday, and at least one is a sailor—but we do not know whether he is suspicious or not (sorry; I mean superstitious!)

Training.—Not much is being done in the way of training now, the routine being much the same every day. This, no doubt, is the result of the absence of the O.C. on leave.

The Brighter Side.—Old Timer: "I've been working for the same boss 20 years to-day!" Henpecked: "Reckon I can beat that—I celebrate my silver wedding to-morrow."

Agony.—To Busty Lane, India (unless he has dripped through to the Antipodes)—Please write to Little "Bobby."

To ditto Couperthwaite—When may we look for news in this Troop?

Roll on, Christmas leave party, and then away goes

'OWDAM LAD.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we hear of the death of Sigmn Wilson, 3rd Divl. Signals. All ranks of this unit wish to convey to his relatives and friends their deepest sympathy in their sad loss.

General.—So few happenings of importance have taken place during the past month that it is difficult to find anything of interest to the Corps in general; but rather than be a delinquent we will endeavour to find something.

Both the single and the married men's outings to Southsea were voted a great success, and many a laggard regretted that he didn't go.

Drafts.—This well-known game is in full swing now, and Records appear to be winning. Our moves are: L/Sergt Cole to Egypt; Corpl Bell and Signalmen Meech, Lourie, Homan and H. Smith to India.

The Troop—*and* the Dog.

Appointments.—A/U/L/Cpl Mansfield to be L/Corpl on the Corps roster, w.e.f. 15/6/26. Sigmn H. T. Hill to be A/U/L/Cpl. w.e.f. 23/9/26. Now your feet are on the ladder, keep them on, lads!

SANDY.

No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

Blackdown, Surrey.

General.—It is regretted that notes from this unit have not been sent up for publication of late, the reason being that no data was received from the various detachments.

With regard to the training season, the unit put in some very hard work at the different anti-aircraft training camps, and was congratulated by the Brigade Commander on the way the construction of lines and maintenance was carried out.

Accidents.—It is with regret I have to record the following casualties, due to motor cycle accidents: Lieut W. H. G. Rogers, broken wrist, at duty. Corpl Finney, broken leg, in Ramsgate General Hospital. Sigmn Mallett, broken leg, in Devonport Military Hospital. We extend to them our best wishes for a complete and speedy return to health. We are very sorry to hear that Sigmn Mallett may not be fit for further service.

Arrivals.—The following joined the unit during the training season: Signalmen Craddock, Cook, Cooper, Davies, Hogan, Purdy, F. E. Smith, J. Smith, Stuckey, Baker, Taylor and Rowe. We are glad to note there are a few soccerites among them—just what the unit requires. Thank you very much, Posting Orders Clerk! We wish them an enjoyable stay with us.

Departures.—Corpl Adams to Catterick and Corpl Elphick to Tidworth. We wish them the best of luck at their new stations.

It is a matter of regret to the whole unit that Lieut W. H. G. Rogers is leaving us to take up an appointment as adjutant to the 26th and 27th Anti-Aircraft Signal Companies, T.A. He will be greatly missed on the cricket, hockey and rugger fields. Although he is very popular with all ranks, and we are very sorry to lose him, he has our congratulations on his appointment, and whole-hearted wishes for future success. Good-bye, sir, and good luck!

Education.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Barrett on passing Class I. at the recent course at Shorncliffe. L/Corpl Cockings proceeded to Shorncliffe for a course on 8/10/26. Good luck, Cocker!

Course.—L/Sergt Fleet left us on 1/10/26 for attachment to the G.P.O. at Newcastle-on-Tyne for a six months' course. May you find it beneficial, Gus!

Marriage.—Congratulations to Sigmn Budd on joining the married half-company. Our wish is that he and Mrs. Budd may have a happy and budding future.

Births.—Congratulations to the following on attaining the eminence of daddy: To Sigmn and Mrs. Trowell, a daughter (Moreen). Oh, Uncle Frankie! To L/Corpl and Mrs. Lowday, a son (William Edward) on 2/9/26. To L/Corpl and Mrs. Barrett, a son (John) on 1/10/26.

Annual Inspection.—The annual inspection of the unit was carried out by Col. C. W. Collingwood, C.M.G., D.S.O., on 7th and 8th October. The clerk of the weather was kind to us, and the day was fine. The Company turned out in review order, and the usual inspection, march past, etc., were duly carried out. We are rather proud of the fact that the Colonel congratulated all concerned on their splendid turn-out, and was very pleased with everything he saw.

Queries.—Why all the feverish acquisition of "mo-bikes" by the married folks? (Do they ease the separation?) When is the much-boomed cycle club going to be formed? Under the presidency of swivel hooks, it should be a success.

Personal.—C.S.M. Hunt is very glad to note that "Dean" Swift is still with Signals, Belfast, and would like to have a line from him.

ACK ACK.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Bulford, October 15th.

Fatal Accident.—For the second time this year the unit is plunged into gloom—this time by the fatal accident to Sigmn Frank (Andy) Wilson.

Signalmen Wilson, Beasley and Dennis were proceeding to Brooklands by motor-cycle to see the racing when, on reaching Whitchurch (Hampshire) they collided with an overturned motor cycle. All three were taken to Tidworth Hospital, where Sigmn Wilson died. The funeral took place at Middlesbrough.

Andy was one of the best-liked men in Bulford, and his loss will be very keenly felt. The whole unit join in tendering to his parents their heartfelt sympathy.

Revolver Shooting.—Congratulations to Lieut F. R. Booth, C.Q.M.S. Sweeting, and C.S.M. Legg on getting the first three places (in the order shown) in the unit classification.

Corporals' Beano.—On September 30th the junior n.c.o.s boarded a couple of buses for Salisbury, and made for the Cafe Nicholas (no relation to the sergeant-major). They there enjoyed a dinner such as one seldom sees in real life (corporals' lives, of course). Time being short, the R.S.M. made a brief speech, in which he expressed the hope that the dinner would be made an annual affair. This was received with many "What ho's" and "Hyar, hyar's," after the manner of corporals—so it is probable that the annual dinner *will* become a fixture.

All present were able to proceed unaided to the Palace Theatre, where seats had been reserved for "The Cuckoo in the Nest."

A thoroughly enjoyable evening, with no casualties, unless one counts it a casualty to have difficulty in rising from one's dining table!

Personal.—Mr. F. Cole, 51 St. Paul's Road, Salisbury (well known to the Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area, Bannu, Waziristan, India, as "Coir") would like to hear of or from Sergt Dilley, who was acting as Quartermaster in C Divl. Signals, Banna, in January of this year.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester.

The individual training season has commenced, and everyone is busy diving into books and manuals in preparation for the forthcoming trade tests. Incidentally the furlough season has commenced, and we have already seen a smiling crowd of faces disappearing from the guard-room door, each individual plus one pass and the anticipation of a long scrounge.

We shall shortly be losing a big batch of the old hands, who are due to embark for various stations abroad. Some are happy about it, and some are——; but I know that some of our "old sweats" are looking forward to another spell in Punka Land.

The fancy dress ball held on September 13th was a great success, and we hope to hold further successful dances to swell our Association funds.

We welcome the arrival of C.S.M. Kneebone from the Terrier staff, and we are looking forward to the turning out of a jockey club among the recruits now training under him in riding instruction. They are surely in for a "rough" course.

Arrivals.—Signalmen L. Chambers and W. Gardner, Tptr. J. Corbett, Drivers E. Spear, E. Trotman, H. Wicks and F. York from the Depot Battalion. Signalmen F. Kirby, H. Pope, A. Beardsley, V. Grogan, G. Hurrell, S. Moors, E. Parks, R. Spencer, F. Widdowson, W. Wilkins, A. Rowe, T. Cross, L. Smeed, R. Bell, R. Horton, and J. Lewis from Training Battn. Signalmen J. Peerless and T. Richardson from 3rd Divl. Signals.

Departures.—Sigmn R. L. Summers to India. L/Corpl L. H. Walby and Dvr G. Wood to 3rd Divl. Signals. Signalmen D. E. Horne, T. Madden, and A. Wheelen to Palestine.

Discharge.—2306869 Sigmn F. Lewis.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—2312238 Dvr C. Ellingham. 2312241 Sigmn H. Best. 2312309 Dvr C. Harvey. 2312017 Sigmn R. Horton. 2312384 Dvr W. Small.

No. 2 A.F.A. Brigade Signal Section.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following U/L/Corpls to be L/Corporals (paid): G. Dawes, w.e.f. 9/5/26, E. Longhurst, w.e.f. 13/5/26, and R. Parkinson, w.e.f. 23/6/26. Signalmen H. Upton, E. Ward, P. Tucker, F. Woodhouse, W. Cooper, H. Pawsey, and T. Ball to be Lance-Corporals (unpaid) w.e.f. 7/10/26.

Marriages.—Sigmn J. G. Smith on 4/9/26 at Bromley. Sigmn L. Howson on 31/7/26 at Brighton.

BLANKANDBANA.

Sergeants' Mess.

We had a very pleasant social evening on September 17th, when Professor Bilboa kept our hair on end. He is a marvellous fellow, and can make things disappear almost as well as our Quartermaster. He tied poor old Waggle in knots, but the fishy one fixed him. He tossed a penny into the air, and as it alighted on the table he smartly placed a lady's hat on it. "Now," says he, "what's that?" Our Winkle lad said it ought to be tails, according to his recent studies of the fine art. "Ought to be tails," said the professor in his well-groomed English; "well, it ain't." Neither was it—it was a glass of beer. It must have been good beer, too, for the old gent drank it himself.

This brings us to his best trick: that trick of the disappearing pints. He made pints disappear for about five hours, without turning a hair. His show was divided into four episodes; each spasm lasted about 10 minutes, with half-an-hour interval between each. It was during these intervals that he shewed us this disappearing trick.

Some of us are studying an advanced course of technical instruction, and we consider that the trick was full of science, demonstrating to us the full meaning of the term "capacity."

Musketry.—We congratulate Monty on being the winner of the great spoon. But Monty is a generous lad, and has passed the honour with full benefits to his next-of-——

Billiards.—Now that we have had new mats fitted round the table, we trust that the billiard language will improve during future games. I know that it is very annoying, just as one is going to take a shot, to find one's foot is hooked in the carpet, or that one has a perambulator on the end of his cue; but still, that is no reason why so much Latin should be used. Our R.S.M. appeals to you through these columns to be more self-controlled, and he even promises to try himself.

Welcome.—We welcome home many of our members who during the summer training have been forced to leave us for months together. Some have been hard at work, whilst others have been watching the landing of many Channel swimmers.

Goodbye and best wishes to the Betteridge family. Our loss is the T.B.'s gain. T.B., please note and book in advance for entertainments committee.

BLANK.

No. 2 A.F.A. Brigade Signal Section.

Piershill Barracks, Edinburgh.

This Section has just passed through a very strenuous time. After six weeks' training on the artillery ranges at Buddon Camp, we were hustled back to Edinburgh to carry out the lighting and preparation of the Dreghorn grounds for the Scottish Command searchlight tattoo. The horses were left at Piershill with five men to look after them, while the remainder of the Section was working at Dreghorn Castle under Corporal Simmonds. The work was hard but interesting, and all men employed have benefited by experience in practical electrical wiring. After the show was over, the G.O.C. specially commended the Signals on their work.

We are now beginning our annual musketry, and men who for the past few weeks have been making "picture book joints" must now consider the possibility of making a few bulls.

The photograph of the Section, taken a few months ago, is up to date with the exception of C.S.M. Shenton (now at Colchester) and Sigmn Homewood (on the Rhine).

A. F. A. S.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, October 13th.

It will be with a sigh of relief that I shall fold up these notes at the finish, turn off the tap of the fountain of liquicity, and push the burden which has rested on my unwilling shoulders for what seems æons on to some other, more so.

No longer shall I have to listen to every stale joke or indignant narrative, the authors of which demand publication, or their cold stares when they find them in the w.p.b. and not here.

To be able to get into my kit-bag after burning the multitude of photographs (most of them done by amateurs) awaiting to be thrust before the helpless gaze of our readers, makes life worth living.

I must mention manœuvres. The whole town is still talking about them. We (not me) marched away in full panoply of war, with a portmanteau each, as few as possible walking if they could avoid it. Some, I believe, came in for the week-end with tales of silent night marches and starvation.

To see the lads of the Brigade Sections (with newly-drawn push bikes) sweep past with chest well back and head forward, amidst tinkling of bells, was thrilling. But there's a story needs telling of one who was there.

It was on the day of the battle, at its utmost height; guns roaring, planes planing. Signals signalling, and every one making a—er—lot of a row; all the brass hats with out-spread maps watching the fight taking place before them. There strolls across their view, and stops, one of our pack mules with panniers complete, and someone leading it. "Move on!" someone roared. The driver tugged; so did the mule, and then sat down. The air went blue, and all promptly collapsed when, on being asked the contents of the panniers, the driver said he thought they were lunch baskets! I believe *that* was the cause of the war ending a day earlier than intended.

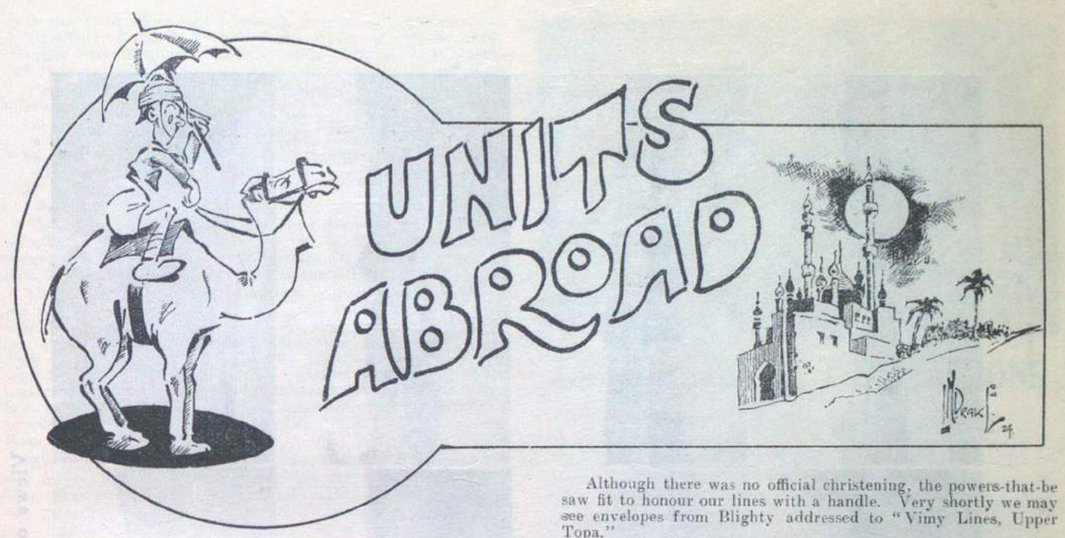
A splendid function by this Branch of the Signals Association has been held, and a keen interest and spirit fostered. We have an 83 per cent. membership, and after this last "do" it will surely soon be the maximum. All the members attended, as well as the C.S.O. and all the officers of the units.

A splendid dinner was provided, and then a concert, and it was only the time allowance that ended a most enjoyable gathering. Speeches and toasts by the C.S.O. and Capt Williams got everyone cheering. The concert was all too short, but what we had was splendid. The promise to hold more social gatherings for this Branch in the near future makes one wonder why we have missed such good things like this before.

The utmost praise is due to the vice-president and secretary for their untiring energy and patience in getting the O.C.A. into such a promising way, and for the way the function was carried out. Nearly everyone had his menu card signed by everyone else he could get hold of, so if we never get another function like that, we shall have the memory of a good dinner from the Old Comrades Association.

Furlough is in full swing, and those due for drafting are getting their house in order; but I am taking a longer voyage, so Cheerio!

PETRUS.



D Divisional Signals.

Upper Topa, Sept. 15th.

General.—The hard work of the season being o'er (I don't think), there is little or no scope for the scribe of this quarter. The various courses ended with great credit to everyone concerned, as the following statistics show:—

O/Ls—From Class ii to Cl. i, 6; from Cl. iii to Cl. ii, 27; from A/T to Cl. iii, 11.
O/V's—From Cl. ii to Cl. i, 6; from Cl. iii to Cl. ii, 29; from A/T to Cl. iii, 3.
S.B.O.—From A/T to Cl. iii, 1.
D.R.s—From Cl. iii to Cl. ii, 4; from A/T to Cl. iii, 1.
L/M—From Cl. iii. to Cl. ii, 2.

Major R. V. Montgomery, M.C., congratulates all who succeeded in obtaining a higher rate, and hopes that they will spend their hard-earned extra pay fruitfully. After all, sixpence is sixpence, and ninepence for fourpence—I mean ninepence is ninepence.

With the exception of a few people who have remained behind on station leave, all the attached folk have wished us "bon jour." We hope that their season in the hills has not been such a grind as it appeared to be on the surface, and, one thing more, one cannot expect something for nothing in these hard times.

The ruling passion with the "Dee-ites" at present is section training. This, to the best of my knowledge, is progressing quite satisfactorily, yea verily—even our wirelessops are on the move, after many moons in a dormant state. Certain members of this illustrious band have turned out to be regular fiends with the new ciphering methods. In fact, one young gentleman—Mr. Jug Jug—hopes for an appointment in the vicinity of Whitehall, amongst the Upper Ten, on the strength of his prowess with the small squares.

Musketry—with a very big M—is another trifling diversion with the Company. There should be some really good firing this year. At least, there should be some excellent results gleaned from our "mossers." If one reverses the old slogan, "The greater the deed, the greater the reward"—the answer's a lemon.

We are in the throes of the Murree Brewery hockey tournament. We have been successful in qualifying for the third round But more anon—when we win through.

All our hopes regarding the Durand cup have been veritable castles in the air. Owing to causes unknown to the man in the street, no team has been sent to Simla. However, we are fervently hoping that next year will see the Murree cup coming to Upper Topa.

Although there was no official christening, the powers-that-be saw fit to honour our lines with a handle. Very shortly we may see envelopes from Blighty addressed to "Vimy Lines, Upper Topa."

On Saturday last, the 11th inst., the officers gave a very successful dance to all n.c.o.s and married families of the station, in the school-room. Everything went quite as per plan, especially the victuals. It was thought that a little conjuring was exploited in this direction.

Outside shows are still going strong, but another three weeks should see Murree looking very sick, as the season ends, from the civil point of view, at the same time as in past years; yet, for the military, "Omega" is about a month later than usual.

Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on obtaining one more leg: Corpls R. R. Isaac and R. Ford, to be Lance-Sergeants in the I.U.L. The latter was heard to remark, "Unlucky lies the 'arm' that wears a crown."

Arrivals and Departures.—Welcome to Sigmn Davidson and his family, arrived from the S.T.C. (India). Sigmn McLaven has left us for the S.T.C. (India), Jubbulpore.

TEMPUS FUGIT.

F Divisional Signals.

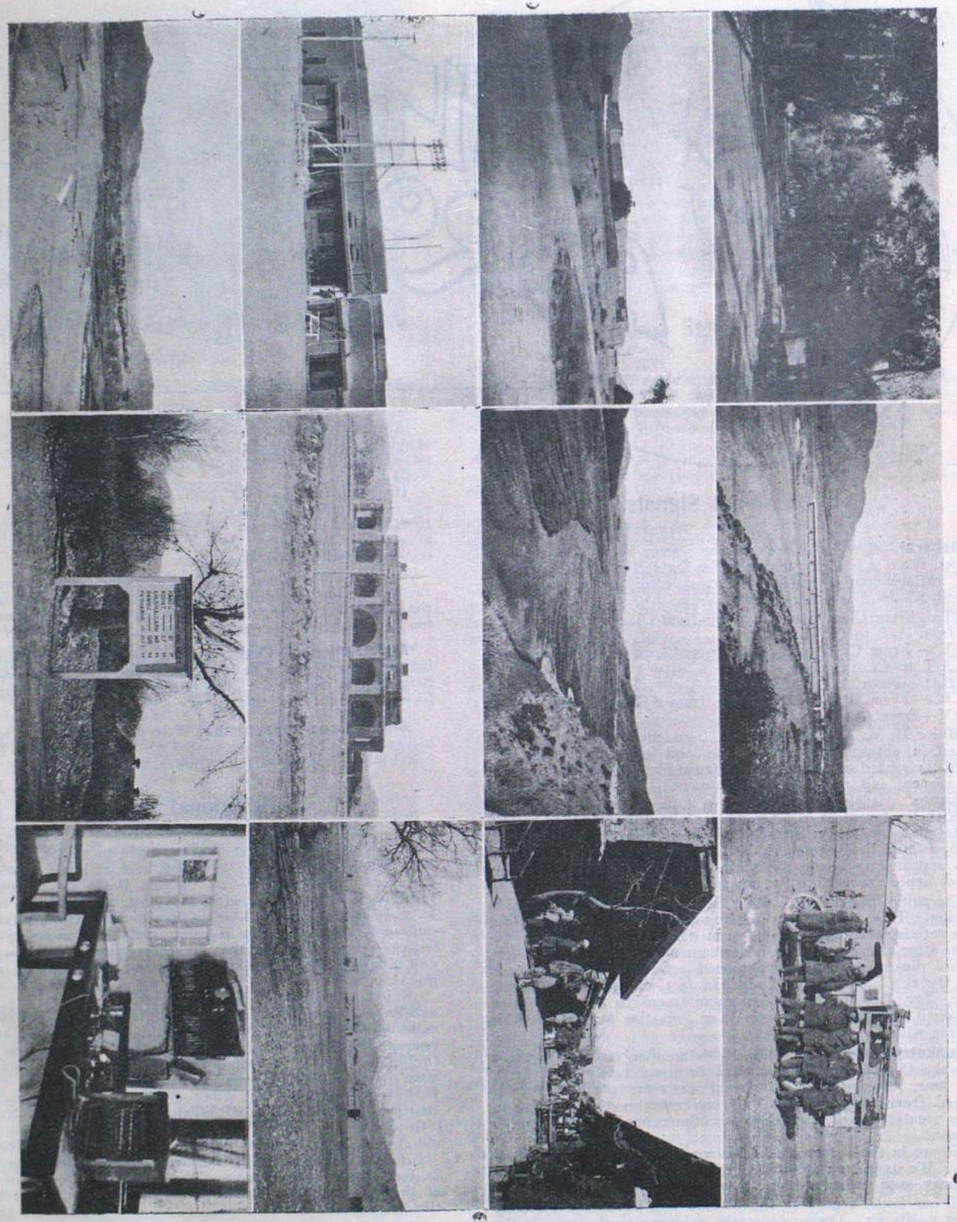
Kohat, September 19th.

It is with great regret that we have to report the death of No. 7870253 Sigmn T. Boyle of this unit, at Razmak, on August 9th, from acute appendicitis. Sigmn Boyle was serving with the Razani Brigade Section of this unit, and although unknown to most of us (he had been in Razani since the arrival of the unit in Kohat, and was a transfer from G) he was very popular with his section. All ranks offer their sympathy to his parents, and his comrades in Razani have shown their sympathy in a very practical manner.

Kohat is very quiet and uninteresting. Folks come and go, mostly with leave fever, but this month, despite a vigorous anti-malarial campaign in the camp, the rate of ambulances and high temperatures has gone up considerably. News has leaked through of the new Kohat Area Signals which will function this year. This means that we, as F Signals, will cease to exist. It is a pity! After all, think of the slogan of many a discharged warrior of Waziristan, Jubbulpore, and the Kurram—"Good old F"; but oh, what a mouthful to blurt out, "Good old Kohat Area Signals!"

Life at Parachinar still continues in the same old way, that is, trade testing board way. The board takes place at the end of this month, when months of training and hoping will go in the hat, and come out—higher rates.

Sport has been fairly plentiful, as recorded in the Sports pages. In this connection we have to record here that in August, the F Signals pair (Major R. H. Rayner and Captain F. J. Matthews) won the regimental doubles in the Kurram tennis



1. Birdwood Mall, Kohat
2. The Fort, Kohat
3. Thal Signal Office, Khurram
4. Thal Village
5. The River, near Thal, Khurram
6. The River, near Alazia, Khurram
7. The P.A.'s Rest House, Alazia, Khurram
8. "Show me the way to go home; but I prefer to ride"
9. The Construction Section
10. The Bazaar, Parachinar
11. The Fort, Parachinar
12. The Signal Office, Parachinar

Views of Kohat and the Khurram Valley

tournament, in which the following arms of the Service were represented: Royal Artillery, Royal Corps of Signals, 13th Frontier Force Regiment, Frontier Militia, Royal Tank Corps, and Indian Medical Service. Congratulations! Good old F!

Promotions have been rather numerous of late, and to the following we offer our congratulations on "moving up one":—

To L/Sergt—Corpls E. Kingham, E. Margrain, C. Aprile, T. Cadell, W. Wagg, and K. Freeman.

To Corporal—L/Corpls A. Scarratt, G. Braywood, E. Allen, H. Scott, and H. Barnett.

To L/Corporal—U/L/Corpls L. Cox, J. Patterson, and R. Spearman.

To the following, who have recently joined us on reposting, we offer a right royal welcome: Sergt W. Wall from C Divl. Signals. Sigmn Bowles from B Cavalry Signal Troop. Signalmen W. Greig and W. Harvey from the S.T.C. (India).

One other thing we might mention is a recent innovation in the unit: the Thrift Club. These clubs are not exactly a new idea, but we pat ourselves on the back that we are running ours on very up-to-date lines. Every depositor has his own pass book and an account indirectly with Lloyds—draws his 4 per cent. interest, and walks about like a bloated financier! Is there a catch in it? Certainly: he can't touch his money in India. But then, think of "smoke"—a pass book—and hundreds of Lloyds' branches about. What a life. Now, stand back all those eager transfers for F!

We hope the English press, railway companies, and so on, will forgive us, but we must have our little joke! A recent advertisement in the paper and a trip on the Kohat-Thall railway gave the inspiration for our artist's poster:—

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Mohd. Ghuram Mukhan, Town Clerk, Usterzai
or his Agent:
Mohd. Ekdam Thirg-thora, Chikarkote.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Wellington Barracks, Sept. 6th.

General.—Now that the trooping season is getting near, Dame Rumour is making herself known, but experience has taught us to give her the deaf ear and just trust to luck. Already quite a few second-year men have been heard to say, "Roll on the next trooper."

We are still having hot weather, and the coming of the cold season is eagerly awaited.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Mrs. W. Bowler, who arrived on 19/8/26 per the P. & O. "Malina." Also to Sigmn Holliday, transferred from the 1st East Surreys.

Promotion.—Sigmn A. F. Harris, to be L/Corpl (paid). Congratulations, Darky Boy! Keep going!

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Certificates of Education.—Corpl W. Bowler and Sigmn A. Worrall have been awarded the 2nd class certificate. Whoever would have thought it?

Musketry.—A thousand pardons for omitting to mention this in my last notes. Sigmn Purcell made the highest score and secured a watch kindly presented by Q.M.S. Roberts. (Something worth shooting for, eh, Percy?) The Section on the whole did quite well, and hope to do better still next year.

Signals Association.—On Saturday, 14/8/26, the Association accepted the invitation of Mr. Belamy (ex-Signal Officer) to tennis and tea on the Peak. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent, and the tennis was quite good—Signalmen Purcell and White playing well against Major Macready and Capt Bridgland. After tea a few members played more tennis, while others "lived over happy days once again" with our new friends.

Defaulters.—What about a few notes from Mauritius and some of the Home Sections?

JOINT BOX.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Pulau Brani, Sept. 23rd.

General.—By the time these notes appear we shall have welcomed our new arrivals (Signalmen McDowell and Welshy). We hope they will enjoy their sojourn on "the island of the brave." We shall also have said goodbye to our old hands. Signalmen Bond, Lomax and Stokes, who are due to leave the fold on November 1st en route for Blighty. A busy time is predicted for next month in providing a suitable welcome and farewell to the above-named. I wonder if this gives several of the Section an opportunity to have their annual "binge."

Congratulations to L/Corpl R. Davis on being placed on the Corps roster with pay, and to A/U/L/Corpl W. C. Wright on attaining that dizzy height. Keep it up, lads!

Musketry.—The annual musketry course being completed, Sigmn Trickett gains the distinction of "snake eye" for the second year in succession, with Corpl Horan a good second—their scores being 89 and 88 respectively.

Signals Association.—A dance held on August 21st proved a very successful affair. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, and thanks are due for the able way in which the committee carried out their various duties. A total profit of $45 was realised.

KRUSCHEN.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo, Oct. 5th.

Musketry.—The ordeal of the annual course is now over and hearts are much lighter, the reason being that some were afraid that they would fail to get a 1st class, and others that they would fail "not to get one." There is one little mystery surrounding musketry and that is: "*How are the scores arrived at?*" The firing on the whole was fairly good, the average of the two Companies being: No. 1, 69.7; No. 3, 72.5.

Matrimony.—Our best wishes are extended to Sergt Naylor, Corpl Huxtable and Sigmn Forster on their respective marriages.

Court and Social.—Whist drives are being held weekly in the new barracks, under the able supervision of Sergt White of Maresfield fame. Patrons roll in from all parts of the Garrison, and I've even seen taxis pur-r-r up to the main gate on these nights. Now then, what about the dances? Surely you haven't forgotten!

Appointment.—Congratulations to A/Corpl Cahill on attaining the second tape.

Departures.—We bade farewell to nine O.R.s on September 17th, when they embarked per H.M.T. "Derbyshire" for U.K for discharge. Our best wishes go with them: Corpl Bromwich, L/Corpl E. H. Lee, Signalmen J. Walker, W. Fisher, Brinkley, Middleton and Young, Drivers Marshall and A. Jones.

Courses in U.K.—L/Corpl Sunderland (No. 3 Company) embarked per H.M.T. "Derbyshire" on 17/9/26. This n.c.o. is to attend No. 5 W/T course at the School of Signals, Catterick. The best of luck, and don't forget to come back home!

Transfer to Royal Signals.—Sigmn W. W. W. Lynton (late Pte. of 2nd Battn. The Border Regiment), who was transferred to the Corps, proceeded to U.K. on 17/9/26, to undergo training at the S.T.C., Catterick.

Concert Party.—The renowned "Morse-Key-Toes" are still busily engaged in rehearsing for the first show of the season. Lieut R. G. L. Giblin is the producer, and puts in quite a lot of time with the party. I have been asked to state that owing to unforeseen circumstances it has been impossible to put the first show on before now, but am assured of a real "bumper" when the curtain *does* rise.

Posting.—Sigmn H. E. Turner, who joined us from Blighty only last year, has departed for duty with Signal Section, Hong Kong. We wish him the best of luck in the land of Wu.

Courses.—Owing to the fact that the cook-house in the new barracks is of the latest pattern, the authorities have decided to hold cooks' courses in it for a period of six months, commencing in the latter part of October. In order that these courses may be supervised in the proper manner, Colour/Sergt Bolton (Grenadier Guards) has been sent out here as instructor. This n.c.o. has come direct from the School of Cookery, Aldershot, so we should soon be living like fighting-cocks. He has not only the honour of being the only Guardsman O.R. in Egypt, but someone was heard to remark that he was on a "Cook's tour."

Heard in the Barrack Room.—1st Signalman (on returning from the ranges): "Did you allow for the wind when firing at the 500 yards point?" 2nd Signalman (sullenly): "There was no need for that; it was only *superfluous wind* flying about!"

Agricultural Enthusiasts.—1st A.E.: "I'm one of the crack shots; in fact, I'm a Bisley shot." 2nd A.E.: "Yes! Bisley (busily) engaged on the tennis court!"

Cracked.—During the period in which the Companies fired their annual musketry course, it was possible to go up to the ranges in the evening and fire practice shots, and it was during one of these particular evenings that the following was heard in the mess room. 1st Signalman: "Aren't you firing any buck-shee rounds to-night? I thought you were one of the crack shots." 2nd Signalman: "Yes, I am, but not '*crackers*' enough for that!"

What was it?—Who was the man who, when reporting sick, told the M.O. that he thought he was suffering from "*information* of the stomach"?

BEN.

Sergeants' Mess.

Romance has come our way, and Sergt Naylor (who ought to know better) was married on Saturday, September 18th, the bride having arrived from England on the previous Wednesday. A very nice and select reception was held at the Kursaal in Cairo, and it was interesting to note the bachelor sergeants present: Yates, Linder, Norcross and Donaghy (pronounced Da-nog-nee).

Guards.—Not night guards, but Grenadier Guards—at least, one of them (Col/Sergt Bolton) has been posted to Egypt for attachment to the Corps. But stay—don't tremble—he's not here for that purpose, but as a cookery instructor.

Social.—We have not had the usual whist drive and dance this month—in fact, we never did, but the periodical outburst was always described as the first of a monthly series. Anyway, this month we've had by way of diversion a sealed billiard handicap. The final was between Sergts Yates and Wheeler, the latter winning a very interesting game.

Casualty.—The ceiling has fallen in again, as usual, and of course no other damage was done either to person or to stock—the caterer's luck was out.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Signals Barracks, Polygon, Oct. 6th.

General.—"The scribe is dead; long live the scribe." In other words, "the firm is under new management" owing to L/Corpl Brinkley having embarked for the U.K.; and so this month you have a "loco tenum," pending the appointment of a permanent correspondent.

Musketry.—Musketry is over and has produced the usual "consistent firsts," "consistent thirds," and the "maaleeh seconds." The highest scores were: 1st, Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O. (O.C.), 99; 2nd, Sigmn Burnham, 98; 3rd, Lieut P. H. Owens, 97.

The elite are now being exercised in revolver shooting, and according to what the soldier said (which is no evidence), some are not very quick on the draw.

Individual Training.—The individual training has now bowed to the collective training season, and we are preparing for those schemes which no amount of scheming can dodge. If we can beat our reports on previous seasons, we shall indeed have something to boast about.

A Visit to Old Cairo.—Before commencing my account of the Camera Club outing to Old Cairo, I must thank the Editor in anticipation for the allowance of a little extra space, in addition to that occupied by the photo supplement. Also I must thank Corpl Corbett for his efforts to make the outing the success it undoubtedly was.

We left our barracks in an elegant (?) Ford bus, which took us straight to Old Cairo (a strictly out of bounds area). As is permissible for buses, here it broke down, luckily in front of our first point of call, so dispensing with its services pro tem., we went to view the Mosque of Amr. Unfortunately we could not gain admission owing to the new orders issued about "unbelievers'" visits. This mosque is the oldest in Egypt, dating from 643 A.D., and restored in 847 A.D. It is supported by 378 pillars, which represent the number of days in an old Egyptian year. There are also two pillars built very close together, between which legend says that only honest men can pass. An honest fat man will get through, whereas a dishonest thin man cannot. Unfortunately we did not have the chance to test our honesty!

Leaving the mosque we visited a "chattie" factory (a chattie is a receptacle for holding and cooling drinking water). The workmen made with remarkable speed various shapes of chatties, and finished by making a hollow ball of Nile mud and cutting a slit in it, saying "money box—backsheesh, please"—so we faded away.

Our tour then took us over the ruins of the original Cairo, or Fostaht as its name was then, the story of it being too long to tell here. Passing this we reached part of the walls of a Roman fortress called Babylon, now in a bad stage of ruin. Turning in a gate in this wall we came to the Coptic church called Almoalaka or the "hanging church."

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The church is 1400 years old, and contains a very old painting of the Virgin Mary, said to be 900 years old. The altar is screened from the rest, and is only opened during communion. The screen is made of cedar-wood from Lebanon and carved ivory.

Attached to the church is the Coptic museum which contains many interesting relics of the time when the Copts were persecuted by the Romans and Mohammedans. One or two exhibits worth mentioning are a wooden door from the church of Sitt-Barbara, destroyed in the 5th century, a wooden carving of Christ's entry into Jerusalem (4th century), and a wooden altar removed from Abu Sarge church during the persecutions of the 10th century. The library was also visited, with its many old and valuable manuscripts.

Proceeding with our tour we crossed the Nile by ferry to Rhodah Island, and visited the site of Pharaoh's Palace and the spot where Moses was supposed to have been found in the bull-rushes. At the southern end of the garden is the Nilometer, which is a square well 16 ft. in diameter with an octagonal column fixed in the centre, upon which is carved the meter for measuring the height of the water. This was built by Kalif Suliman in 115 A.D., and was restored by Mamoun a hundred years later.

All the authorities from Herodius down to Leo Africanus agree in stating that the Nile must rise 16 cubits in order that the land may produce good crops. The statue of Father Nile in the Vatican is accordingly surrounded by sixteen figures representing these cubits.

This concluded our tour, and apart from taking a few photos in the native quarter, the party made straight back to the trams for Cairo and tea. Altogether a very enjoyable and instructive outing.

F. H. D.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Polygon Barracks, Cairo, Oct. 1st.

We apologise for the absence of this unit's notes for the past three months, owing to our regular contributor having been on leave to the U.K. for that period.

First and foremost was the move from our old quarters in Main Barracks at Abbassia to the new Signal Barracks at Polygon, wherein we are now quartered. The move took place on what were probably the hottest two or three days of the past summer, and everyone was thankful when it was completed. As the porter would say, it was "thirsty work."

The new quarters themselves are very good and up-to-date, and consist of concrete huts, each holding about sixteen men, allowing plenty of room for each, with a separate bunk for an n.c.o at one end. In addition, we now possess our own canteen (in conjunction with No. 1 Company), billiard room, reading and writing room, tennis courts, and sports ground (which at present is in process of completion).

The great drawback, however, to our new quarters is that we are now so far away from the Main Barracks and "civilisation," as we are situated on the edge of the desert close to the big R.A.F. aerodrome at Heliopolis; and whenever it is desired to go into Cairo, there is a mile walk to the nearest trams or buses. But taken all round, apart from our isolation, everyone is of opinion that we are a lot better off in our new quarters than in our old ones.

Congratulations—To the following on their respective appointments: L/Sergt Mann to be A/Sergeant. Corpl Williams to be L/Sergeant. L/Corpls Field, Kemp and Cahill to be A/Cpls. A/U/L/Corpl Cotton to be L/Corpl (paid). Sigmn Grose to be A/U/L/Corporal.

Our recent Benedict.—Sigmn W. C. Beedle, late of the Company office, is at present undergoing a five weeks local probationary course with the N.A.A.F.I., prior to purchasing his discharge from the Service.

The Company fired its annual musketry course during the early part of the past month, and all were thankful when the daily trek over the sands to the rifle ranges was finished. The Company average is higher than last year's, whilst Corpl Jones made the highest individual score with 101, Sigmn Lynton coming next with 98.

Leave to Blighty for a period of three months during the past summer was granted to L/Corpl Tudor and Signalmen Beeton and Gratwicke, all proceeding overland from Marseilles. The first rain for many months was encountered soon after leaving Marseilles in the train, though the weather in England, taken on the whole, was very good. Sigmn Beeton competed successfully in some open athletic events during his leave.

Emulating porpoises was mostly the order of the day for the various parties who have been spending a fortnight's "change of air" leave this summer, disporting themselves in the blue waters of the Mediterranean at Alexandria, where the facilities for sea bathing are very good. Appetites jumped up enormously, for the air at Alexandria is wonderfully bracing in comparison with Cairo, and all were regretful when their fortnight was up and the return to Cairo was made. In addition, the majority of the married families have spent an enjoyable three weeks in camp by the sea at Sid Bishr, close to Alexandria.

The marriage of Corpl Huxtable to Miss Mary Azablar took place at the British Consulate, Cairo, on September 4th. It goes without saying that the celebrations following the wedding were kept up until the early hours, and judging by the appearance of some of the guests the following day, they had evidently needed some one to "show me the way to go 'ome."

Yet another risked it in Sigmn H. Forster, who braved it at the British Consulate on September 11th, and was duly "tied up" to Miss Jeannie Hecheme.

Au Revoir! was bid to the first batch of fortunates returning to U.K. who embarked on H.M.T. "Derbyshire" on September 17th, consisting of Corpl Bromwich, L/Corpl Sunderland, and Signalmen Fisher and Lynton. Corpl Bromwich will be sadly missed when the Command swimming championships take place next season, but we wish him and Sigmn Fisher the best of luck in civvie street. The other two are for courses at the Depot. Sigmn H. E. Turner also embarked on September 29th for Hong Kong, for duty with the Signal Section there.

"Up in the Blue" had been the ambition of Signalmen Jeans and Bates up to the 20th of last month, when their wishes were granted by a "flip" in an aeroplane at the R.A.F. aerodrome at Heliopolis. Various rumours as to how they would enjoy the trip had been floating around before the ascent, but these were most emphatically denied by the ambitious couple on their return. They satisfied their hearers to such an extent that a shoal of applications for "flips" has been the result.

Do you know that on September 25th, when a certain M.T. driver of this unit was at the N.A.A.F.I., he asked the assistant (who is a native) behind the counter for two tins of Soldiers' Friend, and the assistant brought him *two foaming glasses of beer*. Whether the assistant recognised him as an old and valued customer from the "wet end" should have no bearing on the matter. Can any unit beat this?

"Should Auld Acquaintance"—No, of course not; therefore will L/Corpl Horsey, of Bermuda Signal Section, please write to Corpl Field of this unit. Sergt Grant ("Jug") would like to hear from Sigmn Hyde, last heard of at Bulford. Sigmn Backhouse (late Rhine Signals) would like to have a few lines from Freddie and Tich, or Nick, of the 8th Brigade Signal Section, Wiesbaden; and wishes to congratulate the Signals on winning the athletics once again.

Answers to Correspondents.—Taffie—No, the rissoles are *not* marched into the mess room; the "face at the window" issues them on indent.

"Jay."—Yes, you are quite right in your assumption that no one was looking when the stocks disappeared for firewood. It is generally believed that the Section quoted was training for the tug-of-war at the time, so keep it dark.

Mrs. Yahabibby.—We are sorry to say that we cannot trace your cat. Even if it was last seen near the pigeon loft at the W/T Station just before a bang was heard, no connection should be made with the fact that the men had rabbit pie for dinner next day. That was merely a coincidence.

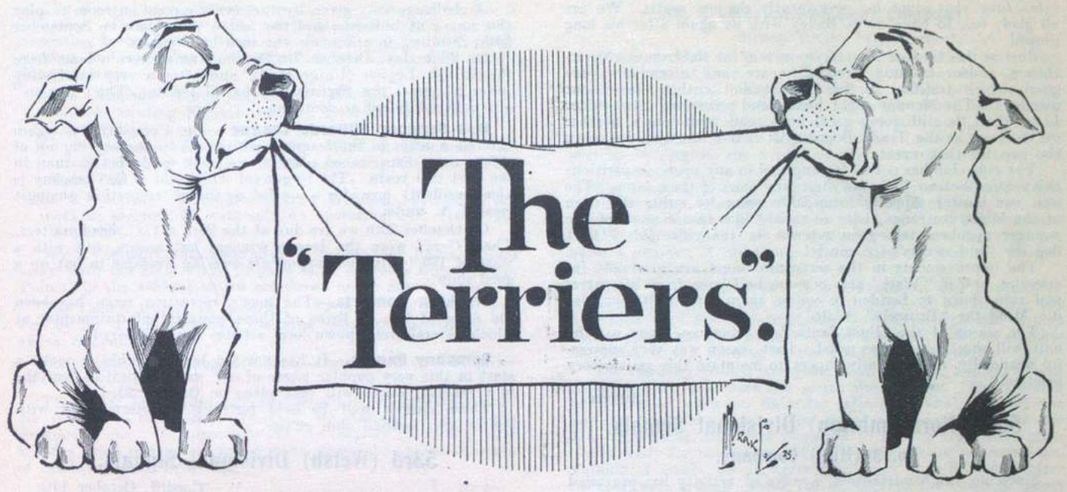
Leonard.—So sorry, but I cannot enlighten you as to the Ford expert who took the high tension wire off the coil terminal to the sparking plug, and then instituted enquiries amongst brother drivers as to whether it was a high or a low tension wire. I suggest you enquire of No. 1 Company's "News of the World"; he may help you.

Lonely Soldier.—George, the "sweep" man, wishes to contradict the statement that he has just received his twenty-second pair of running shoes from one of his many admirers. It is only his second pair; and it was his Northampton divinity who sent them—*not* the Brighton one.

M.T.'s, A Corps Signals, Ewshott.—The performances of Geordie in the athletic world to date are as follows: 100 yards run: Wind gave out half-way, and he failed to complete the course. One length swimming: Owing to sinking half-way, no time was taken. High diving: The first dive was a good one, but he made such a splash that insufficient water was left for a second one. Boxing: As the ring collapsed as soon as he entered, no fight took place. Half-mile run: Time, 1 min. 50 secs. (world's record). This is doubted, as onlookers aver that he was driving a Ford at the time. Cricket: Owing to his first swipe (intended for a "sixer") laying out the umpire and the wicket-keeper, the match was abandoned in the interests of public safety. Details of further performances will be given next month.

ART.

G Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.
How some of us spend our leisure hours.



42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Burlington Street, Manchester.

Manchester has been indulging in a civic week, at which we assisted considerably. On Civic Sunday afternoon, portions of all units of the 42nd Division, headed by the G.O.C. and staff, and complete with guns and transport, marched past the G.O.C.-in-Chief Western Command. We spent the whole morning on "spit and polish," and our hub-caps were so brilliant that they scared at least one horse. A film of the march-past was taken which will be shown at our headquarters on several dates.

A party of volunteers from the unit took part in a historical pageant held on two evenings at Heaton Park. They represented men who had joined up in 1914. During the second performance the weather was so bad that the soaked but cheerful spectators thought they were witnessing a naval engagement. At Belle-Vue a military tattoo was given by regular troops, for which we supplied the control telephones and laid the lines.

On October 9th, an attractive concert took place in our drill hall. We congratulate the permanent staff on the excellent improvised stage and lighting. During the evening the Divisional Commander, Major-Gen. A. Solly Flood, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who commanded the Division during the war, paid us a surprise visit. Both he and our commanding officer made stirring speeches, with the result that several recruits have since joined.

By special permission we expect to exhibit at an important wireless exhibition which will shortly be held in Manchester, and we hope thereby to increase our numbers still more.

We regret to report that Lieut B. N. Bintley has left us to take up an appointment in Singapore. He has been with us for many years, and will be greatly missed. We wish him every good fortune, and hope that he will not forget us when he returns.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

Winter draws on, and we are about to spread ourselves on the winter programme, and to do justice both to its military and to its social side.

The former was discussed at a Company Commanders' conference held at Exeter on Sunday, October 3rd, presided over by our C.O., Lieut.-Col. W. G. Michelmore. Week-end exercises for officers and n.c.o.s were arranged, and general principles laid down for individual and sectional training.

The n.c.o.s week will take place at Totton, Southampton, in February next. In former years it has been held at Exeter, and no doubt the change of venue will be welcomed.

The officers' annual dinner will take place at Exeter on the 30th October, when a record attendance is expected.

No. 1 Company (Exeter) will hold their annual feast at Exeter on November 11th (Armistice Day).

No. 1 Company is running a football team in the East Devon League, and has entered two shooting teams in the Exeter Rifle League.

Congratulations to Sergt Preston on his success in gaining the highest average prize in the Exeter Rifle League last season.

Sigmn Selley, late of ours and now in the Royal Corps at Catterick, has sent us a cheery account of his experiences as a regular soldier. All his friends send their greetings, and wish him the best of luck in the Corps.

No. 3 Company (Ubique)

Topsham Tattles.—The Topsham lads are apparently in for a busy time this winter. Capt R. C. A. Cummings, O.C. of the Company, has presented a cup to the Section for an efficiency competition—the winner to receive a miniature model. The precise conditions are being drawn up.

On the social side one very successful dance was held last month, and a cabaret dance has been arranged for November 5th next.

A proposal is, I am told, also on foot to form a Mustard Club. My Topsham correspondent asks me to contradict the rumour which appears to have got abroad concerning the pole-climbing feat at Weymouth. He says *it wasn't Noel*, and he hopes that this announcement will have the effect of stifling the absurd suggestions.

Plymouth Section.—More dancing here! These Territorials do "go it!" On October 4th the first of a series of social functions was held by the Section in the drill hall at Devonport. Sergt Field was M.C., and Mrs. Gibbons (wife of Sergt Gibbons) took charge of the refreshments. The versatile O.C. of No. 3 Company, partnered by Mrs. Fry, won the spot-waltz competition (loud cheers).

Congratulations to Sergt Grimshaw on his marriage. The Section wishes him the best of luck.

Another bit of good news is that Capt Coley, who is at present in the British Cameroons, West Africa, has presented a handsome silver cup for competition in the Section on similar lines to that of the Topsham Section.

What about forming a Mustard Club at Plymouth? Now then, Harris and Corney; don't be beaten by the fisher lads at Topsham!

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

The last month has passed without event so far as unusual occurrences are concerned. Last week, however, we were extremely glad to see our late R.S.M. (B. Brown) up from Pompey

—his first visit since he permanently donned mufti. We are all glad, too, to have Sergt Bailey with us again after his long illness.

Just at this time of the year we are in the doldrums. Nevertheless, indoor training proceeds apace, and attendances are good, which testifies to the interest and enthusiasm of our members. The Monday night buzzer and procedure class, under Lieut Ford, is still going great guns, and turns out a number of successes at the Trade Boards. It is our intention to annex the cup for that event.

The rifle club has not so far engaged in any open competitions this season, but no doubt we shall hear more of them later. The unit can muster a pretty formidable team for either the open or the miniature range, but we should like to see more of the younger members taking an interest in the rifle club. Don't flog the "old sweats" too much!

The improvements in the sergeants' mess are gradually increasing, and if "Watt" gets a spare half-hour from his patrol and runs down to London to see us again, he won't recognise it. Mind the "Brussels," Watt!

The season of the "light fantastic" being now upon us, the unit will shortly oblige as usual. Last season was very successful financially, and we fully expect to maintain this satisfactory position.

ACKPIP.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Since our last contribution, a wave of activity has prevailed in our Company, and already we have had our annual sports, prize distribution, concerts, smokers, and other social affairs. These have proved how valuable it is to a T.A. unit to keep its members together during the "close season."

Annual Sports.—These took place on Saturday, September 25th, in a field kindly loaned by the commanding officer and the officers of the 4th Battn. East Yorkshire Regt., and were witnessed by a good number of friends.

The O.C. Company (Capt R. E. Petch) and Mrs. Petch were present, also Capt T. W. Andrews. Unfortunately Capt G. Thompson (sports officer) was absent, owing to an important engagement. R.S.M. G. Burrows came down specially to be with us, and this was much appreciated by all.

The committee responsible for the arrangements are to be congratulated on their efforts. They were: Capt R. E. Petch, C.S.M. R. G. Williams, M.M., Sergts C. Wilson and J. Wright, M.M., L/Corpls A. Liddell and R. Rowson, and Signalmen J. Waller and G. Woods. Capt Petch officiated as judge, C.S.M. Williams as starter, and Sergt Wilson as clerk of the course.

Comic Football Match.—This created great amusement when teams from the married and the single met to decide who should hold the Nibs trophy, presented by Captain G. Thompson for annual competition. The conditions provide that each player must appear in comic or fancy costume, and some weird make-ups were to be seen.

Sigmn Hare as "Charlie Chaplin" was a great hit. Sigmn C. Willis was recognised in his impersonation of a "Flapper." The referee turned out to be our old friend, Mr. Lomas (Tiny), who after a number of (to the players) startling decisions, declared the winners to be the married men, who thus retain the trophy.

During the evening, an enjoyable smoking concert was held in the sergeants' mess, when a number of artistes assisted in a programme which was voted a great success. C.S.M. Williams was in the chair. We were pleased to welcome our old friend, C.S.M. G. Smith (now of No. 1 Company, Gateshead-on-Tyne). At the interval, Mrs. Petch kindly presented the sports prizes to the successful competitors.

The Mercury Trophy.—This was presented to the Company by Capt T. W. Andrews for annual inter-sectional competition. It is a very fine piece, mounted on a pedestal. Capt Petch, in presenting the trophy to Sergt C. Wilson (No. 1 Section), congratulated the Section on the good work done, and remarked that though No. 2 took second place, there was really very little to choose between the two Sections. He hoped that all hands would pull together to make next year's training season an even greater success than this.

Billiards.—The first of what is hoped will be a number of billiard handicaps is being run, with upwards of 50 entrants. The games are all 21 up, and good prizes are to be won.

A challenge was given by the men's recreation room to play the n.c.o.s at billiards, and the match took place on September 29th, resulting in a win for the men by 7 points.

On Thursday, October 7th, we had as visitors a team from the British Legion (Unity Hall), and after a very interesting series of games the Signals won by 17 points. The "Legion" also suffered defeat at dominoes.

Hull Services Billiards League.—The Company has again entered a team in the league, and thanks to the signing on of a few more experienced players, we hope to do better than in the past two years. The league (of which our O.C. Company is vice-president) provides a useful means of recreation amongst local T.A. units.

On October 20th we are due at the 26th A.C.C. headquarters. The "Cars" were the league winners last season, but with a start of 125 (whilst our opponents owe 25) we hope to put up a good show.

Smoking Concerts.—The men's recreation room has been the scene of two or three of these popular entertainments, at which several well known local artistes have appeared.

Company Dances.—It has not yet been possible to make a start in this very popular phase of our social activities, but the first carnival dance will take place on October 23rd.

These dances well be held fortnightly, intermingled with one or two football club affairs.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Cardiff, October 14th.

There is little of interest to record for the past month. A certain amount of work has been done; musketry has been concluded, and practically everyone in the unit has completed the year's training. Quartermaster-sergeants look less worried, and the P.S. are not quite so busy now—except at their recruiting duties.

The C.O.'s bonus scheme for operators has produced some results. There are certain members of the unit who by their devotion to the buzzer have taken away the two, four or six £1 notes offered; and we hear there are others who now think it worth while "having a go for it."

The w.o.s and n.c.o.s' mess held their annual outing on Sunday, September 18th. Favoured with delightful weather, and with the organisation in the capable hands of C.Q.M.S. R. E. Williams, the outing was the best the mess have held.

Leaving Cardiff about 9 a.m., the party of fifty proceeded by road to Coleford via the Wye Valley. After lunch the journey was continued to Gloucester, returning by the Forest of Dean to Newham, where tea (no other liquid refreshment being available) was partaken of. The party then returned to Cardiff by Speech House and Alphington, getting back at 11 p.m.—the end of a perfect day.

It is with very keen regret that we contemplate the departure of C.S.M. Hoare, who after five years with the T.A. is returning to regimental duty. "Billy" has been one of the pillars of the unit since 1921, and it is hard to imagine the place without him. His fellows of the P.S. and the T.A. personnel will miss him greatly, as over 400 of them tried to show when they came to his farewell concert. The best of luck, Billy! Come back and see us whenever you can.

We should like to know what was meant by a member of the unit when he said that the only charm he ever saw in the orderly room seems to have left it. Who selected the guide for the mess outing, and at what distance is he capable of discerning a rule pocket? Whether the return of full flagons at the end of the outing was a mistake or a reward?

THE LEEK.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Since last month's notes were written, nothing much has happened. As the nights are lengthening attendances seem to drop off except for a few stalwarts, who are to be congratulated on their untiring enthusiasm. A good deal of interest is being maintained in the 120-watt sets.

The forthcoming event is our first annual dance, to be held at Stratford Town Hall on November 2nd. At this function, it is understood, the cups and trophies won by Companies and individuals will be presented to the winners.

The Waley-Cohen efficiency cup was won this year by No. 3 Company. This was awarded on points obtained by the men presenting themselves for trade test, for efficiency in W/T (both erecting and operating), and efficiency in V/T. The points obtained were:—

No. 3 Company—Trade Board 183. Wireless: Erecting "A" sets 54; erecting 30 watt sets 58; operating 23. Visual 27. Total 458.

No. 1 Company—Trade Board 87. Wireless: Erecting "A" sets 38; erecting 30 watt sets 110; operating 130. Visual 27. Total 392.

No. 2 Company—Trade Board 216. Wireless: Erecting "A" sets 2; erecting 30 watt sets 4; operating 64. Visual 78. Total 364.

No. 2 Company were handicapped in that they had a Section away with the 85th Field Brigade R.A. at West Down Camp. Points for the athletic shield are shown under Sports notes.

The Colvin trophy (a good-sized "Jimmy" in bronze) was won by No. 1 Company with the most points for wireless in the above competition.

Congratulations to Sergt Jennings on the arrival of a daughter on October 8th.

Trumpeter Turner has been discharged, being medically unfit for posting to the ranks. However, we shall still hear reveille sounded at camp, as apparently No. 3 Company (Southend) have found a good trumpeter, although he should be on the strength of headquarters. Verb sap.

Y. E. D.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

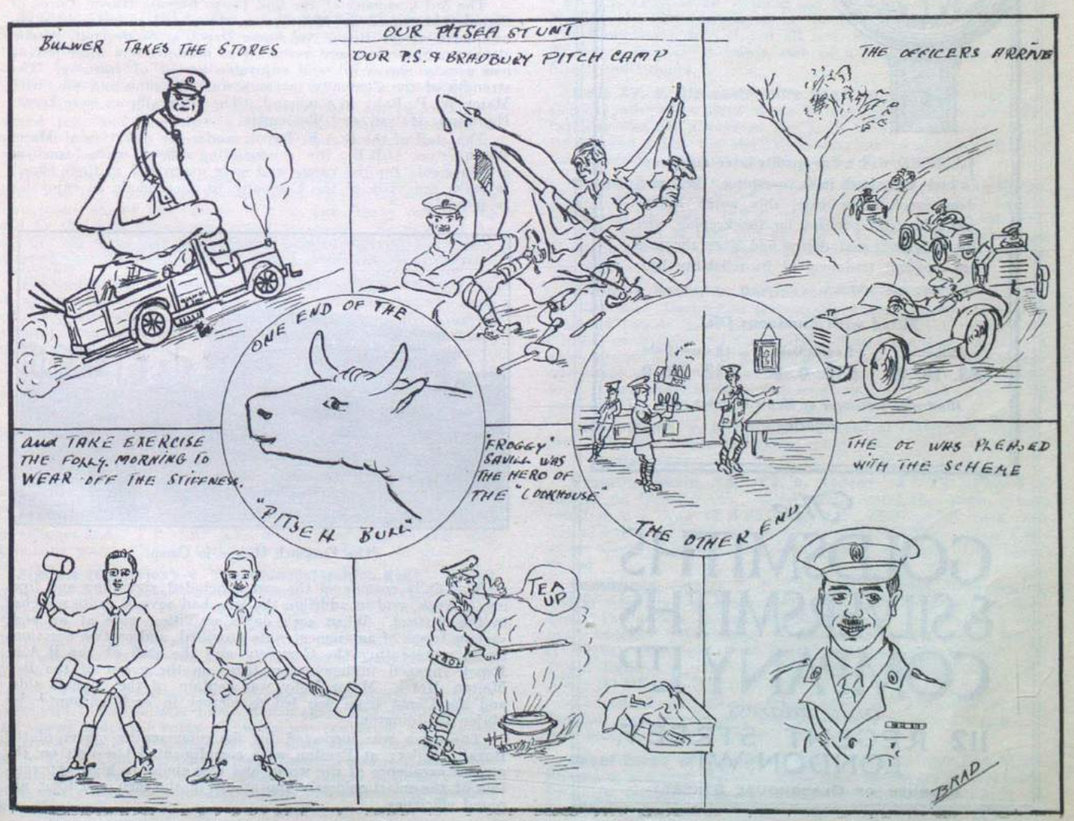
Milton House, Station Road, Oct. 14th.

It was decided to have a week-end camp before we settled down for winter training, a decision which was received with unanimous approval. Those who did not attend annual training at Dover having heard what a good time the others had, decided to take the opportunity to be soldiers for the week-end. Some were able to get the time off from business, whereas it was not possible in August, the height of the season for Southend and district.

The camping ground for the scheme (Pitsea) is only about ten miles away, and therefore quite convenient for wives and sweethearts to take a jolly old bus ride to see their glorious menfolk in full war paint. Spare moments were few, however, but quite a number of the Company managed to join the "merry crowd" on Saturday evening.

Pitsea is very patriotic. The inhabitants did not exactly meet us with a brass band, neither did they hang out bunting, but it seemed very fortunate that they had three organised dances on the go. I am glad to say we had a cordial welcome at these functions, to say nothing of the good time afterwards.

The camping ground was good in all respects, and those who attended know that here the scribe does not lie. The advance party arrived early on Saturday afternoon and collected the camp stores and rations. The main party arrived about one hour afterwards, and were surprised to see the tents were practically ready for habitation and the Company cook preparing tea. Talking of meals, we all agree that the C.Q.M.S. looked after us very well indeed. From the C.S.M. to the camp followers



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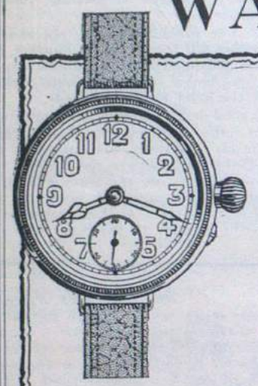

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(and we had some) all were more than satisfied. This was endorsed by the officers. To "Froggy" Savill the cook: May you live long and die short of money!

Sunday dawned with a frost, and groups were seen round the cookhouse fire, thawing their noses. This process lasted until the 7 a.m. parade, when Lieut Lilley soon warmed them up, and gave them an appetite for breakfast. Then came the scheme. Rain threatened once or twice to cut it short, but otherwise it was a successful affair. Communication was established in good time. Wireless, visual and buzzer lines all performed with credit. Even the helio did a bit, and the D.R. travelled a 60-mile journey in record time in conjunction with Nos. 1 and 2 Companies' scheme at Chigwell.

DREITER.

No. 3 Company, 2nd Corps Signals (S.R.)

Burlington Street, Manchester.

By the time these notes appear the training season will again be in full swing, and the drill hall a hive of industry on Thursdays. It is hoped that the spirit of comradeship so evident in camp will be reproduced at Burlington Street, and that the various schemes which are in hand for its improvement in a social sense will be successful.

The following extract from a local paper briefly describes our stay in camp.

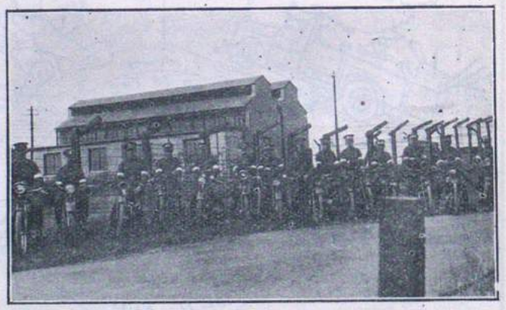
SIGNALLERS' CAMP.

FORTNIGHT'S TRAINING AT ALTRINCHAM.

COMPLIMENTED BY INSPECTING OFFICER.

The 3rd Company of the 2nd Corps Signals (Royal Corps of Signals), stationed at Manchester, completed a fortnight's encampment at the Royal Air Force Depot at Sinderland, Altrincham, on Saturday, and returned to headquarters after having had a very successful and enjoyable period of training. The strength of the Company in camp was 108 rank and file, with Major W. P. Roby in command. The other officers were Lieuts Hamilton, Halsall and Bottomley.

The staff of the R.A.F. Depot, under the direction of Major Waddington, O.B.E., the commanding officer, made excellent arrangements for the camp, and were unsparing in their efforts to make the visit of the Company to Altrincham as enjoyable as possible.



The Despatch Riders in Camp.

The daily routine of the camp included signalling and linemen's work, and in addition the men had several route marches in the district. When each day's activities were at an end, various forms of amusement were provided, and on two occasions teams representing the Company and the staff of the R.A.F. Depot engaged in bowling matches on the green of the Bay Malten Hotel. Major Roby was captain of the Signals side, and the Depot team was led to victory in each encounter by Major Waddington.

The camp was inspected by the commanding officer of the Royal Artillery at Preston, who complimented the unit on the general excellence of the work, and also spoke in high appreciation of the smart soldierly appearance of the men and their all-round efficiency.

Catterick Rugby Notes.

Signals (Catterick) v. The 1st Battn. The Gloucestershire Regt.—Played on the New Scotton ground on Sept. 18th. It was somewhat ambitious to take on such redoubtable opponents in our first match, but although the score of 22—9 against us appears somewhat big, the game was very evenly contested.

Within three minutes the Gloucesters had scored an unconverted try, and immediately afterwards Danby dropped a splendid goal. The Gloucesters, however, scored three more tries, and led by 12—4 at half-time.

Our forwards in the second half showed marked improvement, and the whole team showed signs of settling down. The Gloucesters scored two converted tries, and Danby reduced the lead by the most spectacular try of the game. He received the ball in his own half and, having eluded several opponents, swerved past the full back and scored under the posts.

The spectators, amongst whom one noticed most of the boys, all agreed that the game was a splendid one, and that the team will very soon show a great improvement. The rugby pitch is situated on the west side of the Scotton ground, and is in almost perfect condition.

Depot Battn. v. Training Battn.—Played on Sept. 22nd. A very good game which ended in a win for the T.B. by 11—3.

Training Battn. v. Darlington Railway R.F.C.—Played on September 27th. Won by the T.B. by 14—3.

Depot Battn. v. Training Battn.—Played on October 2nd. The Depot Battalion had several players away, and the T.B. won easily by 36—5, Danby and Hardy being the chief scorers.

Training Battn. "A" XV. v. Darlington Juniors.—Played on October 2nd. T.B. "A" XV., which consists of several very promising young players, had a very easy win by 43—0.

Signals (Catterick) v. The Gloucestershire Regt.—Played on October 4th. A really exciting game. The Gloucesters scored from a penalty soon after the start, but before half-time Sigmn Cale made a good opening for Lieut Hardy, who scored under the posts. Sergt Squirrell converted. A bad pass by one of our three-quarters, in his own 25, enabled the Gloucesters to score in the corner. At half-time they led by 6—5.

Soon after the restart the Gloucesters scored again, but failed to convert. A little later Lieut Hardy again beat all opponents, and scored under the posts. The try was converted, and we led by 10—9. Both sides went all out after this. Our forwards, led by Lieut Thuillier, played magnificently, and just before the whistle went for "no side," Thuillier kicked a penalty goal from nearly half-way. Result: Signals, 13 points; Gloucestershire Regiment, 9.

Royal Signals (Catterick) "A" XV. v. Gloucestershire Regt. "A" XV.—Played on October 5th. These teams consisted of players who had not played in the first XV.s the day before. The Gloucesters, who played all last season as a team, won by 20 points to nil. It was a case of a *team* being better than fifteen individuals.

Boys XV. v. Gloucestershire Regt. (under 20).—Played on October 6th. The Boys made a most promising start. The tackling was not always as low as it should have been. Each side scored a try, but the Gloucesters scored a drop goal with the last kick of the match and won by 7 points to 3.

Training Battn. "A" XV. v. 4th Battn. Royal Tank Corps. Played on October 6th. This was originally a 1st XV. fixture, but as the 4th Battn. R.T.C. had only a weak team in the field, we were asked to turn out an "A" XV. Our team, consisting of young players, put up a splendid game, which was won by the R.T.C. by 5 points to 3.

Training Battn. v. Darlington.—Played at Darlington on October 9th. Darlington turned out a very strong team, and included two or three players who may be in the running for "blues" at Oxford and Cambridge. The game was played in a gale, which blew from goal to goal. We did not take proper advantage of the wind, and at half-time only led by 8 points to 3. Darlington showed better generalship, and won by 23 points to 11.

Depot Battn. v. Gateshead.—Played at Gateshead on Oct. 9th. The gale spoilt the game, which was won by Gateshead by 8 points to nil.

Training Battn. "A" XV. v. Redcar "A" XV.—Played at Redcar on October 9th. Wind again upset the game, which resulted in a draw of 3—3. Sigmn F. Thomas (on leave) was one of our opponents, and was a considerable help to the T.B., as he appeared passionately devoted to the rugger ball actually in use.

Comments.—Major F. R. Cobb has forsaken cross-country, and is now running the rugger. Enormous keenness has been shown this season, and the standard of play has improved very much indeed. This season matches have been arranged for:—(1) Signals (Catterick); (2) Signals (Catterick) "A" XV.; (3) Depot Battn.; (4) Training Battn.; (5) Training Battn "A" XV.; (6) Officers' XV.; (7) Boys' XV.

The actual composition of the various XV.s has not yet been decided, and experiments are being tried in every match. In next month's WIRE the teams will be given.

Royal Corps of Signals v. R.E.—We hope that just before Christmas a Corps match v. R.E. will be played at Chatham. Probably matches will be played each season alternately at Chatham and Aldershot.

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C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Shooting.—In the S.T.C. individual small-bore championships, which were concluded on October 7th, Corpl Miles obtained third place with a score of 261 out of 300. We entered for each of the three team competitions, and won one of them. The winning team consisted of Sergt Burr, Corp's Miles, Francis and Farmer. We beat D in the semi-final, and the Drill Companies in the final.

Football.—Inter-Company soccer has commenced, and if first appearances count for anything, we should do well this season.

Our seniors played F Company in the senior league on Wednesday, September 21st. We turned out a fairly strong team, and it would have been much stronger had one of the players been able to tear himself away from his multifarious and ever-pressing duties. The game was good, and I think we deserved to win. Sigmn Phillp gave a grand display between the sticks, and the renowned Tom gave his usual good exhibition as back, but I suppose he has told you all about it. Result: C Coy 3; F Company 1.

Our juniors played F juniors on the same day, and we won the sweep 9—1. It wasn't a bad game, although a trifle one-sided. I don't know who scored all the goals, and neither does anybody else. We are arranging to get a crib-board for each man of our junior team, or perhaps an "adder" machine would do. Keep it up, juniors, as we want to win that league again.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugger.—Don v. School (friendly): Don managed to pip with a converted try after a very hard game. Don v. A and B Companies (Company League): Don took the honours by 15—nil.

Soccer.—Don v. F (friendly) Company League, won by 3—0; v. Regimental Courses, won 7—4; v. H. Supply Company, won 5—3; v. Green Howards, won 5—2; v. Green Howards A, won 2—1.

D Company Boys.

Football.—The only match of note played to date was against the Richmond Boys. We found that we could do with them very much as we pleased, and eventually won by 4—1.

Boy Smith has been turning out quite a lot for the Company side, and Boy McDougall has put in several appearances. The latter will do well in future if he can learn two important points—firstly, that there are *other* forwards on the field to whom the ball should be passed; secondly, that he *must* drop back when his side is defending, and not expect his halves to bring the ball right up to him in the enemy's goal-mouth.

Rugby.—We have played one "outside" match against the Gloucesters' younger generation. This we lost by 7 points to 3 after an excellent game.

Our senior boys lost to F Company senior boys by 3—0. A great game. What we lack in skill we more than make up in guts!

Our "very young" beat the F Company "very young" by 16—0. Kerr played a very sound game at fly half.

Hockey.—Only one game so far, but we meet F soon, and hope to put it across 'em!

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

So far our only sporting fixtures have been in the hockey line, where we expected to do great things. For some unaccountable reason, we lost to the School in the first match by 2—1. F Company caught us groggy the following week, when three of our stars were playing soccer for the Battalion, and we went down again—by 3—1. Anyhow, our lads looked awfully sweet in their new kit.

Our soccer and rugby teams are going to be worth watching, and next month we hope to chronicle the list of their successes.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—We opened up our inter-Company fixtures with C senior and junior teams. The senior game proved to be very good, and it was rather a misfortune that we lost by 3—1. The junior: well, I'm sorry, but I must write C 9, F 1. We hope to do better next time.

Rugger.—No inter-Company league matches have been completed yet, but our stars are fast getting into trim. We are very pleased to see F Company so well represented in the T.B. team with eight players.

Hockey.—Our opening fixture proved a win against E Coy. by 3—1. The game was interesting throughout. Probably the most interested spectator was the groundsman, watching his beautiful turf "go west."

School of Signals, Catterick.

Cricket made a reluctant departure some time last month, leaving us third from the top of the inter-Company league. Not only has cricket departed, but under the admirable leadership of one Sparrow, our pitch did likewise. After being sawn in half, it was given its annual bath, after which we believe it was packed away in cotton wool until next season. May it rest in peace!

Football.—We started the soccer season in the style in which we hope to finish. Our first match was a friendly against the Regimental Course, in which the Course was vanquished to the tune of 5—1. No inter-Company matches have yet been played, so we are as near the top as anyone else.

Rugby.—The School side this year is practically a new one, and we feel the loss of Lieuts Morrison and Rance, and Signalmen Harbury and Hudson very keenly. Nevertheless, the lads are very enthusiastic, and we hope to put up a good show.

We have had two friendly games, one with D Company and one with a mixed side of men and boys of F Company. Both these were played in the spirit in which rugby *should* be played, and the few fouls, etc., that occurred were through ignorance of the rules and not at any time intentional. The School won both games, beating D by 5—0 and F by 8—0.

We played C Company in our first match of the inter-Company league on October 6th. It was a ding-dong game which ended in a draw, neither side having got over the line. A drawn game is generally unsatisfactory, but we think the School is perfectly satisfied to have drawn with the great C.

Hockey.—One or two friendly games have been played, and the only league match was against E Company, whom we managed to beat after a good game—the score being 2—1.

Shooting.—In the S.T.C. miniature rifle championships the School collected another six points towards the Mackworth trophy by winning No. 5 team competition. The team comprised Lieut G. S. O'N. Power, Corpl Fairbairn, L/Corpl Baker and Dvr Andrews.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

Football.—We played our first matches on Saturday, October 9th. The senior team lost to the 1st Battn. Lincoln Regt. at Aldershot by 3—2, and the juniors defeated the Lincolns' reserve team by 3—0 at Ewshott. The seniors were very unlucky to lose. They were easily the better team as far as football went, but the weather and strange ground were against them.

We are lucky to have a jolly good reserve team. After a few matches they will be able to take on any reserve team in the Command, and we have great faith in their ability to defend the junior cup which the senior team won last year.

On October 16th the seniors play the Seaforth Highlanders at Ewshott; the juniors are opposed to the Seaforth Reserves at Aldershot; and a third team will be sent to play the Hartley Wintney F.C. We should be able to record three wins for these matches.

Hockey.—On Saturday, October 9th, the team were entertained by Fleet. We have quite a good team, and so it's rather difficult to explain away a defeat of 6—0.

Rugby.—We have a team, but so far there is nothing to report except practice. A combined Aldershot Signals team is being run this season, but so far no serious matches have been played.

Boxing.—An Aldershot Signals novices boxing competition is being held as these notes are being written.

Running.—The training of the cross-country team is in the hands of Sergt Taylor. No serious runs have yet taken place, so there is nothing to record.

Unit Headquarters.

The first signs of winter are now with us—rain, wind and falling leaves—and with them comes the advent of football. Both soccer and rugger are being well supported, also hockey and boxing. As I write, the Aldershot Command Signals novices tournament is taking place, with the object of selecting a team to represent the Corps in the Command novices tournament. As we have a number of aspirants, it is hoped that A Corps Signals will be represented in the team. Good luck to our would-be sportsmen, for in this way much is done to help foster "esprit de corps" and add to the good name that the Corps already has.

No. 1 Company.

Soccer.—We are losing several good footballers in the Indian draft this year, and by the time this is in print Signalmen L. D. Taylor and Hartland will be well on the way. The Company is shortly starting an inter-Section league.

Rugger.—Owing to hard ground, rugger has been held back slightly. We hope to start a seven-a-side section league. A Corps was well represented in the Command Signals team versus Berkshire Wanderers, five players being selected.

No. 3 Company.

Football.—Since our last notes, a friendly match has been played against the R.A.M.C., Aldershot, who beat us by 4 goals to 1. Our first match in the Command senior league was lost to the Lincoln Regiment at Aldershot by 3 goals to 2—a very even match indeed (goal scorers, Signalmen Edwards and Barker).

Hockey.—Unfortunately there is no league here, with the exception of the Command senior hockey tournament, so most of the games played will be friendlies.

To date three friendlies have been played: v. R.A.M.C., lost by 6—1, after leading by 1—0 at half-time; v. Fleet, at home, lost by 3—1; v. Fleet, away, lost by 6—1. As the season proceeds we hope to publish better results.

No. 3 Co., 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

Cricket.—A very successful season terminated with our table showing the following figures: Played 27; won 11; lost 11, drawn 5.

L Section, winners of the inter-Section shield, beat the rest of the Company by the narrow margin of 2 runs.

Cross-Country.—The unit team, in competition with the R.A.S.C., Aldershot, provided the first three runners home, but lost on the total by the narrow margin of 4 points. Scores: R.A.S.C., 248; 1st Divl. Signals, 252.

No. 2 Co., 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

Our Section football league is now in full swing, and I will publish details in the next issue. Rugby is going strong, and a glance at certain men on parade is sufficient evidence that a match has been played recently.

D Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

Football.—Belonging to the inter-Section league (1st Divl. and D Troop) we have made a most successful start. We have played two games so far, with the following results: Versus Wireless Company we won by 6—0; versus Cable Section we won by 5—2.

In a friendly match against the R.E. Mounted Depot we again scored full points by winning to the extent of 6 goals to 2. Not too bad for a Troop. What about it, E Troop? Rain at present prevents further scoring.

E Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth.

Football.—We played our first league match versus the R.A.M.C. on October 13th, and got severely trounced to the tune of 5—0. Don't lose heart, chaps, but try to efface this defeat at the next meeting.

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Soccer.—We started the season on October 12th with the usual married versus single match. The single side had some youngsters playing for them, and at times had more than their fair share of the game; and but for the splendid goal-keeping by Sergt Elkington for the married side, they would have notched more goals than they did.

The C.S.M. turned out and chanced his arm, or rather his foot, but grey hairs tell their tale on such occasions as this. Sergt Sheale played his usual game, and was the means of frustrating many of the opposing attacks. Our O.C. had a real good go at it, and scored the first goal for the married side.

Altogether it was a fair game with plenty of fun, especially when the outside right for the single side repeatedly missed the ball in attempting to centre. The final score was a draw of 2 goals each.

So far we have played no serious matches, but as some of the new comers showed good form, we have hopes of reporting satisfactory results during the present season.

3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford.

Boxing.—Training has been started in preparation for the first round of the Army cup, in which we are drawn against the Welch Regiment. We hope to give a good account of ourselves. It is too early yet to prophesy with any certainty, but judging by the general form of our team the Welch Regiment will "wish they hadn't." I expect some of us will, too, particularly the unfortunate writer, who though not being dragged into it against his will—like some other unfortunates—still cannot see his health or facial appearance being improved.

Did I say training had started? *Started!* At 4 p.m. daily, when C.S.M. Nicholls has finished, the wretched survivors of that hour's work can be seen—tied in reef knots—staggering wearily to their huts, hoping that the man they meet in the ring when they resume work at 5.30 will be at least a distant cousin of the laddie who called it "the noble art."

And now, enough! Next month—if living—we will chronicle "what we did to the Welch"—*and* what they did to us!

Football.—Garrison football commenced on October 2nd, and our three Companies are again competing in the Bulford league.

The draw for the first round of the Bulford Garrison cup resulted in byes for Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. No. 1 Company was drawn against the 17th Field Company R.E. This match was played on October 2nd, and the Engineers won by 5 goals to nil. No. 3 Company met the 54th Field Company R.E. in the second round on October 14th, and lost by 3—1.

No. 2 Company play the 20th Field Battery R.A. on 18th October, when it is hoped that Signals will be successful in qualifying for the third round.

Unit soccer has up to the time of writing been confined to trial matches. We have some promising new talent this season, and the team should give a good account of itself in the Army cup.

4th Divl. Signals, Colchester.

Soccer.—The football season is now in full swing, and we have begun to make a name for ourselves in the Garrison. We are running two teams in the Essex and Suffolk Border League, and have also entered the Garrison League and several cup competitions. Results to date:—

Brightlingsea Charity Cup—2nd XI. v. Brightlingsea Athletic, won 4—1.

Essex Junior Cup—2nd XI. v. Dovercourt Juniors, won 7—0.

E. and S.B. League (Div. I.)—1st XI. v. Long Melford, won 5—4.

Friendly—2nd XI. v. Ardleigh, won 8—0.

E. and S.B. League (Div. I.)—1st XI. v. 11th Brigade R.A., draw 1—1.

Sigmn White (Blanco) has been selected as goal-keeper for the Army versus Aldershot Command on October 13th, and for the Eastern Command versus Kent on the 14th.

Hockey.—Results: v. 78th Battery R.A., won 4—1; v. 11th Field Brigade R.A., draw 3—3; v. Colchester 2nd XI., won 3—0.

Rhine Signal Units.

Football.—We are entered in B League for the coming season, and we hope to do well. We met the R.E.s, and after a very good game we came out losers by 4—1.

Matches will be plentiful, as we shall be playing a league match nearly every Saturday and Wednesday.

The inter-Section knock-out will be played off as usual, but this season there will be something to play for, the P.R.I. having kindly consented to purchase a shield for this competition. The winning Section will have its name engraved on it.

As there is a variation in the Sections it is necessary to group some of them, and the following will constitute Sections: 1st Brigade, 2nd Brigade, 8th Brigade and Field Coy. H.Q., Field W/T, Divl. H.Q., Nos. 1 and 3 Sections, Nos. 2 and 4 Sections. This will mean a bye for one of the Sections in the first round.

Tennis.—Owing to the inclement weather, this is taking a back seat, and the day is not far distant when the net will be taken down, but the weather surprises one so in this part of the world.

Rugby.—A few interested ones having put up the necessary goal posts, etc., we can now start business. A game has been arranged with the K.S.L.I., but I will most likely be afraid to mention the score in these pages.

Hockey.—This sport has not got off the mark yet, although at the time of writing there are several fixtures made, but the ground question is a bogey. One ground for the Rhine Army is not what one could call a lot! So far no one has taken the hint that a hockey ground could, with a little patience, be fixed up on the exercise platz.

Signal Section, Malaya.

Garrison Football League.—The Island team has done a lot better in the Garrison league this year than last.

The first match was played at Pulau Brani on Sunday, July 18th, No. 3 Company 2/D. of W. Regt. being our opponents. The outstanding feature was the splendid goal-keeping for both teams. At half-time the score was 0—0. Towards the end of the second half Golding scored a very lucky goal for P.B., and this won the game for us. Team: Sigmn Anderson; Sapper Gilchrist and Sergt Holden, R.E.; Sapper Downes, Sigmn Lomax and Sapper Townsend; Sergt Davies, R.A.O.C., Sapper Castell, S/Sergt Golding, R.A.O.C., Sigmn Trickett, and L/Corpl Thompson, R.E.

On July 23rd we travelled to Tanglin and met No. 2 Coy. D.W.R. At half-time we were down by 0—4. In the second half we had the sun behind us, and in ten minutes Davies and Campbell each scored a goal, but try as we would no further goals were forthcoming. In the last two or three minutes the Dukes scored a surprise goal and so defeated us by 5—2. Team: Anderson; Gilchrist and Holden; Downes, Lomax and Townsend; Davies, Castell, Sergt Campbell, R.E., Trickett, Golding.

We again visited Tanglin on July 28th to meet No. 1 Coy. D.W.R. The play was noticeably rough, and at half-time we were a goal down. Shortly after recommencing, Hayman obtained a goal for us, but the Dukes netted again in the closing stages of the game, winning by 2—1. Team: Anderson; Lomax and Gilchrist; Downes, Thompson and Trickett; Davies, Castell, S/Sergt Hayman, R.E., Campbell and Golding.

On August 2nd, at Pulau Brani, we met and defeated No. 4 Company D.W.R. in the hardest and cleanest game of the league, the game finishing with a win for us of 1—0. Team: Lieut Chevis, R.E.; Downes and Gilchrist; Townsend, Lomax and Campbell; Thompson, Castell, Anderson, Trickett, Golding.

At Pulau Brani, on August 26th, we entertained the 27th Heavy Battery R.A., who defeated us to the tune of 0—4. 'Nuff said! Team: Chevis: Downes and Gilchrist; Townsend, Lomax and Campbell; Thompson, Castell, Anderson, Trickett, Golding.

Our next fixture was at home, with the H.Q. and D.E., R.A., on September 8th. The R.A. were first to score, and at half-time the score stood at 0—1. On the resumption, however, first Anderson and then Trickett scored good goals. The last five minutes were played in comparative darkness, and during the last minute the whistle sounded for a penalty for H.Q., which beat the goalie, the game ending in a draw. Team: Chevis; Downes and Gilchrist; Townsend, Lomax and Campbell; Hayman, Castell, Anderson, Trickett and Thompson.

The Football Team.

Standing *(left to right)*—Spr Gilchrist, Sgt Holden (R.E.), Sigmn Anderson, Spr Downes, L/Cpl Thompson (R.E.), Spr Townsend, Mr. Waltho (referee)

Sitting—Sgt Davies (R.A.O.C.), Spr Castell, Sigmn Lomax Sigmn Trickett, S/Sgt Golding (R.A.O.C.)

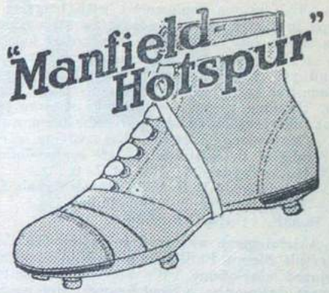
The next visitors were H.Q. "A" D.W.R., whom we entertained on September 15th. A keenly contested first half yielded one goal (Anderson) for us. The second period was a case of our forwards and half-backs shooting in, only the brilliant keeping of the Dukes' goalie saving them from a heavy defeat. Two more goals (Kenneally and Lomax) were added before the final whistle blew, without response from our opponents. Team: Chevis; Downes and Gilchrist; Campbell, Lomax and Kenneally; Anderson, Pte FitzWilliam, R.A.O.C., Castell, Trickett, and Thompson.

On September 18th we visited Blakang-Mati and met the 11th Heavy Battery R.A. Winning the toss we elected to play with the strong wind, but the R.A. backs proved too good for our forwards. A good move by FitzWilliam and Trickett found FitzWilliam in a good position, and obtaining the ball he placed well in the corner of the net. A few minutes later FitzWilliam gave Trickett a fine low pass, which was past the goalie before he knew anything about it. Play was then transferred to the other end, where our goalie, in an attempt to kick a slow ball clear, missed it and a goal was obtained. Several narrow shaves at both ends completed our league programme with a win for us of 2—1. Team: Chevis; Gilchrist and Holden; Downes, Lomax and Campbell; Anderson, Castell, FitzWilliam, Trickett and Thompson.

The final results were: Played 9; won 4; lost 4; drawn 1; goals—for 12; against 14. 9 points.

Singapore F.A. Cup.—In the first round we were drawn against the Police, whom we played on the Stadium on 22nd September. During the first half it rained incessantly, the rain beating into our faces all the time. The Police were awarded a penalty for a foul by Lomax, which Lieut Chevis had no difficulty in saving. The rain had stopped when the second half commenced, and our forwards went straight away. After ten minutes we were awarded a free kick, which Lomax placed nicely in front of the goal for Golding to score with a first-timer. A few minutes later Anderson, taking a corner kick, put the ball straight to FitzWilliam's feet, and he drove in another first-timer, which the goalie managed to punch out. It fell right to Castell's foot, and he drove it hard into the corner of the net. FitzWilliam scoring twice from passes by Anderson, put the game on the safe side for us. At the final whistle the scores were: Pulau Brani 4; Singapore Police 0. The team was: Chevis; Lomax and Holden; Kenneally, Campbell and Trickett; Anderson, Hayman, FitzWilliam, Castell and Golding.

"Manfield Hotspur"



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The Corps in Egypt.

Football.—This season commenced with brighter prospects for the Corps in Egypt, not because of a strengthened Corps team or new talent, but because the standard of football in this Command is on the decline. Those bright prospects have almost vanished, and yet only four games have been played. The selection committee might do better than change the team for *every* match. If some players would put in more team work, and leave out individual or gallery play, the team would collect more points. Come along! where is that sporting spirit in football? The results of the matches to date are as follows:—

11th Sept.—Royal Signals 4; R.A.M.C. 0.
18th Sept.—3rd Brigade R.H.A. 1; Royal Signals 6.
24th Sept.—Royal Signals, 1; C.C. Police 1.
2nd Oct.—R.A.F. 1; Royal Signals 0.

Rugby.—A trial game was held to select the Corps team, and as one result Sigmn Phillips was sent to hospital suffering from an injured cheek-bone. We hope to do better in this branch of sport during the present season, and we believe the Corps team is going on raw meat diet to prevent that "languid feeling" (so prevalent in rugbyites).

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.—The Company met the R.A.P.C. in a small units match on October 4th. A strong cross wind spoilt the game, and the Signals finished up with 7—2 in their favour.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.—A few games have been played with varying success. Our last match, a friendly, against the 2nd Field Coy. Royal Engineers, resulted in a win for us by 4 goals to 2. A team has been entered in the Church of England Institute football cup competition, and we have every hope of making a good show. Last year we were runners-up to a K.O.S.B. team, who have now left the Command.

Cricket.—The inter-Section cricket competition has resulted in a win for K Section, with Headquarters Section as runners-up. In the inter-Company Pritchard cup match we beat No. 1 Coy. easily, passing their score without the loss of a single wicket.

Tennis.—The new courts have found much favour with a large number of tennis enthusiasts, and it is very rarely that the courts are unoccupied except during working hours. Judging by the scanty costumes adopted by some of the players, their main object appears to get brown in preference to playing tennis.

No. 3 Co., 50th (N.) Divl. Signals, Hull.

50th Divl. Signals A.F.C.—It was decided to give the club a new title as above. This was done to show exactly who we were, and already we have cause to believe this a wise move. This season the team is playing in considerably higher class games, and whilst we are on the "getting better every day" system, we have not done anything to write home about in our league games. We have played 4, and won 2, and lost 2.

League Junior Cup.—Drawn against L.N.E.R. (West) away, the first round of this competition resulted in a win for us by 2 goals to 1. The match was played in half a gale, and in winning we qualified to meet Dunswell (away) in the second round on October 23rd.

54th (East Anglian) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

The athletic shield was competed for whilst the unit was in camp at Dover, points being awarded for boxing, bayonet fighting, tug-of-war, and mounted events. The shield was won by No. 1 Company. Results: 1st, No. 1 Company, 107 points; 2nd, No. 3, 104; 3rd, No. 2, 97.

The boxers are undergoing training for the inter-unit competition, in which we hope to retain the cup which we won at the last meeting. It is hoped to stage a couple of "try-out" competitions before the actual event comes off.

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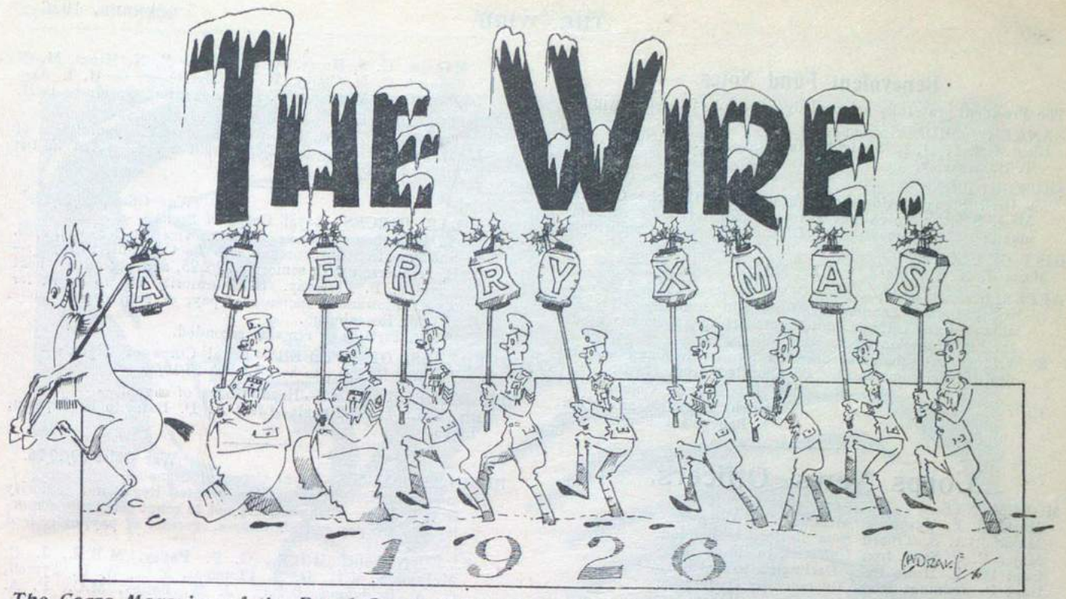

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VOL. VII.—No. 82 DECEMBER, 1926 PRICE—SIXPENCE

Editorial Notes.

With the best of all good wishes for a merry Christmas to our readers at home and abroad.

❀ ❀ ❀

The last year has been an epic period in the history of our Corps Journal. It has recorded the steady climb of practically the youngest of all regimental magazines from its hitherto humble position on the ladder of popularity to the "top rung" of all. To-day, THE WIRE holds the premier place by virtue of its superior circulation, and all ranks of the Corps who by their loyal support and splendid spirit of co-operation have assisted in this achievement, are to be congratulated.

❀ ❀ ❀

The Committee desire to express their thanks to those contributors who have so regularly assisted with articles, cartoons, etc. It would be unwise, perhaps, to mention names, but a special vote should, we suggest, be unanimously passed to "That fellow who, as depicted in this number, has notified his intention of 'waddling' north for a sojourn on the Yorkshire moors," and also "To our well known correspondent of 'Plain Tales' notoriety."

Both have now been enlivening the pages of our journal with their witticisms for a number of years, and we feel that we are only voicing the sentiments of all our readers in wishing "more power to their facile and clever pens."

❀ ❀ ❀

There are still a few units who are not yet participating in the new all-in scheme of membership. WIRE subscription, etc. May we suggest that JANUARY, 1927, would be a most appropriate month in which to commence doing so. The Corps is nothing but a large family, and from our point of view, "the only family that matters." Charity begins at home, and it is therefore beholden to us to support home industries and to contribute our modest donation regularly for the ultimate success and well being of the whole. Think it over!

We are still desirous of securing back numbers of "THE WIRE Bound Volumes" for 1921 and 1923, and should be glad to repurchase any copies available for sale amongst our readers.

Orders for 1926 bound copies can now be taken. These volumes are tastefully bound in royal blue with gold lettering, and make a pleasing addition to any mess library. (Price 8s., post free.)

❀ ❀ ❀

We are indebted to Capt F. R. L. Goadby, M.B.E., for an interesting article, with photographic illustrations, describing "The Chitral Relief Column." Unfortunately, lack of space prevents us from including it in this number, but it will be published in its entirety as soon as possible.

❀ ❀ ❀

Extract from Correspondence:—"Am pleased to note the continued healthiness of tone in your journal, THE WIRE, which augurs well for greater progress in the new year which is fast approaching."

Will the writer please accept our thanks for the above appreciation and also for his contribution entitled "Some historical notes on Military Stations in Northern India," published in this issue.

THE EDITOR.

SIGNALS ASSOCIATION NOTES.

The Secretary acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following Bankers' Orders and amounts from Branches, etc.:—

BANKERS' ORDERS (5s. per annum) from:—
Lieut.-Col. T. H. L. Spaight, D.S.O., Major A. G. J. Copeland, and Capt T. B. Graveley.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Sierra Leone Branch, £1 16s., Chiswick Branch, 10s.; B Divl. Signals, Quetta, 15s. 6d.

EMPLOYMENTS found during November:—

Labourers	2
Potman	1
Domestic servant	1
Clerk	1

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following—

BANKER'S ORDERS from—
Lieut.-Col. T. H. L. Spaight, Major A. G. J. Copeland, Capt T. B. Graveley.

SUBSCRIPTIONS from :—
1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot; Westminster Branch; Officers' Mess, S.T.C.; Torchlight Tattoo Committee, Scottish Command; Jubbulpore Branch; L. Lindsay, Esq., Cambridge.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from—
Major J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C.

APPEALS dealt with :—
1—Ex-Signalman, London, destitute and seriously ill. £5 allocated from funds and immediate arrangements made for his admission to hospital.
2—Wife of ex-Signalman, deserted by her husband and in destitute circumstances. £5 allocated from funds.

(Signed) A. H. FRENCH, Colonel,
President Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers.

MOVEMENTS—
Major R. E. Vyvyan from Malaya to Aldershot.
Major J. A. S. Tillard from Bulford to London.
Major P. C. Snatt from Catterick to Rhine Army.
Capt W. T. Howe from Darlington to Catterick.
Capt P. Jennings from Aldershot to Darlington.
Capt W. U. Tyrrell from London to Rhine Army.
Capt D. H. Cunynghame from Aldershot to Iraq.
Capt J. C. McDonald from Aldershot to Gibraltar.
Capt G. R. Halliday from Colchester to Malta.
Lieut W. Scott from Aldershot to Cambridge University.
Lieut E. H. C. Harris from Aldershot to Cambridge Univ.
Lieut B. House from Aldershot to Aberdeen.
Lieut W. H. G. Rogers from Blackdown to London.
Lieut J. Gardner from Aldershot to Palestine.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office, 15/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 17/9/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals.
Lieut L. A. Beale, late temporary Lieut., Hampshire Regt., to be Lieut., 28/9/26, with seniority 1/6/24.

War Office, 19/10/26.

R.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals.
Lieut F. P. Wills, late Supp. Res. of Officers, to be Lieut., 20/10/26, with seniority 11/2/25.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut F. P. Wills resigns his commission, 20/10/26.
The name of William Allen Edgson is as now described and not as in the Gazette of 21/9/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—Major (Prov.) A. G. Jameson, T.D., is confirmed in his rank 11/2/25.

T.A. RESERVE OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
42nd (E.L.) Divl. Signals—Major A. G. Jameson, T.D., from active list, to be Major 20/10/26.
48th (S.M.) Divl. Signals—Capt J. B. Mowat, M.C., having attained the age limit, relinquishes his commission and retains his rank, 13/10/26.

War Office, 22/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut C. F. Newsom, from R.A.S.C., to be Lieut., 23/10/26, retaining his present seniority.

MEMORANDA—
The undermentioned Captains, Indian Army, are seconded for service with the Royal Corps of Signals, 23/10/26 :—
R. H. Wall, A. J. Hannah, J. H. Cameron-Webb, G. St. J. Martin, R. G. Smith, H. S. Lewis-Barclay, A. J. A. Schofield, R. M. Lunt, R. W. Tobin, W. M. Clapp, R. Maguire, G. S. Hurst, W. O. Bowen, R. N. Higgs, M. C. Bennett, C. D. Clapp, W. M. McGregor, C. H. I. Akehurst, B. S. Watkins, W. F. H. Herdon, G. M. B. Burt.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—The date of appointment of Lieut R. C. Hutton is 12/3/26, and not as stated in the Gazette of 11/5/26.

War Office, 26/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
Capt L. W. Schneider to be Adjutant vice G. Rooker, 1/9/26.
The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains, 27/10/26 :—
J. L. Henderson with seniority 22/2/25, and precedence next above T. B. Ferriday. Such seniority not to count for pay or allowances, increase of pay, or retired pay.
R. L. M. Rosenburgh.
C. H. R. Firth, and remains seconded.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Eric Parkin, D.C.M., to be 2/Lieut., 27/10/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
55th (W.L.) Divl. Signals—Lieut K. D. Bates to be Captain, 1/9/26.

War Office 29/10/26.

REGULAR FORCES—Royal Corps of Signals—
The undermentioned Captains are granted Regimental seniority from 11/1/20. Such seniority not to count for Army seniority, nor for pay and allowances, increase of pay, or retired pay :—
F. W. Nicholls, M.B.E., G. P. Pavey, M.B.E., J. C. McDonald, M.C., G. H. Plummer, M.C., W. U. Tyrrell, C. A. Bridgland, D.F.C., J. W. Bailey, M.C., P. A. Chubb, F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., C. V. L. Lycett, O.B.E., E. V. F. MacSwiney, G. C. Winckley, M.C., C. E. Sketch, W. F. Sugrue, E. H. du Cros, E. J. Murphy, G. Rooker, B. Hussey, M.C., G. R. Halliday, P. Jennings, M.C., R. F. H. Nalder, W. J. H. Bull, L. B. Nicholls, J. L. Henderson, T. B. Ferriday, C. M. F. White, C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C., A. J. Harris, O.B.E., E. G. Sinnott, G. G. Glanville, M.C., L. W. Schneider, F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, R. L. M. Rosenburgh, C. R. H. Firth.
Capt R. H. Wall, from Indian Army, to be Captain, 30/10/26, retaining his present seniority.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut G. Hamilton to be Captain, 1/4/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
43rd (Wessex) Divl. Signals—Capt (Prov.) T. W. Green is confirmed in his rank 11/2/25.

India Office, 29/10/26.

The King has approved the admission to the Indian Army of the undermentioned officer, with effect from the date specified :—
To be Captain : Lieut Franz Reginald Goadby, M.B.E., from the Royal Corps of Signals, 1/9/25, but to rank as Lieut. from 20/9/19, and as Captain from 20/9/24.

War Office, 2/11/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Lieut G. W. Wanstall, M.C., to be Captain, 3/11/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
56th (1st London) Divl. Signals—Capt (Adjt.) H. E. Blake to be Major (Adjt.) 29/6/26.

War Office, 5/11/26.

SUPP. RES. OF OFFICERS—Royal Corps of Signals—
Capt G. Muir, M.C., from Reg. Army Res. of Officers, to be Captain, 6/11/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals—2/Lieut Alfred Edward Johnson, late Service Battalion S.W.B., to be 2/Lieut., 6/11/26.
Anti-Aircraft Signal Coys.—2/Lieut T. L. Heasman to be Lieut., 1/4/26.
The King has been graciously pleased to confer the Territorial Decoration upon the undermentioned officer under the terms of the Royal Warrant dated 13/10/20 :—
52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals—Lieut.-Col. John Spencer Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C.

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War Office, 9/11/26.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—Royal Corps of Signals—
53rd (Welsh) Divl. Signals—Francis Augustine Saunders to be 2/Lieut., 10/11/26.

One Plain Tale.

A very jumbled tale too, I fear! One with no plot, no heroes, and no beginning, but with one virtue: a speedy end.

Firstly, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" to everyone! Secondly, my sincere thanks to the WIRE readers for bearing so patiently with "Plain Tales" throughout 1926.

As I am at present enjoying a holiday (well earned, more or less), I am out of touch with events on Salisbury Plain. My last impression of Bulford Camp was soothing. A beautiful life-giving rain was falling, and a pleasant morass of black and grey mud deadened the footsteps as one breasted a jolly 80 m.p.h. gale. How I look forward to the end of my leave!

How has that stable fared under "Old Bill"? Before I left, I asked him if there was anything he wanted to know (as though I could have told him!) He replied, "Yes; when are you coming back?"

Jumping from one subject to another, I find I owe thanks to "L. H. D." for disclosing the fact that a Rudge is a fast-moving vehicle. One learns, n'est ce pas?

What else had I to say? I know! There is a man who hates me so much that he wants to write something about me in the WIRE. He had the cheek to suggest that I should type it and send it up! I gave him the address of "John Bull," and pushed him under a brewer's lorry.

"Twinkle, twinkle, Three Star Brandy,
Now we know why father's bandy."

All rights reserved. Do not cut out and sing apart from the WIRE. Silly ass! Help me up the stairs, someone, please! Whoop! Steady, the Buffs. Put that jug of water by my bed. Thanks. What a leave! Goo'-night.

BARLEUX.

47th Divisional Signals (T.A).

[We publish these notes with an apology for their late appearance. They were received too late for the October number, and accidentally overlooked last month.—EDITOR.]

Fulham House, Sept. 15th.

We returned from our annual training on August 8th, after having spent a very enjoyable time at Rottingdean. The weather was excellent, with the exception of the first three days. No. 1 Company S.R. came with us, and were of great assistance by lending operators for our several Signal schemes. We carried out a Divisional Signal scheme with Signal personnel, infantry signallers, colonel commandants and their staffs, and artillery signals. It was most interesting and instructive to all ranks.

The social side was not neglected. Two concerts were held in the men's canteen. The second one was very well organised. An open-air stage was erected with excellent lighting kindly lent by the n.c.o.s' mess. Talent was provided by members of various units in our camp, and one or two artistes from Brighton. It was attended by officers and o.r.s both from our own and neighbouring units. It was carried on to a late hour, and all voted it a huge success.

Sports.—For the first time since the war, mounted sports were carried out. Practically all mounted and several dismounted numbers entered. Everyone seemed to enjoy it, and all look forward to a similar event next year. Several entrants put their shirts on themselves, but lost them in the wrestling. The horses behaved themselves; though a fair number preferred to watch from the horse lines.

Dismounted sports were held on Bank Holiday Monday. They were quite successful, but many entrants failed to turn up. (I believe Brighton held a certain number of counter-attractions.)

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergt Spencer from D Troop Cavalry Divl. Signals, as an addition to our P.S. vice A/C.S.M. Gillin.

Promotions.—Sergt F. Marshall to A/C.S.M. w.e.f. 1/11/24. Sergt B. Dormon to A/C.S.M. 13/7/26.

Rooty Medal. A/R.S.M. Currie.

Extension of Service.—A/C.S.M. T. Dormon for one year from 15/12/26.

LEMJAY.

Some Historical Notes on Military Stations in Northern India.

One is accustomed nowadays to hear military stations in India commended or condemned according as they do or do not provide facilities for dancing or other amusements typical of the age in which we live. Judged on these lines, the majority of cantonments are, I fear, placed on the left hand, and consigned to unspeakable places with all the wealth of descriptive adjective which it is in the power of the soldier to employ.

But the man whose knowledge of India is confined to the purely cantonment side of the stations which he has visited cannot really say that he has seen India. This great country is like a jewel which has been cut and set by one who is a master of his craft. As we gaze on it from different angles, so we discover new wealth of beauty and of interest. In these notes, therefore, whilst not pretending to be authoritative, I have endeavoured to put together some of the more interesting facts connected with a few of the better-known stations in Northern India, in the hope that thereby I may lead some of my fellow-soldiers to interest themselves in the great past of a land which is surely destined to have an even greater future; a land in which we, as soldiers, should look upon ourselves as also missionaries of Empire.

Peshawar.—The origin of the name is doubtful, but it may be derived from the name of the Hindu king Porus, who had his capital here. Certainly there has been a settlement in this place since Aryan times. The city and cantonments are beautifully situated in the Vale of Peshawar, in the midst of well-cultivated fields and gardens. Lying within a great circle of hills, the valley is thought to be the former bed of a great lake. All the great invasions of India of the last four thousand years have passed this way, for the mouth of the Khyber Pass is but some dozen miles distant to the west. The area suffers occasionally from modified earthquakes or ground tremors.

The population is largely Mohammedan, the remainder being chiefly Hindus and Sikhs, with sprinklings of all the various tribes and races which inhabit the area between the Black Sea and Afghanistan—a result of the caravan trade of this, the most mysterious of Eastern cities.

The city is dominated by the Fort, which stands on the north face. The original foundations are very ancient, going back to the days when Buddhism held sway in this district. It was in this fort that Shah Sujah received the British Mission in the year 1808.

After the conversion of the Afghans to Islam at the beginning of the tenth century, invasions of India became serious. Peshawar, because of its situation, was involved in all the struggles. At one period we read of seventy battles taking place in the vicinity within five months—rather strenuous times!

On the defeat of the Afghans by Ranjit Singh—"the Lion of the Punjab"—in 1823, the city passed into the hands of the Sikhs. Under their rule the command of Peshawar was given to an Italian adventurer named Avatabile. Even now he is remembered as a stern, relentless governor; indeed, the time of the Sikh domination was a period of rapine and slaughter.

At the conclusion of the Sutlej campaign the control of affairs in Peshawar was entrusted to Colonel Lawrence, and the district finally came under British control at the annexation of the Punjab in 1848.

The cantonments lie to the west of the city, and are very pleasantly situated.

The Signal unit at present stationed here is A Divl. Signals.

Jamrud.—The Fort of Jamrud guards the approach to the Khyber Pass. The Sikhs took the fort from the Afghans in 1837. The Sikh leader—Hari Singh—fell here, and his tomb within the fort is a conspicuous landmark for many miles. A detachment of A Divl. Signals is stationed here.

Nowshera.—This cantonment is some twenty-eight miles from Peshawar, on the Kabul river. Here Azim Khan, the ruler of Kabul, was defeated by Ranjit Singh in 1823, ten thousand Pathans being killed. The scene of the battle is on the road to Maidan and is marked by a mound.

A detachment of A Divl. Signals is stationed at Nowshera, whilst C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop is stationed at the neighbouring cantonment of Risalpur.

Akora.—Although not a cantonment, the name of Akora is familiar to many as the site of the annual artillery practice camps. It has many associations with the Khattak tribe, one of whose great ancestors—Malik Akor—is commemorated in the present name of the town.

Attock.—There is a fascination about this ancient fort and its more modern neighbour the railway bridge, for here we cross the Indus and feel a sense of adventure as of advancing into the unknown, represented by that most interesting and storied region—the North-West Frontier Province.

The name Attock is appropriate, for it means an obstruction; and the great rocks which jut out into the Indus and Kabul rivers can be very real obstructions at times. Two of these rocks are known as Kamalia and Jalalia, and as usual there is a reason for these names. In the sixteenth century two brothers, Jalal-ud-din and Kamal-ud-din, introduced a modified form of Mohammedanism, which eliminated the Koran—a great shipwreck of souls resulting thereby. As the two rocks in the river have in their time caused great loss of life, the aptness of the names is obvious.

The fort was built by the Emperor Akbar in 1583, and passed into the hands of Ranjit Singh in 1818. Its defence by Lieut Herbert in 1848 is worthy of note.

Campbellpore derives its name from Sir Colin Campbell, afterwards Lord Clyde.

Rawalpindi.—As we know it at present, Rawalpindi is of modern origin, but the history of the locality really commences with the invasion of Alexander the Great. When that soldier-king arrived, he found the Takka city of Taxila very rich and prosperous. Buddhism was introduced by the Emperor Asoka, to be in turn swept away by the Mohammedans when they arrived. Sikh rule was established in 1830, and that again was followed by the advent of the British in 1849.

Many parts of the district are rich in archæological remains, and careful and systematic work is bringing to light much that helps to fill in the existing blanks in the early history of India.

It is thought that the cantonments occupy the site of the city of Gajipur, which was the capital of the Bhatti tribes in pre-Christian times.

The Signal units stationed here are B Corps Signals and D Divisional Signals.

Jhelum.—The town stands on the banks of the river of the same name. Here Alexander built the boats in which part of his army was transported down the Indus. In the neighbourhood was fought the great battle with the Hindu king Porus, when Alexander's famous charger, Bucephalus, was killed. The reputed tomb of this renowned animal is near Jalalpur.

Wazirabad is chiefly noted for its connection with the Italian adventurer Avatabile, by whom it was rebuilt before his services were required by Ranjit Singh at Peshawar.

Sialkot lies to the east of Wazirabad, and has a history dating back to mythological times. Events at Sialkot form an unsavoury portion of the chronicle of "the great uprising." B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop is stationed here.

Lahore.—Apart from the architectural masterpieces which are the glory of Lahore, the city ought always to be of supreme interest to the British soldier, for to an event which took place here in the early days of the Emperor Jehangir we probably owe the fact that the Sikhs were our faithful allies during the Mutiny.

The Emperor's eldest son rebelled and laid siege to the Fort of Lahore. The siege was a failure, and many of the rebel's followers were taken prisoners, amongst them being the Sikh guru (teacher), Arjan Mal. The guru was badly treated and died in captivity. This has never been forgotten or forgiven by the Sikhs, and probably helped to influence them during the dark days of 1857.

Lahore reached its palmiest days under Shah Jehan, who erected many of the still imposing buildings. His successor, Aurangzeb, built the Jama Masjid. This mosque was used by the Sikhs as a magazine—a somewhat Cromwellian touch. Lahore was occupied by the British in 1846.

It was in Lahore that Ranjit Singh is said to have forced Shah Sujah to give up the Koh-i-noor diamond. Legends and traditions concerning this wonderful stone date back to 3000 B.C. At one time Indians placed a great value upon it, saying that it was equal to a heap of precious stones and gold coins filling a space marked by five stones, thrown on four sides and upwards by a strong young man. Perhaps some reader would like to reduce this amount to sterling at the current rate of exchange!

A. G.

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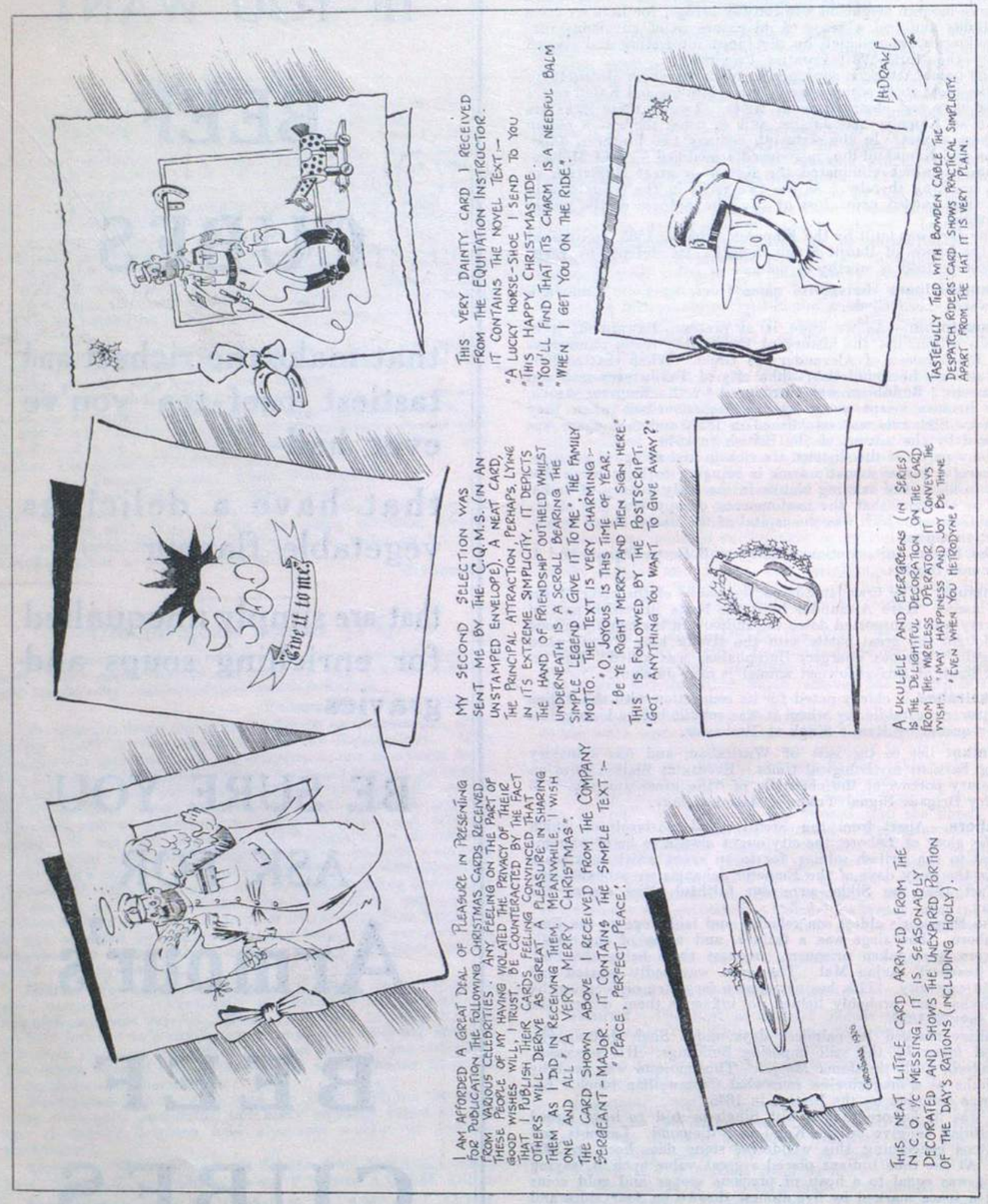

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

A Company, Depot Battalion.

We welcome the arrival of Lieut J. Tait, 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, on six months' attachment.

We regret the departure of 77 Squad, without doubt one of the finest squads passed through the Depot. Before leaving, they created three records: (1) won both the inter-squad sports shield and inter-squad shooting cup; (2) average for squad musketry classification, 87.13; (3) highest individual score, 112 —a record for the Battalion. We wish them success in their Trade Companies. A photograph of the Squad is shown on next page.

C.Q.M.S. Hart has left us for Egypt. We wish him every success with his new unit.

This Month's Fairy Tale.—Once upon a time a drill instructor came into the Company office, remembered to close the door behind him, and proceeded to the corner farthest from the stove. Having transacted his business in a terse and concise manner, he left without removing any "S.O. goods," again closing the door.

To the Librarian, D Company.—"Les Deux Garcons" think that, had not the librarian kept the library for his own personal needs but occasionally opened it for the use of subscribers, the humble literary efforts of others might even equal his own. Attention is directed to page 84, Nesfield's "Grammar."

Joke (?)—With the coming of the festive season, we are reminded of the wily sergeant of Scottish extract, and the possessor of a large family, who, after firing a couple of rounds into the air outside his quarters, rushed in to his brood and announced "There will be no presents this year; Father Christmas has just shot himself."

TONY RED.

B Company, Depot Battalion.

General.—As a commencement, have you heard this one? Recruit (entering Company office): "Please, sir, may I attend school?" Company clerk: "Come back this afternoon and see the C.S.M." Recruit: "Very good; shall I come at playtime?" (Total collapse of the clerk).

To be serious: Can anyone forward tips on keeping warm? Catterick recently presented a very Christmassy appearance after a very heavy fall of snow. It did not stay with us long, however, and we were all extremely grateful to the Clerk of the Weather when he forwarded some rain to wash it all away. In the place of snow we now have mud—real mud, too, at that.

Our Company gardens are now undergoing a very severe change. Only one remains to remind us that our gardens were the real things—that of the Company cadre, evergreens and shrubs.

Sergt Shoebridge is in charge of operations, and he daily tills the ground. When he is not digging he trys his hand at mole catching. Total casualties to date: one mole (it died of cold). Mrs. Shoey will have to wait quite a long time for her coat if he does not buck up with the hunting!

Our tipster agency has collapsed, the promoter (Corpl Wood) having proceeded to the Army Vocational Training Centre for a short course of dairy farming. He has decided on something definite at last, and is sailing for Australia early in the new year.

Recruiting appears to be slow these days, and we are not so hard pressed as we were some months ago. Training still carries on with our remaining seven squads—at such a pace that we cannot find time enough to have our photograph taken.

Marriage.—2306759 L/Sergt C. Griffith to Florence Elizabeth Coomber, at East Grinstead, on 2/10/26.

Births.—To 2312763 Sigmn T. E. Durke, a son, Clifford Leslie, at Ticehurst, on 25/9/26. To 1850454 Sigmn H. C. Wells, a son, at Tunbridge Wells, on 4/11/26 (died on 6/11/26).

R. C. B.

SPECIAL NOTICE. ROYAL SIGNALS

HAIRDRESSER'S SHOPS

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

PLEASE NOTE—In addition to the shop opposite N.A.A.F.I. in "S" Lines, a **Branch Shop is now open in the Depot Battalion Lines,** between the Mess Room and Bath House.

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The Members of 77 Squad.

C Company, Depot Battalion.

No. 3 Equitation Class commenced on November 1st, and is composed of L/Sergt R. M. T. Smith and L/Corpl J. T. Blower (A Corps Signals), Signalmen Meldrum and Neal (1st Divl. Signals), L/Corpl Bishop (2nd Divl. Signals), L/Corpl Carnell (3rd Divl. Signals), L/Corpl Baker (4th Divl. Signals), and Drvrs Groves and Heasman of this unit. Lieut C. Knowles, R.B., is in charge of the class.

Lieut R. M. Carr, R.A., left us on November 5th to rejoin the R.A. Depot at Woolwich, after being with us since Nov. 9th of last year. He did quite a lot for the Company during his stay, and will be missed. We are glad to welcome his relief, Lieut J. R. C. Christopher, R.A., to the fold.

Several people are wondering why a C.Q.M.S., who is in the last year of his service, has two boxers on his staff. They'd better ask him.

Any person requiring knowledge of motor cycles and their relationship to tram lines, should address his enquiries to W.C.B.C., care of this office. A stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

The cup for telling the biggest one during the quarter ending 31/10/26 went to Driver—I forget his name, but his number is 2312617. "Meddler" bucked him off in the school, and this gallant steed circled the school twice before our hero landed in the saddle again. Rodney didn't stand a chance!

There is no truth in the rumour that one of our n.c.o.'s is going to be held on command at the Corner House to learn the intricacies of mess room duties.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergt Cranham on being presented with a son, Douglas, on 30/9/26, and to Corpl Wilmot on receiving a daughter, Pamela Eunice, on 28/9/26.

Marriage.—F/Corpl Marshall to Olive Kirby, at Teesdale, on 9/10/26.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—Corpls With and Richardson, and Dvr C. E. Wilkinson.

Promotions.—Heartiest congratulations to L/Sergt Oliver and A/Corpl Read on attaining their respective ranks.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl J. Smith, Signalmen MacFarlane and Etheridge from A Company; Sigmn Stickley from B Company; C.Q.M.S. Campbelton from 1st Divl. Signals.

FIFI.

Farewell Concert to Lieut R. M. Carr, R.A.—A very interesting concert was staged in No. 3 Y.M.C.A. Hut on Wednesday, October 27th, as a farewell to Lieut R. M. Carr, prior to his departure for the R.A. Depot at Woolwich. During his stay, Lieut Carr has been instrumental in arranging numerous concerts in the various Y.M.C.A. huts around the camp, which only those who have spent a winter in Catterick can really appreciate.

An unusually good programme (arranged by Signalmen Wain and Ternent) was commenced at 7.30 p.m. with a large but slightly critical audience. After the opening chorus, "Come to the Fair," given by Messrs. Wain, Ternent and Co., they settled down more deeply into their arm chairs and proceeded to show their appreciation in the approved military style. The following items were contributed:—"The Roadway," by Capt W. R. C. Penney, M.C. ("The Blind Ploughman" as encore). "Westward by the Devon Sea," together with "Annie Laurie," by Mrs. Mallins, received a great ovation from all parts of the hall. "The Battle Eve," a duet by Signalmen Wain (tenor) and Ternent (baritone), was exceptionally well rendered.

"Drake goes West," a very old favourite, sung by C.Q.M.S. Mack (of "Dots and Dashes" fame), found its mark at once, as did also the encore "Friend o'mine." "That old-fashioned mother of mine" enabled Lieut Carr to persuade the audience that it was really *their* contribution, and judging by results we really think it was. However. "To-morrow" (sung as an encore by the same artiste) restored the stage to its proper end of the room.

"If I might come to you," by Sigmn Ternent, was received with the applause it merited, as was also the encore, "The Storm Fiend." A monologue by Sgt Payne (also of "Dots and Dashes") "The girl I kissed on the stairs," affected the audience so much that someone was overheard to ask why there were no stairs in the N.A.A.F.I. This was encored by "The Stoker," a song which made one think deeply of the pleasures (?) of a life on the ocean wave.

"Down the vale," followed by "Come into the garden, Maud," by Sigmn Wain, was an example of hard work and perseverance on the part of the artiste, especially as the latter song is a very difficult one to render. "Melisande," by Mrs. Mallins, and "Macushla" as an encore, were again enthusiastically received. "The Ballad-monger," by Capt Penney, was another item which found its mark at once with the audience.

"Up from Somerset," an old favourite, was ably contributed by C.Q.M.S. Mack. "Devonshire Cream and Cider," by Sergt Payne, the capable rendering of which made one wish for a far better land than Catterick Camp, was the last item.

Many thanks are also due to the accompanist, Sigmn Taplin, of the T.B., whose untiring work at the piano contributed greatly to the success of the evening.

Prior to the last two items, Miss MacNeill, the lady superintendent of No. 3 Y.M.C.A., in a short speech, asked everyone present to show their appreciation of the work done by Lieut Carr in organising entertainments in the camp, the value of which during the winter of 1925–26 could only be estimated by those who were present at a time when the camp was in a very uncomfortable and unfinished condition. Needless to say her remarks were greeted with enthusiastic applause.

Lieut Carr, in thanking the audience for their appreciation, said he did not wish Miss MacNeill to voice her feelings in that manner, but he would take that opportunity to thank the artistes for the way in which they had always been ready and willing to co-operate with him in any little effort he made in that direction.

A short reply was made by C.Q.M.S. Mack on behalf of the artistes, in which he pointed out that it was a very simple proceeding to walk into a hall and drop into a seat to listen to a show; but until one had been behind the scenes, it was impossible to realise the amount of hard work and time required to get a really good show together and make a success of it.

X-RAY.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, Depot Battalion.

On Monday, October 11th, the members of the warrant officers' and sergeants' mess held a farewell dance in the N.A.A.F.I., U Lines, on the occasion of the departure of the popular second-in-command, Major A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Signals, for Bulford.

Among those present at the dance were the Commandant of the S.T.C., Lieut.-Col. and Miss Lloyd Owen, Lieut.-Colonel Osborne, and many officers of Signals stationed at Catterick.

The Corps dance band provided a good programme. A spirit of carnival was introduced when streamers and a fine selection of fancy hats were distributed to the dancers. The fashion in men's wear for the evening was nigger minstrel hats, which owed their popularity to a large advertisement. A banjo was not obtainable, much to everyone's regret.

During the evening, for the warrant officers, staff sergeants, and sergeants of the Depot Battalion, R.S.M. Nolan, in a brief speech, said good-bye to Major and Mrs. Allan. In reply, Major Allan thanked all, and referred to the very happy three years he had spent as second-in-command of the Depot Battalion. We all agree with his remarks on the last winter at Catterick, and hope that the present one will not be so severe. R.S.M. Nolan called for three cheers, which were very heartily given, and a special one for the ladies.

At a following general meeting, the mess passed a vote of thanks to their entertainment committee—C.S.M. Harrison, Sergts Dillon, Terrell and Bardoe—for the able manner in which the arrangements for the dance were made and carried out. A very popular vote of appreciation was also accorded to Miss Williams, manageress of the N.A.A.F.I., for her magnificent work in the buffet and refreshment room.

D Company, Training Battalion.

An awful thing has happened! I had been roused to action in the matter of some notes for THE WIRE, and really meant to pen a notable tale, but a hundred-odd beings fell out of the sky—from the direction of F Company—and squeezed all our poor li'l boys off the pay roll. Everyone will agree that this is a sad loss. There's no one to blame for broken windows, and no way of accounting for the footprints in the Company gardens. A welcome to the Wirelessops nevertheless! We have lost the 100, 220, and the jumps, but can possibly manage the fitba'.

There have been many changes. Capt C. Jones, C.F., has left us—we shall miss him on Sundays quite as much as on sports afternoons. Corpls Udell and Thomas have returned to Egypt. Five n.c.o.s and men have reported from Germany prior to adding India to their colours. Rumour hath said that our oldest inhabitant is going from us to the Rhine—far from applications for "advances from my credits." DONPAI.

School of Signals.

On certain days of the year it is the habit of the Bookmakers' Union to send delegates to Catterick Bridge for the purpose of speech-making, and such is the power of their oratory that men

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are drawn from the four corners of the earth to hear them, even from this "outpost of Empire"—the School of Signals. And on the same days, as a further attraction, gee-gees are made to run, some short distances, some long, and according to our sporty (?) section, some not far enough.

Now the crowd being gathered together, the delegates of the said Union harangue them, saying, "We will lay you 10 to 1 that the horse known as 'Loo' will not pass yon little box first." On hearing this, the crowd, who can see that the man riding "Loo" is easily the best-looking man there, with one accord say "Done!"

And it comes to pass even as the "bookie" said: the horse "Loo," who has a bit of sheep in his pedigree, followed the other gee-gees home, whereupon the "knights of the book," being kind at heart, remarked "Hard luck!"—and were seen to pocket, or should we say bag, the "crack."

Old members of the School will be sorry to hear that the only pukka speed bike we ever owned has disappeared from our ken. No more shall we feel a thrill at the sight of this super-super-sports model going all out past the sergeants' mess. Perhaps the Americans have bought it for demonstration purposes; and again, perhaps T. W. Ward knows something about it. Anyway, the fact remains that the world-famed "Flying Eight" is gone and nearly forgotten. R.I.P.

Can nothing be done to exterminate the germ responsible for the spread of matrimony? To our minds this disease ranks with cancer and consumption, but whoever heard of any scientist conducting research with a view to stamping it out? We never did! The School has suffered heavy losses during the last six months owing to the machinations of this insignificant germ, no fewer than five having succumbed. The last case to come to light is that of Corpl Fairbairn, who was married to Irene Helena Stroud on 16/10/26. He was such a decent fellow, too; but as LI.G. or some other big noise said, away back in '25, our loss is someone else's gain.

And now to a more cheerful subject, i.e., trade re-classification. L/Corpl S. L. Gordon re-classified as lineman, Group B, Class ii., on 28/9/26. On being interviewed, he attributed his success to (a) long years of study and self-denial, and (b) the little grey books. That's the kind of thing we like to see: a man who blends the virtues (?) of being strong and silent with a becoming modesty.

The following have been posted away from the School and struck off the inventory accordingly: Dvrs A. P. Jordan, H. E. Prescott, and A. J. Searle, to A Corps Signals, 22-10-26. Sigmn R. Turner (better known as "Shurm") to 2nd Divl. Signals, 22/10/26. The very best wishes of the School (like the horse, "Loo") follow them.

The undernamed have arrived to fill the vacant chairs:—Signalmen Marlow, Wall, Perry, Douthwaite and Macdonald.

With the words, "It is a far better thing that I do now than I have ever done before," Sigmn T. S. Pratt made his re-entrance into civil life on 1/11/26, transferred to the Army Reserve. We hope that it is not a far better rest he has gone to than he has ever known. If good wishes could be counted in terms of £ s. d., Mr. Ford would be jealous of him.

Agony.—Dvr Thompson would very much like to hear from Corpl Demon.

BANGER.

ALDERSHOT NEWS.

A Corps Signals, Ewshott Camp.

Unit Headquarters.

Greeting.—To all members of the Corps, past and present, we extend the old wish, "A happy Christmas and a happier New Year."

Reminder.—See that your socks are new or darned on Christmas Eve, and remember that a bottle of liquid should be corked and placed in the sock the right way up.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Len Simpson on his appointment.

Move: Unit Office.—We cannot let pass by the happy event which took place on Wednesday, November 10th. With much hauling of boxes, cupboards, files, tables, and a tin of "Luc," we said good-bye to our old be-windowed barn-like offices, to take up residence in a smart palatial building standing in its own grounds, with laurel drive, water hot and cold (perhaps), electric light, and all modern conveniences. As soon as the few odd jobs have been finished by the carpenters, we shall be in the most comfortable office ever conceived. Truly, we're very exalted personages now; you'll have to walk up three substantial steps to reach *our* level.

Attachments.—Timothy Tugmutton and her family of two lively kittens did not take to the great move as well as was expected. Only one "moggie" remains, and it has promised to keep the offices free from rats and mice on condition that she is well fed. Gifts of tinned milk should be addressed to Inky, c/o Unit Office.

S.O.S.—Unit H.Q. would like to hear from the Hon. Russell-Barrett and Youngy and Dep. David and Goliath of No. 21 Hut are on their annual vacation. The radio atmosphere is a little clearer now.

Personal.—Sergt (!——!) has, it is reported, decided to adopt the lead of a few well-known society beauties, and not get married.

Departures.—We shall be losing our much-sought "pretty picture man" in December. Gale and Polden's will benefit.

Our brunette stenographer is also a candidate, for "all handsome men are slightly sunburnt." He is under the able tuition of a well-versed Hindoo.

Luc.

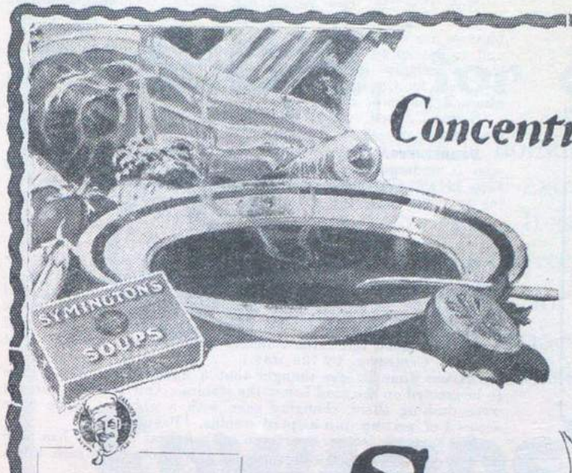
Sergeants' Mess.

November seems to be passing much as other months do. It is a habit, no doubt.

Our current monthly billiard cue competition was won by Sergt Rowe on our newly-covered table. Good luck, Barny. Fatigue party at each pocket, now you have your posh cue. That's what living in does instead of the little daily grind from Aldershot. Do you want a rub-down with the *Sporting Life?*

We welcome to our fold L/Sergt Simpson. We congratulate him on attaining that appointment.

We are losing quite a few old faces this trooping season: C.Q.M.S. Birch, Sergeants Chenery, Richardson and Donaghy. Don't let the tales of man-eating tigers, death-dealing dacoits, and poisonous snakes worry you too much, Don. Viewed in



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Symington's Soups

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their proper perspective, instead of through Ind Coope glasses, things may not be so bad. We wish them all they would wish themselves.

No. 1 Company.

There are two groups left in this Company now: the dismal "have been's," and those who live in hopes of furlough.

After a month's furlough all round, the M.T. Section were given six weeks more in the Isle of Wight, with Lieut Boileau, to stop that moonlight bathing. There was some talk about building a permanent line, but that is only one of the usual rumours, which reminds me—

Lost, stolen or strayed, one mechanicalized cable waggon (oh, it's only another rumour, anyhow; we have eighty horses to give away if they are not all drowned soon).

To Army Reserve.—2309530 Sigmn E. Burns, on 28/10/26. 2202601 Sigmn J. Hill, on 17/11/26.

Appointment.—2308408 Corpl L. Simpson to be L/Sergeant, w.e.f. 20/9/26.

To Courses.—L/Sergt R. M. T. Smith and L/Corpl J. Blower to equitation course, Depot Batn, S.T.C.

Postings.—From Rhine Signal Company, L/Corpl Warren. From Bermuda Signal Section, Signalmen A. E. Birch and S. Newlyn. From Depot Battn., S.T.C., Sigmn Mudge, 24/10/26, and Signalmen Dean and Wadey, 15/11/26.

To School of Signals, S.T.C., Drivers Jordan, Prescott and Searle, 12/10/26.

To Sierra Leone Signal Section, Corpl F. Hollis, 21/10/26.

To Rhine Signal Company, L/Corpl F. Hattam, 28/10/26.

To L Co. Detachment, Jubbulpore, Corpl H. R. Williams, L/Corpl J. Baxter, and Signalmen Cowe, Drewell, Fryer, Hartland, Molineaux, L. D. Taylor, and D. Wainscoat, embarked on s.s. "California" on 25/10/26.

To Training Battn, S.T.C., Drivers Beedon, Betts and Calverly, 15/10/26; Signalmen Denton and Ellis, 28/10/26; Sigmn Maiden, 3/11/26.

No. 3 Company.

Our usual correspondent is at present on furlough, and therefore these notes may perhaps be considered a literary "effort."

Higher ratings and furlough are the chief objectives at the present time. The latter to be enjoyed when the former have been obtained after much heart-burning in the Individual Training School, at present in full activity under the auspices of the Section officers.

The first furlough party have returned from their annual vacation, and in consequence thereof many long faces and short pockets may be noticed.

Drafts.—We said good-bye to Sergt Steve Donaghy and ten others on October 25th. They take with them our best wishes for a pleasant sojourn in India, and may their tour abroad never grow longer. We also wish L/Corpl P. Pratt, who left us recently for Egypt, a prosperous exile on the banks of the Nile.

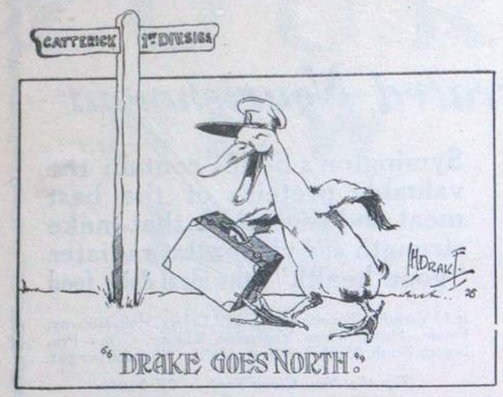
L/Corpl S. W. Roberts left here for the Rhine, and we presume he arrived O.K., because they sent us L/Corpl Phillips to replace him.

Courses.—L/Corpl L. C. Wilce proceeded to the "Muscle Factory" for a physical training course. Further bulletins as to the patient's condition will be issued in due course.

Departures.—Corpl A. E. Beckley proceeded to Leeds on being posted to the 49th (W.R.) Divl. Signals, T.A. Our loss is their gain, and we hope his new home suits him down to the ground.

Arrivals.—Signalmen J. Simmonds, J. Ryder, and A. Whiteway arrived here from Catterick. Signalmen Cranke, Terrington and Denny from North Ireland Signal Company.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.



Yes! really gone this time!

"A very Merry Christmas to all at home and abroad."

Owing to the departure of L. H. D. for the Training Battalion S.T.C., the notes of this unit will be included in condensed form in the January publication.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

It was very pleasant to see everyone throwing a chest after the congratulations from the G.O.C. and to hear of their good work done on previous manœuvres. The inspection went off very well, a feeling of good spirit going around the unit.

Now that the leave period has started, everyone is looking forward to his time for recuperation. Those who have motor bicycles are requested to get their berets ready for the holiday, and to get speed up for the technical training. It is regretted that a certain individual is disposing of his 1926 "Scotts Squirrel" for the small amount of £5. Most probably he would also sell his beret cheap.

Sigmn Cannell would like to hear from Alf Powell, of Battersea, last heard of in Egypt.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose L/Corpl Hamilton, who is undergoing a course of instruction at Shorncliffe. We hope he will not be too brainy for his other colleagues. According to notes received, we advise him to leave French alone.

JIM.

No. 2 Company.

We are still carrying on with the good work while the majority of men are on furlough. Technical training has started, and linemen can be seen tree swarming and looking awkward on ladders; nevertheless their work is improving, and everyone is keen, even the lineman who put a horseshoe in a bucket of water and stood it on the concrete floor for an "earth." (Not in *No. 2 Company*, by the way.)

At one time it was thought that a danger sign would have to be erected on the road below the stables. Our reckless linemen were dashing there, changing gear with a wobble. Some were accused of getting into a speed wobble. Brave men!

We have not let our sports go, although at times it has been hard to find teams. Hockey, rugger and soccer have each taken the turn, and some good games have taken place.

Departures.—The following have left us for India: Corporal Brown and Signalmen Coe, Church, King, W. Gallery, Hughes, Leach, Spanner, Hammond, Veale. May they enjoy the clime!

L/Corpls G. Marshall and D. Green, and Sgmn Sheperd have also departed for Egypt. We hope they were successful in missing the rough seas.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Kempster from Training Battalion; Sigmn Turner from School of Signals; Dvr Farrell from Depot Battn., and Sigmn L. Smith from Jamaica. May they have a pleasant stay with us, and show us what athletic talent they have.

D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks, Aldershot, Nov. 13th.

General.—We open our notes this month by wishing all and sundry the following: For the past, Remembrances; for the present, Good Wishes; and for the future, Good Fortune; and that THE WIRE will excel itself, if possible, in the coming year.

I cannot pass on to other matters without making some reference to the Great Silence on November 11th. This was observed throughout the Aldershot Command in a fitting way. Services were held in all the churches; and the Troop, with a few exceptions, paraded for the two minutes' silence outside the stable.

Drafts.—Dvr Martin has left us for Egypt Signals. Our best wishes go with him, and we hope that he will enjoy himself at a station that is always being well spoken of in these columns.

On December 3rd the following will leave us for India: Sergt Wells, Corpls Spencer and Lee, L/Corpl Steed, Signalmen Burke, Turrell, Webb, Hinton, Jones, Morrison and Murrell—to whom we wish "bon voyage" and a pleasant stay in their new country. We hope that it will be beneficial to the youngsters.

Sigmn O'Callaghan will also leave us on the same date, proceeding to Egypt, and not Iraq as stated in the October issue.

Musketry.—Omitted from our last notes was the name of Sigmn Bryant, our Troop "shot," with a score of 100 (not out).

Arrivals.—Sigmn Allen from T.B., S.T.C., on 28/10/26; and Sigmn Estorffe from D.B., S.T.C., on 4/11/26—to whom we extend the hand of welcome.

To Sigmn and Mrs. Clift, a son, James Joseph Stephen, on 19/10/26. We extend our heartiest congratulations to his parents.

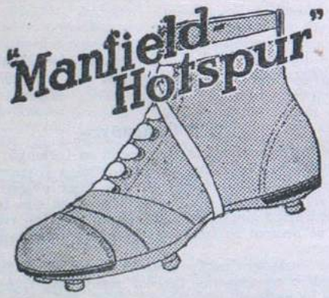
Marriage.—L/Corpl J. T. Smith enrolled as an official benedict on 28/10/26.

Medal.—To Sigmn O'Callaghan, the Indian General Service Medal, with clasp, "Waziristan, 1921-24."

Transfer to Army Reserve.—Dvr Clarkson on 5/12/26. We wish him the best of everything in Civvy Street.

Agony.—We sincerely hope that all the boys leaving us this drafting season will contrive to keep in touch with us through the medium of these columns.

What about it, Busty? Hast *thou* forsaken us?



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1—Trouble is what everybody is ready to lend, but nobody to borrow.
2—Absence is a condition which makes the heart grow fonder—of absence.
3—Baby is the most popular Home-Ruler in the world.
4—There is nothing so easy to learn as experience, but nothing so hard to apply.
5—"Without friends and without enemies" is the last account we have of a stray dog.
6—Men, when they whip a mule, generally swear; the mule remembers the swearing, but forgets the licking.
7—A lie is like a cat; it never comes to you in a straight line.
8—Beware of the man with half-shut eyes: he's not dreaming!
9—Experience makes more timid men than it does wise ones.
10—Nature is a kind mother. She couldn't very well afford to make us perfect, so she made us blind to our failings.

'OWDAM LAD.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals

Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.

General.—Leave, the predominant question of the moment, has begun in earnest, eleven of our fellows having faded away on November 1st. The remainder of the Troop will follow during the months of December and January.

The C.S.O. Southern Command has just paid us a visit, and has expressed himself as being very pleased with all he saw.

Musketry.—Once more that well-known game of "shaking 'em on" has ended. An average of 72.5 is not so bad, considering the number of young hands, a couple of bad shots, and a dearth of pencils among the markers.

Arrival.—Sigmn E. R. Jones from North Ireland Signal Coy.

Departure.—L/Sgt Cole to Egypt, 12/11/26. Good luck, Tim.

Greetings.—All ranks of the unit send to all members of the Corps, past and present, at home and abroad, their hearty greetings: "A merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

Johnny Johnson, late C.S.M. (N.A.A.F.I., Tidworth), wishes to be kindly remembered to all his old comrades of the Corps, and especially those of the Rhine Signal Co. past and present.

Married Families' Christmas Party.—The C.O. 3rd Divl. Signals has invited the Troop to combine its married families' Christmas party with that of his unit. This very kind invitation has been accepted, and the families are eagerly looking forward to the second week in January, 1927, when the event is to take place.

SANDY.

No. 1 A.A. Signal Co., Blackdown.

General.—Blackdown has resumed its normal aspect, and the boys are thankful there is little outside work to be done. One half of the Company are on annual leave, while the remainder are undergoing various courses with a view to being tested for higher ratings.

The latest photograph of the Company.

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1 oz. tin 1/-.
2 oz. and 4 oz. airtight tins, 2/- and 4/-.

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VIRGINIA FLAKE
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We are very glad that the ground surrounding the barrack block, formerly a quagmire, is being renovated, and the daily exploration for a decent spot on which to parade the men is no longer necessary.

Departure.—Lieut C. F. Newsom has left us for Egypt, where we trust he will have the best of luck and every success. He has our hearty congratulations on his transfer from the R.A.S.C. to the Corps.

Drafts.—The following embark for India on December 3rd: Corpls Murphy and Dietrich, L/Corpl Boxall, Signalmen Beddingham, Reed, Peuleve, and Rose. Signalman Dyball embarks for Iraq on December 7th. We wish them a successful tour of duty with their new units.

Advanced information for their new units is as follows: Corpl Murphy—education wallah (distinguished); L/Cpl Boxall and Sigmn Beddingham—soccerites; and Sigmn Dyball—hockey and soccer.

Arrival.—Corpl Gristwood joined the unit from the Northern Ireland Signal Company on November 6th. It is much regretted that he had to leave his wife and children at Belfast, there being no quarters available here.

Discharge.—It is a matter of regret that Sigmn Mallett is being discharged as medically unfit for further service. He had a leg badly fractured in a motor-cycle accident whilst on duty. The leg has mended alright, but unfortunately is a little shorter than the other. He is a steady lad and well liked by his companions, whose heartfelt sympathy is extended to him. We trust he will obtain congenial employment in civil life, and success be his portion in the future.

Transfer to A.R.—Before these notes are published we shall lose one of the "originals" of the Company, when Sigmn Nelson returns to civil life. When in London we shall look out for him on his L.G.O. bus. To listen to a conversation between him and a taxi-driver would indeed be an education!

Armistice Day.—This was observed by the unit ceasing work and parading under Lieut F. Goldsmith, R.A., for the two minutes' silence. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday.

Sport.—Apart from a few friendly matches, no games have been indulged in, mainly because the weather has put recreation grounds out of play.

ACK ACK.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Marne Lines, Bulford Camp, Nov. 15th.

General.—Major R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., unfortunately had to leave the Senior Officers' School, Shorncliffe, to undergo an operation. The unit trusts this was successful, and wishes him a complete and speedy recovery.

Our best wishes are extended to Major A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., from the Depot Battalion, who took command of the unit with effect from 16/10/26. May his stay be a happy one.

Since the last edition we have lost a splendid officer and sportsman in Major J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., who has proceeded to London to take up a position with the Eastern Command Signal Company. This unit's loss is another's gain.

The second period of furlough is in full swing, and consequently the unit is occupied in keeping its head above *water* (some job) and the animals well baited.

Married Families.—In the early part of October the married families met at the Church of England Institute to bid farewell to Mrs. R. Chenevix Trench. This function comprised a concert and tea, which were well supported (both of 'em). Artistes: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Legg, C.S.M. Nichol, L/Corpl Harris, and L/Corpl Shiner (who since unfortunately has left for civvy street), etc.

This month the wives were invited to tea by Mrs. A. C. Allan, and it was pleasing to see so many were able to turn up.

Voice from the deep.—Will Sigmn W. Smith (late D.L.I.) kindly correspond with "Tock Eddy" (late D.L.I.) at Sande's Soldiers' Home, Bulford.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Laver from Northern Ireland Signal Coy. on 18/10/26, and Sigmn Weir on 2/11/26.

Signalmen Bell, Scaife and Gunn, from T.B. on 28/10/26, and Signalmen Delaney, Allen, Rodwell and Bywater on 8/11/26.

Corpl Chandler, Signalmen Adams, C. Miller, N. Parfitt, Say, Shaddick, Slater and Thomson, Drivers Crockford and Phillips, from Rhine Field Signal Company on 1/11/26.

Sigmn R. Smart from Depot Battn. on 25/10/26, and Drivers Cope, Caddick, Doidge, Fox, McCorkill, Norton, A. Oldroy, Read, G. Richardson, Smythe, Whyman and Wildhack, on 7/11/26

Departures.—Sigmn W. Currie to Sierra Leone on 12/10/25.

Sergt Griffin and family, L/Corpl V. R. Little, Signalmen J. Bennett, P. Burges, F. Carter, H. Collins, W. Fullick, R. Funnell, L. Gilder, L. Hand, A. W. Hill, R. Hakesley, B. McCann, J. Maddison, S. A. May, F. Quarm, D. Stanley, F. Thorne, J. F. S. Wilson and H. Leslie to India, via Liverpool, on 25/10/26.

A/Corpl E. B. Baker, Signalmen H. Camp, J. Cocker, H. Blunsum, J. Laurence, J. Moody, J. Mundy, W. Perks, and Price, Dvrs H. Barnes and Coote, to Rhine Field Signal Coy. on 28/10/26.

Sigmn Jones-Thomas to Depot Battn. on 28/10/26.

L/Corpl J. Panting to Gibraltar on 12/11/26.

Signalmen C. Beach and H. W. Jones, Dvrs H. Kirby, W. Ledsham and Simms, to Egypt on 12/11/26.

Discharge.—L/Corpl R. A. M. Shiner on 11/11/26.

To Army Reserve.—Sigmn R. C. Bond on 31/10/26, and Dvr D. Stepton on 10/10/26.

Re-engagement.—Sergt P. Hall to complete 21 years.

Extension of Service.—Corpl Stainer, to complete 12 years.

Appointments and Promotions.—Sigmn S. Carnell to be A/U/L/Corporal, w.e.f. 30/10/26. A/Corpl A. Kidby to be Corpl. w.e.f. 1/4/26.

Births.—To L/Corpl B. Coy, a son (Bernard Royston Bayliss), on 2/11/26. To Sergt T. Slater, a son (Reginald Instone), on 2/10/26.

Marriages.—L/Corpl V. Little to Evelyn Ivy Camfield at Wood Green on 23/10/26. Corpl N. Crabtree to Esme O'Reilly at Skipton, Yorks, on 27/10/26.

4th Divisional Signals.

Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, Nov. 14th.

Signals Association.—At last we are able to report a 100 per cent. membership of the Signals Association. We have to thank our president, Lieut.-Col. T. H. L. Spaight, D.S.O., and Capt L. B. Nicholls, for their kindness in arranging explanatory meetings in the various Companies.

We lost a goodly number of old comrades and staunch members of the Association when the first drafts of the season left us for various stations abroad. We wish them all luck in their new stations, and a happy time with their new local branches.

Unfortunately, we shall lose many an old face during this trooping season, for it seems Records have made a fierce onslaught on the ranks of the 4th Divl. Signals, no doubt attracted by the good work done by us on every occasion when called to arms.

Everyone amongst us, I think, regrets the impending departure of our friend "Ginger" Rose, so long associated with canteen cabarets, etc. It seems hopeless to contemplate the cookhouse minus his presence. Anyway, the Army of Occupation will benefit greatly.

We have bidden adieu to other old friends also: May, Baxter, Houlden (of football fame), Sergt Trapmore (one of our most popular n.c.o.'s), A. E. Cole, and R. C. Childs—the latter on medical grounds.

We have also lost others from the fold, to whom we offer our most hearty sympathy, they having joined the ranks of the domestic fatigue men. Wreaths will follow in due course. Sigmn W. Miller, married to Charlotte Elizabeth Leon, at Blythewood, Glasgow, on 21/9/26, and Sigmn W. Andrews to Lucy Louise Jane Morse, at Dover, on 25/10/26.

A little bird has whispered to me that the stork has been rather busy this month, having brought a son (Ronald David) to L/Corpl W. J. Hall, and a son (Peter Reginald John) to L/Corpl R. D. Lunniss. Good luck to them!

The *Daily Express* account of the magnetic storm was remarkable. Here are two of the headings: "Thousands of unintelligible messages" and "Delays of five hours." One almost felt that the reporter had just finished unit training. Of course, the account of the Aurora Borealis is nothing. We see one every evening ourselves.

Thousands and thousands of pounds of perfectly good kindling wood have been mangled, splintered, battered and pulverised to smithereens during the month. We have had the unit mounted sports. A few suggestions may be in place and good time:—

1—Tent-pegging course too short. Remedy: Lay out as far as Butt Road.
2—Wall too high. Remedy: Remove the lower course of bricks.
3—Judges too severe. Remedy: Do away with judges.
4—Driving course too intricate. Remedy: Teach the drivers Euclid.

Seriously, though, the show was a great success, and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part either as competitors or spectators.

It is a pity, perhaps, that more of this kind of sport cannot be arranged. The lot of a driver H.T. is at times monotonous, and if he knows he has something to work for and turns out a good show in the unit mounted sports, due kudos will be given him. It tends to give him greater interest in his work all the year round, and fosters the best possible spirit of horsemanship among all ranks, which is always to be aimed at in a mounted corps. Below are the results:—

Tent pegging—1, Sergt J. Winkle; 2, Dvr H. Baker; 3, C.S.M. Kneebone.

Team jumping—1, Lieut J. W. Gordon, Sigmn A. Medico, Corpl A. W. Fish, Dvr H. Baker; 2, Lieut J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., Sergt J. Winkle, Dvr J. T. Jones, Driver J. Thompson.

Best turned-out driver—1, W. H. H. Brooks; 2, T. A. Scott.

Peg driving—1, Dvr W. H. H. Brooks; 2, Dvr W. Heale; 3, Dvr J. T. Jones.

The last Section (the 1st M.A.B.) arrived back at Colchester last month. It is remarkable what a lot of real good Brigade training does both Section officers and men.

A slight scowl was noticeable on the visages of a few who had lost their corner beds; but on the whole there is a perfect calm. Haggard looks have given way to bright, round, and almost cherubic baby faces. What does it?

A civil optimist in partnership with our talented conniver of stratagems has taken the unit photograph. He calibrated his wavemeter, got his wavelength with a piece of string, commented on the horrible, savage, and unnatural looks of his victims, and started the thing going. The trumpeter's feet are two yards nearer the camera than he measured.

Big game hunting has been in progress in the Company, the total bag being one rat and five mice. Traps, poison and every humane and other device were extensively used. The only means of slaying rodents not used, so far as I could gather, was that employed by the Spanish Inquisition—the ghastly "tickling to death" process.

Psychology during the Month.—A man said to another, "Have one?" The Adjutant paid out £1 too much. There was a complaint about coal.

Queries.—Who was it submitted a pass endorsed "With permission to wear clothes"? Who submitted a "duplication" for increment of pay? What about some notes from the Iraq Sigs? Will Sigmn Pim Edmunds please communicate with Sigmn V. Blackburn?

Greetings.—As this is the last issue of notes before Christmas, we take the opportunity of wishing all readers of THE WIRE a Merry Christmas, and more in the New Year than they expect themselves.

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Anzora Cream for greasy scalps, will not soil hat linings or pillows, and Anzora Viola for dry scalps, containing a little oil of violets. Both are sold in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles by hairdressers, chemists, stores & canteens.

Refuse all Substitutes

Northern Ireland Signals, Belfast.

General.—At last the axe has fallen, and some of those who had taken root have been uprooted and planted elsewhere—some in better surroundings, and others not so fortunate.

With the arrival of the new establishment, many old faces have departed, but we are to get new ones in their places. Some will be very long, with necks to match and four legs, known in our schooldays as noble animals.

Training goes on apace, and is much the same ding-dong affair: the pursuit of the elusive electron in one squad, and all the various positions, paraphernalia and other awful things that go to make an O/V's life happy, in another.

We are very pleased to report for the benefit of those not in the know, and previous members of the unit, that we are

in barrack-rooms at last! This is the first time since the formation of Signals in Northern Ireland. Hitherto we have been in huts.

Education.—Congratulations to all who succeeded in the last examination for 2nd class certificates; and to those who failed, better luck next time.

Armistice Commemoration.—A wreath, subscribed for by members of the Company, was purchased from the British Legion. This was laid on the Cenotaph by the C.S.M. and Corpl Gardner. The card attached to the wreath was inscribed as follows: "To the Glorious Memory of our Fallen Comrades, 1914-1919. From Members of the Royal Corps of Signals Old Comrades Association, Belfast."

Arrival.—Sigmn Quilter from A Corps, Ewshott.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Biart, L/Corpls Godfray and Simpson, and Sigmn Heyhirst to 1st Divl. Signals, Aldershot. (May the change be all they could wish for). Sigmn E. Jones to E Troop Cav. Divl. Signals, Tidworth (keep your pecker up, Taffy). Corpl Gristwood to No. 1 A.A. Signal Coy., Blackdown. Sigmn Davenport to 4th Divl. Signals, Colchester. Signalmen Weir and Laver to 3rd Divl. Signals, Bulford. Signalmen Beresford, Edwards, Waters and Woolcott to 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot. Sigmn Denny to A Corps, Ewshott. L/Cpl Turner to F Company, S.T.C., Catterick.

Greetings.—We tender our heartiest greetings to all members of the Corps at home and abroad, and wish them a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

CHIPPY.

Rhine Signal Units.

Wiesbaden, Nov. 14th.

It is with great pleasure that we find suggestions tendered by various members of the Rhine Signals accepted by the Publications Committee.

It is hoped, in the near future, to be able to forward a page of photographs of Jerryland, to show what the surroundings are like for those who are due for posting here or who may be interested. To a person interested in scenery, this is surely the place. Not many miles out of the town one becomes bewildered by the glorious scenery, and a 2d. train journey will take you there.

Other than glorious scenery this station offers little, there being an Army cinema, a Y.M.C.A. which holds dances twice weekly, and the N.A.A.F.I. "Walhalla," which also draws attraction by its dances and whist drives. Wiesbaden is a health resort, noted for its baths, also being the centre of picturesque country. It is fairly large and has many shops. There is an opera house, but one must understand the language to thoroughly enjoy the play; and in addition there is the Kurhaus, where a pleasant evening's entertainment can be had for the low charge of 6d.

We welcome the arrival of Major P. C. Snatt, M.C., from D Company, T.B., to take over the Rhine Command Signal Coy. from Major R. C. Nixon, the last-named taking over the Rhine Field Signal Company and the duties of O.C. Signal units.

Lieut R. Sutton-Pratt has left us for the 1st Divl. Signals, and we wish him every success in his new abode.

It is with regret that we lose Sergt Spindler, L/Sergts Oakes and Goble, Corpls Hall and Richardson, Signalmen Cowell, Moore, McDougall, Butcher, Carlton, Hamilton, R. Moody, and Holtham, who proceeded to join Companies at the Depot prior to embarkation for India. Our best wishes go out to them. Sigmn Carter and Dvr Marrington have left us for civvy life, and one wonders how they are prospering; but I am sure that all ranks join with me in wishing them every success.

The three-year scheme has at last come into operation, the first batch having left for Bulford on October 31st, and with them L/Corpls A. Phillips and J. Warren for A Corps Signals. Their reliefs arrived the day before they left, so they were fully acquainted with the ideas in vogue before the train steamed out. The next batch is due to leave on November 23rd, and by the time these notes are being read they will have settled down in their new station.

Corpl P. Berry has left us for discharge, and we understand that he sails for the Kenya Colony—but not in single bliss; so we join in wishing him every success in the double event. His loss will be greaty felt both in the sporting line and on the P.R.I. committee, as he has done splendid work for both.

We have lost another personality in Sigmn E. C. Hill, and we shall miss his voice at our future concerts. He is a lucky man to buy himself out; but it's worth it, so we were informed.

A splendid dinner was held in the n.c.o.s mess, followed by a smoker, to mark the departure of those bound for other stations. Several speeches were given by officers and those due to leave us, and though Laffans Plain is getting a bit ancient now, it was all taken in good spirit. A dance is to be held in the very near future in respect of the married families, which should prove a good evening's entertainment.

A Garrison sergeants' mess indoor tournament is now being run, and provides us with an added interest; but up to the time of writing we have lost both contests.

The Association Branch still continues to serve up the goods, a concert being given in the Institute, which everyone enjoyed.

On Tuesday, November 9th, a dance was held and well attended. This being the first given by the Association, we have learnt many things from it. It is intended in future to run one monthly.

It is pleasing to note that so many officers are joining the Association, but there are a few still to be enrolled in these units. At the time of despatch we have 25 other rank non-members, but now that the objects of the Association are becoming much clearer to them, we are hoping they will not remain outsiders much longer.

One must mention the annual inspection of the units, which took place on November 9th. This affair only comes off once a year, and one does not need informing that whitewash was freely used. The inspection went off well, and I am sure the G.O.C. was pleased with all he saw.

Education has commenced under the able tuition of Corporal Sharp, so the time is not far distant when we shall see a parade for certificates.

Our congratulations are extended to A/U/L/Corpl R. D. H. Hardy on his attaining that rank, and we wish him further success.

The men's fortnightly dances and monthly whist drives still go the pace, and are quite popular in the Garrison, owing to the well-conducted manner in which they are carried out.

ARMAC.

Start each
day right with a
cool, sparkling glass of

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"FRUIT SALT"
TRADE MARK

You will soon be repaid
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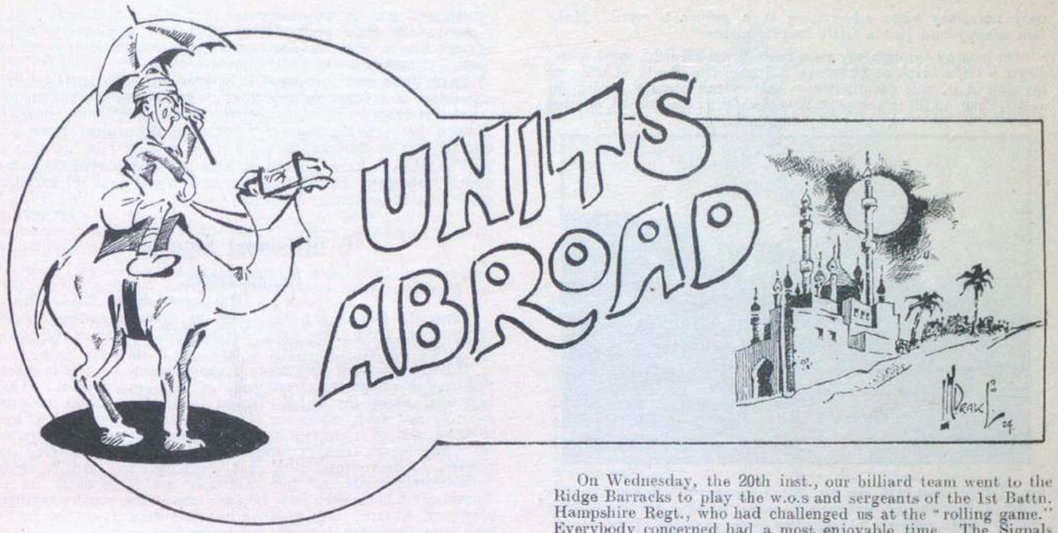


Signal Training Centre (India).

Jubbulpore, October 22nd.

General.—Most extraordinary weather in Jubbulpore has caused havoc in every shape and form. Bridges have been washed away, villages wrecked, and at times main roads rendered impassable. As for our cricket, hockey and football, well! it's rather a pity they started rugby so early this year. Having very little swimming in this station, I was beginning to wonder if possibly we had missed our vocation. Nevertheless, we are safe and sound, except for the wireless people, who have done nothing but moan. But, really, they should not moan, as even back axles have been known to break (ask the famous pair, Smith and Jehan).

We welcome our re-inforcements from England, and I'm sure they look an able-bodied set of men. Some rosy cheeks are worth looking at these days, after that wrinkled, nut-brown appearance one is used to. They seem quite good at sport, too; although I wish to goodness they would make every endeavour to play cricket at some more convenient spot.

I was just on the point of making a beautiful drive at tennis last week, when one of the draftees yelled out "How's that?" Being a certified umpire, I yelled back "Not out!" but unfortunately it was. As a matter of fact the ball went clean over the top of the screen for a boundary.

I am exceedingly pleased to say that the Old Comrades Association is now going strong from the S.T.C. (I.) point of view, thanks to the people who must be putting in overtime on the job. They are also helping THE WIRE in every shape and form. There must be some consolation in being independent after all.

A concert recently given in the Regimental Institute in aid of the O.C.A. proved a great success. Needless to say, the stars still "starred," ably assisted by Mrs. G. Meredith at the piano. Outside of our usual turns, I think Lieut H. Murray Boucher's name should be mentioned on account of his splendid endeavour to render "Ain't it nice?"

Major E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., told us all about the O.C.A. in a way that I could not describe; but sufficient to say our membership has now greatly increased.

Sergeants' Mess.—Great credit is due to the last quarter's entertainment committee, who have done more for the mess, from a social point of view, than could have been expected in their short course of office.

We are now the leading lights of the station, and I'm hoping our present status will not decline. Many pleasant evenings have been spent of late, and one wonders why we've been asleep so long.

On Wednesday, the 20th inst., our billiard team went to the Ridge Barracks to play the w.o.s and sergeants of the 1st Battn. Hampshire Regt., who had challenged us at the "rolling game." Everybody concerned had a most enjoyable time. The Signals scored a good victory:—

Signals.—C.Q.M.S. Andrews 100; C.S.M. Barber 73; Sergt Draper 100; Sergt Swaine 100; Sergt Foot 100; Sergt Chumbley 74. Total 547.

Hampshire Regt.—C.S.M. Finch 77; Sergt Crease 100; Sergt Brett 79; C.S.M. Biles 26; Sergt Buntram 65; C.Q.M.S. Martin 100. Total 445.

Sergt Swaine was the outstanding player of the evening, and finished his game in eleven minutes. The "ashes," which were inside a 12 inch cup made by the Jubbulpore Gold and Silversmiths (managing director, "Chips," Pioneers' Shop, Hampshire Regt.), was presented by R.S.M. Harrington to Sergt Foot, who immediately filled the same to the refreshing satisfaction of all concerned.

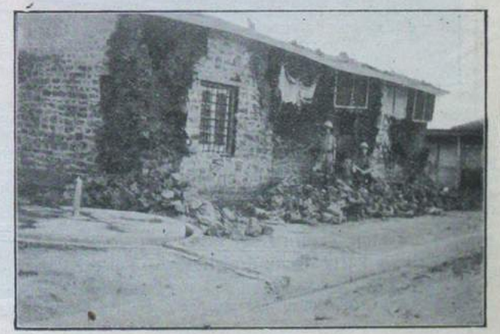
A Corps Signals.

Karachi, October 20th.

A few months ago it was suggested that a box be made for the purpose of encouraging members of the Corps to assist in the gathering of material for THE WIRE notes. The suggestion being considered one of the brainiest made since the formation of the Corps, the box was made, suitably inscribed, and plastered to the mess room wall.

Last month it contained a pamphlet on how to save money, which proved so interesting that when I had finished reading it, no time was left to catch the mail with the Sept. notes.

This month an improvement was noticed; the box contained two jokes and a note. The note read: "Please try and remember you are not paying for the space you use. Brevity is



only necessary when advertising at a guinea a word. Make 'em snappy and just a little longer, please."

On looking through my past notes I am afraid I must admit being a trifle brief, and perhaps if I take the liberty of utilising my full A.P. this month it may satisfy my literary critic. In order, then, to fill in the page that the Editor has kindly allowed

me (I think you said *yes*, Mr. E.), I propose to submit my notes under a headline of sufficient snap to satisfy the severest of critics. This settled, let us then proceed:—

Karachi in Grip of Terrific Cyclone.
Citizens Connor-less.
Soldiers Skedaddle to Safety.

A terrific cyclone struck Karachi on September 3rd, raging for three and a half days. The damage was considerable, being estimated at one tenth of Henry Ford's income. Such was the force of the wind that within twenty-four hours of its commencement, bungalows had either been blown into the Sind Desert or razed to the ground. No lives were lost, due chiefly to the nippiness of members of the Corps in leaving the mark.

The third gust of wind on the second day blew the sergeants' mess cookhouse into the right-hand corner of the bar. Apart from the fact that the cook and the mid-day meal had got mixed up with the wall, no serious damage was caused.

The Corps library went Sind-wards at about three p.m. on the third day. "The National Humourist," Edgar W., and Sapper were mixed up with the exploits of "The Scarlet Pimpernel," while Bull-Dog Drummond had insufficient strength to resist being blown on to "The Broad Highway." An idea of the damage sustained by the Corps will be obtained from the enclosed snaps.

Overfed Operators Return from Exile.
Manœuvre Party Speak Praisingly of Baluchistan.

Half-past three on the morning of the 9th noted the return of the Western Command manœuvres party, looking considerably brown and fit. It is whispered that the C.S.O. was highly pleased with their performance. They all speak very highly of the climate of Baluchistan, and appear to have enjoyed the change immensely.

Jazz, Jobs and Jumpers.—The energetic Signals Association committee are busy making final arrangements for the annual Armistice Day dance, the proceeds of which will, as usual, be divided between the Signals Association Benevolent Fund and the Ex-Service Association.

The M.C.C. have arrived at Karachi, and played their first match yesterday. Sandham, Tate and Wyatt gave an excellent exhibition at batting and bowling.

DAMPER.

C Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Dera Ismail Khan, Sept. 28th.

General.—Our silence has upset the resolution theory of not being absent from these pages during 1926, but since the scribe apologised for his inactivity, I think he is safe.

D.I.Khan is still ba(s)king in the sunshine. What a pity the breakdown party missed part of their share of it! They happened along the D.I.K.–Bannu road about 02.00 hrs. one morning last week, when one of our benzine buggies had refused to move, and after encountering a wet morning and a few spates, etc., they came back, climbed into their sleep-inducers, and refused to move until the next morning. I heard it called "midsummer madness," but that was not their name for it. Things must have been bad, because one of the worthy brethren composed an ode! I'm glad he has forgotten it, or the Editor may have forgotten himself and jumped on *me*.

A "brighter D.I.K." movement is afoot in readiness for the coming season. C.S.M. Edwards is president of the entertainments committee, and from what I hear he is arranging for dances, concerts, and the other items that are going to set D.I.K. humming. Five people gather nightly to make the noises which jazz enthusiasts welcome, and everything seems to be going o.k. at present.

Sport.—Sports are greatly in evidence. Almost every evening is given over to hockey. Occasionally we are offered the chance of a football match, and then hockey has to occupy a back seat, because so few chances come our way.

ZERO.

Razmak, August 19th.

Here we are again! Things have been rather quiet here lately, although excitement reigned whilst the hockey cup was waiting for its new owners, and the Gunners provoked loud groans from the Signal lines by bombarding the hills one Sunday afternoon. Barring little incidents like these, however, we have jogged along in humdrum fashion.

We welcome the arrival of Lieut F. I. N. McOstrich and Sergt T. Giles, D.C.M. They are smiting the visual operators hip and thigh with advanced theories of map-reading and electricity respectively, but we hope their sojourn with us will be long and happy.

A lot of us are seriously thinking of becoming gardeners in civvy life, owing to the success of our various allotments. They are a riot of bloom(?) There was a cherished but unspoken thought dwelling in the heart of a certain signalman, viz., to see a basket-ball pitch made between the bungalows. This, however, was doomed by the order to make a garden, and a weird and awesome lot of blooms now stand where the pitch should have been.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of Sergt J. Moutrey on the 29th May.

Promotion.—We tender our congratulations to Corpl D. Copp on attaining that rank.

10th Brigade Signal Section.

Manzai, Waziristan.

We must apologise for the months (or is it years?) that we have been absent from these pages. We have not been asleep—far from it; but the fact is that, until recently, very little of interest has occurred.

Until June 5th of this year we maintained land line communication with other stations in Waziristan, and our operators (with their three-speed pencils) endeavoured to keep the lines

near melting-point. On that date, however, it was decided to close the land line and allow the W/T to warm the air; but owing to the fact that Waziristan holds the sole agency for the distribution of *strong* atmospherics (their strength can be imagined by the fact that "atmo's" are said to have been heard in England), the land line was re-opened on August 27th, and is now worked as an emergency circuit by W/T operators.

July 9th was a memorable occasion in the history of Manzai, in that on that date a small reservoir was given over to the use of B.O.s and B.O.R.s as a swimming bath. Although not large (25 ft. square and 6 ft. deep), the chance to use it was literally jumped at, and long-forgotten bathing costumes were joyfully brought to light. Men hoping to be repatriated this season are practising, with the idea that they may beat Channel-swimming records (if the boat sinks).

Other long-felt wants have recently been filled by the presentation of a good portable gramophone with a supply of records, and a library of good sound literature.

The only changes in the personnel of this Section, with the exception of six who went home last season, are that Signalmen Colson and Allen forsook us about three months ago and transferred to the Tochi and Khaisora area, as they wanted to see what a cinema looked like. Some of our number, when discharged, anticipate making their fortunes in Australia. We wish them luck.

During the hottest period of this summer we were only three degrees behind the temperature of Tank (nine miles distant), which made the record temperature in the all-India contest this year.

G. W. B.

Signals, Tochi and Khaisora Area.

Bannu, September 15th.

Technical Training.—The last three months have been spent very pleasantly by a large percentage of this sector in obtaining higher ratings, under the auspices of Major Montgomery, in that Mecca to which all troops on the Plains cast longing eyes—Upper Topa. Everyone who attended the courses seems highly pleased with the results, and as they mostly obtained B.ii or C.ii ratings, I thing they have good cause.

Arrivals.—We welcome the undermentioned back from their three months' sojourn in the hills: Corpl Willingale, L/Corpl Ferdinando, Signalmen Fowler, Jordan, Richardson, Shipley, S. Chambers, Court, W. G. Chambers, and Fisher.

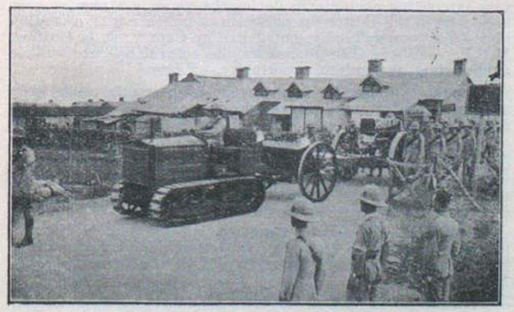
Departures.—We speed the undermentioned on their way to Razmak, with the hope that they will not "do" too many columns: Signalmen Court, Richardson and Fisher.

CRANK.

F Divisional Signals.

Kohat.

General.—There is little news to record this month. Malaria has claimed its usual roll of victims, causing depleted staffs and teams for hockey and football. Dog licks and bites also have claimed a number of victims, the latest being Capt F. J. Matthews, who hurried through from Parachinar for anti-rabic



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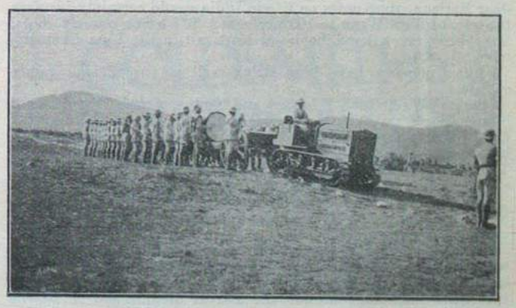
treatment. The leave season is practically over, and chilly nights have arrived.

The Commandant, Major R. H. Rayner, and Lieut R. W. Morgan, have both returned from Kashmir. The latter, we hear, spent some time out in the blue on "shikar"—with what luck we do not know at the moment.

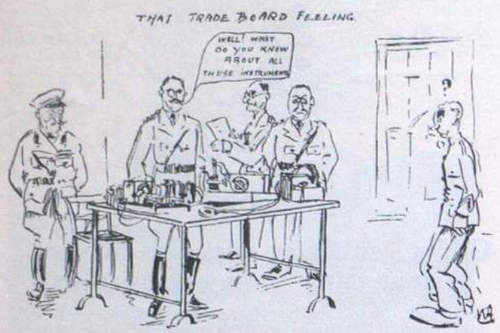
With this issue we publish two photographs of the funeral of the late Sigmn T. Boyle, who died at Razmak on August 9th. These were unavoidably held over from our last notes.

Capt B. D. Willoughby has left us for the long course at the Equitation School, Sauger, and we hear he will not be returning to us but is to rejoin his regiment, the 14th Prince of Wales' Own Scinde Horse. If this be true, then it is with great regret that we bid him farewell and all luck in the future.

The much-discussed and looked-forward-to Trade Testing Board is now a thing of the past. The results have not yet been confirmed, but we understand that the whole of our twenty-two candidates have passed. Briefly, the following were raised



to higher rates: To Group iii., 5; to Group ii., 14; to Group i., 3. Our artist gives his impression of how he felt.



Our Parachinar detachment returns to Kohat at the end of October by mechanical transport and rail (I suppose we shall hear all about sore feet on their arrival). On the 28th inst., Kohat is to be visited by H.E. the Viceroy and Lady Irwin.

The band, under the presidency of Major Rayner and the leadership of L/Corpl Cox, are already in practice for a heavy winter programme of engagements. The addition of two saxophones, plus some hard work during the summer, has developed the sectette into a first class band.

Congratulations to Lieut J. O. Steabben on passing a recent promotion examination.

Last week six candidates presented themselves at the 1st class education examination, and two special candidates. They are all hopeful!—having had some, may their hopes be realised (I quite understand, Jimmy)—or, better luck next time.

No. 1 (Line) Company B Corps Signals.

Rawalpindi, October 25th.

It is with regret that I start my notes this month with a small grouse, but it cannot be helped. The sales of THE WIRE for the last few months have been very low, the reason being their late arrival. Private copies are arriving by the third mail pretty regularly, but the copies for sale are not received until three weeks later. It is hoped that this will be altered, and the sales go up again. [The delay in delivery of parcels is unavoidable owing to the postal arrangements. The difficulty can be obviated, however, by everyone becoming a *subscriber*, and so getting his copy direct by book post.—*Editor.*]

According to reports of n.c.o.s and men returning from leave in U.K., the axe has fallen at home with a vengeance, and is still on the move. One or two names mentioned gave one quite a shock. I am afraid to mention them, but they were all exboys. They are all assured of a hearty welcome. By the time these notes are in print, strange faces will have appeared, as the first draft has arrived at Jubbulpore.

It is a great pleasure to read "Plain Tales," by Barleux; but one is wondering if the axe will find its way to Bulford. My dear Barleux, your notes on life in India would certainly increase the sale of THE WIRE to 100 per cent. It's a fine country, Bob! Everybody has a bank book—at least, all in the Line Company have.

The Company have been doing well at the various games of late.

Sergts Wainscott, Wheeler and Judge, Corpl Watson, and Sigmn Lewis have returned from Blighty leave, all looking very fit—"Tich" in particular looking like a retired publican or a bookmaker. Congratulations to Sergt Judge on his marriage. That's the worst of these leaves. Several have left us for home, either on leave or discharge.

Things are rather quiet as regards the O.C.A., but it is hoped that in a few days the secretary and committee will be getting a move on.

In a recent copy of THE WIRE, the name of Mr. Sinclair Smith was mentioned as having assisted at a concert held by Signals in Egypt. L/Sergt Ketteringham of this unit wishes to know if this gentleman was late of the Border Regt.; and if so, he would like his address, as he is a very old friend. POP.

No. 2 (W/T) Company, B Corps Signals.

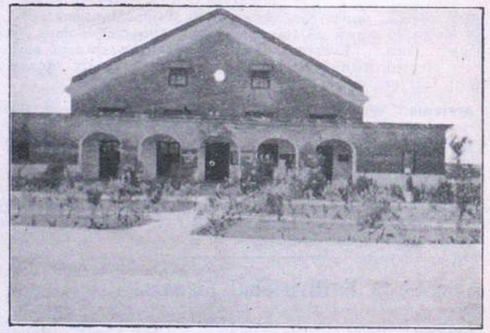
Rawalpindi.

The absence of notes during the past few months is regretted. It is not through want of keenness that we have fallen off, but owing to unforeseen circumstances preventing any opportunity of collecting items of interest. Now that the hill season is over, it is possible that our resolve to send notes regularly will be adhered to in the future.

General.—The Company is resuming its old appearance now that the Blighty leave party have returned, and also the Sections which served with the Chitral Relief Column; but it will not be for long, as a number of n.c.o.s and men are leaving us during this trooping season for home, either for discharge or to the home establishment. Our best wishes will go with them, and we sincerely hope that those due for discharge will be fortunate enough to find employment.

For those going on the home establishment (lucky chaps!) we hope they may benefit by the bracing air of the Yorkshire moors or the military air of Aldershot. Of course, there *are* stations at home as cushy as any in India, and they may be fortunate enough to find them. In any case there is truth in the old saying, "East, west, home's best"; so after all, it is immaterial where one is placed, so long as one gets *there*.

A word must be said about our garden and traffic scheme in front of the Company office. Firstly, the traffic scheme is not so elaborate as the one in Piccadilly Circus, but it's quite a good idea. Secondly, the garden is well laid out, though an improvement could be effected by putting a statue of Eros or Jimmy in the centre. Within two or three years' time, the Company office will be hidden within a maze of palms and trees, and constant enquiries will be made as to where No. 2 Wireless Company office is. A phtograph is given of its present appearance.



The Company Office and Garden.

Chitral Relief Column.—A party from this Company was sent out with the Chitral Column, and Sergt Philpott took some very interesting photographs during the march. A number have been sent to the Editor for publication, together with a description of the journey kindly contributed by Capt F. R. L. Goadby, M.B.E., who was O.C. Signals of the column. [These will be published at the earliest opportunity.—*Editor.*]

Sports.—Changes have been made in the sports committees, and these appear to be for the good of sport in general. Arrangements of games, etc., have greatly improved.

Congratulations.—To Sergts Browne and Saul on their recent family additions. Little Jim and Jack are both doing well. To L/Corpls Stapleton and Benton on their recent step to paid rank; and also to the n.c.o.s and men of the B.ii. Course who successfully qualified for their B.ii. rating.

Enquiries.—Will Sigmn Langham, last heard of in Karachi, please write to Sigmn Mullinder (ex-Gunner R.A.)? Sigmn Organ would like to hear from Sigmn Sayers, of the Bermuda Signal Section.

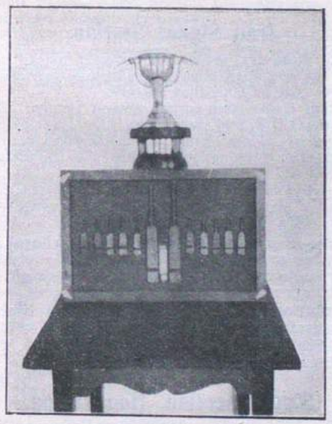
Fishing.—Two of our expert "fishermen," Sergts Cornish and Charlton, went fishing the other day in the Sohan river. The result of a whole day's toil was a catch of three small fish weighing about 2 ozs. each, and a ducking in the river for Sergt Charlton, who was pulled over the bank by one of the three which he caught on his line! His powers of endurance overcame those of the fish, and he succeeded in reaching the bank intact with line *and* fish. Not so bad as Sergt Dowie, who went out fishing and brought back two *rabbits!*

The Ride.—It is fine to see the riders of the "purple sage" trot forth from the stables at 6.45 a.m. to take up position on the parade ground for inspection before performing in the arena. A finer body of horsemen you couldn't wish to meet

Combined Signals Sergeants' Mess.

A most remarkable tennis at home was played the other day between the corporals and sergeants, and one game is worthy of mention, because it would have filled our noted Wimbledon players with envy had they been privileged to witness the remarkable display.

Sergt Dowie, being rather shorter than Sergt Charlton, was obliged to wear a "Trilby" to bring his height up to that of his partner. It so happened that a ball was volleyed from the opposing side to Sergt Dowie, but in his effort to reach it he fell flat on the court. Sergt Charlton made a valiant attempt to return the ball whence it came, but in so doing he managed to make a sandwich of his partner by falling full length on top of him!



The "Ashes."—A challenge was sent out to the R.A. sergeants' mess to meet the Signal sergeants' mess in a game of cricket for the "ashes." This was accepted, and after a very exciting match the Signals won. Incidentally the "ashes" comprised a very fine cup of solid silver (?) and a set of miniature cricket gear of real (unpolished) walnut. The photograph will give a good idea of the trophy.

A. F. L.

B Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, October 18th.

General.—The weather is really pleasant now, and we have been able to move into our cold season quarters. The hours of inactivity are slipping away, and the busy training period awaits us. There are also other matters inviting our attention. We hope to do much in the field of sport; of late, owing to the heat and absence of players, we have been very silent. Then there is the usual round of outside amusements. The dances, whist drives and cinema shows promise to be better than ever this season.

In a recent issue the question of accommodation was discussed, and it was mentioned that we had no recreation room. Now, thanks to the efforts of the commanding officer, we have been given a bungalow similar to those in which we live. This is to be fitted and furnished as a lecture and reading room. We wonder if that billiard table will be the corollary of this gift.

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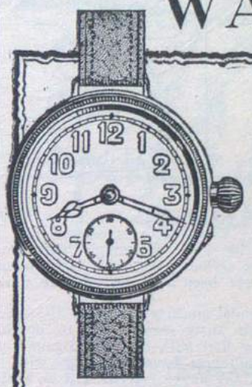

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One of our most valuable possessions is the Troop library, which is growing each day. Every taste is catered for; the works of popular fiction authors are charmingly mixed with up-to-date volumes of a more serious nature. A large number of the latest publications have been sent for and are due to arrive any day.

Last week we fired our annual musketry course. The results were exceptionally good, only three men failing to obtain a "first." L/Sergt Petens came first with 100, and Sigmn Caton second with 97. Several good shots have yet to fire with the casuals, but we do not think the above records will be beaten. Of course, there is that man from Baluchistan (why do you sigh, Polly?)

During the past few weeks we have felt rather joyful, for the whisper flew from lip to lip that our sleep would be disturbed no more. The "Flying Panther" was off the road for ever. As we have remarked, we were joyful. And now all is changed. The Q Branch clerk has got a motor bike—a rattling good bike. He says he obtained it from a native who had won it in a raffle. We believe him. The horrible thing was built to keep the raffle merchants employed. Dear, departed "Panther," if only we could have you back instead!

The strike epidemic is spreading. The other day our cooks made an experiment in this direction, and the table boy only remained loyal because we owed him three weeks' money. Did we go hungry, you ask? Rather not! A member of the Wireless cooked our dinner. Never had we tasted dinner like this. People are beginning to ask if there is anything these men cannot do.

The occupants of the Wireless bungalow had an unpleasant experience a few nights ago. Their dreams were shattered by an unearthly noise, followed by a clanking of chains. We hate to spoil a perfectly good ghost story by explaining that it was only Moseboy, the Section spaniel.

The old rumour about the W/T Section having motor cars in place of horses is again prevalent. This time there is more foundation for it, and it is just possible that the limitations of the present system have been realised.

We are all wondering if the person who signed for a "curried comb" had been reading Mrs. Beeton.

Signals Association.—A general meeting was held last Sunday, and the cold weather programme outlined. It was decided that a Signals dance should be held on or about November 10th, and also that an outing to Jammu should be organised as the first of a series of such entertainments. Preparations are being made for these events, and it is to be hoped they will be successful. The membership percentage is now higher, and we anticipate a "possible."

Departures.—Sergt S. Parsons, on six months' leave ex-India, Signalmen Ennever, Gibson, Bessant, Poole and Crutchfield, to the U.K. on transfer to the Army Reserve. F/Corpl Heath to No. 1 Line Company, Rawalpindi.

B. O. M.

Iraq Signal Section.

General.—Musketry is in full swing prior to the annual course, and the optimistic element are looking forward to marksman honours. Let us hope they succeed.

The Section Cable team turned out on October 12th for inspection by the G.O.C. and staff. The G.O.C. was highly pleased with their quick and neat work, which included the crossing of the Dialah river: a very wet job perhaps, but the praise received was well worth it.

We have entered a team (one n.c.o. and three B.O.R.s) in the Baghdad Horse Show which takes place next week, and hope to boast of a 1st in next month's issue.

Departure.—Sigmn A. Denten to U.K. and Royal Engineers. Our best wishes go with him. It is interesting to note that in his two years' sojourn here, he annexed the fly-weight championship once and six cups for special contests.

Congratulations to Sergts Freemantle and Nash on their recent marriage, from all old key thumping friends of this Section.

Agony.—Sigmn Deradour would like to know the present address of Sigmn Lapper, late Bulford Signals.

IRAKSIGS.

Signal Section, Hong Kong.

Wellington Barracks, Oct. 11th.

General.—Before these notes appear in print we will have said good-bye to L/Corpl McBride and Signalmen Hassell, Holliday, Romain and Willey. L/Corpl McBride has done well in the sports line during his four years in the Colony, and we hope he will carry on in collecting pots with his cue. Keep going, Mac!

We have had two typhoon scares during the last fortnight, the first one when No. 7 went up. Fortunately it missed Hong Kong, causing only slight damage, but 2000 deaths were reported from the Chinese fishing fleet around the Colony. As usual, Stonecutters cable "went west." As these notes are being written, No. 2 is up, and everybody is sitting tight. Old Hong-Kongites will sympathise with us, especially "Auld Peter."

Tit-Bits.—Signalmen Purcell and White were victorious in the first round of the Garrison doubles tennis tournament. The football season has commenced, and the Kowloon F.C. have found a dark horse in Sigmn Durand as goal-keeper. Q.M.S. Roberts is a welcome addition to the local Radio Society—his knowledge of things wireless being sound and helpful. Capt Bridgland, Q.M.S. Roberts, and Signalmen Durand and Holliday are the Signals representatives in the R.E. cricket team. There are not many of us in Hong Kong, but we manage to get in and keep the Corps' reputation up.

Billiards.—The Taikoo Dockyard Club were at home to a few Canteenites on Saturday last, when a match was played—the inebriates (that's us) being the winners. The usual refreshments were supplied during and after the match, one member enjoying himself so much that he refused to go home until he heard the bagpipes.

Signals Association.—At a meeting held on September 15th the following officers were elected for the year 1926-27: Hon. president and treasurer, Capt Bridgland; hon. secretary, Sigmn Durand; committee, Corpl Bowler, L/Corpl Harris, and Sigmn Chopping. The Association proposes to hold its first annual dinner on Saturday, October 23rd. More about this later.

JOINT BOX.

North China Signal Section (Peking Detachment)

British Legation Guard.

Our annual musketry course, fired on the International ranges, resulted in some shooting which caused the infantry to sit up and take notice. Betting had been brisk as to the number of Chinese who would be hit behind the stop-butts, and when the register showed we had three 1sts and a very good 2nd the smile on the face of the tiger (in this case represented by "Jimmy") was very evident. By the way, how did our friends at Tientsin manage to scrounge out of firing a course? A little early morning muscle exercise would have done them a world of good after the nightly round in Taku Road.

North China has assumed the dignity of a separate Command, and Colonel-Commandant R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., has arrived as O.C. Troops.

Several parties of sailors from H.M. ships and submarines at Wei-Hai-Wei spent a few days' leave in Peking and set the city alight. It may be only a coincidence, but since the "matelots" left, beer has been almost unobtainable.

The Departmental tennis club held another doubles tournament on Wednesday, September 15th, and once more Sigmn Taylor was in the winning pair. This sort of thing is becoming a habit, Trish, and must be stopped before it really gets hold of you.

Congratulations to "Bogie" Rogers on his second stripe. But why has he been dubbed "the horse dentist"? We always thought his acquaintance with long-faced friends was confined to a through ticket in the Peking Club sweep, or three buck's worth of pari-mutuel.

The inspection of the Legation Guard by Col.-Commandant R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., on assuming command in North China, passed off very satisfactorily, and once more we can pat ourselves on the back as a result of the nice things said about us. Col. Heath has already allotted to our Tientsin friends new Signal office accommodation, and we take this as an earnest of an active interest in our work and welfare.

Work has been pretty brisk lately on account of the situation on the Yangtse. Everything points to a stiff time in the near future, as the combined Kuominchun and Cantonese forces are undoubtedly going to make a big bid for supremacy in the north. Should they succeed in approaching the capital, we'll have to get down to it with a vengeance.

Hats off to the senior Service for showing John Chinaman that the lion's tail can be twisted a little too far. That Wanshien business was an affair after the Navy's own heart.

A sudden drop in temperature has heralded the approach of winter, and fur clothing, skates, etc., are being dug out from temporary retirement.

Personal.—Sergt H. Smith, of Tientsin, wishes to be remembered to C.Q.M.S. Patrick of C Company, Depot Battalion, S.T.C.

Yes, ye F Company scribe, cricket has certainly been "no can do." We have only had one game on a pitch which is to the Lake Ground as the latter is to Lord's: hence the tennis.

To the Corps, individually and collectively, our best wishes for Christmas and 1927. May one or two of those Army pots on loan to other units return to add a little brightness to the dark days at Catterick.

PEICHING.

The Corps in Egypt.

Headquarters B.T.E., Cairo, Nov. 6th.

Training.—The collective training season has now commenced, and that means we are going to have a very busy time on schemes, etc. The first of three Signal schemes was held on Wednesday, November 3rd, under the direction of the Chief Signal Officer.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—General Sir Richard C. B. Haking, G.O.C., inspected the two Companies on October 27th, and was

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well pleased with everything. There was no parade, the personnel remaining at their work whilst the General inspected the shops and barrack-rooms, etc.

Entertainments.—The "Morse-Key-Toes" concert party rang up the curtain for the first time this season when they journeyed to Helmieh on October 27th. The audience comprised the 5th Pack Brigade and 15/19th Hussars, and the evening proved a great success. Now then, Mr. Producer, what about fixing up the canteen stage? We're simply bursting to throw flowers at the "leading lady."

Drafts.—By the time these notes appear we shall have welcomed the draft from England, and also said farewell to a number of old hands who are due to return to Blighty either for civvy street or the home establishment. There are one or two who seem very anxious to get aboard the big boat, but I am sure they will feel a little downhearted when the time comes for handshakes. Among this number are two old "Contemptibles" in "Widge" and "Snowy." They came out together some few "tomato" seasons back, and they are now going home together. You know the old ditty: "We don't want to lose you, but we think it's time you went!"

Cook's Courses.—These courses have now commenced, and there is a marked improvement not only in the food but in the general messing arrangements. Plates are now kept in the mess room and are washed by the mess orderlies, so that you consume your dinner and then leave the table in the orthodox manner. A certain signalman, on leaving the table, remarked, "Just like going into Lyons, isn't it?" but it was noticed he hadn't left a small coin under the plate for the "waitress."

Heard in Corporals' Mess.—1st Corporal, surveying new furniture: "Why! this is just like home, isn't it?" 2nd Corporal, apparently lovesick: "What is home without a woman?" 1st Corporal, presumably from experience: "Peace, perfect peace."

Stop Press.—One of our D.R.'s was lost on the desert for roughly 36 hours, but after turning out the British troops in Egypt, including aeroplanes, he was found lying quietly in the sand.

BEN.

Sergeants' Mess.—This month has proved far more interesting (from the social view) than any yet spent in our new home. The mess has decided to treat itself to a day at Moascar on Monday, November 1st, when the Royal Signals meet the R.E.s in the first round of the Roberts-Hughes cup; but *that* is a different tale, and will be related in the notes of next month.

Heard in the Mess.—1st member: "What's the terrible noise outside?" 2nd member: "Oh! it's the 'Faughs.' One has fallen down and the remainder of his clansmen are 'scoffing him.'"

R.E. O.C.A.—A goodly number of mess members attended the re-union dinner of the local R.E. O.C.A., held at Celestino's on October 6th, and after spending a very enjoyable evening, returned to the fold like giants refreshed, bent on having as many socials as possible in connection with our own mess.

Whist Drive and Dance.—At very short notice a successful whist drive and dance was held on Saturday, October 23rd. Sticking to the slogan, "Support home industries," our local jazz band was engaged—and a very enthusiastic band it proved to be.

Billiards (and defeat).—Wednesday, October 27th, will be remembered as the night on which we suffered the most enjoyable defeat ever experienced—at the hands of our officers. Col. H. L. Mackworth, C.M.G., D.S.O. (C.S.O.), Major G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C. (O.C. No. 3 Company), Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O. (O.C. No. 1 Company), Lieut R. G. L. Giblin, and Lieut P. H. Owens, honoured us with their presence as the officers' team.

Space will not permit describing every game, although each one deserves it, as the play was excellent and in almost every case "ding dong." We sincerely congratulate the officers on their well-deserved victory, and hope that at a convenient date we shall have another game, but ending differently—the losers being the winners next time. That would mean a "deciding match." The scores were:

Col. H. L. Mackworth 100; Major G. E. Sampson 100; Major G. G. Rawson 100; Lieut R. G. L. Giblin 70; Lieut P. H. Owens 75—Total 445.

L/Sergt Wheeler 94; Sergt Linder 37; Sergt Yates 71; L/Sgt Brett 100; Sergt Dorrington 100—Total 402.

As the billiards did not take up the full time anticipated, we had a short sharp game of "tip it." The officers were not quite up to form, which may be because they were "sold" by C.S.M. Jeffreys and C.Q.M.S. Shaw, who assisted them; but we think not, and so can congratulate ourselves upon winning this event.

W. M.

Corporals' Mess.—On Saturday, October 30th, a very successful "mess warmer" was held in the form of a smoking concert, to which all corporals of the British Troops in Egypt were invited. Owing to the mess being small, the committee had very tastefully decorated a barrack room for the occasion.

Some doubt exists as to the exact time the festivities actually started or ended, owing to the difficulty of timing "tasters" and "liveners"; but sufficient to say order was called about 8.30 for the first song (suitably rendered by Corpl Sopp, R.T.C.).

A little difficulty was experienced at first in persuading talent to come forward, but we knew "the stuff to give 'em," and in a very short time the supply exceeded the demand.

The following turns are worthy of special mention: A disappearing trick worthy of Maskelyn and Devant, by two officers of the Corps. Peter's. . . (but don't ask him again; he has sworn, "Never no more.")

"Topper" Brown and "Meat" Soloman were regrettably unable to oblige with their world-famous duet "Sweethearts," owing to their having been overcome by fumes when cutting up the N.A.A.F.I. cheese. A certain celebrity "as a sheik" was a washout—he even was lost on the desert for a start. If this requires verification ask Widge. It is pleasing to add that these little fallings from grace were successfully smothered in the "Stage Struck Rush."

A word of praise is due to the entertainments committee and their voluntary assistants, who worked so hard and successfully on this memorable occasion.

Agony.—L/Corpl Dunn would like to hear from D. A. Ellison (the Hindu).

THE BISHOP.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

The Football Pitch is now completed (no sarcastic comments, please!) As a fitting celebration a glorious bonfire was arranged, and a goodly number of bacon flitches were sacrificed as burnt offerings. I understand on good authority that these were the Dunmow flitches, the accumulation of years—no one in Egypt having won one. (The troops turned Mohammedan for the remainder of the week.)

Tennis Court.—Sergt Donaghy is seen no more on the tennis courts. His labours of love have been appreciated, and shortly the dear Peter will get cracking.

All's Well.—The G.O.C. visited us recently, and having found favour in everything he saw, departed on his way rejoicing. The usual items associated with inspections were in evidence. We wonder why so many people have stiff necks afterwards!

Band Contests have been arranged, and daily one can hear the sweet strains of a desert waltz tune issuing from the Gyppo barracks. The Irish pipes do their best, but the jazz band of No. 5 Hut has them beaten to a frazzle. Two gramophones and the concert party rehearsing just about put the tin hat on the peace of the camp. New drafts are hereby warned that the penalty for bringing any musical instrument into the country is death—cold and blinkin' 'orrible.

The Mossies.—A most successful show was given at Helmieh by the Mossies. It was the first of the season. Old Mossies, note: the late costume has been discarded, and the party look quite Co-Optimistic in purple and fine raiment. Eagerly they await new talent and music. The party send their greetings to Sergt Minns, thanking him for the music he so kindly sent.

The Corporals' Mess held a mess warming recently, and it was just wonderful. Everyone knelt at the shrine of Bacchus, and although a trifle jolly, they remained gentlemen. An excellent impromptu concert was held. Both M.C.s conducted the show with propriety and sobriety.

Phraseology.—A new phrase has been born in Egypt, to wit, "Wotcher rekkon." The answer to this is "Sportsman." Anyone original may try "Sailors." Owing to the danger of these words becoming slightly threadbare, we invite tenders for the coining of a new set. The lowest tender may be accepted, but *do* try and be original!

WIRELESS CAMERA CLUB.

An interesting afternoon was spent by fourteen members of the Club in visiting the Government wireless station at Abu Zabal, near Cairo. This station is the first and only link in the much discussed Imperial chain. It will be remembered that the idea of erecting further stations in India and Australia was abandoned when the Government changed not long ago.

Those members who expected to see a glittering array of apparatus were in a way disappointed. The main transmitter is of the arc type, but a newly-installed short-wave transmitter handles most of the traffic to G.B.L.

It was interesting to note that the short-wave set, working on approximately 46 metres and radiating 3 amps, gets through to England R9, whereas the long-wave arc, with 250 amps. in the aerial, gets through R5 at this time of the year and often not at all.

After taking photos of the apparatus we were entertained to tea by the station staff. The majority of the operators had Service experience, and an enjoyable time was spent afterwards in swapping yarns and indulging in other forms of recreation which need no description here.

We missed the train on which we were due to return through taking twenty minutes to ford a canal about fifteen yards wide. This was due to the awkwardness of the ferry.

W. E. C.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.

Polygon Barracks, Cairo, Oct. 31st.

Among some of the most important occurrences that have taken place recently, are the G.O.C.'s inspection, a kit inspection, and aeroplane trips; and to the persons concerned, I think the aeroplane trips were by far the most popular. Somehow, one never quite looks forward to a kit inspection. I know the Quartermaster's storeman doesn't; it's the only time he really feels he's earning his pay, during the eleventh-hour rush of would-be patrons.

The kit inspection went off alright on the 23rd, and the monotonous "one on, one here, and one in the wash" is stilled for ever, or rather till the next time.

What a mysterious place "the wash" is. It should be classed among the great games of chance, as the wash is certainly a gamble. You do up a bundle of towels, socks, shirts and other somethings "soft and clinging," common to soldiers, write your name and number on a piece of paper and enclose it with the above-mentioned articles. It is then collected and taken to the place of mystery—the wash. One then has a sweat on until the washing returns, and a search is hurriedly made to see if you have won anything. Sometimes three socks return when you only sent two; that counts as a win. Sometimes you only get one back, or worse—none; that counts as a dead loss. Perhaps you may get two shirts when you only sent one, and perhaps you may not. Some lucky individuals even get back the paper on which they wrote a list of the articles sent, this also having been washed and ironed, and no extra charge made, either!

The G.O.C.'s inspection took place on October 28th, and everything went off alright, the General expressing satisfaction with all he saw.

Sigmn A. Healey has now left us, being prematurely transferred to the Army Reserve on October 23rd, to take up civilian employment in this country. We wish him the best of good luck.

I mentioned in my last month's notes the aeroplane trips which a large number of the Company have been enjoying in the machines of the R.A.F. at Heliopolis. On one occasion, about the middle of last month, a party of eighteen went up together in the same machine, one of the new pattern troop carriers, and were taken over Cairo and the Nile at a height of 5000 feet, and out as far as the Great Pyramids at Mena. Some of the party obtained splendid photographs of the pyramids from the air, the early morning atmosphere being wonderfully clear.

I have been asked not to divulge the name of the junior n.c.o. who was so delighted (?) with the trip and the sensations appertaining thereto, that he has had an application in every day since for further trips. (Who said "Yimkin"?) At the time of the flight, when the sensation of leaving one's stomach behind was being experienced, he looked positively delighted, and we had a hard job to restrain him from requesting the pilot of the machine to "do it again." Even when the machine landed, he wasn't in a hurry to leave. Oh, no! he wanted to stop and go up again. As I have already mentioned, I have been asked not to give his name, but I believe he comes from a well-known South Coast resort *not* more than twenty miles away from where the old Signal Training Centre used to be in 1924.

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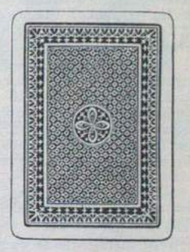


Still on the subject of aeroplane trips. A few days after the party mentioned above went up, a further party, mostly drawn from the Signal Troop, went to Heliopolis for a flight. The party included a far-famed orator with a penchant for getting the "last one in." In fact, he was chattering that much that the pilot of the machine requested him to use a "silencer," as the engine couldn't get a word in edgeways. Of course, once the engine got really going, it won easily—the individual concerned being right out of it; though, to give him his due, it was several seconds before he finally resigned to the inevitable.

Whilst at the Signal Training Centre, Maresfield, one often heard remarks passed on the great number of cats to be seen about the camp. In this camp it is dogs. Dogs are everywhere, except in their proper place—in sausages (no offence, sergeant!)

One recent acquisition is an Irish wolfhound, now on the strength of Headquarter Section; and though it is only a pup, it is by far the largest dog in the camp. In fact, I very much doubt that if the rest of the dogs were collected and put together, they would make a decent meal for this latest arrival. I hope I have now conveyed to those who have never seen a dog, some idea of this one's size. Goodness knows what he'll be like when fully grown, and he is growing rapidly too! On one occasion he was put in a kennel for the night, and the next morning he pranced into a hut with the kennel serving as a helmet. This may be slightly exaggerated, but his appetite, when hungry, isn't.

I don't know if everything Irish likes early rising, but evidently this dog does. Every morning, about an hour or so before reveille sounds, he prances in the hut to pull the blankets off his beloved master. The worst of it is, he has a very bad memory, and usually pulls the blankets off every bed but the right one. It's no joke, I can assure you, to be awakened in the wee small hours by having a big tongue washing your face for you. I've heard it said that in India one gets shaved whilst sleeping. I think we can go one better by being washed in our sleep, though most of us would prefer to wait until after reveille.

Answers to Correspondents.—Samuel.—I believe the gentleman you mention, who mislaid his false teeth when going to tea one day, and eventually found them biting him in the small of his back, is still in the Section you quoted.

Winkle.—I am afraid I do not know the name of the individual who laid his kit out for inspection on his bed in the evening, and then slept on the floor for the night. Probably he'd been out in the sun too long the day before.

"A" Corps Signals M.T.s.—Herewith further performances of Geordie in the athletic world. He wishes me to say that he's going strong—evidently too strong, judging by some of the results shown below.

Cross-country run.—Directly after the start, he made such a dust owing to the tremendous speed at which he was travelling that the other competitors got blinded and retired, the race being abandoned. *Football.*—With the first kick in his first game, he sent the ball so high that it hadn't come down by the time the final whistle blew. *Rugby.*—He was in his element in his first game, and the ambulance was working overtime for the opposing team's players: deficiency of ears being the general complaint. Geordie was a sight for gods and men and little fishes, and long before the first half was up he had rid the field of the opposing team. Even his own side admit that they moved in fear and trembling in case Geordie might become short-sighted.

Billiards.—We have only two tables, and probably the cloth *was* in a poor state, for Geordie ripped both from end to end with his first stroke on each table. *Tennis.*—He played his first game in a doubles match. A strong backhand drive laid his partner out, whilst the ball, after catching one of his opponents in the region of the breadbasket and rendering him incapable of further action, rebounded and laid out the remaining player, Geordie leaving the courts in triumph.

Hockey.—Up to now he has not played. He was chosen for a game, but as soon as he appeared on the field with a hockey stick in his hands, both teams immediately left the field (the opposing side at the double!) Evidently they had heard of his prowess at other sports. If he should participate in a game during the coming month, I will give a list of the casualties in the next issue of this journal.

ART.

Bermuda Command Signal Section.

Prospect, Bermuda, Nov. 1st.

Last month was so uneventful that we could not find sufficient material to make up notes. This month there is quite a different tale: we could fill THE WIRE if necessary.

Departures.—On October 11th, Signalmen Newlyn and Birch left us for U.K. per s.s. "Oriana." We wish them the best of luck in their new stations. "'Tis far better to be born lucky than rich"—a saying with which they will no doubt agree, should they peruse the next chapter.

The Hurricane.—On the morning of October 22nd a hurricane struck the islands. A storm warning had been issued about 1 a.m.; rain and high winds commencing some time before reveille, gradually becoming worse. A hurricane warning was received at 10 a.m. (all concerned being warned by 10.17 a.m.). Then things became more interesting. More rain and wind from S.E. up to 68 m.p.h., followed by a lull lasting about an hour (during which "the bottom fell out of the recording barometer!") then the hurricane proper, which came in suddenly from N.W. and reached a speed of 125 to 130 m.p.h.

The Prospect Observatory collapsed, and instruments stopped recording the speed of wind at 114 m.p.h. Tests taken at H.Q. Exchange during the lull showed us with only two lines in contact; tests taken during the big blow showed only three lines intact. (This page of the station "fault book," on being presented to the n.c.o. i/c Lines next morning, rendered him inarticulate.) Things quietened down about 4.30 p.m. Much damage was done; houses collapsed, roofs were blown away, and trees uprooted, windows, shutters, slates, piping, etc., being strewn around everywhere. In Prospect a part of each barrack-room roof was blown away and much minor damage done.

We Work.—H.Q. Exchange having only three working lines, we were perforce closed down. Everyone was turned out on lines, and so well did they work that by 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoon all Headquarters offices were once more "through."

The "trunks" presented a more difficult problem. The Smiths Hill route (so well known to Sigmn Birch) was badly damaged by flying sheets of corrugated iron, four bays of twenty lines each being completely destroyed (brand-new route, too!). These were rebuilt and other faults cleared, so that communication with Civil Exchange, Hamilton, was established at 5.10 p.m. on Sunday (24th), and all three lines to Boaz area were "through" at 8.50 a.m. on Wednesday (27th).

Our longest "trunk," that to St. George's, suffered most; a pole down here, six or seven bays blown away there, an odd bay or two somewhere else, and contacts innumerable, being a condensed story of the damage. A cedar tree being hurled into a route by a wind of about 130 m.p.h. does not, we find, improve the "regulation." With the help, however, of about five miles of D.8 (twisted) cable, carefully hoarded for the past two years for this emergency, we had a pair "through" to St. George's Exchange at 11.50 a.m. on Friday (29th)—length of route, 12 miles.

Haversack rations and late dinners are now the order of the day, likewise two spring wagons mostly; one T.S.O. on duty and the I.R. functioning as night operator. We hope these arrangements will not continue for very long. The adventures of the Section at St. George's and the T.S.O. A/Lineman at Boaz, we hope to record next month. Old hands can imagine our plight.

Loss of H.M.S. "Valerian."—On the morning following the blow, we heard rumours to the effect that H.M.S. "Valerian" had foundered. These rumours were unfortunately correct, only nineteen being saved from a crew of 103. The "Valerian" (one of the two sloops on the station) was returning to Bermuda from the Bahamas, after a second relief trip to those islands, which suffered so badly from a hurricane last August.

A memorial service to those lost was held in the Cathedral, Hamilton, on Sunday, October 31st, and was attended by H.E. the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, the Admiral, members of the Council and Assembly, and detachments from the Navy, Army, B.V.R.C. and war veterans. To the relatives and friends of those lost in the disaster we extend our deepest sympathy.

We Play.—After a strenuous week, it was decided that we might have a little relaxation. We played the first league hockey match, and were beaten by B Company 2nd Green Howards by 12 to nil. Beaten! yes, but not disgraced. We had had no practice, and went straight from work to play the match.

Christmas Greetings.—The Section extends the old, old wish to all the Corps at home and abroad: A happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year. (We hope we shall have cleared up enough of the mess to enjoy our own!)

Conclusion.—Having much to do with lines these days, and consequently less to do with my own trade, I fear that I should not be called

THE PLUG JUGGLER.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, Nov. 8th.

General.—We have the pleasure of welcoming back our commanding officer, Capt Osborne Wil's, from leave to the U.K. Much to the regret of the Section it is learnt that his stay with us is practically over, our skipper, after a five years' sojourn on this island, shortly handing over to Capt G. R. Halliday. Our loss is another unit's gain, and it is the wish of everyone in the Section that they may again come under his command when their time comes to leave Malta.

In wishing our O.C. "bon voyage" and a happy stay with his new unit, we take the opportunity of welcoming our new C.O., and trust that Malta with all its many attractions may afford him satisfaction in every respect during his tour of duty.

By the time these notes are in the hands of the printer, two more of our number, Signalmen Lewes and Horton, will have left us, homeward bound for their discharge. Sa ha! and every wish for a sound footing in civvie street.

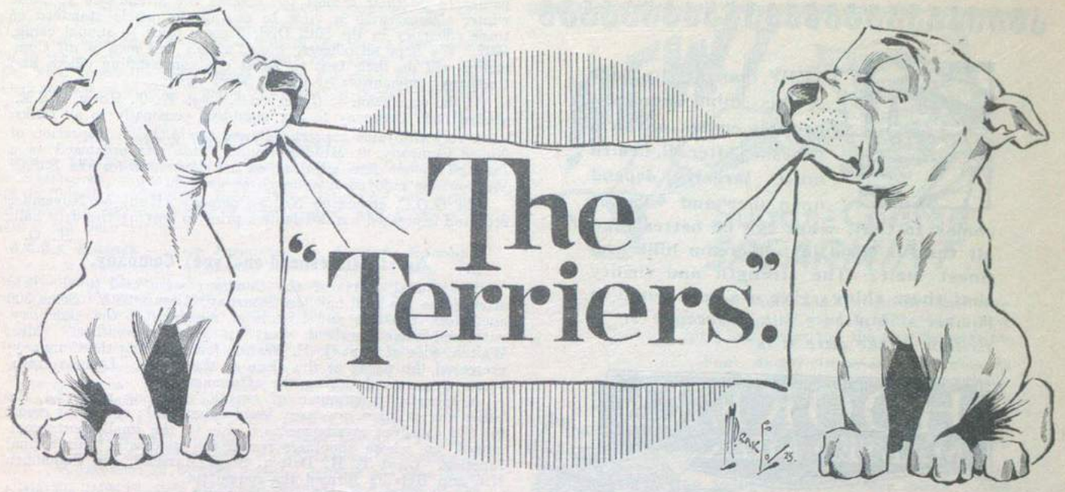
The following n.c.o.s have returned to the fold after various periods of leave: L/Sergt Bent, Corpl Davies, and L/Corpl Osborne. The former and latter were amongst the fortunate ones who accompanied the Mediterranean Fleet on its summer cruise. Needless to remark, full enjoyment was derived from this exceptional privilege.

Musketry.—The above has once more come round with results as follows: Four first, eight second, and two third class shots—an improvement by two points on last year's classification. Like Johnny Walker, we are still going strong!

Appointment.—Congratulations are proffered to L/Corporal H. Bevis upon ascending to the paid category.

"Mutt" proffers the esteemed "mitt" to Sigmn A. F. Harris (Hong Kong Signal Section) upon his receiving the "dog's leg."

ALGY.



42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Burlington Street, Manchester, Nov. 15th.

The unit stand at the "Manchester Evening Chronicle" wireless exhibition recently held at the Manchester City Hall, was one of the greatest attractions. With a view to securing recruits, special permission was granted to us to exhibit.

The stand represented a working Signal office in the field. On a grass-covered floor in front of a painted backcloth stood a cable wagon, and near it a telegraph tent and a motor cycle. Around these were a number of wireless sets, switchboards, and other instruments on which demonstrations were given. A Morse duplex circuit was working continuously between our stand and that of the *Evening Chronicle*. In addition we were in wireless communication with the 55th Divl. Signals in Liverpool each evening.

It was an extremely attractive show, and received good Press notices. Our permanent staff and others who helped to make it a success deserve great credit. The stand was visited by the Divisional Commander, who expressed his appreciation. The various demonstrations were much admired by the general public, especially ex-Service men, who were surprised at the great advances in Signals since the war.

About forty n.c.o.s and men paraded on Armistice Day and, headed by our commanding officer, marched past Admiral Stanley and the Cenotaph.

The unit football team holds a favourable position in the Chorlton and District League, having won four out of the seven games played up to the present.

We are all sorry to hear that C.S.M. Gowing is in hospital, suffering from appendicitis. He was successfully operated on last week, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, Exeter.

The officers' annual dinner took place at our H.Q. (Exeter) on Saturday, October 30th. A variety of reasons prevented a "full house." Unfortunately our Hon. Colonel (Col. H. T. G. Moore) was unable this year to take the journey, and Colonel Danielson, deputy C.S.O. Southern Command, was also unable to be present.

Col. R. G. Earle, C.S.O. Southern Command, Brig.-General the Hon. L. Buller, secretary of the Devon T.A.A., and Major Smyth-Osborne, 43rd (Wessex) Divl. Staff, were among the guests, and the function was as usual a very successful one—thanks to the efforts of the P.M.C.

No. 1 Company's annual dinner took place on Armistice Day, when an assembly numbering ninety sat around the festive board. The O.C. (Major J. W. Western) occupied the chair, and was supported by Lieut.-Col. W. G. Michelmore (O.C. Signals), Capt A. W. Roberts (adjutant), Capt R. C. A. Cummings, Capt H. D. G. Foord, and 2/Lieuts Lee and Holland.

The proceedings were of a most enthusiastic nature, even though a few home truths fell from the lips of the speakers. However, it is always well to try to see ourselves as others see us. The musical programme was a most entertaining one, and the committee under the leadership of Sergt G. H. Stoneman deserve pats on the back!

We were pleased to get such a cordial letter from the 3rd Signals, and we hope next year to welcome their representative among us.

Sigmn Ellis, now of the Royal Corps of Signals, joined the party, and many of his old friends were glad to see that he hadn't forgotten the school where he first got the Signals' atmosphere. A message of greeting also came from Sigmn Selby, who joined the Royal Corps a few months ago.

OLD SPARK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6.

Musketry.—On October 17th the Rifle Club proceeded to Rainham (Essex) ranges. There were two shoots—handicap and scratch. There were seven prizes in each, the winners being:

Handicap Shoot.—1st, L/Sergt P. Whalley; 2nd, Sergt J. Wallis; 3rd, Sergt J. Dell; 4th, Capt C. R. H. Firth; 5th, L/Corpl A. E. Morton; 6th, Sergt G. Forest; 7th, C.S.M. H. Jordan.

Scratch Shoot.—1st, C.S.M. H. Jordan; 2nd, Sergeant W. Walker; 3rd, Sergt J. Wallis; 4th, Capt C. R. H. Firth; 5th, L/Corpl A. E. Morton; 6th, Sergt G. Forest; 7th, L/Sergt P. Whalley.

General.—With the arrival of the "Mons" film at the local picture theatres, the services of the trumpeters were enlisted at the Globe Theatre, Acton, and the Pavilion, Shepherds Bush.

The management of the former invited members of the unit, who were given reserved seats for the occasion. Among those present were R.S.M. J. Lovell, C.Q.M.S. Allan, Sergts Horner and Wallis, and ex-Sigmn Honeysett—all "Mons" men.

At the Pavilion, Sergt Hillard with three trumpeters performed the necessary calls throughout the week, and were invariably complimented on their rendering of them.

The unit provided a Guard of Honour with trumpeter to sound the appropriate calls for each of the memorial services, held at St. Mary's Church and St. Saviour's Church, on the evening of November 7th, and carried out their duties with true military precision.

EVERY man at the back of his mind admires, possibly envies, physical fitness. After all, health must largely depend upon diet and when it comes to that, what can be better than all that is good in full-cream milk and finest malt? The strength and virility that these things give are best found in Hooker's Malted Milk. *Because it is British, make sure it is*

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Your Canteen is ready to serve it now. Drink it hot or cold. Buy it by the glass, in bottles or in tablet form.

Sergeants' Mess.—A dance was held during the month, but unfortunately inclement weather prevailed, and the attendance fell below expectations. Nevertheless, several sergeants came along to cheer things up. On these occasions we desire to see *all* mess members present. We were very pleased to see our old friend "Concussed" at the last mess meeting.

Social.—On Saturday, November 13th, a carnival dance was held at the drill hall. Considering the wretched weather conditions with which we had been blessed on two successive Saturdays, this function was fairly well patronised. However, we had the pleasure of the company of several of our officers, viz., Capt C. R. H. Firth, Capt R. E. Coleman, O.B.E., T.D., Lieut Macdonald, Lieut Thomas, and Lieut Boag.

ACKPIP.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters (Darlington)

Things have been very active lately—one might almost say "hectic"—but the storm now appears to have blown itself out—as the saying goes.

Really, the most important news affecting the unit is the change in the permanent staff (officers). Capt W. T. Howe, O.B.E., Royal Signals, having completed his tour of duty as adjutant, has now left us for the Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp. We need hardly say how sorry we are that he is no longer one of us; and we shall not forget all his hard work in building up the 50th Divl. Signals, and the great interest he always took in all our activities. We take this opportunity of wishing him the very best of luck for the future.

We now extend a very hearty welcome to his successor, Capt P. Jennings, M.C., Royal Signals, who arrived on November 1st from the Aldershot Command as our new adjutant.

A Signal exercise was held at Scarborough on October 23rd and 24th, under the commanding officer, with an exceptionally good attendance of officers. The chief item of interest was the commanding officer's desire to get more enthusiasm for winter classes. For Trade ratings, he requested O.C.'s Companies to do their utmost to increase the attendance at these winter classes, with a view to raising the whole standard of trade efficiency in the 50th Divl. Signals prior to annual camp, 1927. We hope all officers, w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men of *all* Companies will do their best to assist our commanding officer and Company commanders to achieve their desire.

At the conclusion of the exercise, Capt W. T. Howe, O.B.E., visited each Company to say good-bye personally to all ranks.

A very enjoyable concert followed the G.O.C.'s inspection of No. 2 Company at Middlesbrough. This was organised as a farewell to our late adjutant on his departure for the S.T.C. We hope he enjoyed it as much as we did.

The G.O.C. inspected No. 3 Company (Hull) on November 3rd, and expressed his satisfaction prior to leaving the drill hall.

H. Q.

No. 1 (Gateshead-on-Tyne) Company.

The annual sports of the Company were held in the field attached to the drill hall, on Saturday, August 28th. Some 300 spectators, relatives and friends of members of the Company, witnessed some excellent sport in glorious weather. Mrs. Walton, wife of Capt G. H. Walton (commanding the Company) presented the prizes at the close of the sports. Light refreshments were served during the afternoon.

A splendid programme of events, including races for the ladies and children, was very keenly contested; and great credit for the excellent arrangements is due to the small sports committee, on whose shoulders rested the success of this annual function. Lieut T. H. Dalton, Sergt Marshall, and Signalmen Hill and Herring formed the committee.

The open relay race of one mile proved a very keenly contested event, our own team eventually proving the winners. The same team had a week previously won the Royal Engineers open mile relay race. The members were: Signalmen Herring, R. G. Hull, Saddler and J. W. Smith.

Sigmn R. G. Hull won the silver cup for the best all-round sportsman, presented by Sergt G. Marshall.

A smoking concert was held in the sergeants' mess on the eve of the sports, and this also proved a great success. Sergt Marshall is to be congratulated on the excellent programme arranged.

We would like to place on record our appreciation of the excellent assistance given us by our late adjutant, Capt W. T. Howe, who has left us for the Signal Training Centre. We wish him the very best of luck in his new sphere. We extend a very hearty welcome to his successor, Capt P. Jennings, M.C., and trust his stay with us will be a very pleasant one.

A. C.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Departures.—Capt W. T. Howe left us on October 31st to join the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, on completion of his duty as adjutant of this unit. We all regret his departure, and wish him prosperity in the future.

Arrivals.—Capt P. Jennings, M.C., Royal Signals, arrived from A Corps Signals on October 26th, and took over the duties of adjutant from Capt W. T. Howe. We all extend to him a hearty welcome, and hope his stay with the unit will be a pleasant one.

Farewell Smoker.—We held a farewell smoking concert in the drill hall on October 26th, on the departure of Capt W. T. Howe. We were honoured with the presence of our colonel, Lieut.-Col. A. MacLeod, Royal Signals (commanding 50th Divl. Signals), Capt W. T. Howe, Capt P. Jennings, and the officers of the unit. Several speeches were made during the evening, Lieut.-Col. A. MacLeod speaking on behalf of the unit, and R.S.M. Burrows on behalf of the permanent staff.

During the interval Capt W. T. Howe presented the Bagnall cup. As there was no annual training this year, the cup was handed over to No. 2 Company to retain for another year. The inter-Section shield was presented by Capt T. T. J. Sheffield, Royal Signals (commanding No. 2 Company, 50th Divl. Signals) to the Wireless Section, this being the best all-round Section during the training season. Sergt T. W. A. Mayo is the n.c.o. in charge.

Dance.—The Company held its first dance of the season on November 5th in the drill hall, which was suitably decorated for the occasion. We are glad to report that the event was a huge success in every way, and much credit is due to the organisers of the dance. We were honoured with the presence of the officers of the unit, and also Capt P. Jennings, our new adjutant. His presence was much appreciated by all ranks.

We are holding a series of dances in the future, and would like to see a few more of the Company roll along. Now, you lads, what about it? This dance is run for *your* benefit, you know; so help us to keep it going by rolling up in your numbers.

A. C.

No. 3 (Hull) Company.

Winter Training.—Voluntary classes for winter training have now commenced, and a good muster was noted on the first parade held on Tuesday, November 2nd. Those attending will receive instruction in various forms of Signal work, and a series of lectures has been arranged.

N.C.O.s Classes.—These commence on Sunday, November 14th, and are open to all n.c.o.s and certain approved men. The O.C. Company (Capt R. E. Petch) is keenly desirous that all who are eligible shall attend, in order that a sound basis may be built up on which to carry out our next season's training. We hear that this is to be in Brigade section work, and the general remark on the announcement is "and very nice too."

Arrivals.—During the last month we have noted the arrival of "one motor car, tax fully paid." This will doubtless prove very handy at next year's annual camp. We would, however, warn the owner to go carefully when passing a "cop"!

Annual Outing.—Our football secretary having "spotted" a vacant date on November 20th, we are hoping to arrange an outing. At the time of writing nothing definite has been fixed up, but we hope to visit Beverley Barracks, the home of the Depot East Yorkshire Regiment. It is thought that an annual fixture with a team of the regular army would prove popular, and incidentally do much to cement that feeling of good comradeship already existing between the Regulars and Territorials.

Departure of Capt W. T. Howe.—This month we have to record the departure from our midst of Capt W. T. Howe, on the completion of his tour of duty. General regret will be felt at his departure. During the past 3½ years Capt Howe has done much to bring the various Signal Sections throughout the Northumbrian Division (infantry, artillery, etc.) up to their present state of efficiency. Whilst regretting his departure we in our little corner wish him every success for the future.

Our new adjutant, Capt P. Jennings, has taken over his duties, and recently visited our headquarters. To him we extend a hearty Yorkshire welcome, and wish him a long and happy stay amongst the 50th Divisional Signals.

A. O. S.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals.

Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.

Here we are again, as the clown would say in the Christmas pantomime. We take this opportunity of wishing all units, Regular and T.A., a real "busting" time at Christmas, and all the best in the New Year.

Our annual dance took place at the Town Hall, Stratford, on November 2nd, and proved an unqualified success. The admirable arrangements made by Major R. F. Pemberton, M.C., C.S.M. W. Hooper, and an energetic committee, proved effective, and a company of about 300 spent an enjoyable evening. The duties of M.C. were carried out by C.S.M. C. J. Sharp, D.C.M., and F/Sergt Robson.

A programme of twenty-four dances was carried through, the first half being wound up with the Grand March and Lancers, led by Brig.-Gen. R. B. Colvin, C.B., T.D., D.L. (our hon. colonel) and our commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. E. A. Edwards. The officers, being in mess kit, added a pleasing touch of colour to the affair, and brought memories of regimental dances at Aldershot in pre-war days.

During the interval, the trophy given by General Colvin—a bronze statue of Mercury—was presented by the General to No. 1 Company, winners of the wireless competition. The winning team was composed of Sergt Hamilton, Corpl Greenaway, Signalmen Brittain, Rowe, Wymans, Bredin, Davies, Mathew and Farthing. Each man was also presented with a silver medal. The General also presented to No. 1 Company the shooting cup. Hearty congratulations to the winners.

Col. J. Waley-Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O. (D.C.S.O. E.C. and L. D.) was among those present. We hope that the arrangements for the use of the Town Hall will be made early enough to ensure that the event will again take place there next year.

Sugar-Coated *SPEARMINT*

The same old favourite flavour—fresh juice of garden mint—but a new form and dress, has the new Spearmint.

Four dainty sugar-coated pieces in a bright little packet, sealed to keep all the goodness in.

And all for a penny—just like P.K., same price, same size, but different.

Try the new Spearmint—then keep on using it after every meal. And let the children have it too—good for their teeth, good for digestion and gives them the valuable custom of *mouth-cleanliness.*

E.G. 117

WRIGLEY'S

The unit took part in the annual Armistice church parade on November 14th. All local units concentrated on the square at these headquarters and then marched to Stratford Parish Church. The interior of the church was suitably decorated with Allied flags. On one pillar, which we suppose was especially in our honour, was what appeared to be a flag, distinguishing, telegraph office (Mark XX. by the size of it).

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Stratford, and the address was given by the Rev. E. A. Gardner, M.C., T.D., M.A., S.C.F. 54th (E.A.) Division.

After the service the troops paraded in the Grove, moved off, and marched past, the salute being taken by Col.-Commandant Howard, commanding 161st (Essex) Infantry Brigade. We were pleased to see a few staunch old supporters of the Branch of the Signals Association on parade, amongst them being ex-C.S.M. J. Carnall, D.C.M., and ex-C.S.M. A. E. Bull, D.C.M., M.M.

We regret to announce the death of No. 2560585 Sigmn A. R. Ward, which took place in Poplar Hospital on October 11th. The sympathy of the whole unit is extended to his family, and especially to his brother, L/Corpl C. Ward of this unit. This was a great loss to the unit: he was a hardworking and willing lad, and a very promising young soldier.

We congratulate No. 3 Company on the production of an artist. Drake must watch himself, or he will be "going west."

A certain n.c.o. of this unit, arriving home rather late, was met at the door by his spouse with "Well, what's wrong with you?" Reply: "Got a (hic!) syncopated heart (hic!); doctor said so." This rather frightened the good lady, and she got him safely tucked into bed. She did not quite understand what a syncopated heart was, and after a while curiosity got the better of her. She went downstairs, turned up "syncopated" in the dictionary, and found "An intermittent movement from bar to bar."

Y. E. D.

No. 3 (Westcliff-on-Sea) Company.

Milton House, Station Road, Nov. 14th.

Social functions are the order of the day at present, and in this respect we are not taking a back seat. A whist drive was

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held at the local Masonic Hall on October 20th. This was quite good, in spite of the fact that it was the first this year. Prizes were numerous and valuable. I will not enumerate the winners; it will suffice to say they won. Mrs. C.S.M. Turner and L/Corpl J. McMenamin of our own people won prizes. The remainder went to the visitors, as they should. Lieut Lilley performed the "Ladies move up," etc., with extreme patience. As M.C. he left nothing to be desired.

Next came our first effort to hold a social at Milton House. The committee had bags of opposition. They were bombarded with "What room have we?—"Where's the piano?"—Who's going to play it?" etc.; nevertheless it came off, in the shape of an impromptu concert and dance. Those who turned up (60 odd) were more than surprised at its success.

The C.S.M. came along with some good talent, and the members of the unit and their friends also helped. Signalmen Fielding and Friend entertained us with a piano and violin number. Sergt Miller introduced us to McGinty's goat with whiskers on. Sigmn Frampton rendered several popular ballads, and Miss Turner favoured us with some lively dance music. Although there was not much room, we managed to fit in a few dances also, and the evening came to an end all too soon. The committee are still bombarded, but from a totally different standpoint. Now, it is "When is the next 'do'?" "I know a chap who can sing," etc.

We have no doubt that although Trumpeter Turner may have ceased to "trumpet" at Stratford, echoes will reach us through the medium of his "spirit"; for did not the Stratford stalwarts beat us by three points at the recent inter-Company boxing tournament? It was a good show, however, and the young blood was much in evidence. Worthy of mention are Signalmen Taylur and Hollingsworth, both of whom only recently joined us. Good luck to them; and may they enjoy better luck in the future. The Brothers Sawford gave an exhibition bout, which as usual was much appreciated.

The local Armistice Sunday parade was held on November 7th in glorious spring-like weather. We paraded about fifty strong. It is said that those who were not present were quite jealous when they saw the parade on the pictures, and realised how smart our "turn out" was. If that is so, it it up to those men to turn out on the 14th November for the Mayor's Sunday church parade.

Welcome to Recruits Davis, Taylur, White, Rayner, and Hollingsworth.

DREITER.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Liverpool.

By the time this appears in print, the festive season will be almost upon us, with many of our colleagues of the Regular arm of the service "sweating on the top line" for Christmas leave: that is, those who are fortunate enough to be at home stations. Those who are at home, many of them, will be "sweating on the top line" for a chance to get away from it for a change!

The winter season has started very well for us. The attendances at the lectures have been very good, even if they have not been all that could be desired; but we are looking for better results in the near future.

The junior n.c.o.s and men's mess hot-pot supper and concert is still a thing of the future, but it is hoped that it will really come off this time, and that the men's mess will be packed to overflowing. The catering is in the hands of a firm of repute, while a programme of such magnitude and talent has been promised for the concert that a ticket at three times 1s. 6d. would be a reasonable price. We look to the members of No. 1 Company and No. 3 Company (S.R.) to rally round and get their tickets while they may be had.

The Civic Week parade was well attended, and although we had the disadvantage of not being led past the saluting point by a band, it was generally acknowledged that the Signals were the smartest turn out in the march past.

I think the march around the city that followed should live in the memory of those of us who had the pleasure of taking part in the parade, and especially of those who were privileged to behold our passage along Lime Street. The first files of the unit were swinging along at a nice pace to the strains of "A life on the ocean wave," rendered by the City Police for the benefit of the R.N.V.R. who directly preceded us. The rear files were endeavouring to keep time to the music of "The vision of Salome," or perhaps it was "The Maiden's Prayer," speeded up to suit the step of the 5th Liverpool Rifles, the band of which is conducted by our old friend, Bandmaster G. Robinson, late of the 2nd Western Signals R.E. The middle files (God bless them!) seemed to have struck a bad patch, for they could hear both bands at one and the same time, with the result that the men seemed to be doing a sort of Charleston step interpolated with a few steps of the Argentine tango. At any rate, the general result was satisfactory, as was the spread that awaited the men on their return to headquarters, and to which everyone did ample justice.

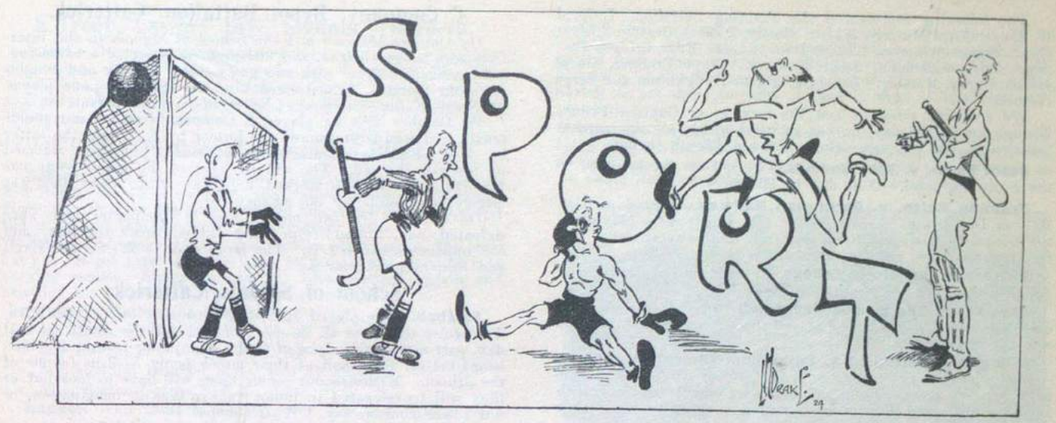
Armistice Sunday church parade at the Cathedral was also very well attended considering the weather. We were very fortunate in that the rain kept off during the march past.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas activities, which are many and varied in character—especially the children's treat, which is always such a big feature at this time of the year, and calls for an enormous amount of work by those who have the arrangements in hand.

No. 3 Co. 1st Corps Signals (S.R.)

Since our last effort we have managed to get our rifle club established, and are progressing at a speed that is almost staggering considering that we started with a capital of nothing. We have entered the Liverpool Miniature Association winter league contest, and have fired two matches at home with a minus score. This does not dishearten us, because we have met some of the finest shots, and our men are not yet used to the type of rifle and target that are used; but by the time we leave Christmas behind I am confident that we will be able to turn out a team equal to any in the Northern area.

A knock-out competition is being hurried forward, and we hope to be able to get the finals over before the second week in the new year. The prizes are: The S.M.R.C. "Lord Roberts" and "Bell" medals, and the "Daily Telegraph," the "Daily Mail," "The Times," and "The Sunday Times" certificates.



Catterick Sports Notes.

Soccer.—Neither the Depot nor the Training Battalion are making a great deal of progress in A Division of the Darlington and District League. This is mainly due to the numerous changes that have to be made in the teams as a result of players being posted away. Hopes are entertained of getting together teams from the talent amongst the recruits.

A typical "Derby" was witnessed between the Depot and Training Battalions in a league game, the T.B. running out winners by 5 goals to 1.

Cross-country.—The S.T.C. held their first run of the season on October 28th. Corpl W. M. Cotterell was first man home, followed by L/Corpl Ayres and Sigmn Broadley. F Company as usual gained team honours, with E and C Companies next in order.

The Corps team will miss the services of Corpl Richardson, who has gone into civvie street. We shall no doubt soon be hearing of "Darky" in connection with one of the Southern clubs.

Boxing.—The Training Battalion met the 1st Battn. Green Howards in the first round of the Army inter-unit team championships, at Catterick Camp, on October 26th, and passed into the second round by the comfortable margin of 18 points to 13. The results are briefly detailed:—

Bantams—Sigmn Fowler beat Pte Richmord on points.
Feathers—Sigmn Govier lost to Pte Allen on points.
Lights—L/Corpl Jones easily defeated Pte Krein, who retired in the second round.
Welters (officers)—Lieut H. J. Keddie beat Lieut H. Swan on points.
Welters (other ranks)—Sigmn Wheeler beat Pte Robinson on points. Sigmn Williams beat Pte Featherstone on points.
Middles (officers)—Lieut Campbell, walk over.
Middles (other ranks)—Sergt Payne lost to L/Corpl Fairless by a knock-out in the second round.
Light heavies—Sigmn Rodda lost to Pte Powell on points.
Heavies (officers)—Lieut Pargeter lost to Lieut M. L. P. Jackson on points.
Heavies (other ranks)—Sigmn Stuart beat Pte Miles on points.

A grand tournament between the Depot and Training Battns., in aid of the Y.M.C.A. funds, was held on November 4th. As a result, £15 9s. was handed over to the Y.M.C.A. The Training Battalion secured the honours by 18 points to 15. The results were:—

Bantams—Sigmn Fowler (T.B.) knocked out Dvr Vaney (D.B.) in the first round.
Feathers—Sergt Hamblin (D.B.) beat Sigmn Tavender (T.B.) on points. Sigmn Govier (T.B.) beat Sigmn Lee (D.B.) on points.
Lights—L/Corpl Jones (T.B.) beat Dvr Grainger (D.B.) on points. Corpl Lloyd (D.B.) v. Sigmn Lumby (T.B.)—This fight was stopped in the second round.
Welters (officers)—Lieut J. H. Keddie (T.B.) beat Lieut Van der Goot (D.B.) on points.
Welters (other ranks)—Sigmn Williams (T.B.) beat Corporal Read (D.B.) on points. Sigmn Wheeler (T.B.) knocked out Dvr Hawley (D.B.) in the second round. Sigmn Pyke (D.B.) beat Sigmn Gregory (T.B.) on points.
Light heavies—Corpl Gunnell (D.B.) retired in the first round to Sigmn Rodda (T.B.).
Heavies—Dvr Howard (D.B.) v. Sigmn Stuart (T.B.). The fight was stopped in the second round.

Catterick Rugby Notes.

Training Battn. v. 1st Battn. Middlesex Regt.—This Army cup tie was played on November 10th on the Scotton ground, and resulted in a win for the Middlesex Regt. by 12 points to nil. The ground was in a very wet state, which caused the game to be almost a forward one, and our fast backs were given little chance to get going.

Directly the match started T.B. attacked, and for the first half hour kept the Middlesex Regiment in their own half. Corpl Murphy and Lieut Danby both nearly scored, but on each occasion the Middlesex were awarded a 25 kick. Shortly before half time (40 minutes each way were played), Capt Hayden scored two tries in quick succession from openings made by Lieut Worton, and we crossed over with the score of 6—0 against us.

The wind in the second half was against us, and the Middlesex pressed a good deal, Lieut Worton scoring a splendid try near the corner flag. Just before time Capt Hayden flung himself over for his third try, and the Middlesex Regt. ran out winners of a very good game as stated.

There is no doubt that the Middlesex Regiment were the better side. Their forwards were a good deal heavier and generally got the ball, and the result is a true reflex of the game.

Our forwards, though outweighted, played a really splendid game, especially in the loose. Lieut Clinch (the Irish international) was allowed no rope, as directly he got the ball three or four forwards brought him down before he had gained many yards. The quick breaking up, following up and hard tackling of the forwards was a great feature of the match. Sergt Squirrell was a splendid leader, and was well backed up by Lieut Edes and Corpl Pronger.

The backs had few chances to shine, chiefly owing to the state of the ground. Sigmn Atkinson at scrum half was, with the exception of Lieut Clinch and Lieut Worton (the two internationals), the best man on the field. He was only discovered about ten days before the match, and played a magnificent game. There are many defeats more glorious than victories, and the spectators went away convinced that very few teams in the Army would have defeated the Training Battalion on the team's play.

The team showed a very great improvement, and it is certain that before long the Corps is going to make a big name for itself in rugby. We shall watch the progress of the Middlesex in the Army cup, and we wish them the very best of luck. They play rugger as it *should* be played, very hard and very clean.

The following represented the Training Battalion: L/Corpl D. Jones, Corpl Murphy, 2/Lieut Hardy, 2/Lieut Bastyn, 2/Lieut Good, Sigmn Atkinson, 2/Lieut Danby, Lieut Edes, 2/Lieut Pargeter, 2/Lieut Hoblyn, Sergt Squirrell, Corpl Pronger, Corpl Jessop, Sigmn Hartley. Reserves, Sigmn Hodgkinson and Sergt Herbert.

We are very sorry to lose the services of Captain Penny. Though unable to play, he has refereed nearly all our matches this season, and referees such as him are difficult to find.

Depot Battn. v. York Nomads.—Played on October 13th on the Scotton ground. D.B. won by 20—nil.

Training Battn. v. Darlington Railway.—Played on Oct. 16th at Darlington. Lieuts Danby and Hardy were playing in the Yorkshire trial, and Sergt Squirrell was away as well. The result was a draw, neither side scoring.

Officers v. Ampleforth College.—Played on October 17th at Ampleforth. The officers won by 34—8.

Boys XV. v. The School, Richmond.—Played at Richmond, on October 23rd. The School played three masters, but the Boys won by 18—11.

R. Signals (Catterick) v. Billingham (Stockton-on-Tees).—Played on the Scotton ground, on October 23rd. Billingham came with a great reputation, but were unable to cope with Lieuts Hardy and Danby, who scored practically when they wished. Signals won by 58—0.

Training Battn. "A" XV. v. Darlington "A" XV.—Played on the S.T.C. ground on October 23rd, and resulted in a draw, neither side scoring.

Depot Battn. v. 4th Battn. Royal Tank Corps.—Played on the Tank Corps ground on Oct. 27th. Won by D.B. by 18—6.

Depot Battn. v. Gateshead Fell.—Played on the Scotton ground on October 30th. Gateshead won by 9—nil.

We have taken advantage of the good weather in October, and have already played seventeen matches. Both Battalion teams are a good deal better than last season. The Depot Battn. will play the Border Regiment at York on November 12th for the Army cup.

The Boys XV. is shaping well, and its members will be very useful to unit teams in years to come.

2/Lieuts Hardy and Danby are to be heartily congratulated on being selected to play "three-quarter" for Yorkshire. Both played a splendid game in the final Yorkshire trial. Unfortunately neither of them was able to play against the Maoris owing to injuries, but the season is yet young.

The players from which the Signals (Catterick) and the Battalion XV.'s are selected are as follows:—

Signals (Catterick)—Lieut Edes, 2/Lieuts Danby (captain), Thuillier, Hardy, Good, Bastyan, Smith, Pargeter, Hoblyn, and Hyde, Sergt Squirrell, Corpls D Jones and Pronger, Signalmen R. Barnett, King, White, Lawton and Reeves.

Depot Battalion—2/Lieuts Thuillier (captain), Smith, Hyde, Severin, Pipe-Wolferstan and Bell, C.Q.M.S. Flynn, Corporal Lloyd, L/Corpl Kilford, Signalmen Lawton, King, Davies, Joy, Dobbin, R. Barnett, and Reeves.

Training Battalion—Lieuts Edes and Milner, 2/Lieuts Danby (captain), Hardy, Good, Bastyan, Pargeter, Campbell and Hoblyn, Sergts Payne, Fegan, Squirrell and Herbert, Corpls D. Jones, Murphy, Pronger and Jessop, Signalmen Hartley and Cale.

A great many young players have shown considerable improvement this season, especially Signalmen King and Lawton (School), L/Corpl Kilford and Sigmn R. Barnett (C Company), Signalmen Taylor, Stenning and Cale, L/Corpl Boy Barlow, and Boy Brice (F Company), L/Corpl Boy Beaumont and Boys Sherwood and Jones (D Company), and Signalmen Pearson and Spetch (E Company).

On January 14th, 1927, the Royal Corps of Signals will play the Royal Engineers at Chatham. This is to be an annual match, and will be played alternately at Chatham and Aldershot. The Corps team has not yet been selected, but the full side is a pretty stiff one and should be capable of giving even the Royal Engineers a good game.

A Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.—Owing to the weather, most sports grounds have been unfit, play being restricted to hockey, results being:—

League matches—v. D Company, lost by 5—3; v. C Company, won by 7—2.

Friendly matches—v. 55th Field Company R.E., lost by 5—0; v. R.E. Services, won by 3—1.

C Company, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

On October 13th we met the School of Signals in the inter-Company hockey league, and although we expected a trouncing, we managed to draw with two goals each. Conroy and Staples were our scorers. I must remark on the splendid game played by Sergt Waller, our goalie: he saved us from defeat.

On October 20th we played E Company's senior and junior teams, and won both games—the former by 3—2, and the latter by 4—3. Both teams started very slowly, and only warmed up towards the end. The shining light of the senior team was L/Corpl Kilford, who worked hard the whole time and was largely responsible for our victory.

On October 27th we met A and B Companies and were defeated, nay, routed! Our team did not work together, and our opponents realised it. The score was 7—2. Sergt Terrell and Staples netted for us.

School of Signals, Catterick.

Football.—We played against F Company on October 27th. The senior team had all its share of luck for the month on that day, only managing a draw of 4—4. The junior team did better, heaps better, the result of their match being 5—2 in favour of the School. Methinks our senior team will have to look out or they will be relegated to junior rank. Was it imagination, or did I hear someone say, "What a hope"?

Rugby.—On October 20th the School had the good fortune to meet F Company when their two star performers (Lieuts Danby and Hardy) were playing elsewhere. Result: a win for the School. Hard luck, F!

No. 1 Co. A Corps Signals, Ewshott.

Sport.—We met one of the Companies of the 1st Lincoln Regt. in the Command soccer knock-out league, and made a very painful show.

There was a day when the M.T. Section did think of *showing* those Stables how to play football, and signing on two pros. This they did, and one rugger gentleman even had one or two well and truly collared casualties to his credit. Nevertheless, the Stables did not play football so much as keep on kicking the ball into the net, which they did seven times. Result, 7—1. Stables won in a canter. I have heard that a certain Cable Section would like to play the junior unit team. (Now, horsey, keep your tail up!)

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Hockey.—The Company league in the unit was inaugurated by a match between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies on November 12th. The result was a victory for the former by 3 goals to 1. The game was spirited and full of friendly rivalry, but good play was difficult owing to the state of the ground.

On October 22nd we entertained the Anti-Aircraft Battalion R.E. from Blackdown, in our first unit game of the season. The result was 7—1 against us. A fine sporting crowd; and we look forward to our return game.

On October 29th the 41st Battery R.A. visited us, and we gathered the spoils—a 3 to 1 victory, which does not truly represent the play.

We meet the Dorset Regiment on November 19th, and the R.A.S.C., Aldershot, on November 24th.

Our chief handicap at the moment is the fact that we can use the hockey ground on only day each week. This prevents getting in as many practice games as we should like, in order to find hidden talent. However, we are endeavouring to overcome the difficulty by playing two games on the afternoon the ground is allotted to us, bullying-off at an early hour for the first game. But we want the rain to keep off for a few weeks, as the ground is sodden.

No. 1 Co. 2nd Divl. Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—We have a few new recruits for this interesting pastime, and feel sure they will make good progress. There is one individual who has certainly got the pluck. Come on, all you dark horses. "What does the Sports Officer say about it?"

Rugby.—It is surprising how strong we are in this game. This year the competitors are numerous, thanks to Major Hitchins, who gave several interesting lectures which proved a great help to all who are interested in the game.

Hockey.—We hope to blow our trumpet soon. Our players are only waiting for a few more dark horses to come to the front.

E Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Tidworth.

Sport.—Our soccer team appears to be at "sixes and sevens" this season: Played 4—lost 4—goals: for, 4; against, 24. This is not like us, so we must buck up, lads! Yes, D; we *are* anxiously awaiting a date from you, but don't "chirp" on account of the above, please.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Soccer.—The unit team is now concentrating on giving the 2nd Battn. the Cheshire Regt. the coup-de-grace on Thursday, November 18th, in the first round of the Army cup. Whatever the result, we are assured of a really good game.

Hockey.—Owing to leave and various other causes the team has not yet got together. We have played several matches with varying results. Sigmn Burton has been elected captain and awarded his "Jimmy." The results at present are:—

v. R.A.F., Netheravon, lost by 3—5.
v. 1st Battn. P.W.V., lost by 0—11.
v. 2nd Battn. The Welsh Regt., lost by 1—5.
v. 5th Medium Brigade R.A., won by 8—6.
v. 58th Borton Company R.E., draw, 3—3.

Rugger.—Our team is shaping very well and feeling quite pleased with itself, in spite of being knocked out in the first round of the Army cup competition. We met the 9th Field Brigade R.A., who were about equal to us forward but better behind the scrum. After a jolly good game we lost by 9—nil.

The match we are really looking forward to, however, is booked for next month, when on December 11th we play Signals, Aldershot, at Aldershot. According to all the laws of probability we should lose, but whatever the outcome we are expecting a topping game.

Northern Ireland Signal Co., Belfast.

Football.—Nothing of particular note has happened in this line. We have played six games, winning four and losing two.

In an inter-Company match between the Visual and W/T Classes, the former won by 6—1.

Boxing.—Our representatives are getting in trim, as numerous thuds (accompanied by a lot of puffing and grunting) in the vicinity of No. 2 Hut will testify.

Rhine Signal Units.

Things are going none too well in the sporting line these days, due mainly to members of various teams being on furlough—but we keep the ball rolling still.

Football.—To date we have played nine matches, won two and lost seven—with 21 goals for and 37 against. This is not too bad considering that we are so weakened by leave, and the class we are called upon to meet.

The Football Team, Season 1926-27.

It is intended to commence the inter-Section knock-out in February, as up to that month parties will be coming and going to and from other stations, in addition to furlough. I gave the formation of the Sections in my previous notes, and no critics having as yet come forward, I take it that it has met with approval.

Rugby.—Several friendly games have been played, only one being won, the remainder being lost by a narrow margin. Owing to the immense amount of training we cannot play as often as we would like; nevertheless, we get in a fair amount.

The Rugby Team, Season 1926-27.

Hockey.—Hidden talent is fast coming to light, and we find ourselves better off than we imagined. So far we have drawn one and lost two games, but we shall do better when we get the house in order.

Badges of Mercury.—"Jimmies" have arrived, and local rules are to be made out for them. The Rhine colour is a white Jimmy on a black background, and looks very neat. Our next problem is the awarding of them, but we shall have to wait awhile for this to find out the constitution of our teams, there being so many changes at the moment.

Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

The combined Training Centre and G Divl. Signals team having lost the Central Provinces cup by the narrow margin of 3—0, entered for the Calcutta cup. They were beaten by the South Wales Borderers in the first round by a penalty goal, after a closely contested game. They did not, however, return without making their mark, as will be seen from the enclosed account of the final of the subsidiary tournament, Calcutta, which will interest all lovers of rugby football in the Corps.

CALCUTTA SUBSIDIARY RUGBY TOURNAMENT FINAL

[From our own Correspondent.]

Calcutta, September 24th.

Signals defeat Shavings in a Coalless Match.

The Signals of Jubbulpore made up in some degree for their failure in the Calcutta rugby tournament, in which they lost to the South Wales Borderers by a penalty goal to nil, by winning the subsidiary tournament, in the final of which they defeated the Shavings this evening by 9 points (3 tries) to 3 (1 try).

Owing to some of their men being engaged in the annual Calcutta Scottish versus Calcutta Light Horse match, the Shavings recruited a few of the club's best players such as Wainwright, the old Harlequin, and Officer, the best centre three-quarters in Calcutta—who are accompanying the Calcutta team to Madras next week. The Shavings also had McLeod, Calcutta's crack stand-off half; Wyatt, an Oxford reserve forward in 1925 and one of the best of the Calcutta pack; Parry, the Calcutta forward; and Gordon, an outstanding man in the United Services pack.

The merit of the victory gained by the Signals was therefore all the greater. It was not a great game of rugby, but it had merit in the fact that both teams went all out. The Signals were the better at forward, and this superiority gave them the win. But the Shavings held a strong hand at half and three-quarter with McLeod, Officer, and Wainwright, and there were periods when it seemed that with a little luck coming their way these men could have turned defeat into victory. One striking

instance of this was in the second half when, receiving from McLeod via Allen, Officer dashed away and got clear of the field. He ought to have run through himself, but preferred to pass to Wainwright. It was such a poor pass that Wainwright could not hold it, and a certain try was lost.

The Signals scored within a couple of minutes of the start. They continued aggressively for the best part of the first half. Shortly before the interval they scored again as a result of a combined forward movement, Ingles touching down. The attempt, however, to add extra points failed.

After the interval Wainwright scored a positively brilliant try for the Shavings, running through from near his own 25 line. Signals, however, continued to have the better of the game, and Ford scored another try. The ground was heavy, and attempts at conversion failed. The Signals won deservedly.

Signals: Murphy, Prickett, Earle, Murray and Ford; Keane and Jehan; Mullighan, Bottolle, Westwood, Ingles, MacDougall, Willett, Galbraith and Johnson.

Shavings: Lloyd, Butten, Allen, Officer and Wainwright; McLeod and Gloag; Wyatt, Gordon, Wilson, Johnson, Parry, Kerwood, Heatley and Vaughan-Jones.

—*The Pioneer.*

C Divisional Signals.

Bannu Detachment.

Hockey.—We have not been able to preserve our usual standard during the past three months, owing to the shortage of personnel, most of our stars being absent on courses, leave, etc.

Football.—We have more than held our own at this, not having lost a match so far. We have great pleasure in reporting that whilst at Upper Topa, quite a large percentage of the B.O.R.s on courses were included in the Combined Signals hockey and football teams.

Razmak Section.

Cricket is in full swing, and Corpl Forster and his merry men are very busy arranging matches, etc.

Basket Ball.—We are having many interesting games, and usually win. Corpl Copp and Sigmn Button are our leading lights at this pastime.

Hockey.—After three replays, with extra time, we managed to bag the cup from the H.Q. Wing 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters, in the final of the British inter-Company hockey contest, by the close score of 1—0. It was a good clean game, and the team played well. Sigmn Murray did some great things between the sticks, while the two backs—Capt Clapp and Corpl Copp—did valiantly against the opposing forwards; the latter twice diverted a dangerous movement.

Half-time arrived with no score. It wanted two minutes to time when Waterhouse did a good bit of work on the wing, and sent across a nice centre which was banged into the net by Sergt Long—a smart goal. Sigmn Clarke distinguished himself at centre-half, and Sergt Gibberd played splendidly at centre-forward.

The team lined up as follows: Murray; Capt Clapp and Corpl Copp; Brown, Clarke and Chambers; Waterhouse, Fisher, Sergt Gibberd, Sergt Long and Button.

The Presentation of the Hockey Cup by Major-Gen. K. Wigram, C.B., C.S.I., C.B.E., D.S.O.

The Fistic Art.—Sigmn Anderson is making things hum in the boxing world, and at night the dining hall resounds to groans and the thump of gloves. Anderson fought well against a Sherwood boxer, and was extremely unlucky to lose.

10th Brigade Signal Section, Manzai.

Football.—Little football is played by the Indian regiments here, but it is hoped to secure a few games this winter.

Hockey.—This is played almost nightly, Indian regiments putting out some very strong teams. We came third in the Brigade hockey league, and no one was actually killed in the struggle for this position.

Tennis.—Tournaments are "off" at present, the court being under repair.

F Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Hockey.—With a depleted team we have played a number of games—and like Parachinar, a good many of them between ourselves—I.O.R.s v. B.O.R.s, or two mixed teams. Honours were even, but the games offered an excellent chance of bringing out new players—and one or two were discovered. (Stick it, "90"; you're in the *eleventh* eleven, now, but bye-and-bye we shall see, eh?) Our opponents outside the unit were our neighbours the 2/12th, whom we met three times, winning twice and losing once.

Football.—Only a very few games have been played, our numbers having been sadly depleted by malaria. The following are the results: versus R.A.F., lost 6—1 and 3—2; v. 2/12th, won 3—2 and 4—1.

Parachinar Section.

Cricket.—To give a full account of our matches (usually two per week) would, I'm afraid, occupy more than our allotted space. The following have done very well indeed: Captain F. J. Matthews, L/Sergts Page and Kingham, Signalmen Cole, Neeve and Lloyd.

The last unit game, v. No. 6 Armoured Car Company, resulted in a win for us by 35 runs; a very keen game indeed. Signals, 61 (Capt Matthews 14, Sigmn Lloyd 10), and 106 (Capt Matthews 55 not out, Sergt Page 13, Sigmn Hebbes 11). A.C.C. 41 and 91.

Inter-detachment games are frequent, and although some of the players lack science, their enthusiasm is unbounded, whilst one and all are eager to try their hand at umpiring! The results are sometimes amusing, one umpire becoming thoroughly disgusted, for on giving his verdict "out," a court of inquiry was held and the batsman found "*not* out." Another umpire on being appealed to for "l.b.w.," instead of the customary "out" or "not out," replied "Sorry; I wasn't looking." (The batsman smiled). However, experience teaches, as we all find.

Scoring is sometimes another source of amusement. The scorer sits aided and abetted by a few confreres at the edge of the boundary. If he decides the batsman has hit a boundary, then a boundary it is. No arguments are accepted. A certain n.c.o decided he wanted to make a certain score, and accordingly informed the scorer. (He made 'em!)

Football has had a fairly good run. Matches versus Armoured Cars and 5/13th F.F. Rifles have been played, as shown:—

Versus 5/13th F.F.R., won by 4—0 (L/Sergt Page 2, Sigmn Draper 1, Sigmn Lloyd 1), and won 1—0 (L/Sergt Page).

Versus Armoured Car Company, lost by 3—0; won by 2—1 (L/Sergt Page, Sigmn Draper); and draw of 2—2 (L/Sergt Page, Sigmn Draper).

Hockey.—The weather has recently been unkind, and consequently we have only one match to report, versus Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners, lost by 5—0. Inter-detachment matches of football and hockey are nightly occurrences, the results being disputed for days afterwards.

Iraq Signal Section.

Cricket.—In the Army v. Air Force cricket "Derby," Signalmen McKinlay and Carpenter represented the former. In the first innings McKinlay scored 18 and Carpenter 21 not out. In the second innings the former was bowled with 38 to his credit, and Carpenter (28) was stumped. In addition to this, McKinlay took two wickets for 24 in the first innings of his opponents. A very creditable performance on the part of both!

Football.—Up to date, in the Hinaidi League, we have played ten matches, won 5, lost 4, and drawn 1.

The Corps in Egypt.

Football.—Most extraordinary! a selection committee which includes five members who have played for the Corps during the present football season. It would be better far if four of these were relieved, leaving the captain as a member "ex-officio." In seven league games, 21 players have represented the Corps, despite the fact that two trial games have been played.

League results:—Oct. 9th, 9th Lancers 4; Royal Signals 2. Oct. 16th, R.A.S.C. 2; Royal Signals 5. Oct. 23rd, 15/19th Hussars 4; Royal Signals 1.

Cup Match.—For the first round in the Roberts-Hughes cup, the team was again changed, introducing two players who have never represented the Corps before, and we met with defeat by 2 clear goals. The match was at Ismailia against the R.E.s.

Boxing.—It is very pleasing to note that Sigmn (Ted) Richmond has at last found his feet in Egypt boxing. This was proved on the occasion of his meeting with L.A.C. Williams (R.A.F.), the inter-Services champion, when he was awarded a well-deserved victory on points. Richmond has had some very bad luck since arriving in this country, but we all sincerely hope that the tables have turned.

At a recent boxing display held in the R.H.A. ring at Abbassia, the special contests included one of six rounds between L/Sergt Wheeler, Royal Signals, and Gunner Smith, R.A. This resulted in a points decision in favour of the latter after a very hard fight. This was the third meeting of these two boxers, and proved a disappointment for Wheeler for the second time. Come on Signals!

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals.

Football.—The Company has done very well in the small units league, and if a rot does not set in we should finish up as the leaders. The results of matches played are:—

Royal Signals 7, R.A.P.C. 2 (home).
Royal Signals 3, B Squadron 9th Lancers 3 (away).
Royal Signals 8, B Company Norfolks 1 (home).
Royal Signals 6, H.Q. and B Coy. Norfolks 1 (away).

In the inter-section competition, Nos. 1 and 2 (joint) Section defeated H.Q. Section by four clear goals on November 3rd.

Cross-country.—The inter-section cross-country was held on Thursday, October 29th, and quite a good percentage of the Company turned out as competitors. Result: 1st, B Cable Section; 2nd, No. 1 and 2 (joint) Section. First man home, L/Cpl Solomon; 2nd, Sigmn Collins; 3rd, Dvr Stillwell.

Malta Signal Section.

Aquatics.—An excellently arranged and keenly contested swimming gala was held by the 24th Company R.E. at Haywarf on Saturday, September 11th. The weather was everything that could be wished for, although a trifle too warm from the spectator's point of view.

At the conclusion of the gala everybody was cordially invited to the dance held in the Princess Theatre. This was the opening night to the "Sappers" Dance Club, and a very befitting termination to a perfect day.

The only entrant of this Section in the sports, Sigmn Vyse, did very well in carrying off the first prize in the high and fancy diving events. There is no reason why, with a few more aspirants from the Section, Signals should not be well represented at the next meeting.

Soccer.—Here we are again! The old favourite once more before us, with a season full of fixtures. The 1st eleven have not yet tuned in, having only won one match out of four played. It is hoped that the troopers will bring with them a few stars to replace several sadly-missed players who left us recently.

A happy little band is the 2nd eleven, whose undefeated record of four seasons still remains unblemished. Six matches played and all won is an excellent kick off. Keep it up, the "babes."

By the way, the Section had the audacity to challenge the 1st eleven of the R.A.M.C. at the beginning of the season, and the latter, wishing to have a little exercise at our expense, accepted. Much to the consternation of the medicals who formed the greater proportion of the spectators, "Taffy" popped the first one past the uprights after ten minutes' play. With one up we held them at bay until a minute from the interval, when the best goal of the match placed our opponents on level terms. Luck deserted us towards the finish, and upon three more occasions was the merry pill flashed past our "dashing Don. R." (Alec). Four goals to one was hardly a fair index of the play, but everyone will admit that a better game could not be desired.

Hockey.—One game has been played this season so far, with a victory for the "Sappers." This is a good start. Our opponents, the pick of the 3rd Flotilla Mediterranean Fleet, had their colours lowered to the tune of 2 goals to 1. We should go a long way in the league this season.

No. 3 Co. 50th Divl. Signals, Hull.

Billiard Tournaments.—The fixture for w.o.s. and men (played off on the recreation room table) attracted a good number of entrants, and some interesting games were witnessed. We congratulate Sigmn Baker on gaining the first prize against Sergt J. Coutts by a very small margin.

The honorary members' tournament was won by our popular billiard team captain, Mr. Wilson, who met and defeated another old friend of ours, Mr. Thompson.

Both finals were witnessed by a number of "fans," and we hope these will prove the forerunner of many more such "green cloth championships"!

Billiard Team.—This year the sergeants' and the men's messes have combined to raise a team, and to date we are on the 50 per cent. mark—winning one game and losing t'other. The 26th Armoured Car Company were our victims, whilst a team from the East Hull Company 4th Battn. East York Regt. were our conquerors. Our next game (versus the 50th Divl. Train R.A.S.C.) promises to be a "needle" match, and we are hopeful of recording another victory. Our team has been strengthened by the inclusion of some new "blood," none of whom plays a better game than Sigmn Baker of the S.R. Section.

Signals A.F.C.—Five league matches have been played, of which the "Flags" have won three. Taking into consideration the fact that the team is competing in an altogether higher class of football than last year, there is reason for congratulating them on doing so well.

Cup Ties.—In addition to league games the team entered the East Riding County League junior cup competition, and were rather unfortunate in being defeated in the second round. Thanks to the courtesy of our second-in-command (Captain G. Thompson), who provided us with a motor, a number of supporters went with the team.

Signals Rifle Club.—With an interesting series of miniature range matches against teams in various parts of Hull and district, the club is proving of interest to a number of our members. It is with pleasure we record the assistance given by Captain T. W. Andrews and Lieut R. S. Smith, M.C., D.C.M., both of whom are noted for their prowess with the rifle.

Up to the time of writing, two matches have been fired, and while sympathising with the team on being defeated in both contests, we note the good scores put up against admittedly first class teams.

Thanks to the capable efforts of our popular P.S. instructor (C.S.M. R. Williams, M.M.), the range has been thoroughly overhauled and new lights installed, making it (to use the remark

of a member of an opposing team) "one of the best equipped and most up-to-date ranges in the East Riding of Yorkshire."

Christmas Shoot.—A good number of entries have been received for this, and by the time these notes appear we expect to have gone a long way towards deciding who will be the ultimate winners of the "good things" which are to be provided as prizes.

54th (East Anglian) Divl. Signals, London, E.15

A try-out competition took place on Wednesday, November 10th, in the lecture hall at headquarters, between the Stratford Companies and No. 3 Company from Westcliff. Nine fights and three exhibition bouts were staged, and a very interesting evening was spent. The officials were: Referee, Capt J. McConville, M.C. (adjutant); judges, P.S. Pettit (Metropolitan Police) and Mr. "Punch" Daltry (late 56th Divl. Signals); timekeeper, R.S.M. M. L. Adams, M.M. The results were:—

Bantams—Sigmn A. Brooks (Stratford) v. Sigmn Taylor (Westcliff)—Declared a draw after an extra round of 1 min.; one of the best fights of the evening. Sigmn Whichello (Stratford) v. Sigmn Davies (Westcliff)—Davies was knocked out in the first round. Dvr Gosling (Stratford) v. Sigmn Hall (Westcliff)—Hall was knocked out in the first round. Dvr A. T. Moody (Stratford) v Sigmn Dent (Westcliff)—Dent won on points. Dvr T. E. Scott (Stratford) v. Sigmn Coldwell (Westcliff)—Coldwell was knocked out in the first round.

Feathers—Dvr E. Moody (Stratford) v. Sigmn Hollingsworth (Westcliff)—Declared "no fight," owing to Moody receiving an accidental foul during the second round; Moody appeared to be leading. Sigmn Hayes (Stratford) v. Sigmn Baker (Westcliff)—Baker was knocked out in the second round.

Lights—Dvr Mercer (Stratford) v. Sigmn Johnson (Westcliff) —Mercer won on points.

Middles—Sigmn E. A. Tanner (Stratford) v. L/Corpl McMenamin (Westcliff)—McMenamin won on points.

A good deal of praise is due to L/Corpl Ward for the way in which he has brought out some of the youngsters. Some real good form was shown, which promises well for our chances in the forthcoming young soldiers' competition.

Some of the Unit Boxers.

Exhibition bouts were given by the brothers Sawford, from Westcliff, and Driver Gosling versus Driver A. T. Moody.

The two trumpeters of our neighbours of the R.A., who tried to settle an outstanding grievance at our meeting in the summer, again tried to bring this vendetta to a finish. However, another draw was registered, so the Stratford cocoa nibs will appear again at the next favourable opportunity.

Our next meeting is on November 19th, when we have to defend the cup which we won at the local inter-unit tournament. This is to be held at the headquarters of the 17th London Regt., Tredegar Road, Bow.

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