ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE WIRE

January—December, 1934

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THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XV.—No. 167 JANUARY, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

With Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year and Cordial Greetings to our Readers at Home and Abroad

- Editorial Notes -

We have to apologise to our Canadian, Australian and New Zealand friends for an unfortunate *faux-pas* in last month's Editorial Notes. Our paragraph regarding the proposed publication of notes contributed by the various Dominions was written with the best intentions, and we hasten to express our regret if any offence has unwittingly been given by our thoughtless phraseology on that occasion. The proposed new section of the Magazine to which we referred will be entitled "DOMINION NOTES"—and not "Colonial Notes" as previously suggested.

❀ ❀ ❀

The following letter from the Royal Humane Society was recently received by the parents of the late Lieutenant J. W. Agar:

IN MEMORIAM.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Royal Humane Society, held at Watergate House, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.2, on the 17th day of October 1933—Admiral Crosswell J. Eyres, D.S.O. (Treasurer) in the chair—it was Resolved unanimously: "That the gallantry displayed by the late

LIEUTENANT JOHN W. AGAR,

Royal Corps of Signals, who lost his life when attempting to save Driver J. H. Castle from drowning in the sea at Studland Bay, Dorset, on the 27th August 1933—having previously saved another man—merits the highest praise of the Meeting, and the Committee, in sympathising with his relatives, desire to record their appreciation by the grant of the Honorary Testimonial of the Society inscribed on vellum."

(Signed) EDWARD P., *President.*
C. J. EYRES, *Chairman.*
F. A. CLAUGHTON, *Secretary.*

❀ ❀ ❀

Exchanges.—Subaltern suddenly warned to proceed to India this trooping season (probably March) desires exchange. Write Lieut. Z. c/o the Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, Victoria, London, S.W.1.

❀ ❀ ❀

Perusing our copy of "The Monthly Bulletin"—that extremely interesting publication of Royal Canadian Signals—one cannot help commenting upon the matter-of-fact terseness which is a characteristic feature of their Station notes. That our Canadian brethren do not lack excitement and adventure is amply illustrated by the following extracts:—

Dawson, Yukon Territory, 31st August 1933.

Traffic has been slightly heavier during August. The weather has been mostly cooler than throughout July, and towards the end of the month it started freezing at nights, destroying most of the gardens and causing much damage to the local water system, which will not be closed off until about the 15th of September.

S.M. Heath arrived on the 16th August to take charge of the Station in place of S.M. Armstrong, who leaves shortly for the "outside."

Bears are causing a great deal of trouble this season, and to date there have been seven men lost. It is supposed that some of them have been killed by bears.

. . . . . .

Mayo Landing, Yukon Territory, July 1933.

Considerable warm weather during the month caused a general trek to the swimming hole at Five Mile Lake. Two softball games, Boat versus Town, have been played and won by Town by overwhelming scores. The married men again defeated their unfettered brethren by a close margin, but the bachelors are still hopeful.

As usual, this year several encounters with bears have been reported. Recently, there was nearly a tragedy at Keno when a bear jumped Tom Keating from behind. A policeman, hearing his cries, rushed to his assistance but was unable to use a gun, so he beat off the bear with an axe. When the bear attacked again, he shot it at a distance of four feet. Keating was in a very serious condition, and it is expected that he will be about a year recovering from his injuries.

The Mining Companies are rushing shipments of all available ore before the expected drop in silver prices. There is no hope held that mining activities will be resumed this fall.

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked to announce that Mr. A. Wickins, ex-I.M.T. Royal Signals and Army Signal School, Poona, India, 1924 to 1928—now c/o Hardcastle Waud & Co., Ltd., Alice Buildings, Hornby Road, Bombay, India—would like to hear from Sergeants Maynard A. and Aitken, also late of Army School, Poona.

❀ ❀ ❀

We take this opportunity of thanking those of our Unit Representatives who assisted us to dispose of " Help Yourself " Magazines on behalf of the Reedham Orphanage authorities.

The secretary of that organisation also asks us to announce that their sales of this year's Magazine have reached a total which will result in over £400 more being available for Reedham Orphanage than last year, and to thank those supporters—and particularly those who have helped for the first time—for their valuable co-operation.

As a token of their appreciation, the Orphanage Board of Control have allotted Signals Association twenty votes at their next election of children to the Orphanage, and a similar number of votes for the election scheduled to take place in July 1934.

❀ ❀ ❀

Vocational Training: Woodworking Machinist.

The present-day demand for speedier production has resulted in the development of high-class woodworking machinery. This has, in turn, increased the demand for men to work the machines.

The trade of woodworking machinist offers at once a well-paid and very interesting means of employment, and for the man with mechanical interests there is no better trade. The work is clean, absorbing and moderately easy to learn.

The woodworking machinist enjoys a unique position inasmuch as he is in demand in practically every section of the timber trade. Many other trades not directly connected with the timber industry employ working machinists, i.e. pattern makers, coach builders, aircraft manufacturers, shipbuilders, car body builders—to mention only a few.

The woodworking machinist is well paid—his wages are at least equal to those of other skilled tradesmen, and in many instances he can specialise on one machine such as the spindle moulder or four-cutter, when his wages are considerably more.

The demonstrators, erectors and salesmen of woodworking machinery manufacturers are usually recruited from exceptionally keen men who have worked the machines. Other well-paid positions to which the wood machinist may rise are those of mill foreman and saw doctor.

In keeping with modern practice, the machinery installed at the Army Vocational Training Centre, Aldershot, is of the latest motorised type, comprising circular saws, planing machines, band saws, spindle moulders, tenoning machines, mortising machines, wood-turning lathes, etc.—the Centre being completely equipped to carry out any normal machine work.

The student, when beginning his course, is first placed with the older and more experienced students until he becomes accustomed to his surroundings, the sounds of the different machines, and the general methods and behaviour of those in the mill. He is then given instruction in the uses of the various machines, starting, stopping, and the safety precautions necessary when the machines are being worked.

As he becomes proficient, he is given elementary jobs on the saw and planing machines ; from this he goes on to more intricate work on the mortiser, tenoner, band saw and spindle moulder.

Whilst using the different machines, the student is taught to make, grind and sharpen the various cutters he requires, to sharpen and set saws, to braze band saws, and general machine maintenance.

As the training is coupled with extensive production, the student is working the whole time in an environment similar to that of a civilian factory or saw mill, and after his initial training he is doing the same work in identically the same way as any civilian wood machinist.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Life's Little Problems.

" **Wanted.**—At an old-established and well-known clinic in Kent. An ex-Service man of exemplary character, to act as general handy man. Must be unmarried, well recommended, and be prepared to live on the premises. Wages £1 per week, all found."

A message to that effect was sent to this office quite recently, and we at once set about the task of selecting a suitable candidate for the post. We thanked the principal for his offer, and informed him that we would have a number of applicants at this office on any day to suit his convenience, so that he could make a selection ; and he arranged to be present for that purpose three days later.

An ex-Signals man was already installed at the establishment in question in the capacity of chef, and from him we learnt that the new post was a good one, with no responsibilities, and of a permanent nature so long as the selected candidate gave satisfaction. Splendid! It was just the type of job we could deal with, and we cheerfully turned to our registers for the man we wanted.

Altogether we communicated with twelve likely fellows, all of them with good Army credentials but no particular civil trade qualifications, and all recorded at this office as willing to accept any work for which they were considered suitable. There was, in fact, very little time to lose ; but having despatched our twelve letters, describing the situation and asking the recipients to report at this office for an interview with the prospective employer on the given date, we felt that we were well on the way to pulling another chestnut out of the fire, and awaited results.

At the time appointed, the principal and his secretary were the first to arrive, being followed shortly afterwards by *two* of our twelve candidates. The other ten did not materialise nor did they offer any reason for not doing so. However, the principal was not to know that, and—making the best of a disappointing and unsatisfactory situation—we presented our two fellows for nomination. Both were interrogated and gave satisfactory replies. The job was explained to them in full detail, and both expressed their willingness to accept it. So far, good ; but there was only one vacancy!

The principal selected his man, proceeded to give him full instructions as to how and when to reach his destination, thanked us for our courtesy, and departed. He was obviously pleased with his reception and also with his selection ; and when he had gone, we went over the details of the journey with our man and finally dismissed him with instructions to report to the school in Kent at midday on the following Sunday. That was that! Another man employed, and another card transferred to the " Employments Found " section.

Incidentally—and before the man who had been turned down had left the office—we received a phone call from a friendly firm in the West End for a man to be sent to them immediately for permanent employment. He, too, was sent off there and then—making two jobs filled in one morning. Great stuff! the sort of thing which gives a fellow an appetite for lunch.

Now for the sequel. Late that same evening—about 7 o'clock, to be precise: when all good secretarial staffs are presumed to be enjoying the comforts of their own domestic surroundings—there came a ring of the front door bell! We were then just putting the finishing touches to our outgoing mail, preparatory to locking up and going to the post ; but, being curious to know who could be visiting us at that time of night, we ventured downstairs to ascertain. Our visitor turned out to be candidate number one—the man who a few hours previously had accepted the clinic vacancy. He was obviously ill at ease, and finally he blurted out that he had reconsidered his decision and did not now want the job ; furthermore, he was not going.

It had been a trying sort of day, and I suppose that at seven in the evening one's grey matter does not function with the same rapidity as it does at 7 a.m. Suffice it to say that, before we could think of an observation suited to that particular occasion, our visitor was well on the road to Victoria. We closed the front door quietly, proceeded upstairs, collected the mail, turned out the lights, and went home.

Of course, the principal of that school and his secretary will be delighted when they receive our letter! It is a good letter—carefully thought out, very explanatory and very apologetic. We have informed them that this is not our usual way of doing business ; and, of course, they will believe us. They may possibly call in their ex-Signals chef and tell him what a splendid Association he belongs to. They may even go so far as to give us the opportunity of nominating *another* of our men. They may—and yet again, they may not. We wonder!

Salisbury Branch.

Second Annual Dinner.—Forty-two members sat down to enjoy a dinner tastefully provided by the proprietors of the Café Rendezvous, 21 Catherine Street, Salisbury, on Friday 1st December 1933. The decorations of the dining room recalled to those present their past signalling days. Pliers were used to support the menu cards, whilst a miniature permanent route was erected on the tables with the poles standing in the middle and wired up with a D.iii. tapped in on each terminal pole. There were three terminal poles—one in the centre of the head table and one each at the end of two tables where a member of the committee sat. There was great excitement when various members picked up the telephones and started to send the calling-up sign, and discovered that they could telephone to various pals on the other tables. On the head table one could see a miniature wireless station connected to a small motor car, representing the Army of to-day with its mechanisation. Further interests were added by having the jolly old blue and white flags which many present had used during their service. Company Orders posted up in the hall leading to the dining room brought back many memories of days of good comradeship in the Corps.

We were greatly honoured by the presence of Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (Colonel-Commandant of our Corps) who was our chief guest. During his speech he recalled past days of the Boer and Great Wars, where he met several of the old comrades who were at dinner with him on this occasion.

The loyal toast was proposed by our president, Colonel F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., who said a few words on the way the Branch had got on. He also spoke of the unemployment problem. He said that very shortly he would be leaving us, but he hoped he had been able to fulfil his aim when he was appointed president of this Branch, by raising it to a high standard and fostering the spirit of " love of regiment " amongst all its members. The reply to this was loud applause from all members present.

Mr. W. Ison (vice-president) rose to propose " Our Guests." He spoke of the honour of having the Colonel-Commandant of our Corps present with us. He also referred to Colonel Heymann, and emphasised the fact that he had been one of the best presidents we could have. We should greatly miss him when he leaves us, but we wished him every success in his new appointment. Continuing, Mr. Ison mentioned Flight-Lieut. Bishop of the National Association, who was present as one of our guests. Had it not been for the Flight-Lieutenant often coming to the rescue, he said, we should not have been able to have placed so many of our ex-Signals'in situations. He then referred to Colonel R. F. B. Naylor (O.C. 3rd Divisional Signals) as another great friend. During the Bulford church parades his welcome is always warm and makes us feel at home, so that all our members look forward to these great occasions when we visit them.

The toast was responded to by Lieut.-General Sir John Fowler, who on rising was welcomed with loud applause. He explained how he had heard of the good work of this Branch and of our president, who had worked so hard for us. His speech was welcomed by all present.

Mr. Cole, proposing the toast of " The Signals Association," explained what had been going on during the past year, showing the increase in membership, the decrease in the unemployment figures of the Branch and its aims for the future. He expressed regret that the General Secretary (Mr. Butler) from London was not able to be present owing to a slight accident, and also at losing our president, although our loss is another section's gain.



Annual Dinner of the Salisbury Branch, Signals Association, 1933

Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, in a brief reply, ran through the work of our Association and the 3rd Divisional Signals, explaining the difference between the Army of yesterday and that of to-day.

The next toast, proposed by Mr. Cannell, president of the entertainment committee, was "Absent Friends." He referred to various members who were present last year but who unfortunately were unable to attend now; also to Colonel Martineau, D.C.S.O. Southern Command, whom he hopes to meet another year—he was unable to attend owing to a previous engagement. He recalled those comrades who had suffered and passed on. This toast was honoured in silence, the company standing for a minute.

Finally, Colonel Heymann proposed a toast to the proprietors of the Café for the excellent dinner they had provided and for their efficient service. This was greeted by loud applause from all present.

Promptly at 9.30 p.m. the party adjoined to the dance room and were entertained by Mr. A. Knee (comedian), Mr. C. W. Wyatt (lightning sketches), Mr. E. C. Fray (pianoforte), R.Q.M.S. Adcock (comedian), R.Q.M.S. Smart (recitation), and by other members of the Association, who gave songs to make the evening a merry one. Old-time war tunes were played by Mr. Fray, the whole company joining in whole-heartedly.

As Sir John Fowler and Colonels Heymann and Naylor prepared to depart at 10.15 p.m., every member rose and sang heartily "For they are jolly good fellows," and finished up with three roaring good cheers which assisted them on their way home, knowing that their presence was greatly appreciated by all.

The programme concluded at 11.15 p.m., when the members wended their way home. The arrangements were made by the entertainment committee: Messrs. Cannell, Hand, Daniels and Cole and R.Q.M.S. Smart.

Future Engagements.—Will all members please note and book the following dates for 1934, and come along to support the Branch in its activities:—

January 26th—A social for members, their wives, and friends; price 6d.
February 9th—Games tournament, Salisbury Signals O.C.A. v. 3rd Divisional Signals.
February 23rd—O.C.A. annual dance.
March 16th—Games tournament, Salisbury O.C.A. v. Royal Army Pay Corps O.C.A.
April 6th—A social for members, their wives, and friends.
April 20th—Games tournament, Salisbury O.C.A. v. R.A.S.C. O.C.A.
October 26th—A social for members, their wives, and friends.

Various other functions such as church parades, band concerts, etc., will be notified later.

Notification regarding the above will be sent to every member, and we trust they will support them in order that the entertainment committee may fix further programmes in 1935.



Cable Repairs in Marsamuscetto Harbour: Drum on Lighter.

Sergt Callegari on the left and Corpl Tent by the drum.

[This Malta Signals photo was crowded out of the October 1933 issue]

Change of Address.—As notified in the November issue of THE WIRE, please note from the date of this issue that the secretary's address is "CHARNWOOD," 10 CHARNWOOD ROAD, SALISBURY, WILTS.

To all Branches of the Association.—We wish you all prosperity in 1934, hoping you will enjoy a happy New Year, increase in membership, and continue to foster the spirit of esprit de corps amongst all ranks, serving and otherwise. We would welcome any transfers from home or abroad.

To our editor and secretary we wish every good thing for the New Year.

For the Benevolent Branch of the Association we wish good fortune. May the Branch increase in its receipts in order to meet the great demands made upon it.

And to those down and out, may the spirit of this New Year reach you with prosperity and the chance of work.

F. COLE, Hon. Secretary.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of ex-Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Lineman
2 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Lineman
3 Ex-Signalman, Surrey ..... Houseman
4 Ex-N.C.O., Portsmouth ..... Telephone Operator
5 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Lineman
6 Ex-Signalman, Birmingham ..... Labourer
7 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool ..... Agent
8 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Porter
9 Ex-N.C.O., Middlesbrough ..... Labourer
10 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Fitter's Mate
11 Ex-Signalman, Chatham ..... Labourer
12 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Fitter's Mate
13 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Fitter's Mate
14 Ex-N.C.O., London ..... Fitter's Mate
15 Ex-Signalman, Reading ..... Labourer
16 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Labourer
17 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Houseman
18 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Labourer
19 Ex-Signalman, Croydon ..... Post Office (temporary)

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Mr. E. J. Young
Officers Mess, S.T.C. Catterick
3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, India
Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display, S.T.C. Catterick

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from:—
Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D.
Captain D. L. Carnegie
Mr. E. J. Young

APPEALS dealt with:—

1 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
2 Ex-N.C.O., Leith. Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
3 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
4 Ex-Signalman, Norfolk. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
5 Ex-Driver, Kent. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
6 Ex-Driver, Reading. Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
7 Ex-Signalman, Sheffield. Domestic difficulties. £1 grant
8 Ex-Signalman, Birmingham. Domestic difficulties. £2/10/0 grant
9 Ex-Signalman, London. Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
10 Wife of deceased Signalman, Dublin. Temporary difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
11 Ex-Signalman, Bradford. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
12 Ex-Signalman, Sussex. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
13 Ex-Signalman, Plymouth. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
14 Sigmn, India. Domestic difficulties. £6 loan and £2 grant

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

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major E. L. Hill from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Major A. L. Harris from Catterick to Woolwich.
Major H. V. V. S. Thorne from Aldershot to Egypt
Captain F. S. Thompson from Palestine to London (R.E. Board)
Captain F. T. Pope from Catterick to Belfast
Captain E. G. Sinnott from Bulford to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Captain M. Duncan from Aldershot to India
Captain C. Childs from Tidworth to R.W.A.F.F.
Captain J. A. I. Watts from India to Bulford (3rd D/S)
Captain F. P. L. Gray from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Captain A. E. Morrison from India to Aldershot (1st D/S)
Lieut. L. C. C. Harrison from India to Bulford (3rd D/S)
Lieut. A. J. G. McNair from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. W. D. Weir from India to Scarborough (5th D/S)
Lieut. E. V. McCormack from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. K. H. Treseder from London to India
Lieut. E. Y. Nepean from Catterick to India

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 17/11/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Captain G. Gray to be Major 13/9/33
P. L. M. Day, late 2/Lieut. Royal Signals, to be 2/Lt. 8/11/33

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—P. M. Galbraith to be 2/Lt. 18/11/33

War Office 21/11/33

REGULAR ARMY—
Colonel J. A. F. Mair, M.C., half-pay list, retires on retired pay 22/11/33

War Office 1/12/33

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
Major J. G. Deedes, M.B.E., retires on retired pay 1/12/33
Captain C. Childs is seconded for service under the Colonial Office 1/11/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
H. S. Wilson to be 2/Lieut. 2/12/33

War Office 8/12/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
A. N. Goode to be 2/Lieut. 9/12/33

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—R. A. Waldron to be 2/Lt. 6/12/33
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Colonel J. W. Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., vacates the appointment of Honorary Colonel, 6/12/33
Lieut. J. C. Denison-Pender, late General List, to be Hon. Colonel 6/12/33

War Office 12/12/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
The undermentioned to be 2/Lieuts. 13/12/33: A. W. Damon and H. H. Ledger

War Office 15/12/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
2/Lieut. J. Elkins to be Lieut. 1/11/33
D. M. P. Millar to be 2/Lieut. 16/12/33

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
50th (N.) Divl Signals—Lieut. F. M. Sargent resigns his commission, 2/11/33

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Correspondence.

[D.O. 496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
The Editor of "The Wire." 16th December 1933.

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the January 1934 WIRE.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll.

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants 27/1/30
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File 8/2/29

C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c R.Signals Records.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 4.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

Round the World.

By Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O.
Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, India.

The following notes were compiled by the writer after a recent tour. They may be of interest to officers in India and the East who contemplate a similar way of spending their leave.

Officers who are stationed in India are entitled to eight months leave during their tour, and it seems the " chance of a lifetime," as they are already nearly half way round the world, to complete the other half. This also applies, of course, to other officers stationed further East.

Like most things, given the time and no obligation to visit England, it resolves itself into a question of *cost*.

The first matter for consideration is the advertised fare. A " round the world " ticket from Bombay to Bombay, first class, costs £168/6/6 (1934). A similar ticket from Bombay to London and return by P. and O. works out at £126. There is therefore a difference of only £42/6/6 for the complete tour. The compulsory addition to the latter is the food on the trains, and sleeping berth on the railway across Canada. The C.P.R. is preparing inclusive meal and sleeper charges for the journey across the continent. There are also the expenses at any " stop overs " and ports of call such as Hong Kong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, etc., which are naturally what one makes them.

These rates can be considerably reduced by travelling second class or tourist, both of which are quite bearable, though naturally they have not the luxury of first class accommodation.

Whether you make the trip eastward or westward is immaterial. As the writer made it westward, it will be described in that direction.

For the trip from Bombay to London, no notes are necessary. We will therefore commence with England.

The choice of steamships across the Atlantic is important. The minimum fare quoted above entails travel by " Duchess " ships from Liverpool to Quebec or Montreal. They are good and the accommodation is excellent, but they are slower than the *Empress of Britain*, the leading passenger ship in the world. The latter starts from Southampton, and is well worth the slight extra expense involved. It was in this ship that the writer crossed the " herring pond."

Until one has actually travelled in a ship of this kind, it is quite impossible to realise the comfort and luxury of a modern sea voyage. Its gross tonnage is 42,000 tons. There is a full-size tennis court, a magnificent swimming bath, and a ball room. The cabins are styled apartments and are the size of a large room. Everything possible is done for one's comfort—dances, talkies and sports are all to hand ; meals à la carte (and you get what you fancy without extra charge) ; whilst a morning paper comes with your " chota hazri " to your apartment.

The daily run in the open sea averages 615 miles, and the crossing from Bishop's Rock to Belle Isle takes less than eighty hours, the rest of the voyage being in sheltered waters. The advantage of this route for a bad sailor needs no emphasis.

Leaving Southampton on a Wednesday, you find yourself at Quebec on Monday morning. Unfortunately the *Empress of Britain* cannot proceed further up the St. Lawrence, so you disembark under the Plains of Abraham (famous for Wolfe's victory over the French in September 1759) after a far too short voyage. The regiments which took part in that historic battle were the 1st Battn Royal Sussex, 1st Battn Oxford and Bucks L.I., 1st Battn East Yorks, 1st Battn Gloucestershire, 1st Battn Loyal North Lancs, 1st Battn Northamptonshire, and 60th Rifles (two battalions). This was the second time Quebec was captured by the British from the French, the first being on July 22nd 1629.

The " Duchess " boats go on to Montreal (160 miles) after a suitable halt. Presuming you " stop over " in Quebec, with the aid of a red-cap (porter) you " check " your heavy baggage, for which there is a liberal allowance, through to your ship at Vancouver, and find it on board when you arrive.

The Canadian dollar varies like all other currencies, but is now about 5/0. Before leaving England, you must make arrangements for cash during your tour. A letter of credit from your bankers is as good a way as any, and enables you to travel with as little loose cash as possible. Agents of the " Big Five " banks are to be found in every place, and there is therefore no difficulty in getting money on an " as required " basis.

On landing in Quebec, avoid the Chateau Frontenac (called after Count Frontenac, a French Governor of Canada in 1672) unless you are very rich. It is very expensive, as are most of the C.P.R. hotels. Your best plan, if you wish to do the trip economically, is to go (or write beforehand) to the Chief Tourist Bureau and say what you require in the way of accommodation. There is an excellent system throughout Canada of " recommended " billets in every town and village. As a rule these are first class, consisting of a room with bathroom plus hot and cold running water. The charge is normally one dollar (5/-) per diem. Breakfast and other meals are generally not obtainable, but these are very easily procured at à la carte cafeteria, restaurants, etc. Tips in Canada are on the same basis as in England—*not* Scotland.

Quebec is full of historical interest, and a very good book to read before arrival, and also to take with you, is " The Historical Geography of Canada " (in three small parts) published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford. One can easily spend three days here without a dull moment.

In passing, it is interesting to note that it was opposite the Plains of Abraham that the *Royal William* of 363 tons was built. It was the first steamship to cross the Atlantic and took twenty-five days in doing so! But that was in 1832.

A visit by car or train to Montmorency Falls (ten miles) is well worth while. There you will find Kent House, now an excellent hotel, but formerly the residence of the Duke of Kent (father of Queen Victoria). You might find it worth while to stay there a day or two, as there is a first class golf course adjacent to the hotel. In fact, you find golf courses all over Canada, and the members are most hospitable to visiting officers. If you have friends, so much the better ; if not, it may be possible to get introductions from mutual friends, and this would make all the difference to your visit.

On the subject of introductions, do not forget that the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals is allied to the Royal Corps of Signals. If you get into touch with any officers in the former, nothing can exceed their kindness and hospitality : it is proverbial.

In the matter of drinks, it is well to remember that all hotels and trains (except in Quebec, where one can get beer and light wines) are " dry." Liquor is obtainable at Government stores on payment of 4 dollars (£1) for a licence, after which you can buy as much as you like ; but this liquor cannot be consumed in a public place. There is method in this restriction. The Province of Ontario alone gets 200,000 dollars a year from such licences—a large proportion of which are taken out by U.S.A. citizens, who cross the border to get a drink. One can see how the revenue of Canada will suffer when the States again go " wet."

Having done Quebec, your next halt will probably be Montreal, founded by a Breton sailor of St. Malo named Jacques Cortier in 1535 on the site of the Indian village of Hochelaga, renamed Royal Mount. If you cross the Atlantic in a " Duchess " ship, it automatically takes you to Montreal. On the other hand, if you travel by the *Empress of Britain*, you must either tranship or proceed by rail. The former is preferable.

The Canadians are proud of Montreal, and if you read the history of the city you will find much of interest. If you do not wish to visit Ottawa, you can continue by lake steamer to Toronto. But it is recommended to go to the capital city, about three and a half hours journey.

When Canada was made a Dominion, there was great jealousy between Toronto and Montreal. Both claimed the right to be the seat of Government ; but Queen Victoria settled the dispute by deciding in favour of neither and choosing Ottawa. One advantage is that it is further from the frontier between Canada and U.S.A. and therefore strategically safer. The Ridean canal is of historical interest. It was first proposed as a military measure during the war of 1812, to provide an alternative route to the St. Lawrence between the west and Montreal. It was built by the Royal Engineers in seven years (1825—1832).

Now a word as to trains in the Dominions. (Incidentally, remember that railway time is different to local time.) You have a first class ticket and therefore think you are all right. But there is no such thing, practically speaking, as third class. Everyone travels first class, so you have to pay a supplement to travel by " parlour car "; or if you are spending the night, your sleeping berth supplement covers it. Both are expensive. If you are travelling tourist, you have the entrée to the dining car but not the parlour car. The sleeping cars are not like those in England. They consist of long carriages with berths (one above the other) down the whole length, with curtains to be drawn when in bed. Bedding is provided, and there are washing places at opposite ends of the carriage for men and women. Special compartments fitted up can be reserved but are most expensive : about £5/10/0 per twenty-four hours (for two).

Meals in the restaurant car are lavish and served à la carte : e.g. you can get a plain breakfast consisting of toast or rolls, marmalade and tea or coffee, for 45 cents (about 2/3) or with eggs 85 cents (4/3). For luncheon or dinner you will find that one portion is ample for two people : this is a recognised custom. The C.P.R. pride themselves on the civility of their servants, and from practical experience I can say it is not an idle boast.

On arrival at Ottawa, if you have not made previous arrangements with a tourist agency, the Chateau Laurier (C.N.R.) is the best. You pay 5 dollars (25/-) for your room alone, and for meals as required. These are not expensive ; an excellent dinner costs about 6/0. The dining room is one of the prettiest in the world, being oval shaped and decorated and furnished with great taste. Every hotel in Canada has a cafeteria where you can get "snack" meals at reasonable rates.

Ottawa is very beautiful ; it is well laid out and has fine public buildings. In the summer you can get excellent golf and bathing, and in the winter ski-ing. There is a wonderful Memorial Chamber in the clock tower of the Houses of Parliament to commemorate those who fell in the Great War, together with a Book of Remembrance. This should undoubtedly be visited. A carillon installed in the clock tower by Messrs. Bell, of Croydon, is played once or twice a week.

Ottawa is the seat of Government, and therefore of the Ministry of Defence, which corresponds to our War Office. The Director of Signals (at present Colonel Forde, D.S.O.) is there and should be visited by Signal officers.

From Ottawa you can train to Toronto, but a better plan is to go to Brockville (2¼ hours) and get on one of the lake steamers calling at Kingston en route. This is a lovely journey through the thousand islands. On nearing Kingston you will pass Barriefield, which is the prospective site of the new S.T.C. for the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. It should be completed in 1936. A " stop over " in Kingston would enable you to visit the R.M.C., a training college of great interest. Unlike our own R.M.C., it provides a four years course, and students there graduate for civil employment. A very high standard of engineering is set, and all officers for the R.C.C. of S. qualify at this college. In the Cadets Mess you will see the regimental plate of the Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) which is loaned to the College until such time (if ever) as they are re-constituted.

Leaving Kingston by boat in the evening, you find yourself at Toronto in time for breakfast—or you can go by train if preferred.

Toronto, formerly called York and the site of Fort Roullé, is a thoroughly modern and up-to-date city. The Westminster Hotel will meet all your requirements. It is clean and comfortable, and its charges are very moderate. By the way, you will notice that hotel quotations are on "European" or "American" plan. The former means room only ; the latter is en pension.

The Niagara Falls are the show piece from Toronto. These can be reached either by motor car or steamer. The former is the better means.

The Canadian side of the Falls is perfectly lovely, and there are good hotels where one can stay the night if one desires to see the illuminations. The United States side has been spoilt by power houses and ugly buildings. On the return journey, the Brock Memorial should be visited. It is erected on the site where the British under General Brock defeated the Americans in 1812.

Toronto is the headquarters of Military District No. 2, and the 2nd Div. Signals of the Canadian Corps of Signals (Militia) have a mess in the city. Lieut.-Colonel McPherson was in command, and nothing can exceed the keenness and attachment of his unit to the Royal Corps of Signals. The writer feels sure that a visit to this unit would be very instructive to the visitor.

The onward journey from Toronto should be done by lake steamer as far as possible. You leave for Port McNicoll at 1.30 p.m. and embark at 4.30 p.m. the same day. The steamers are excellent and are far more comfortable than the train.

You have to pay a supplement of 4 dollars (or £1) for this, but it is well worth it. You cross Lake Huron, calling at Sault San Mare (1669), now a mining centre, about 1 p.m. next day, and going through some locks enter Lake Superior at 3.30 p.m.

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Arriving at Port Arthur at 7 a.m. the following morning, you continue your journey by train, passing the Lake of the Woods —an extraordinarily pretty journey.

It is interesting to note, by the way, that during the vacation period, at all the fashionable hotels the " bell boys " (corresponding to our " Buttons ") are University students. These students do this chiefly to get money for a continuation of their studies. Incidentally, *never* leave your boots outside your door to be cleaned. This is taken as a sign that you do not want them, and they disappear. In spite of the heavy charges of Canadian hotels, you must get your boots " shined " at the " shine shops," either in the hotel or outside. For this you pay about 20 cents.

Leaving Port Arthur at 7.30 a.m., you have a pleasant journey to Winnipeg, where you arrive the same evening. Winnipeg is a city with little interest beyond its huge wheat trade, but if you decide to stop for the night, the Alexandra Hotel (C.P.R.) is adjacent to the station and not too expensive (15/- without bath).

The train departs at 9.45 a.m. for the journey across the prairies. This is a very hot and dusty trek in the summer months, and cold during the winter. You pass through Regina, another large wheat growing centre, and spending the night in the train, arrive at Calgary at 7.55 a.m. There are several small hotels, quite good and considerably cheaper than that run by the C.P.R.

Calgary is the headquarters of No. 13 Military District, with Lieut.-Colonel Earnshaw, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, as G.S.O.1, and Lieutenant Hulbert the District signals officer. It is also the summer camp of Strathcona's Horse. Being situated on the edge of the Rockies, it is on a wonderful site.

One should not miss the chance of a visit to the Prince of Wales' (E.P.) Ranch (pronounced *ran*-ch), eighty-five miles distant. Professor Carlisle, who is the Prince's agent on the estate, is always glad to see Englishmen and show them round. The ranch is a perfectly gorgeous estate right at the foot of the Rockies. The return journey by the natural oil fields at night is never to be forgotten.

From Calgary onwards, the journey can be broken at Banff and Lake Louise, but the former much-advertised spot is disappointing. The scenery in Kashmir is better.

The route through the Rockies for " the coast " is a marvellous piece of engineering. A guide is provided by the C.P.R. on the train, and he points out all the places of interest. At the Great Divide, the boundary between Alberta and British Columbia, the train stops for passengers to alight and "wish" at the parting of the streams, one of which eventually reaches the Atlantic and the other the Pacific.

Sicamous is reached the same evening, and is well worth stopping at. The hotel is at the station and on the border of the lake, where trout fishing (trawling) can be obtained. All gear is provided at a fee.

The Dominion Express leaves nightly for Vancouver and gets there at 9 a.m. next day. There are many reasonable hotels in the city, and places of interest abound.

If time and money permit, it is well worth going on a round trip by steamer to Prince Rupert on the border of the Yukon. This takes about five days. Prince Rupert is the terminus of the Canadian National Railways.

Victoria, on Vancouver Island, is reached by a steamer leaving at noon and arriving at 4 p.m. It is a pretty journey and the ship is comfortable. Meals are obtainable on board.

Victoria is very English, and if you are lucky enough to have friends on the Island who can show you round, your last impressions of Canada will never be forgotten. The Beach Hotel at Oak Bay is first class, bathing and golf being practically on the premises ; but it is rather expensive.

And now comes your important point about the journey across the Pacific. In planning out your tour, you must remember that the " Empress " boats—the best on the Pacific—only sail once a fortnight. If you wish to visit Honolulu en route to Japan, you must go by either the *Empress of Canada* or the *Empress of Japan*. One of these departs every month, the intermediate " Empress " ships (smaller) going direct to Japan and sailing in the intervening fortnights.

You should, if possible, go via Honolulu, as the ships are larger and more comfortable and are oil burners. It is five days to Honolulu and fourteen to Yokohama from Victoria. Honolulu used to be a British Protectorate but is now under the American flag. It is interesting to note that going west you skip one day (known as meridian day), so that week consists of only six days. Going east you add one day, making an eight day week.

Arriving in Japan and going through the Customs, where they are very inquisitive, your stay will naturally depend on the time at your disposal. The tourist's usual itinerary is Yokohama (of little interest), Tokio (Imperial Hotel very cheap and good) and Nikko, the place for temples, where the Kanaya Hotel is quite good at 27 yen per diem for two, inclusive (the yen varies but may be taken now as 1/3). A day trip to Lake Chuzenji (eight miles), the summer residence for all Embassies at Tokio, is strongly recommended. The drive up the pass will never be forgotten: it is hair raising.

You come back from Nikko via Tokio to Miyanoshita, to the Fujiya Hotel, which is the last word in comfort. Excellent swimming baths and various hot spring baths are thrown in. It is more expensive than the Imperial at Tokio.

A day trip to Hakone gives you a good view, weather permitting, of Mount Fuji. There are numerous other walks and motor drives which enable you to see and appreciate the country. From here you bus and train to Kyoto, the former royal residence of the Imperial family. A permit to visit this place must be obtained beforehand from the British military attaché at Tokio.

Second class in the train is very good and cheap : in fact, all modes of locomotion in Japan are. From Kyoto, train to Kobe, where you catch your steamer. You have the option on your ticket of transferring to P. and O. if times of sailing, etc., suit. But this line does not normally call at Nagasaki. The writer continued in the C.P.R. *Empress of Russia* and did not turn over to the P. and O. until Hong Kong was reached.

It is a perfectly marvellous trip through the Inland Sea and is usually done in daylight. Your last port of call in Japan is Nagasaki, a defended port and one in which cameras are therefore not allowed. A day is spent in this place. On entering the port, which is very fine, you pass the celebrated Cliffs of Shimabara, where 30,000 Christians were massacred by being driven over the cliffs in 1637.

Shanghai is reached in thirty-six hours from Nagasaki, and here the ship usually stops for twenty-four hours. From now onwards, at each port of call you will find Royal Corps of Signals detachments, and if you know any of the officers you should make your number with them.

Sailing at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, taking on a police guard for fear of pirates, you get to Hong Kong at 8.30 a.m. on Thursday.

You now have ten days at your disposal if you follow the above time table. The Philippine Islands are well worth visiting, and this can be done in the C.P.R. boat by which you came from Shanghai. The round trip, stopping in the ship at Manila, costs £9/10/0 and takes six days. That will reduce your stay in Hong Kong to approximately three days. There are numerous hotels with good accommodation at about £1 per diem, but the food is very poor. Repulse Bay Hotel, on the south of the Island, is very fashionable and expensive in the season ; otherwise everything is exceedingly cheap.

You now have definitely to transfer to the P. and O. and will probably regret the change.

Leaving Hong Kong on a Saturday, you are due at Singapore on the following Wednesday, and sail again on Friday for Penang. You live on board and make your daily trips from the ship. The new Naval Base should be visited, but a special pass from the naval authorities is required.

You have only about twelve hours at Penang, but a run round in a car is worth while. The coast road is exceedingly pretty.

Leaving on Saturday night, Colombo is reached on Wednesday, the stay there being very short and affording little time to look around. Bombay should be " made " on Friday morning, completing the round tour.

By travelling by the above route, you will have made a tour you will never forget nor regret. You will also have the moral satisfaction of travelling under the British flag the whole way. You will be contributing your " mite " to help British shipping. You will further avoid helping the " Ice Cream " Line—heavily subsidised at British expense—to further undercut a national institution, viz. British shipping.

Solution of Cross-Word Puzzle No. 6

Published in the December issue.

1 P	I	2 T	C	3 H	F	4 O	R	5 K	■	6 C	O	7 B	R	8 A
A	■	A	■	O	■	C	■	E	■	R	■	R	■	M
9 N	O	C	T	U	L	E	■	10 E	M	A	N	A	T	E
I	■	O	■	S	■	A	■	L	■	D	■	S	■	N
11 C	A	N	T	E	E	N	I	S	C	L	O	S	E	D
■	■	I	■	O	■	I	■	O	■	E	■	I	■	M
12 P	A	C	I	F	I	C	■	13 N	E	O	C	E	N	E
L	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	■	■	F	■	■	■	N
14 A	I	15 T	C	H	E	16 S	■	17 P	A	T	R	18 I	O	T
I	■	I	■	B	■	E	■	R	■	H	■	O	■	■
19 N	O	P	L	A	C	E	L	I	K	E	H	O	M	20 E
N	■	P	■	R	■	K	■	V	■	O	■	L	■	V
21 E	N	L	A	R	G	E	■	22 A	M	E	R	I	C	A
S	■	E	■	O	■	R	■	T	■	E	■	S	■	N
23 S	T	R	A	W	■	24 S	T	E	E	P	N	E	S	S

- Plain Tales -

Here's Hoping.—I don't know what you thought of 1933, but taking it all round, I think it wasn't too dusty. Of course, one had to take the rough with the smooth, and after all, Henry Hall's band isn't playing *all* the time. Then, again, if you don't like the Army, you can always resign or tell the O.C. you'd like to be a sailor. I remember once telling my O.C. I didn't like soldiering. He was very interested. " So you don't like soldiering, eh?" he said. " No," I replied ; " blow soldiering!" at the same time kicking his little table up in the air. That was in the good old days, however, and I wouldn't advise you to use such strong language nowadays. 1934 is going to be a good year for the Army. More civilians are going to join. Something is going to be done about the pay, though whether it will be cut down or increased, I decline to reveal at this stage. Hope for the best and read orders daily. Wives should watch the C.R.A. Bulford Garrison will be supplied with real coal somewhere about—but I anticipate, as the girl said when she bought a perambulator.

A happy New Year to you!

* * * *

Uncle India.—Our powerful new true-to-life story of a man's grit and determination in the wild places east of Suez. Interval for loud and prolonged laughter. O.k. Let's go.

When I was not studying the natives, I was keenly interested in the wild life of the Indian jungle. On most occasions I took a camera instead of a gun, because a camera makes far less noise. When, however, it was decided that I should be entrusted with a rifle, I used an old Morris silencer clipped on the end. This was an invention of my friend Professor Nokes (the eminent authority on mud) who spent many hours in perfecting the attachment. The fact that this silencer had the effect of amplifying the sound of the explosion a hundredfold deterred him not one jot (or tittle). He said that I should probably imagine it was a bomb being dropped in the vicinity and take no notice.

Hunting tiger or panther requires nerves of steel. Nerves we had, and before setting out into the jungle, we always provided ourselves with Steel and Coulsons. In case you don't know what Coulsons are, let me tell you that the one is an indispensable part of the other, like Swan and Edgars or Huntley and Palmers.

In the autumn of 1929 I was out at Bungumdapur in the Central Provinces. This is a spot so little known that no one has heard of it but me, and I can say what I like about it. I had wandered away from the main party with my camera and a revolver ; poor weapons against a man-eater. We had been advised of the presence of at least twelve man-eaters in the district and had brought a three-ton lorry with us for the skins.

Strolling thoughtfully through the impenetrable undergrowth (no one else could have done it) I had a feeling that I was being watched. I pulled back the trigger of my revolver and gazed cautiously about me. Sure enough, just to the left of me was a huge tiger. I estimated his length at about ten feet. Now where were my nerves of steel? The tiger hadn't noticed me so far, which just shows that I was wrong about being watched. If I kept still, the chances were that he would pass on, but the temptation to add yet another skin to my collection was well nigh irresistible. Three times I raised my revolver to fire ; twice I lowered it. After a while I lowered it again, making three times. Then, horror of horrors, the beast looked straight at me. My blood ran cold. The hair rose on the nape of my neck. The palms of my hands became moist. Several other things happened, but we needn't go into that now.

The tiger threaded his way slowly towards me, his eyes never for a moment wavering from my face. Closer and closer he came until I could see the cruel claws biting into the soft ground and hear the muscles rippling under his sleek coat. Just when I thought I could stand the strain no longer, the tiger's lip curled in a distinct sneer. He passed so closely that he bumped me off my balance. I fell against a tree. The spell was broken. I took deliberate aim just behind the left shoulder and pulled the trigger. Nothing happened: I had put a film in the revolver—and a rapid examination confirmed my suspicions that the camera was full of revolver cartridges. The tiger looked back over his shoulder and once more his lip curled over wicked fangs. Then, uncurling his lip, he trotted off into the jungle shaking gently with laughter. Did that tiger know? Truth is indeed stranger than fiction, especially in the mysterious East.



Here is a very fine snap of a man-eater I bagged at Itarsi in 1930. What? not a tiger? Well, well! I must have sent the wrong picture.

* * * *

Visitors' Department.—For the purpose of this article, I claim to have been right up to the neck in work. Bills, accounts, letters, typescript and what-not all round me. Just as I was half-way down a staggering column of figures for the ninth time, there came a tap at the door. I put my finger on the place, made a rapid pencil note, lost the place, broke the point of my pencil, knocked the red ink over, sat back with a hearty curse and said " Yeah!" I never say " Come in." It only encourages people. The door opened to admit a man carrying a bowler hat and wearing a clean collar. " Ha!" I thought (I often think " Ha!") " an officer." I looked at his face. There were traces of intelligence, so I gave the matter further consideration.

I was about to think " Ha!" again when the man spoke. As he spoke, he smiled. You know. " I'm from Biggles, Boggles and Blatherstones," he said, exhibiting, I thought, a shade too much pride.

This was my cue. I like to make people feel easy and as much at home as possible in a perishing cold office. " Splendid!" I said. " How's old Boggles?"

My visitor's face took on a pained expression. " Mr. Boggles died in 1896," he replied gently, and smiled one of those forgiving smiles that make me want to tear up paving stones.

We looked at each other encouragingly for a while, but nothing happened.

" Very snappy weather," I ventured.

He brightened up at this and agreed with a creditable " Yes." " You had our letter, of course?" he asked.

" Of course," I replied, endeavouring to convey that we always have everybody's letters. We had had no letter from B.B. & B. so far as I knew, but my rule is " caution is as caution does " or some such phrase.

" You know," he said, " you remind me of someone. You must have a double."

" Well, it's a bit early, but as you are so insistent—"

" No, no," he broke in, a trifle too heartily in my opinion. " I mean you are the living image of a man I knew in '05, or it may have been in '06, at er—Aldershot. What was his name now?—I've got it on the tip of my tongue."

I eyed the mass of figures despairingly and leaned back with a fair show of polite attention.

"Did you ever know a sergeant—oh, dear! I nearly had it then. Short dark chap, name of Mac something, used to play football—no, it was billiards, because my brother used to—but, anyway, this chap, what was his name now? I'll get it in a minute."

A polite smile had by now frozen on to my face and the muscles were aching with the strain. I looked at my watch and decided that I should be finished about 6 p.m.

"As I was saying," drooled my visitor, "this chap Smith—no, it wasn't Smith, it was Bradford, and he was at Tidworth, not Aldershot—used to put up a jolly good show at—let me think—tennis, was it? His resemblance to you was—er—"

"Remarkable," I offered.

"No. Extraordinary." [My fingers closed round a heavy ebony ruler.]

"Rather queer when you think of it. Reminds me of another chap you probably know. I forget his name for the moment—I'll think of it in a minute. He was at—er—Karachi; no, at—oh, by the way, this *is* the Artillery Mess, isn't it?"

I dragged the body out into the passage for the secretary to trip over, and wiped the ruler carefully.

I don't think there is anything else I want to tell you.

BARLEUX.

Here and There.

Reminiscences of an R.E. Telegraphist: No. 5

BY R.G.M.

VII.

In the early spring of '97 I was sent back to Bristol to take up the duties of inspector, as the holder of that position was then called. The title was altered a few years later to "sectional engineer" and so remains to the present time. To me this change of occupation was a welcome one, as it brought me into much closer contact with the practical side of P.O. engineering work than was possible in my old clerical post; and furthermore, not merely permitted but necessitated much travelling about and the spending of many hours every week in the open air. This appealed to the vagabond in my blood, and I made it my practice to be out and about during the greater part of each day, and to dispose of the clerical work (of which there was more than enough) in the evenings.

At that period an inspector had no clerical assistance of any sort. He had to make surveys, prepare estimates, negotiate wayleaves, supervise work in progress, pay his staff (scattered, as they were, over his section), conduct correspondence, and in fact perform single-handed the hundred and one jobs pertaining to his post. In addition, he was expected to tackle obscure faults that had baffled his linemen and to clear them, however much that work might interfere with his ordinary duties. To say that he had his hands full is rather less than the truth; but as a means of training in the engineering side of the whole craft of telegraphy and telephony, the work wanted a lot of beating.

Indoor men—postmasters, telegraph superintendents and others—have often remarked to me, what a jolly life an engineering inspector leads; nothing to do but drive about the country and drop in to their offices to have a chat and make them feel envious. I used to smile more or less sweetly and say nothing. This was only one side of the medal. They overlooked the fact that driving about the country in rain or snow, as was so often necessary in the winter months, wasn't so very "jolly"; nor did they see me when I got back to my headquarters in the evening and sat down to three or four hours at my desk at a time when they were off duty playing billiards or otherwise amusing themselves. Not that I envied them: far from it. Most pursuits have their own drawbacks—and compensations; and I never felt any desire to exchange with my critics. Besides, I had variety, which is said to be the spice of life, and that alone is worth much.

One of the first jobs I had to tackle was the renewal of the underground cables in Bath. Up till that time all underground cables consisted of single wires insulated with gutta-percha, but in future lead-covered cables with paper-insulated wires were to be the rule. The new cable in Bath was the first of the latter type to be installed in the west of England, and as no one had had any experience of the methods of drawing in and jointing, or the precautions to be observed to ensure a successful change over, I took on the work myself with a small gang composed of individuals as ignorant as myself.

In those early days powdered black lead was used for lubricating the cable as it was being drawn in. The powder was contained in a "black lead sprinkler," which might be described as a cast-iron pepper pot about a foot long and rather over two and a half inches in diameter. This was fixed to the cable end and preceded it in its passage through the pipe line; the idea being that the black lead would be shaken out as the movement took place and so ease the cable forward. Well, it did more than that, for the handling of the cable and the sprinkler at the joint holes soon transformed the members of the gang into a close resemblance of chimney sweeps or nigger minstrels, and the sprinkler and the genius who invented it were both d——d with great heartiness!

However, the cable, when completed, passed the tests all right, which was some compensation for the destruction of the greater part of a suit of uniform. Black lead was shortly afterwards superseded by petroleum jelly as the lubricant, and the sprinkler disappeared from the list of tools required for cabling. I wonder if there is a specimen in the engineer-in-chief's museum. If there is, I should like to see it and once more express my candid opinion of it!

The time I write about was one of change. Old methods were being superseded by new with the object of improving the service, or for motives of economy. Secondary batteries were replacing primary batteries on telegraph circuits, and Bristol was among the first of the provincial offices to have the change made. I think Birmingham and Glasgow were the very first.

That work was, to me, some of the most interesting I was called on to undertake during the whole of my service, and although to-day it would probably be regarded as commonplace, it could hardly be called that in those pioneer days. It involved installing the charging plant—a gas engine and dynamo—as well as the batteries, as it was desired to make the office self-contained; and the whole of the apparatus in the instrument room had to be rewired. As everything had to be done without interference with the traffic, much of the work was carried out on Sundays, so that I worked a seven-day week for a good many weeks on end. I was fortunate in having a small band of willing and capable assistants, who put their backs into the task, and the change over was effected without the slightest hitch from start to finish.

* * * * * * * *

The year '97 was notable for the appearance of Signor (now the Marchese) Marconi in the west of England. In the previous year Signor Marconi had brought to England his new plan of communicating without wires, and secured the interest of Mr. (afterwards Sir William) Preece, the engineer-in-chief of the Post Office, who some years earlier had invented a system based on the inductive effects between two wires running parallel but three or four miles apart. This system was in operation for ordinary telegraph traffic between the Scottish coast and certain islands to which cables could not be laid.

The earliest trials of the Marconi system were made on the roof of the G.P.O. London during the summer of '96, but in May '97 more ambitious efforts were made to establish communication across the Bristol Channel—first of all, between Weston-super-Mare and Lavernock on the Welsh coast; and, a little later, between Brean Down, near Weston-super-Mare, and another point on the opposite shore. These trials proved successful, Morse signals being transmitted in both directions without difficulty.

My immediate chief—Captain J. N. C. Kennedy, R.E.—who was at that time in charge of the West sub-Division, was keenly interested in the new "wireless," as he foresaw great possibilities of its use for naval and military purposes, and he arranged with Signor Marconi to make some experiments on Salisbury Plain with a view to seeing how far signals could be exchanged over a land surface, the Bristol Channel trials having been over water.

These experiments took place in September '97, and I was fortunate in being selected to assist during their progress. Kites were employed to support the aerials of steel piano wire, one kite being held at a fixed point representing a Divisional or Army H.Q. and the other moved about as if attached to a column on the march. The apparatus was of the simplest description. For sending, the outfit consisted of an induction coil giving a spark of a couple of inches, a single current telegraph key, and the necessary dry cells; and for receiving, a Branly coherer (with a de-cohering tapper), a local inker, and five or six dry cells.

With this primitive equipment Morse signals were exchanged over a distance of a mile or two, and proved that the system was capable of development and should be of great value for signalling in the Army, especially in circumstances where field telegraph lines could not be constructed or maintained.

A few days later an attempt was made to signal between Salisbury Plain and Lansdown Heights, near Bath—a distance of roughly thirty miles. Unfortunately, a high wind caused the kite "string" at the Lansdown end to snap near the ground just as signals began to come through, and as the kite sailed off and didn't land until it had gone four or five miles, much time was lost in recovering it and the effort had to be abandoned. This was a great disappointment to all concerned; but enough had been learned to make it clear that Signor Marconi was working on the right lines and that further experiments would be worth while. I doubt whether any one of the small group of people taking part in these attempts—the first to be made outside a laboratory—had the least inkling of the development of wireless within the next thirty years. If Signor Marconi did, he kept it to himself—modest man that he is!

During the following months Captain Kennedy, whose interest remained unabated, lectured on wireless telegraphy at Exeter and at the Royal United Service Institution. He also gave a series of demonstrations at Clifton College when the British Association visited Bristol in September '98, on which occasion the "latest scientific toy" attracted great attention and was evidently the outstanding feature of that year's meeting. I acted as the lecturer's assistant at each of these functions, and I have a lively recollection of the various criticisms to which the new system was subjected by the sceptics, most of whom saw no good in these new-fangled ideas and said so, sometimes with considerable emphasis, not to say heat!

Much has happened since then, and the adverse criticisms are all forgotten. But when my neighbour's 40-horse power loud speaker is going good and strong at his open window, I sometimes wish that Signor Marconi and his imitators had not been *quite* so successful. I prefer music produced by an instrument possessing fewer characteristics of a foghorn!

The Marconi trials didn't go through without a few misadventures—humorous enough to look back upon; not so humorous at the time. One of them—the episode of the faithless ferryman—still makes me hot when I think about it.

Brean Down is separated from Weston sands by the river Axe, across which a ferry plies. One afternoon I had to visit the Down, and in going over I arranged with the ferryman to pick me up on the return journey any time before seven o'clock, when he ceased for the night. I got back long before that time but found no signs of the ferryman or his boat, and on enquiry at the farmhouse near by, I was told that he'd probably gone home.

"How can I get to Weston?" I asked.

"Oh, you'll have to walk round," was the reply.

"How far is it?" was my next question.

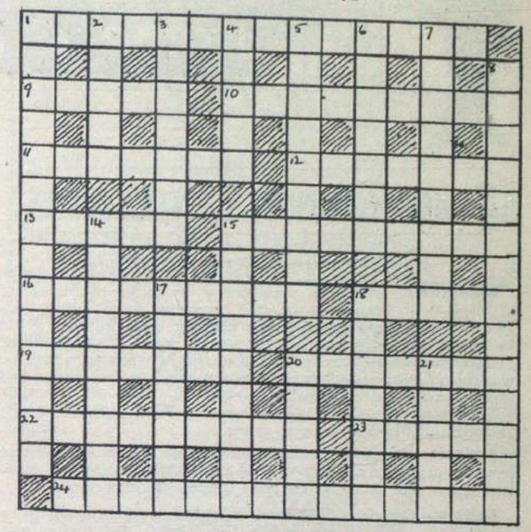
"Well, it's getting on for fourteen miles."

I expressed my thanks for the information and, nothing daunted, started off. Fortunately, the night was fine but very dark, and the lanes were so tangled that I had to climb several sign posts to read the directions by match light. Eventually I reached Weston shortly after midnight—hungry and rather leg-weary, but otherwise little the worse. The monotony of the tramp was whiled away by composing speeches to be addressed to the ferryman when next we met; but I think that in my then frame of mind, speech alone would have failed to satisfy me. However, fortunately or otherwise, I never saw the ferryman again and the addresses remain undelivered up to the present moment. Wasted energy!

(To be continued)

Cross-Word Puzzle: No. 7.

[For amusement only]



Clues—Across.

1 Fair ground in London (*two words*).
9 Frets in the trees.
10 Sounds as if a fish is going to be skinned by this lad.
11 This is not the aim of the Disarmament Conference.
12 Financier or dealer (*two words*).
13 Hastened about a small order in Italy.
15 May follow "stand to" in the Army.
16 This rider is 50 in a rather confused position.
18 But for a letter, this star would follow a pole.
19 There's an element of chance about the rig of this boat.
20 Spotted.
22 Understanding, I laze in a muddled way about the circle.
23 Think it sounds like an address to one of nine.
24 What a bird does for a rainy day? (*three words*).

Down.

1 A horseshoe is.
2 You may see men as in this parsonage.
3 To keep up we rise above the mark.
4 Mopes differently in Surrey.
5 A unit makes a London suburb a Staffordshire town.
6 Demonstrate a simple unknown quantity?
7 A quick movement to dye the fish in 10 by the sound of it.
8 Mending at Gazer (*anag.*)
14 Silent uprising about the same mixed causes a grinding of the teeth.
15 A good time or a thin one (*three words*).
17 Sometimes follows love in the garden (*three words*).
18 Not so in ideas.
20 A singer.
21 Quick.

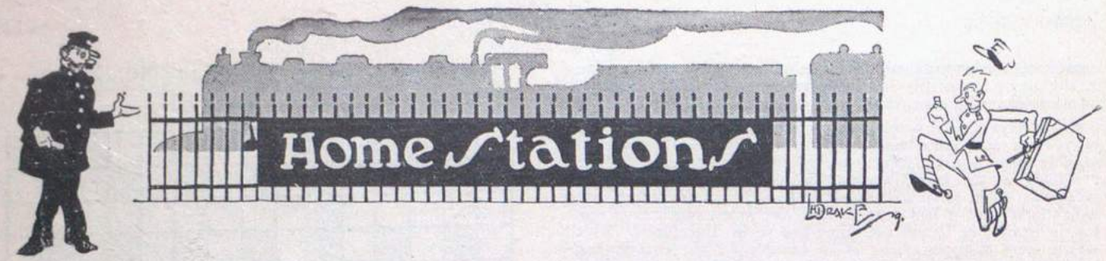
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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Departures.—We have, with sorrow, to record the departure of Major C. P. Prescot on the 27th November for E Troop, Tidworth. Praise may sound rather presumptuous, but we would be remiss did we not express the sincere regret of the Mounted Wing (of which he was O.C.) and of the Battalion (of which he was second-in-command) at the loss of a very popular, sincere and able officer. Our best wishes, sir!

Sorry your thunder has been stolen, Tich. Driver Heale accompanied Major Prescot as groom.

Arrivals.—Many and various, but as these are not (and, except over my mute body, never will be) Part II. Orders, we will leave it at that. Our greetings are none the less warm, however.

Medals.—Corporals Shaw and Ravenhall are fighting hard for another (?) clasp to the Indian G.S. medal, '08 (before you nipped!), while Sergt Oliver and Corpl Toye won the L.S. and G.C. medal hands down. Our heartiest congratulations.

Agonies.—To Wilkie and Bill Shaw at Bulford: What about it? Sonny.

Sergt Cr.wh.rst: Gratters on your King's.

Kit inspections.

Who keeps the right of the line? and if the R.H.A. and the Scots Greys share the honour, do the latter stand on the gun limbers or the shoulders of the Gunners?

Why did Wolfe say " Kiss me, Hardy " at Jena?

Has Proudlock been confirmed? If not, why not?

Christmas duty rosters. Leave is provisionally granted to. . .

Rats.—We have to report several cases of mistaken identity, and three very narrow shaves, under this heading. Who got stung by rat poison?

La Vie Militaire.—In midst of large hours of the twelve November a.m. grand bustle was in the lines of battalion brave le depot of signalling. Plenty of men speeds hither, while over there many going other way, crying out greatly and strange "Other. . ." and " Wot'nellavue. . ." and others " Weartheoly. . . ." Rest is unindelible, but one impressions it is the best so.

The automobiles rest, waiting with impatience the off start. We are to the futbol, for it is large occasion, and la Wing Mounted are on holiday. Vive le sport British! The rains it fall not, and the spirit of les braves rises in commensurate.

There is banging very much as the magnetic is hurled round furieusement by the rider, and plenty of unbalances while starts the machine. The three populace cries " Bravo!" and " Be not sozzled " and " To the seeing." The men is away.

The travel is of a longness and one says bored, " What an automobile red." Much vehiculars we see, and of many houses, but fields there is not much. Then we are to Leeds, la grand ville! We " Huzza " of loudness. There are many of peoples, the man and the female, but les braves have not the dismay. They form them in parties and go.

One says of un brave " A cigarette, I beg of you." Le brave responds, " Malheureusement, I have words concerning a canine to speak a man. I am desolate." She recoils, sorrowed.

The company goes its routes and not thinks the futbol plays. But certainly it is. I have astonishes. The whistling plays always one note, that it annoys, for peoples are roused and with violents assail the whistling. The brave gendarmes walk gently to and with, and all calms. I rescue a feminine, and we together regard the affray, which is of a thrilling superb. Mens crashes, les blessés are disposed. I am overcome. I retire, with feminine, sick. We have good time, and comme elle baisee! Cre nom!

Les braves return, in piece, but of the futbol they not speak. They contend ignoring of it. Of an affair so astounding I think to myself, clever, this is the phlegm Brittanique. Vive le sport, et les braves!

Tail Piece.—A happy New Year, you folk. BAXTER.

D Company, Training Battalion.

A happy New Year to you all! May all your resolutions be broken!

By the time these notes appear, the Christmas festivities will be a thing of the past. By what I can see of the arrangements being made for those remaining in barracks for Christmas, there is a good time in store for them. An account of this will be given in our February notes.

Children's Christmas Tree and Party.—The annual party given by the officers for the married families of the Battalion was held in Newbigging Hall on Tuesday 12th December. The hall was packed, and tea commenced at 4 p.m. During tea the Corps Band played selections which were enjoyed by all. Congratulations to the N.A.A.F.I. on the arrangements made for feeding the kiddies and their parents! It was indeed a splendid tea, and everyone enjoyed it.

After tea we were entertained to a cinema show, and the children were highly amused by the antics of Mickey Mouse. Then followed a sketch based on the olden days when smuggling was prevalent. This was an excellent performance, and the artistes gave of their best, especially Sherlock Holmes and my dear Watson.

The next item was the one eagerly awaited by the kiddies: the arrival of Father Christmas. This made them happy! Every child received a present from Santa Claus, and judging by their happy faces everyone was very pleased. When Santa Claus had done his good deed for 1933, he wished the children a happy Christmas and went on his way. He will be back again next year, children, if you are good.

Then followed games and rides for the young ones and a competition for the ladies. This competition was styled " Silhouettes " and was exceptionally good. Every lady had to guess what the silhouette represented, and congratulations are extended to the following who were the winners, receiving excellent prizes: 1st, Mrs. W. W. Page; 2nd, Mrs. Savage; 3rd, Mrs. Finley.

Oh! I nearly forgot to congratulate the gentleman who fetched the milk, as well as his helpers.

R.S.M. Butcher, on behalf of the married families, thanked the officers for the excellent and enjoyable party, and three cheers were given with gusto, followed by " Auld Lang Syne " and " The King."

So ended the kiddies' treat for 1933: a treat that was enjoyed by all. Each child was given a bag of sweets, an apple and a balloon to take home.

We tender our very best thanks to Mrs. Tillard, our commanding officer's wife, for all that she has done for the married families on this and other occasions.

Births.—To Sigmn and Mrs. Shelley a daughter, Maureen, at Catterick Military Hospital on 4/12/33. Our congratulations are extended to the happy parents.

Drafts.—The following will spend their Christmas on the troopship, and we wish them bon voyage: W.O. Cheek (A.E.C.) and family, L/Corpls Bennett and Statham, Signalmen Millett, Cox, Watson and Combe.

Inter-Hut Football Competition.—The winners of this competition were Nos. 15 and 16 Huts, and their prize was a supper provided by our O.C., Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E. The lads thoroughly enjoyed this, and they have asked me to thank the O.C. Company for his kindness. I am doing so through the medium of these notes.

Cheerio till February! E.R.B.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Leave.—Judging by the harassed look of the pay n.c.o., Christmas must be nearly here. " How much am I drawin', Corp?" The few n.c.o.s we have are also wearing worried looks, waiting patiently for the duty roster; but in spite of that, we still believe that a cyclone will hover over the 'Brum district in the near future. We wonder if the poor box will benefit by this pending visit. Warnings have been despatched to the local police at Reading and the Isle of Wight, while Portsmouth traffic cops are in readiness for pending visits.

Everybody is anxiously waiting for annual Christmas leave, and all one can hear is discussions of train timings and careful calculations as to how the local " flyer " can be caught with the minimum amount of time to spare. For answers to the last query, apply at No. 1 Bunk.

Christmas " Do."—A fancy dress dance, concert and grand bust-up has been arranged for Saturday 16th December. It will take place in the Boys' Club. The club committee and members of the concert party have been putting in some hard work in rehearsing, and a good show is looked forward to. Gordon Harker will attend.

Cross-Country.—For the chief performances see our Sports Notes, but we must make special mention here of L/Corpl Boy Verlander, who annexed the S.T.C. individual championship—an exceptionally fine performance for a boy of sixteen years of age. Well done, Verlander!

Appointment.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Boy Willis on his recent promotion to that giddy height.

Inter-Section P.T. Competition.—This has aroused much keenness and friendly rivalry between the four teams competing. Each individual is confident that *his* team will win. Everybody taking part has been practising hard during the last few days. The actual competition takes place on Thursday 14th December in the new S.T.C. gymnasium.

Departures.—During the last month we have lost several members of the Company. The ration situation has somewhat eased since A.F.V. Signals have taken over the responsibility of keeping Sigmn Scriven fit and well. We also notice that one station, chosen by coincidence, is that where extra large handkerchiefs are made—or at least, it is noted for its linen.

The following are the ex-boys whom we have lost, and we wish them well in their new sphere: Sigmn Rogerson to 5th Divl Signals. Signalman Rowden to North Ireland Signal Company. Sigmn Hadfield to A Corps Signals. Sigmn Scriven to A.F.V. Signals.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company Signalman Matthews from E Troop, Tidworth.

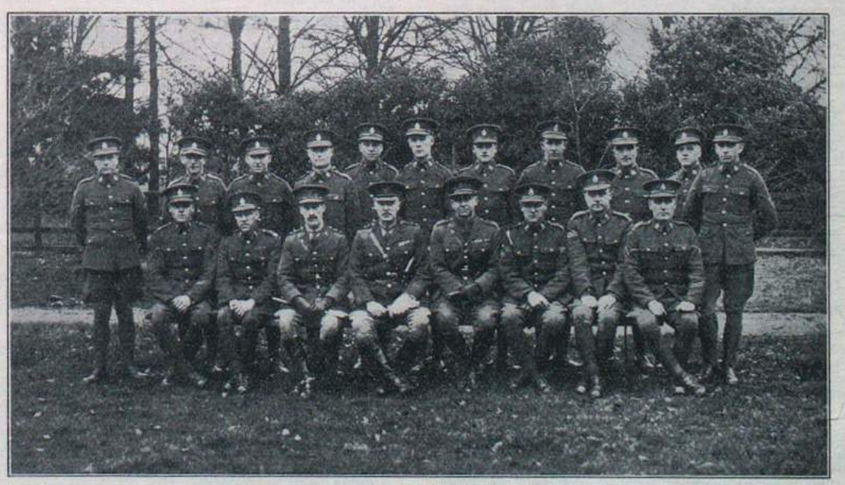
We Want to Know.—Where is Warsash?

In Conclusion.—Maybe we are a little late, but it's better late than never. Here's the best to all members of the Corps at home and abroad!

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School of Signals.

No. 12 W/T course for n.c.o.s of Royal Signals assembled at the School of Signals on the 25th September for an intensive study of all matters connected with wireless, with particular attention to the more modern sets which are being employed in field units. With the able instruction received, there is no doubt that we feel much wiser than when we pondered over the entrance examination. One must not forget the mathematical instruction, which soon proved that cosine and sine (with their feeta) were jolly nice to know, and the vacant faces—some at the back and some at the front—brightened considerably as the course went its way (armature reaction of Jubbulpore, please note). We even



No. 12 N.C.O.s W/T Course.

realised that negative indices were not printer's errors, as some of us had supposed at the entrance examination. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Mitson was always at hand ready to help us when we couldn't oscillate ; he even held our hands to sign the very rare damage reports.

By the time these notes appear, such personalities as the following will be with their units once more: the Mighty Atom (still smoking rope), the Jolly Waffler, Sign Here Blanco, Dodger of Darlington, Push Pull Nobby, Uncle Mul (complete with map of Asia and his magnesia), Sisters Carrie and Lane (with a piece of chalk), Absent-minded Professor, not forgetting Spud (with his cumulative grid) nor Uncle Ham (with his micro waves, side bands and page 692).

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Arrivals.—From overseas, Sergt Bridge, Corpl Gristwood and Signalmen Bowler, Chilvers and Shinn. From 2nd Cavalry Divl Signals (T.A.) C.Q.M.S. Lawrence. From Training Battalion, Sigmn Hadfield.

Departures.—To India, L/Corpls Watts, Shirley and Waters, Signalmen Oram, Ransome, Steckel, Evans, Fallows, Simmons, Wood, Fordham, Faulder, James, McLaren, Morrison, Sweeney, Wileman, Thain and Hayes. To Depot Battalion, Sigmn Ellis F. To 2nd Cavalry Divl Signals (T.A.), Sergt Brett.

Discharges.—C.Q.M.S. Birch, Sergt Withers, Corpl Ferguson and Sigmn Taylor-Smith.

Extension and Re-Engagement.—Sigmn Welchman to complete twelve years. L/Corporal Harris re-engaged to complete twenty-one years.

Marriage.—Sigmn Turner R. to Miss Edna Webster at Newcastle-on-Tyne on 21/8/33.

Birth.—To Signalman and Mrs. Chapman, at Aldershot on 10/11/33, a daughter, Rosa Maria.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—L/Corpl Plant and Signalman Murrell have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve.

No. 2 Company.

General.—At present the Company strength is very low, due to our having so many on the first boat and also several on leave. Nevertheless, we manage quite well, and apart from fatigues and duties, things are not so bad.

At present intensive training is in progress, and should you require any "infer" I would suggest that you ask any of A Squad who are nearing the end of their course. B Squad are not so far advanced but appear to know a lot about bottom bend rectification, etc., so we shall no doubt have several first class tradesmen shortly. The fittters class is very quiet, but occasionally we hear such remarks as " Only a thou' out," so we presume they are trying hard.

"What about these Mars?" said Nobby at Larkhill, but "What about these cars?" say the M.T. staff.

It's a hard life, but maybe Records will be sending us a few men shortly.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Lawrence from 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (T.A.). Sigmn Hadfield from Training Battalion, Catterick. L/Corpl Driscoll, Signalmen Curlis, Collyns, Dawson and Delaney from the land where fancies are only flowers. We extend the glad mitt to all.

Departures.—These are rather too numerous to mention by name, but our best wishes go to all in their new spheres.

Promotions.—Alas! alack! they have lost the roll, but we live in hopes.

Sport.—I'm very sorry to say that we are getting " brahned off." You see, our soccer team has won the sweep since the season opened and we tire of hearing " Yep—13—nil," " 11—2 " and " 9—0." Our hockey team is very strong and we have several Corps players, so that even Don Troop are getting nervous. Under the persuasive methods of Sigmn Boffy a lot of raw material has been turned into the finished article, and we now possess some good boxers: ten out of fifteen who represented A Corps Signals belonged to this Company, and they put up a good show. There was plenty of hair-parting. We beat the 1st Div. and have therefore won the Willan trophy.

Red Anderson, Battling Hughes, One Punch Craddock and several others have been busy getting their weight down for the novices tournament.

Personal.—We said goodbye to Ginger and Charley Boy, but their memories linger on. Car owners sleep more peacefully these days, and it was rumoured that several flat feet have gone on half-pay. It was a pity that several employees had to be stood off at Ash Vale and Waterloo.

Marriages.—Coming shortly. It's quite easy to make a marriage these days. Ingredients required: a rusty bike less pump and lamp, empty pillow-case, an accumulator, a worried look, and stand by the notice board between 4 and 4.30 p.m. waiting for orders (apologies to all).

Agony.—To Jammy, Zhob Signal Section: Received letter o.k. Beer quite good. George still takes his turn getting the early char, but instead of three mugs every third morning, it's two cups every day. Yes! so sad ; but I warned him.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We are sorry for the non-appearance of notes for the last couple of months ; but now that I have taken up the pen of office, I will try to let all past and present members know just what is going on.

First of all, we of Threecoy take this opportunity of wishing all our friends, near and far, all that we would wish ourselves for 1934.

Medals.—The following have been awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal: C.S.M. Rhodes (A.E.C.), Sergt Hall P. and L/Sergeant Finney E. Congratulations!

The following have been awarded the Indian General Service medal, with clasp " 1930-31 ": Corpl Brand H., Signalmen Smith W. J. and Sutcliffe R. C. Let's hear how you won it!

Arrivals.—From India, Sergt Bridge W. and Sigmn Bowler J. From the Depot Battalion, Catterick, Signalmen Taylor, Smith W. T. and Coates. We welcome you all to our fold. May your stay be happy!

Departures.—To Sigmn (Algy) Taylor-Smith, our best wishes on return to civil life. To Kohat on 24/11/33, Sigmn Hayes L. To 1st Indian Divl Signals on 19/12/33, Signalmen Burns A. and Sharpe A.

Individual Training.—The first half of the individual training season is drawing to a close, and the Trade Board commences on the 16th December. There are many who wonder " Have I, or have I not?" X.Y.Z.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Greetings.—To all units at home and abroad, we wish a very happy and prosperous New Year.

General.—During the absence on leave of L/Corporal (Tubby) Gillings, we have the pleasure of the draughtsman's company in our happy little dafter. The draughtsman is none other than Sigmn (Liver) Jackson. We extend to him a very hearty welcome, and thank him for informing us that if he went sick the unit office would be at a standstill. How did the Army get on before you enlisted, Archie? (that's quite six months ago).

Departures.—This month we have to report the departure of the commanding officer's groom, the Divisional soccer full back, the Div. billiards player and the barrack room crooner, namely Driver (Soapy) Hudson, who is about to try his luck in civvy life. We wish you all the very best, Geordie, and hope your venture is a successful one. The Army's loss is civilian street's gain (sounds good).

Agony.—What about a line, Daphne (somewhere in Egypt) to Trudge, still in Aldershot?

In Conclusion.—We wish to report that as the soccer team are all on leave we have few results to publish, but we are hoping to be able to give you a grand special sports page next month. The editor wishes to remain anonymous, for it has been rumoured that *The Daily Express* is endeavouring to buy him out of the Army to replace Trevor Wignall as sports editor.

All's well, so cheerio till next month. TWOHEADS.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Life is quiet. Some of the Company are endeavouring to obtain a higher rating prior to Christmas leave. The remainder are in stables, murmuring " Roll on, the 23rd." L/Cpl Robson and Signalmen Higgins, Barry, Waistell, Matthews and Haslam leave us on the 19th December—for a Christmas cruise. The best of luck to them! It's warmer there, anyway.

Arrivals.—L/Corpls Barden and Hart, Signalmen Cripps and Eglen, from India. Sergt Leath from 55th Divisional Signals (T.A.). Signalmen Haxell, Barker and Hardy from S.T.C.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Sykes on his promotion, and to C.Q.M.S. Pearson and Corpl Butler on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. L.G.F.

No. 2 Company.

Annual.—No. 2 Company broadcast the best wishes to stations at home and abroad, and hope that the coming festive season will be a very happy one. May all your troubles be small—whiskies.

Departures.—Signalmen Chappell, Clewlow, Cochrane and Hurst per the *Dorsetshire* on the 24th November. We wish them all the best in their new home. By the time these notes appear in print, Signalmen Lavelle, Maskery and Taylor C. K. will have left us for India. What is a floating Christmas like, Ted?

L/Corpl Moorfield is at present on leave pending transfer to the Army Reserve. The Company have lost a very good man, but we all wish him the best of luck in civvy street and Wigan.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Bishop from the Terriers, L/Sergt Skitt from India, Signalmen Russell and Hague from Catterick. We hope their stay with us will be enjoyable—I can't say long, for L/Sergt Bishop is already on the books for India.

Entertainment.—A description of the first dance held in the N.A.A.F.I. should occupy quite a lot of space in the unit notes, but here it will suffice if I say that both the ladies enjoyed themselves.

Postman's Knock.—Robin Hood of T.B. Corporals Mess: If you would like a letter from me, come down and collect it from my locker drawer.

Flagrant Minute.—Sixty seconds. TWOCOY.

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—From the north, Signalmen Falconer, Fox, Middleton and O'Rourke. From Asia, L/Corpl Amos and Sigmn Miller. We endeavoured to give them a warm welcome, and it wasn't their fault if we were on duty week. However, the glad hand!

Departures.—On the 24th November L/Corporal Bartlett G., Signalmen Campbell A., Dixon F., Everson R., Hagan F. (Paddy), Jones A., Milligan K. and O'Hara A. left us for a three weeks pleasure cruise aboard the *Dorsetshire*. It is quite within the bounds of possibility that this period will be extended to five years. Lucky fellows!

Marriages.—Yes, once again another little bachelor from this Company has denied himself for ever of his freedom. L/Corpl Webster R. to Miss Florence Atherley at Birmingham. We had better not send you on any more G.P.O. courses, Webby, old boy.

Births.—We are glad to say that we still possess a few who believe in keeping the birth rate of Great Britain on the increase. Corpl Brunton B. is now the proud father of a little son, Keith Edward.

This is all for the present. Au revoir! THREECOY.

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Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

By this time many cards of greeting will have gathered the dust of days upon their ornate surface, and possibly the family clock will once again be visible after being temporarily hidden with bizarre paper effects and the annual " eye-sore " card from some fond but misguided female of the species called aunt. Having just removed the last of a few scattered corks and laid up the cork-screw for another year, we can only hope that the New Year will bring forth blessings untold and the realisation of the usual hopes, resolutions and wishes so amply distributed by all and sundry at this time of year.

In which Two Members of the Unit " Help Themselves."—How many avid readers of the daily papers recently noticed the names of two members of this unit, we wonder? Judging from the mail received, it would appear that sundry organizers of charitable sweeps read their papers with zest and observance. We refer—in spite of the misleading heading—to the recent result of the " Help Yourself " scheme. C.S.M. Bevan is now the proud possessor of paints of multi-coloured hues, and is deeply engaged in working out a snappy colour scheme to adorn some natty domestic abutment or such like. Incidentally, he is willing to exchange with other winners ; those with chits on Harrods preferred but not essential. Fair terms considered. Corpl Glass J. M. won the latest thing in tea waggons. He is thinking of using it as a portable sideboard, having turned down my suggestion as to its utility as a portable coal carrier for the office. The same terms apply to this winner!

Telling of Two Warriors.—Sergt French H. and Corpl Fisher N. have been awarded their L.S. and G.C. medals. Congratulations, O warriors!

Educational.—We offer our congratulations, also, to L/Corpl Robinson L. C. A. on being awarded his first class certificate of education. More public school spirit will now be the order of the day.

Appointments.—More bouquets! One to the chappie just mentioned on being appointed lance-corporal (unpaid). Robbie certainly knows how to get in the news. Flowers also to Sigmn Farrell L. on being the other selected man to become lance-corporal (unpaid).

News in Brief.—Apologies to L/Corpl Higgins G. In our last issue we published the fact that he was the proud father of a daughter. We now learn that it is a son—Cedric Patrick, by name. Sorry, Maskee, old boy! pressure of work and all that, you know. Our congratulations once again.

At the time of going to press the unit personnel are enjoying a spot of furlough. Let's hope they enjoy themselves, 'cause they have a spot of work ahead!

Our welcome is extended to Sergt Brown H. C., who arrived from the 1st Indian Divl Signals on 30/11/33. Happy days!

Our chief clerk is again in the news. We congratulate him on his marriage to Miss A. McIntosh at Edinburgh.

The seasonal rush of work within this office does not permit of further notes at this period. Not that anyone will notice it, mind you!

Yours until next month. B.A.S.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—By the time these notes appear, Christmas and its attendant celebrations will be a memory—joyous or otherwise, as the case may be. However, it is hoped that everyone has retained happy recollections of this one.

The unit in general has had a quiet period to date, although various people hold different opinions—chief among them being those who are endeavouring to alter the shape of the neighbouring countryside. You know, those lucky people who are engaged on the Big Dig, or as I heard one purist say, "excavations." Ha! ha! I had occasion to visit a working party recently, and the artist in me appreciated the wonderful study in still life it presented. Like all good things in this life, it ended—on the 16th December, when the last furlough party departed for their annual hibernation.

The first phase of the individual training came to an end to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. That overworked and misunderstood individual, the pay bloke, did not share their enthusiasm; for what with one thing and another, the thoughts of giving extra money away is anathema to him. Still, the season of goodwill softened even his stony heart.

Drafts are coming and going, and the customary wishes are extended to all the departed and newcomers.

Bulford is a place of conflicting elements. To those who enjoy the simple life it is ideal, for it abounds in fields, hills, trees, fatigues and more fields. Sometimes, of course, an occasional house is met with, or even a stray pedestrian. One must be prepared for these sights, nevertheless. Yet on looking at Part II. Orders each month, one is amazed at the number of people who somehow or other manage to get married. Therefore I ask you, what is the secret of Bulford? A very deep problem. Still, my sympathy is with those seekers of knowledge, for they need it. By the way, this is not an invitation to seekers in other spheres: certainly not.

Marriages.—Sigmn Jenkins L. to Sarah Jane Store at Amesbury on 14/8/33. Sigmn Green S. to Edith Barford at Burnley on 25/10/33. L/Corpl Bain A. M. to Charlotte Mary Jones at Bulford Camp on 2/12/33.

To Army Reserve.—Sigmn O'Niell 25/11/33 and Signalman Featherstone H. 7/12/33.

Extensions and Re-Engagements.—Corporal Vollans L. and Sigmn Spearman G. extended on 17/11/33 to complete twelve years. L/Sergt Greenwood E. on 15/11/33 to complete twenty-one years.

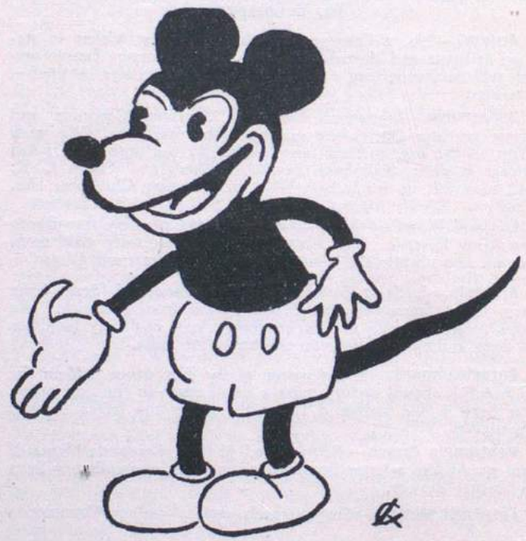
Vocational Courses.—Signalman Whitehead J. to A.V.T.C. Chisledon, and Sigmn Broadbent F. to A.V.T.C. Aldershot, on 5/12/33.

Births.—To Corpl Humphrey J. a daughter, Joan Beatrice, on 25/10/33. To L/Sergt Little L. a daughter, Ursula Doris, on 15/11/33. To Sigmn Lettice L. a daughter, Elizabeth Jean, on 21/11/33. To Sigmn Mill L. a son, Briar Edgar, on 4/12/33.

Certificates.—L/Sergt Greenwood E. and Signalmen Adams W. and Mudie W. secured their first class in October. Passed in subjects as shown towards the first class certificate, in October: Sigmn Major R., geography. L/Corpl Mackenzie L., English, map reading and "D" in maths. Signalman Robinson W., map reading, maths and "D" in English. Sigmn Corfield E., maths and map reading. Sigmn Hastings J., map reading. Signalman Mackenzie D. obtained "D" in maths towards special.

Arrivals.—Signalman Beresford from the Depot Battalion on 21/11/33, and Sigmn Omond W. on 22/11/33. Sergt Crabtree N., L/Corpl Robinson A. and Sigmn Knight R. from overseas on 30/11/33. Signalmen Mills A. and Mudge G. from S.T.C. on 7/12/33. Sergt O'Connor D. from 53rd Divl Signals (T.A.) on 12/12/33.

Departures.—L/Sergt Abrahams T. to Depot Battalion on 21/11/33. To Southampton (for India) on 24/11/33: Sergeant Nicholson W., L/Sergt Butler C., Corpl Connolly J., L/Corporals Bain A. J., Atkin G. and Long G., Signalmen Buckman J., Bell F., Hansen A., Harrison A., Jordan K., Lettice L., Bromley W., Brown T., Davenport H., Hargreaves R., Marshall F., Manning R. and MacFarlane J. L/Corpl Russell J. to Southampton (for Malta) on 24/11/33. Signalman Crick C. to Depot Battalion on 21/11/33. Sergt Udell to Southampton (for India) on 8/12/33.



What did I tell you?

Number of baits laid	250
Number of baits taken	142
Number of dead rats seen	NIL

Tailpiece.—The accompanying sketches need no comments [see Sports Notes for the other one.—ED.]

Sergeants Mess.

Annual Dinner.—Boy, fetch me a wet towel! I want to remember what happened on Friday evening 17th November in the 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess. This wants a bit of doing. However, here we go!

The arrangements were in the hands of the N.A.A.F.I., and a very successful job they made of it. I had better include the menu, so that old members abroad can wish they were back again: Oxtail soup, fillets of plaice with anchovy sauce, roast turkey and bread sauce, pork sausages, Wiltshire ham, baked and boiled potatoes, brussels sprouts, fruit salad and cream, biscuits and cheese, coffee. The N.A.A.F.I. waitresses did their work well, and the service went with that little bit of snap that makes such dinners really enjoyable.

The toast of "His Majesty the King" was accompanied by music from Tom Sayers' cabaret band (all Signals).

The following old members and friends came and were very welcome: Messrs. J. Sweeting, J. Johnson, Dusty Rhodes, Wyatt, Cockitt, Ginger Tidmarsh, Tich Bent, R.S.M. Rowe, M.M. (48th Divl Signals, T.A.), Sergeants Leysbon and Crawley (53rd Divl Signals, T.A.), and C.S.M. Purseglove (Harlene) (No. 2 Company 43rd Divl Signals, T.A.). You may take it that conversation never flagged for a moment.

Last, but by no means least, we had the honour of welcoming Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., our commanding officer, and the officers of the unit.

The idea of having a smoker after the dinner is a happy one. Surely the ladies don't mind our having just one annual fling! R.S.M. Bramley outlined the object of the annual dinner. He explained that at a function such as this, the officers and senior n.c.o.s could get together on a more personal footing than was possible in everyday life. A better understanding could not fail to result. The R.S.M. welcomed the C.O., officers, old members and visitors. He said very nice things about them, but we didn't hear all of it at our end of the room because Charlie Butler was maintaining a running commentary on the waitresses!

Colonel Naylor also had a few words to say, and in our expectations of something very interesting we were not disappointed. He outlined the efforts of the unit in work and play during the past year. In the world of sport, we had been in the unfortunate position of losing by the narrowest of margins. The C.O. called for that little extra effort that will make all the difference between defeat and success.

Mr. Johnny Johnson, representing the old comrades, replied to the R.S.M.'s welcome. His speech was straight to the point and left no doubt in our minds that the old comrades looked forward eagerly to the annual dinner. Sergeant Leysbon (53rd T.A. Divl Signals) in a witty speech thanked the Mess for more things than I can remember. R.Q.M.S. Adcock supplied the final after-dinner oration by replying to Mr. Johnson and Sergt Leysbon. Heaven knows what he said! for at this point Charlie Butler called for three cheers for his grandmother's canary and vanished under the table.

A little quick work by a few volunteers and the room was transformed into a night club (gentlemen only). The band opened with a well-aimed foxtrot, the tenor saxophone dribbling neatly into a swinging chorus. Then a song by Sergeant Crawley, who possesses a clear and powerful voice. R.Q.M.S. Adcock was right at the top of his form: in addition to his songs, he performed his celebrated Sadar Bazaar dance, an accomplishment he acquired during the years he spent east of Suez. Captain Solly was his usual self at the piano, which explains everything. He does things with a piano that people buy gramophone records to listen to. Captain Solly was assisted in some numbers by Captain Courtenay-Thompson, the well-known percussionist. Among the bands with whom Captain C.-T. has not played may be mentioned Rudy Vallee's and Cab Calloway's, but this is chiefly because they haven't heard him. Sergeant Vignaux's broadcasting act with a real microphone caused considerable amusement: practically every member of the unit came in for a dig from his facile tongue. Major Penney was excellent in his songs, the thunderous applause indicating very clearly our appreciation. I almost forgot to mention that Sergt Barlow played solos on his alto saxophone; and when I say *played* them, I—but there! you're sure to say you know who is writing this. You'd be right, too.

The dinner committee are to be congratulated on a very successful and enjoyable evening. What if at least one officer was presented with a new set of shirt studs in the shape of smutty finger marks? or if another developed sooty side whiskers?

As Henry Halls says, "Here's to the next time!"

Vagrant Verse. By "Tinker."

THE G.O.C.'S INSPECTION.

Cold blew the wind 'neath a cloudy sky,
But was I daunted?—no, not I;
Forth I ventured to the fray.
"The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

All lined up with bags of spit
(Of course, some polish went with it)
In rows looking like lightning's ray.
"The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

Smart and trim in khaki creased
We stood quite still; all scuffling ceased.
The colonel! what has he to say?
"The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

"Now, my men, hold up your chins,
Straight down your sides stretch out your fins:
Look as if you earn your pay.
The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

Two solid hours we shivered there,
Out on the Pimple bleak and bare;
Of sunshine there was ne'er a ray.
"The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

Next year we'll do the same—maybe!—
Again be praised by the G.O.C.
Ask why we do it—we'll just say
"The G.O.C. inspects to-day."

A Hockey Match.

I am not sure that this shouldn't come under the Sports Notes, but as the affair was excellent entertainment for players and spectators alike, we will leave it where it is.

The w.o.s and sergeants played the officers on the Garrison cricket ground on Friday 17th November. Here are the players:

Mr. Pearce; Mr. Gambier and Major Penney; Captain Stroud (R.A.M.C., who had to treat himself for a bashing afterwards), Mr. Charlton and Mr. Taylor; Captain Solly, Mr. Winterborn, Mr. Finney, Mr. North and Lieut.-Col. Naylor.

C.Q.M.S. Patterson; Sergts Waldron and Vignaux; Sergeants Bailey, Fawl and Smith; C.Q.M.S. Yates, Sergts Greenwood, Barraclough, Butcher and Lacey.

Reserves for both teams were available from qualified spectators.

In the first few minutes Colonel Naylor had the misfortune to tear a muscle. This, by the way, took some time to get well, but we are all pleased to see our C.O. fit again. Capt. Courtenay-Thompson filled the breach at outside right. Most of the spectators were somewhat surprised to discover that they were watching a good fast game. C.Q.M.S. Yates, finding himself opposite Mr. Gambier, used his weight to good effect. I think Mr. Gambier kept tripping over Tich and running back to see what had got in the way!

At half-time there was an exhibition of tongues, hanging, dry. These were pushed back and lubricated so that the game could proceed. Apparently the teams were well matched, for in spite of an extra five minutes each way, the score remained at two all.

Finally, the officers were declared the winners on the spin of a coin: probably one of their double-headed pennies—but don't let me put things into your heads. By this time, all tongues were out again and the spectators, realising that there was something doing, decided to hang theirs out as well. The results were excellent, and the refreshments supplied by the officers were greatly appreciated. Somebody said something about beer, but as he drank it first and spoke afterwards, I do not propose to discuss the matter here.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Seasonal Greetings.—The personnel of the 5th Divl Signals send out to all Signal units at home and abroad the seasonal greetings for the New Year.

Leave.—Only an absolute minimum of personnel is doing duty at Scarborough, the commanding officer having released about 80 per cent. for furlough.

Draft.—The following have left this unit for service in India and Malta:—

Malta: Sigmn Williams F.

India: Sergts Coles G. and Nichols J., Corporal Jennings G., L/Corpls Gill and Manning G., Signalmen Cutter R., Fisher W. G., Coombes A. W., Halton A. W., Forrest G., Finlay J., Holtby E., Gardner A., Hamilton H., Wright G., Fagan J. G., Denholm T., Hough J., Hayward G. and Rodgers.

The undermentioned will also have left us for India by the time these notes are in print:—Corpl Benson H., L/Corpls Bell T. and Rawcliffe J., Signalmen Mallett D., Cooper S. G., Lowe W. H., Tipson G., Gibson C., Bancroft H. and Busby S.

Once again, we wish them all good luck in the future.

Sergeants Mess.—R.S.M. McIntosh is the lucky possessor of the shooting cup put up yearly by the Mess for competition between the members. Credit must be given where it is due, but special mention must be made of this feat, for the results of the shoot show that the R.S.M. was well ahead of *some* of the members!

I had to mention the disappearance of pencils in last month's notes. This month it is matches. Why, oh why, do they always pick upon the same member to play their jokes?

Salutations.—To the undermentioned on being the proud possessor of a daughter: Sigmn Burrow H. C.—Mary Margaret, born at Scarborough on 4/12/33.

To the undermentioned, who have taken unto themselves a wife:—

Signalman Hayward C. to Frances Fearn at Scarborough on 19/10/33.

L/Corpl Rawcliffe W. J. to Harriet Annie Pickering at Sculcoates, Yorks, on 14/11/33.

Signalman Mallett B. H. to Edna Bowes at Scarborough on 17/11/33.

Signalman Tipson G. W. to Helen Ryder at Scarborough on 2/12/33.

Sigmn Terrard F. to Olive Sidgewick at Middlesbrough on 9/12/33.

To C.S.M. Ingles on promotion to that rank.

Our "Bill."—Through the kindness of all ranks of the unit, a headstone has been erected to Bill, our canine mascot for years. A sum of £2/2/10½ was subscribed to defray the cost of it. Captain P. Jennings, M.C., undertook and ably carried out the necessary arrangements in procuring and erecting the headstone.

The grave is situated on the grass lawn by the cookhouse of Burniston Barracks. A photograph of Bill, taken by Lieut. L. S. Stirling Wilkinson, has been included in the unit Christmas cards.

Re-Musterings.—The undermentioned have been re-mustered in the trades shown:—Signalmen Watson W. and Gillie A. lineman C.iii. Sigmn Baxter, operator signals B.iii. Corpl McLean G. J. and Signalman Donoghue S. operator signals B.i. and B.ii. respectively.

Extension of Service.—L/Corpls Sneddon G. and Webb H. J. E. and Sigmn Blank L. to complete twelve years.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—The undermentioned have left us for transfer to the Army Reserve: Driver Mounsey R. and Sigmn Millar R. J.

Arrivals.—These are too numerous to mention by name, but we hope that their stay at Scarborough will be long and pleasant.

P.

No. 2 Company.

General.—This Company's notes are usually written by Sambach: which actually stands for two scribes, namely Sam and Bach. However, Sam having proceeded on furlough, I (Bach) am compelled to play a lone hand, so here goes.

The majority of our boys packed all their troubles in their old kit bags and proceeded on furlough on the 7th December. Our hero of the football world was included in this batch, and he has made a resolution that he will repose between sheets from after duty on the 7th December until reveille on the 4th January.

The boys left behind are looking forward to a bumper Christmas in barracks. They are all saving up for a good spree, and are on the water waggon from now until Christmas.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to the undermentioned new arrivals:—Signalmen Cain, Dawes and Rodwell from India. Sigmn Nash from Egypt. Sigmn Watson from Training Battalion, Catterick.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with the undermentioned, who departed for sunnier climes on the 24th November: Signalmen Coombes, Forrest and Denholm. These will be shortly joined by the following, who leave here on the 19th December: Signalmen Mathieson, Mitchell, Ramsden and Mellor. There is nothing like Christmas on the ocean wave—six meals a day: three down and three up.

The undermentioned have departed for Siberia (namely Catterick) as reliefs for men of our maintenance party, who have not seen much of the Queen of Watering Places: Signalmen Jordan, Edmunds, Sant and Johnson. Never mind! it is only for a month, and time flies.

Individual Training.—We congratulate the following on obtaining the trade ratings shown:—Signalmen Duke and Hopkinson, operator signals B.ii. Sigmn Robson, lineman C.ii.

BACH.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—We apologise for the absence of notes from this unit in the last four publications of THE WIRE.

News in this unit is very scarce. The Brigade Signal Section returned from Ballykinler in August after a sojourn of two months "where the mountains of Mourne. . . . etc.," and were jolly glad to get back to civilisation again.

This month marks a great change in the unit. Capt. Hannah, who has been our O.C. for the past three years, hands over the command to Captain F. T. Pope and goes to India early in the New Year. We welcome Captain Pope to the Company and hope his tenure of command will prove enjoyable.

Rumour has it that we are soon to lose Captain M. V. Jones, M.C., from the Lough Swilly Signal Section. We shall be sorry to see him go, and wonder if Lough Swilly will remain unchanged after he has left—especially the gardens in Fort Dunree.

Arrivals.—The following are welcomed to the Company:—Sigmn Costello from 2nd Divisional Signals. Signalmen Holland, Cade, Hutchinson and Rowden from Training Battalion. Sigmn Smyth from 1st Divl Signals. We wish them all a pleasant stay.

Departures.—L/Cpl Bennett and Signalmen Watson C. and Cox F. R. to Catterick for drafting to India on the 19th December—the former to A Corps and the latter two to B Corps. We hope they will enjoy Ponky.

Draft Warnings.—The following are awaiting final warning:—L/Cpl Simmonds and Signalmen Hall and Morrison for India; Signalmen Roberts and Hilliard for Egypt.

Marriages.—There is something very peculiar in the climate of Ireland, as we have noticed the general tendency is to get "spliced" after a year with this Company. Londonderry holds the record. The following have gone into double harness since June: Corpl O'Brien A., Signalmen Townsend, Dove and Dowe. There are also rumours of a further two. There is no need to wait for spring in this country, 'cause there ain't any.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Cpl Turner on being paid for his stripe, and to Sigmn Raine at Lenan on being appointed U/L/Cpl.

Miscellaneous.—We shall be sorry to lose L/Cpl Healy on the 19th December, when he goes on leave pending transfer to the Army Reserve. He has been with the Company approximately five years. We cannot understand why he wants to go. Still, we wish him the best in civilian life.

The following inter-Section moves have taken place:—Signalmen Cade and Costello to Ballykinler. Sigmn Smyth to Armagh. Sigmn Hutchinson to Omagh. Signalmen Townsend, Weir and Cartwright to Fort Dunree. Sigmn Roy from Omagh to Londonderry. Sigmn Blount to Omagh on temporary duty. Sigmn Causey from Armagh to Belfast.

Sport.—The unit has entered the Garrison Football League and to date have played and won two matches. In the Garrison hockey knockout tournament we had Signalmen Thomson, Swift, Turner and Smith playing for the Staff and Departmental team.

Conclusion.—We wish all units a prosperous New Year, and hope the Corps roster will have a speed wobble in 1934.

HEC ME.

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Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

18th November 1933.

General.—We wish all members of the Corps, past and present, a happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

We tender our best wishes to Lieut. D. C. P. Hall on the occasion of his marriage to Miss C. Arkell (Q.A.I.M.N.S.) at Jubbulpore on the 1st November.

Armistice.—Armistice Day at Jubbulpore was celebrated by a drum-head service, after which all units marched to the War Memorial, where the two minutes silence was observed. This was followed by a march past the Memorial, the Governor of the Central Provinces taking the salute.

As has become customary in this Centre, an Armistice ball in aid of the Ex-Services Association was held in the evening at the Gun Carriage Factory Club, and it was a great success both socially and financially.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Captain A. E. Barton, and hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

We are glad to see L/Sergt Humphrey and Signalmen Cooter and Markey back from Blighty leave. Rumour has it that one got married, another engaged, and the third, being already married, got—back.

Congratulations.—To the S.T.C. (India) revolver experts on having three teams left in the semi-final and on an all-Signals final in the Brigade revolver competition. Especially do we congratulate the Duds on putting the wind up the "A's."

Commiserations.—With all the fat heads on the morning of the 12th November.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

The Company athletic team is at present training hard in preparation for the S.T.C. (India) individual championships, and we hope next month to give a favourable report on the result of their efforts.

We congratulate the cross-country team on their improved position in the S.T.C. (India) Cross-Country League table. We are looking forward to still further improvement during the next three runs. Stick it, "A."

Departures.—This month we bid good-bye to the following: Mrs. Harrison (wife of R.S.M. Harrison) and family proceeding to U.K. per the s.s. *City of Paris* on the 24th November. Corpl Litchfield G. and family to U.K. per the s.s. *Tuscania* on the 23rd November, and Sigmn Baddely to Quetta on the 15th November. We wish them all the best of luck in their new stations.

F Company (Boys), Signal Training Battalion.

We welcome Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham on taking over the duties of officer i/c technical training, and hope he will find the work a pleasant change from ordinary Company routine.

The boys are now half-way through the first period of their technical training and are well up to standard; their writing and operating having shown a marked improvement during the last few weeks.

On Thursday last the Company went on a day's outing to Marble Rocks which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Leaving barracks at 7 a.m. they proceeded by road and arrived about 8.30. En route, observation practices were carried out with satisfactory results. On arrival they made a tour of the vicinity of the waterfalls, which at this time of the year are very beautiful. Later they visited a temple which particularly attracts visitors on account of the numerous statues which surround it. After about three hours of sight seeing, Jemadar Ali Hussain Shar organised races up the steps leading from the Narbadda river. These were keenly contested, Boy Hazal Dad entering in two races and winning on each occasion. After dinner and a short rest, they proceeded to pack up and return to barracks. On arrival there, all voted that a "bahut achchha din" had been spent.

Departures.—We all wish Sergt Jackson the best of luck on taking up his new appointment with the permanent staff of the 46th (Midland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergt Paskins from Kohat. He replaces Sergt Jackson on the technical side.

Conclusion.—We wish all Royal Corps of Signals units at home and abroad a very happy and prosperous New Year.

BRAM-KHAN-SINGH-ROA.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

Do not blame me for the recent absence of notes, but we have all been studying form for Christmas.

Greetings.—We hope that all members of the Royal Corps of Signals at home and abroad have spent a very happy Christmas and we wish them a bright and prosperous New Year.

Sport.—Reference September WIRE notes from the Corporals Mess S.T.C. (India). This cannot be said of our corporals, for try as they will, they cannot get the better of us on "ye olde soccer ground." The other day we turned out a team of veterans just to encourage the youngsters, and even then they only just managed to draw with us at 2—2. They have one consolation which should help them to bear up: that of *seeing* the inter-Mess trophy when it is presented to us.

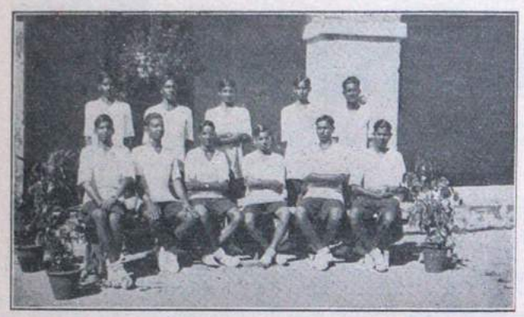
Entertainments.—The entertainments committee organised a splendid farewell dance for Sergt Jackson on his departure for the U.K., where he is taking up an appointment on the permanent staff of the 46th Divl Signals (T.A.) At the close of a very pleasant evening, on behalf of the Mess, R.S.M. Harrison T. W. wished him all the best in his future appointment.

Back to the Fold.—L/Sergt Humphries rejoined us on the 6th November after having spent a glorious six months leave in Blighty. It was noticed that the bijli wallah at the sub-power station turned pale on hearing of Pop's return to Jubbulpore.

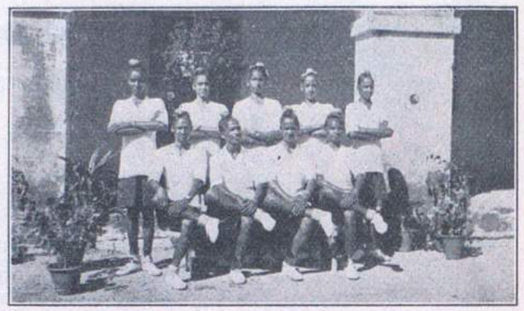
Farewell.—An impromptu dance was held on the 22nd November as a farewell to Mrs. Harrison (wife of R.S.M. Harrison), who is returning to England with her children. During the evening Mrs. Brown, on behalf of the members' wives, presented to Mrs. Harrison a very nice silver scent spray and powder bowl. In thanking them for their kind thought, Mrs. Harrison said that her stay in the S.T.C. (India) had been a very happy one, and now that the time to go had arrived, she felt sorry to leave such good friends. R.S.M. Harrison also thanked the members' wives on behalf of his wife, and said that she was going home in order that their children might be able to finish their education in England.

S.T.C. (India) All Ranks Golf Club.—The club held their first competition on Sunday 19th November. This took the form of a putting competition and proved to be very popular, there being sixty-eight entries. In the early stages of the competition Mr. H. Burnett, of the Gun Carriage Factory Club, returned 17 strokes for the nine holes. This was indeed good going, especially in view of the uneven ground over which the course runs, and it put an edge on the competitive spirit of the other competitors. Then into the limelight came one of our Scottish members of the Mackinnon Clan. This bright young lad seems to have

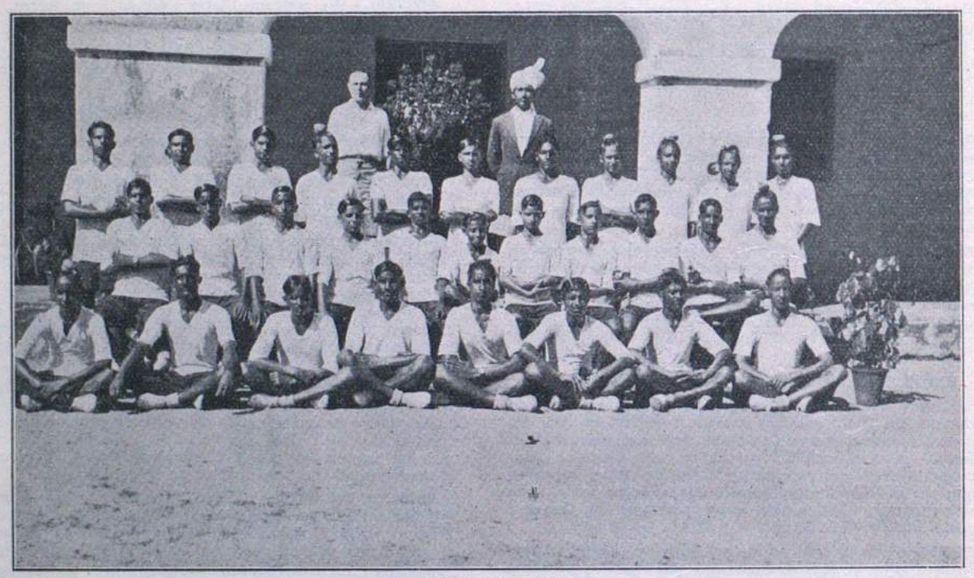
F (Boys) Company, Signal Training Battalion, S.T.C. (India)



Punjabi Mussalman Boys.



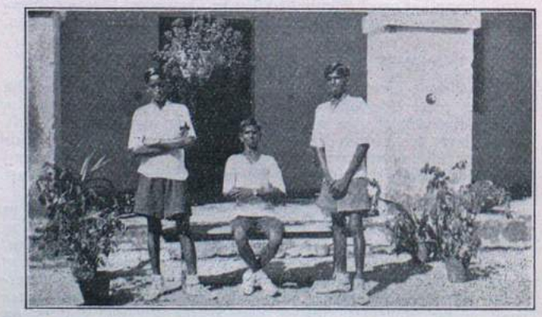
Sikh Boys.



The White Company.



Dogra Boys.



Madrassi Boys.

been born with (to misuse an old expression) a golf club in his mouth, and started off true to tradition by holing out in one for the first three holes. In all probability that Scottish thought of a couple of golf balls for two annas was a little trying to his nerves, and three threes knocked his score into 18. Now, 18 seemed to be quite a favourite score, and about half a dozen members tied for second place. The tie was played off, leaving the Scotsman with the neat little score of 16. Our thanks to Sergeants Whittington and Marchant for the success of this competition.

Agony.—Auntie Maggie, having finished knitting her golf jacket, is still waiting for Father Christmas to supply the clubs.

BRAM-MAC.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for December issue.]

Saturday 11th November.

The unit is now altogether again after the recent disturbances on the Frontier, and at present we are at Riwat, about ten miles out from Rawalpindi.

Yesterday (Sunday, 12th) the families went out and spent a very enjoyable afternoon as the guests of the Sergeants Mess. The camp is very nicely situated, and from all appearances everyone there seems to be very happy and contented. Next month we will, no doubt, have quite a lot to report regarding what they did at camp, etc.

Now that the trooping season has really started, we are gradually saying goodbye to the lucky ones. L/Corporal Dougal and Sigmn Brown G. left for the U.K. on the 13th October and are now well settled down in civilian life. We all wish them the best of luck and hope that they have found suitable employment.

Sergt Stainer and family have left us for that summer resort, Catterick, where Sergt Stainer will, we suppose, be employed on the permanent staff. Best of luck, Jim! If you feel cold at any time, let us know and we will send you some of our " sun."

Sergts Hatherly and Crabtree and Signalman Aldred proceeded to the U.K. on the 8th November and should now be enjoying life on a trooper. In case any reader has not experienced life on a troopship, a letter sent to Sergt Norman Crabtree c/o Officer i/c Royal Signals Records, Chatham, will procure him a fairly good report on the subject. Do your stuff, Norman.

L/Corpl Darby and Sigmn Butler are due to leave on the 22nd November. These two will be very much missed in the unit. L/Corporal Darby has been employed as C.O.'s clerk and typist, and the orderly room will be very sorry to lose him. We all hope that his venture into civilian life will turn out to be all that he expects and deserves. L/Corpl (Sigmn) Butler has been i/c unit cookhouse and all the B.O.R. dining mess members will be very sorry to lose him. We hope that his successor makes as good a show as Butler has done.

We have one more passenger for the 22nd November boat in Corpl Simpson. He sat for the recent entrance examination for the Foreman-of-Signals course, and we have just received information that he has been selected to attend the course commencing in January 1934. This news meant wireless messages all over India, with the result that we have managed to get him a passage on the date mentioned. Naturally, Corpl Simpson is very upset at the idea of going home so soon ; he came out to this country last March. However, everyone in the unit is very glad that he passed the examination and has been selected to attend the course, and sincerely hopes to hear of him at the end as a Foreman-of-Signals. Good luck, Simpson!

While on the subject of Foreman-of-Signals, we would like to congratulate C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Wells, of this unit, on getting four out of five candidates for the recent entrance examination selected for a course. Well done, Jerry!

We have received rolls for the two drafts who are joining this unit very shortly, and extend a hearty welcome to them. I am sure they will find Bekore one of the best units they have served in. So look to it, my lads, and don't come along with your tails between your legs.

Major E. L. Hill, M.C., D.C.M., is shortly leaving for the home establishment and Catterick. Major Hill has been O.C. No. 2 Company (Indian ranks) and also officiating C.O. since he has been with this unit, and he will be greatly missed both by British and Indian ranks. We will have to look around for someone to take his place in our hockey team. Good luck, sir! we all hope that you will find the North Country to your liking.

I am afraid this will have to be all for this month. The jolly old brain is a bit sluggish after the day out at camp. More anon.

BEKORE.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for December issue.]

Saturday 7th October.

General.—At last we have found our way once more into print, but as I have only just taken over the Branch secretaryship I offer no apology. I can only say that I will endeavour to have the unit notes ready monthly as far as it lies in my power.

The hill season having come to an end owing to the war on the N.W.F., the unit is once again at its Plain station ; and the *war* having had a quick and quiet death, we have returned to normal working, and Brigade training and machine gun concentration camps are the order of the day. The unit lines present a rather deserted appearance, which will be more pronounced in a few days when another batch leaves us for the U.K. and still more for the R.A. Concentration Camp at Hatti. I am afraid there will be very few of us left to uphold the reputation of the unit in Pindi, but we will do our best—as we hope those out with their Sections at the various camps will do in their sphere of activities.

It is to be regretted that the war ended so suddenly, as those with visions of the bit of green ribbon with the blue centre are now worrying as to whether they stand a chance, or if they are due for a disappointment and have either to extend for a further period of service abroad, with the chance of another small encounter coming along, or retire to that land of dreams, Blighty, without it.

The trooping season having once again arrived, we begin to say au revoir to some of our old friends, and many are now counting the days to that looked-for boat. I take this opportunity of wishing those who have already left, and those who will be leaving us shortly, the best of luck in their new sphere of activity, be it either home establishment or civvy street.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Colonel Fitz A. Drayson, M.C., Sergt Blower, Corpls Millen (and wife) and Harrold, L/Corpl Pape and Sigmn Blake, from Blighty leave ; and Lieuts. Gray and Stewart on joining the unit from U.K. We hope their stay with us will be a happy one.

To Sigmn Blake, from Karachi, we extend the glad mitt and hope that he harbours no ill-feeling in having to proceed out with his Section the morning after his arrival.

Departures.—Sergt Pope and family to civvy street (we wish them the best of luck). Sergts Brown and Gordon, Signalmen Jarratt, Trotter, Whapshare and Wilson G. to home establishment. C.S.M. Spracklen, Sergt Costello and Sigmn Wilson J. to Kohat District Signals. Corpl Halfpenny to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. C.Q.M.S. Johnson and Sigmn Withers to A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Sport.—At the present time this is out of the question. So many being away from the unit, teams cannot be found to play, so fixtures have to be turned down until the return of the Sections from training. For news of such sports as have taken place prior to the departure of Sections for camp, please turn to the Sports Notes.

Entertainments—Since practically all the married families have returned from their sojourn in the cool clime of Upper Topa, the combined Signals of Pindi have been trying their hand at livening things up slightly.

One very good night's enjoyment was spent by most of us at a dance for all ranks on the Sergeants Mess tennis courts. The sergeants, having held one of their own, thought it would be rather a pity to take down all the equipment without giving the rank and file a chance to make use of it—and good use they did make, too, if the talk that one hears is anything to go by. The music was rendered by the Royal Signals dance band, who must be congratulated on their performance and the hard work that they put in to satisfy the craving of all.

We all sincerely hope that the combined committee will keep this up and give us many more nights like this, and also help to foster a feeling of good fellowship between the two units.

ONEDIV.

Sergeants Mess.

Greetings.—All members of the Mess join in sending heartiest good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all Signals Messes, including Australia, New Zealand and Canadian Forces; also best wishes for the continued success of our Regimental Journal THE WIRE, which ranks as the best among regimental publications.

Departures.—Quite a number of changes have taken place during the last few weeks. Sergt Stainer and family were the first to leave for Blighty, followed by Sergeants Hatherly, Pope, Brown and Gordon. We wish them all the best. Several more will have left us before these notes appear in print, and all the staff jobs in England will have been taken before it comes to our turn. Sergt Costello proceeded to Kohat for duty, and Sergeant Widgery to Drosh.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following members and hope their stay may be a long and pleasant one: Sergt Smith R. M. T. from Kohat, Q.M.S. Mitchell from Meerut, and Sergeant Blower from Blighty leave.

Functions.—A Mess dance held recently on the tennis courts was a great success. The courts were splendidly decorated and the Signals dance band provided first class music. The committee are to be congratulated on putting over a first class show, and we hope the large number of people present will encourage them to give us more of such entertainments in the near future.

Sunday evenings are devoted to impromptu socials, chiefly to give the married members an opportunity of being off the short rack for a few hours.

General.—The entertainments committee have a busy time before them during the next few weeks in preparing for the Christmas festivities. Several improvements, from a decorative point of view, have been made, and we hope to have everything set for a good Christmas and a hearty welcome to the new arrivals expected here about the end or the month.

B Corps Signals have proceeded to camp for a few weeks, and will be followed shortly by the 1st Div. Topa Signals have now closed down, and everyone feels more or less settled.

Agony.—To Sergt Bill Curtiss: What about calling in here for duty? A.

7th December 1933.

Greetings.—Being rather too late for the usual Christmas greetings, we will take this opportunity of wishing all WIRE readers "a happy and prosperous New Year." This may be rather late, too, but we hope they will think that we meant well, and remember that old but true saying "Better late than never."

General.—Training camps are drawing to a close, and activities are now being concentrated on preparations for the seasonal festivities. If what is heard is any indication of what can be expected, we are all looking forward to a good time—and a busy one, too; and it is to be hoped that all functions will be given good support and go off with a swing. Many in the unit are looking forward to another dance such as was held a few short weeks ago.

Christmas will be well over by the time these notes appear in print, and things will again be getting down to normal with strenuous times of training and higher ratings.

Arrivals.—We are glad to welcome to our midst (hoping that their stay with us will be a long and happy one) Captain Winn from S.T.C. Jubbulpore, Sergeant Mills from 2nd Div. Quetta, Sergts Nichols and Coles with sixteen B.O.R.s and the wives and families of Sergt Warner, L/Sergt Bygrave and Corporal Baxter from the U.K.

Departures.—Sergt Perry and family to U.K. for transfer to the home establishment. Sergt Cadell T. O. to Waziristan District Signals on transfer. Sergts Francis and Foley with families to U.K., with thirty-two other B.O.R.s of the unit—some for transfer to the Army Reserve and the remainder to the home establishment.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergt Perry on promotion to that rank.

ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Wednesday 22nd November 1933.

General.—"A merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad" from the members of the One Bar Cee ranch.

Recreation.—This year an open doubles tennis tournament was held, and those who lost in the first round competed in a subsidiary tournament. Many excellent games were seen throughout both competitions.

Friday afternoon, 3rd November, was set aside for the finals, and the finalists provided us with some very exciting rallies. In the open, L/Corpls Rhodes and Rudkin defeated L/Sgt Manning and Signalman Nicholson by 6—4, 8—6, while in the subsidiary L/Corpl Cross and Sigmn Shewring defeated L/Corpl Smith and Sigmn Wood by 6—2, 2—6, 6—4. (Sigmn Wood, having met with an injury to his shoulder, was unable to play, and the final of this match was played off as a singles event between L/Corpl Smith and Sigmn Shewring.)

Prizes were presented at the end by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, who paid us a surprise visit that day. At the conclusion of the prize giving an excellent tea was provided, and the Troop are greatly indebted to Mrs. Leckie and Mrs. Manning for this.

Entertainment.—After tea on the day of the tennis finals, an excellent conjuring and magical show was provided, and this was greatly enjoyed by all ranks.

In the evening a whist drive and dance was held under the auspices of the local Branch of the O.C.A. Our unit dance band was in excellent humour and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

The bar was again under the able management of L/Corporal Rhodes, and to him great credit is due as well as to his assistants, who on this occasion were Corpl Nuttall and Sigmn Garven. The arrangements for and the staging of the whist drive and dance were carried through by L/Sergt Manning and Sigmn Boughton, and to them we offer our thanks for a most enjoyable and entertaining evening.

Arrival.—The only one, to whom we offer the glad hand of welcome, is Sigmn Ball G. from Waziristan District Signals. We have, however, to welcome back to the fold T.Q.M.S. Lewis, Sergt Shaw and L/Corpl Debell, after six months recuperation in the U.K.

Departure.—Sigmn Cree (Tich) has now left us on transfer to the Army Reserve, and to him we offer our best wishes for his future success in civvy street.

Sport.—On the 16th November we received a visit from members and families of Peshawar District Signals, who brought their cricket team to wipe us up. Oh yeah! Anyway, we did our stuff and tried to smooth over the defeat we administered by giving them a "bust up" in the tea line, etc. Rumour has it that the Corporals Mess endeavoured to assist the brewery agents to overcome the present trade depression. From the Sergeants Mess point of view, of course, the "good old cup of char" sufficed.

Peshawar Vale Hunt Handy Hunter Competition.—So far as the B.O.R.s class was concerned, this became quite a family affair, for the first five places were taken by the unit—and we had only seven entries in a field of eighteen. We quote an extract from a leading Indian paper: "*B.O.R.s Class.*—Sergeants Madeley T. 1st, Sigmn Wood J. 2nd, Sigmn Shewring D. 3rd, L/Corpl Bale E. 4th. There were eighteen entries, with the first four easily the best."

Lieut. F. R. B. Moore well upheld the reputation of the Troop in the officers' and open classes, finishing third and fourth respectively.

Congratulations.—All ranks of the Troop offer their hearty congratulations to two old Troopites, L/Sergts Mitson and Fuller, on their appointment to be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals). The old Troop slogan, "We're too good for 'em," is undoubtedly no idle boast.

Corpl MacCulloch successfully passed the entrance examination for a Foreman-of-Signals course at Catterick, and another old Troopite (Corpl Greenfield) also qualified to attend. Our best wishes go with them both.

Here and There.—Heard on the cricket ground: "A boundary, one short run."

Joe's theme song: "Where my caravan has rested" (oh! my nose).

Agony.—What about a few lines (five to four) Duke V.? Smudger.

Sergeants Mess.

We have only one topic at present, i.e. the return to the fold of T.Q.M.S. Lewis and Sergt Shaw, but to adequately describe them would take reams of paper. What a figure! Once upon a time two belts, waist, joined together sufficed for each, but now it's doubtful if three apiece would do. How the deuce are Ordnance going to be squared? Seventeen and a half stone, and we only get I.C. class ii. rides. How the blue blazes shall we ever get a khansamah to stop? No wonder they didn't come back married; modified rates would never stand it.

Corporals Mess.

Can you imagine it! The Troop notes nearly went off without these additions from the hive of iniq. . . . ahem! I mean industry. When will people realise that this department now greatly affects the majority of Troop activities? Except to a few privileged ones it is not, I imagine, generally known that there is a Corporals Mess in the 1st Cavalry Signals, Risalpur, so we make our début in THE WIRE note world.

We have just extended the Mess and hope to be able shortly to say "Excellent cuisine, accommodation and service, four M.B.s."

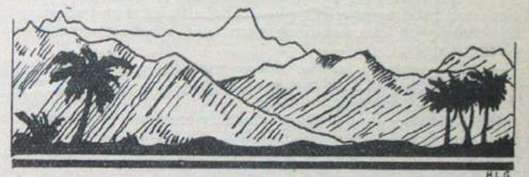
We welcome back L/Corpl Debell from the United Kingdom, complete with the game he taught Douglas Fairbanks and all the crowned heads of Europe. We were horrified, however, to learn that he had qualified for the heading "Births, Deaths and Marriages"—at least, the latter, if not the former.

Corpl MacCulloch cannot forget the sylvan glades of Catterick Camp, and has even condescended to qualify for a Foreman-of-Signals course to get back. Our best wishes go with him.

Last month we were entertained by the Sergeants Mess to a tennis at home and indoor games tournament. Both events proved very successful, but unfortunately the recorder lost the results (!)

On the 28th and 29th October Peshawar appeared to be the rendezvous of the Signals on the Frontier. Such a jolly little crowd gathered in the Peshawar Corporals Mess: to name a few of those present, Jock Robertson (band), Frank Stockton, Ginger Costick, Jock Gray, Javens (Javo), Ginger Rhodes, Jimmy Driscoll, John Way and Shoey Welch (what about a dive?) Perhaps they went to see the M.C.C. cricket match.

Sport.—L/Corpl Debell beat L/Corpl Boston at cricket by nine wickets and sixteen runs.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Wednesday 22nd November 1933.

Arrivals.—Another New Year. These New Years resemble Indian currency: soon gone, but not forgotten! Both are relevant to good resolutions, but alas and alack! they soon lose them.

L/Corpl Stonehouse R. from 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. Sigmn Heaps L. from the S.T.C. (India) via Waziristan District Signals (on paper) and U.K. leave; at least, I think it was leave—it may have been a fattening course. He is certainly an incentive to transfer to the Reserve or home establishment.

Some mail for Chaddha.



A group at the tea-party given by the Indian clerical staff of Peshdist Signals on the eve of the transfer of their Havildar Clerk, Abdul Rehman Khan, to the Signal Training Centre (India). Indian officers were also invited.

Standing (left to right)—Lance/Naik Mewa Singh, Naik Mohd Shafi, Naik Benarsi Singh, Sigmn Jeet Singh, Havildar Jaswant Singh

Sitting—Jemadar Zaman Ali, I.D.S.M., Jemadar Sher Singh, Subedar-Major Randhir Singh, Havildar Abdul Rehman Khan, Subedar Amir Alam, Mr. N. R. Albal, B.A. (unit accountant)

A new draft from the U.K. Welcome to you, but don't tread on the lawn. Talking about drafts reminds me that there should be a huge illuminated sign suspended above the "gateway of India" at Bombay, bearing the inscription: "Abandon hope, all ye that enter here." It would help to cheer up those who hang over the side of the ship, waiting for the tug to appear, and ruminate as to why on earth they joined up—especially those who were enticed away from their caves by alluring platters of porridge and haggis in the hands of Celtic khassadars out for the half-crown.

New Year cards from people we forgot.

A cinema at Landi Kotal. I believe there are reserved seats for the enterprising "here to-day and gone to-morrow" politicians and budding novelists who visit the Frontier and afterwards fill books with blood-curdling yarns and incorrect descriptions of the district.

A new typewriter for the orderly room (collapse of the staff!)

Two thousand and fifty-one fresh blades of grass on the lawn.

Departures.—Two thousand and fifty-one fresh blades of grass from the lawn.

Lieut. T. W. Boileau to the S.T.C. Catterick, together with "The best of luck!" from an admiring and grateful unit for the excellent work in technical, sport and entertaining affairs which he has put in during his long stay with us.

Corpl Coaten H., L/Corpl Bayley C. and Signalmen Alexander P., Hodgson M. and Lee A. to the home establishment. May you all wax as fat as the new draughtsman!

Some mail for the U.K. from Chaddha.

Pens and pencils from the orderly room tables (duty clerk, "speak pse").

En Passant.—Has anyone thought of (*a*) the 100,000 odd working hours taken up and (*b*) the 250,000 odd rounds of .303 S.A.A. expended in one year in musketry by the Indian Signal Corps—plus wear and tear of dhurries and instructors' tempers? Pretty demoralising, isn't it?

Reference the statement in an English newspaper to the effect that the British Army is composed of tea-drinkers:

Signalman of Irish extraction (to n.c.o.): "Lend me your bottle-opener, please."

N.c.o.: "Haven't one; sorry!"

Signalman: "Bah! a leader of men and haven't got a bottle-opener. Bah! and a lot more bahs!"



A snap is enclosed, featuring Signalmen Griffiths A. and Kelly J. dressed up as Messrs. S. Laurel and O. Hardy. They must be seen in person to realise the wonderful similarity to the well-known screen stars. With the aid of John Dewar, their antics are almost as amusing, too.

General.—The scribe of our detachment at Nowshera is going strong so far, but the one at Landi Kotal, methinks, has found greater attraction than a typewriter. Lucky Wilfred! Perhaps this will stir him out of his temporary lethargy ("him" being the scribe, of course).

A happy New Year! MIIM.

Nowshera Detachment.

Chitral Lines, 20th November 1933.

The Tail of a Topi.—A topi and a pugri were discarded and were picked up. A bad charzi (it must have been in the last stage of some horrible disease, if I know Landi-Kotal) was thrown away and also retrieved. Result: one topi, one pugri and one flash. Presumably the darzi contributed the "P" and the two pins to complete the headgear.

General.—Belinda (that infernal machine that its owner calls a wireless set) is still in the best of health, although judging by the groans and shrieks that are emitted daily, she must suffer severely from indigestion. This is not the only name for this "twisted four": I have heard it called many others, quite flattering, which would not look very well in print. As this sweet maiden is only at present in her infancy, I doubt whether life will be worth living when she grows up (if she gets the chance to grow, that is).

Not content with making life a misery with Belinda, her owner has taken to smoking that expensive and well-known make of cigar, the flor-de-cabbage. There is no need to say anything about these monstrosities—they speak for themselves. It is only a rumour, perhaps, that the shopkeeper gave the person eight annas to get them out of his place. I wonder?

Sport.—Our hockey team has been strengthened of late by the arrival of some of those who have spent the summer in sun-bathing at Brighton, and so we are hoping to carry all before us in the near future.

The Detachment turned out a scratch (very much scratched) ten-men football team the other night, and by a bit of good play and a bigger bit of good luck succeeded in winning by three goals to two. The shining stars were the inside left and the right half-back. It is rumoured that the Northern Command selection committee are keeping an eye on these players.

Departures.—I had nearly forgotten to mention that we have lost the man who had nearly come to be put on the inventory at Nowshera. He is at present among the guards and piquets at Peshawar. He had the right spirit enough, however, to leave us, Wilfred.

We Want to Know.—Who was it who went on Blighty leave a brunette and came back a platinum blonde?

Tail Piece.—1934's best wishes to all and sundry.

REARGUARD.

WESTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

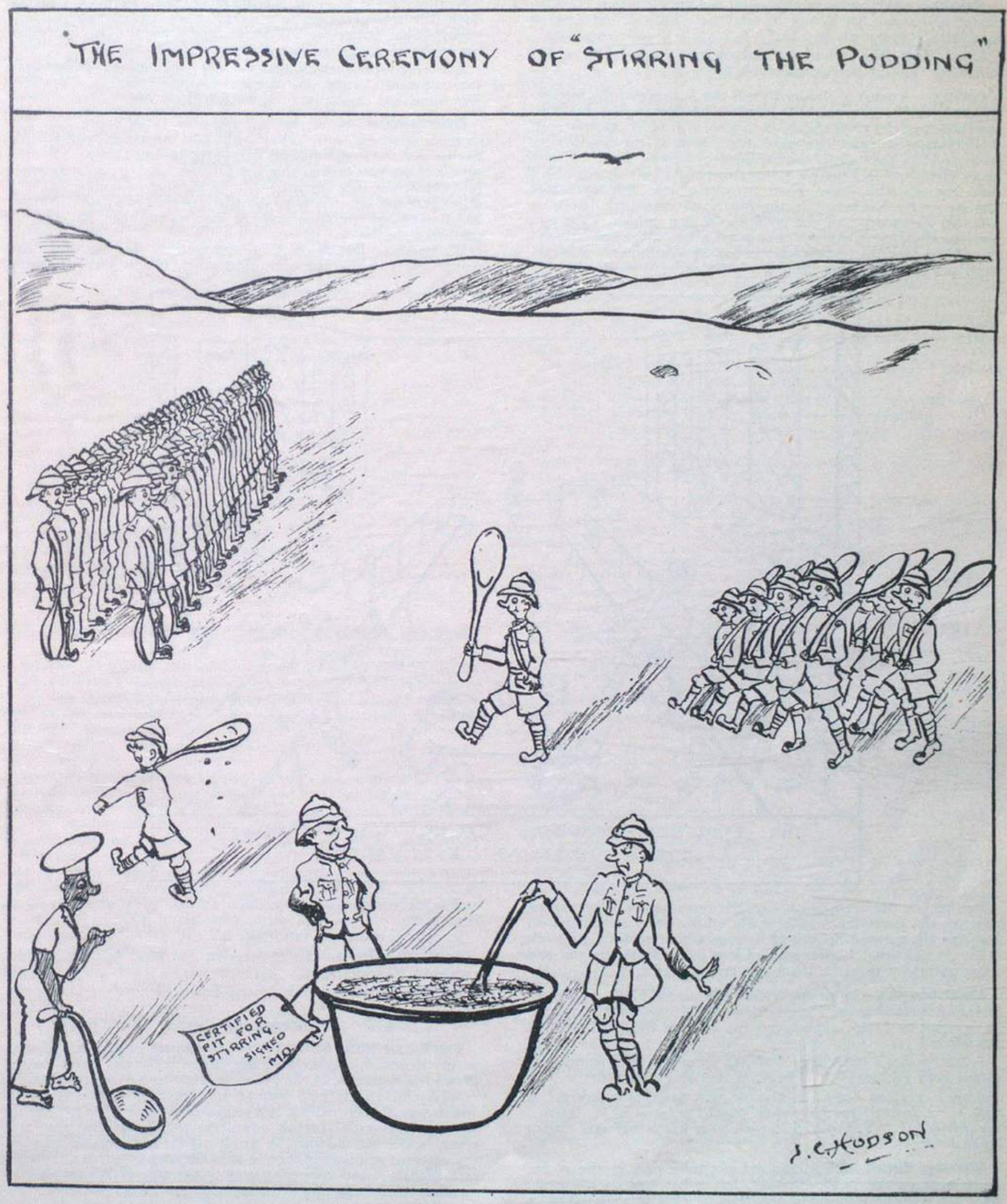
Friday 1st December 1933.

General.—Having just lost a capable correspondent via transfer to the H.E., and succeeding him with one who could take liberties with Noel Coward (and a post at A.H.Q. India), it is only natural that the individual following *them* should be conscious of a slight inferiority complex. With the help of Part II. Orders and a highly efficient C.I.D., however, he will endeavour to live that down.

Departures.—We are sorry to lose L/Corporal Kennedy (the liberty-taker above referred to) on his taking a clerkship at A.H.Q. India. The unit club and the office typewriters remember the good work put in by him. We trust that he eventually qualifies for one of those appointments open to men of outstanding merit.

Sigmn Morgan R. also strengthens A.H.Q. in the capacity of operator in the W/T Section. May his signals never grow weaker!

Departures to the U.K. have been quite numerous. Our good wishes go with all of them.



[See A Corps Signals notes on next page]

Welcome.—We are very pleased to welcome Lieut. R. L. Carpenter and trust that during his stay here he will find nothing to dissatisfy him with his lot.

Lieut. A. S. Milner has also arrived from leave in the U.K., where we trust he had an enjoyable time.

Boxing.—A great achievement was the winning of the feather-weight championship of the Bombay Presidency, on his first appearance in the tournament, by Sigmn Warburton of this unit.

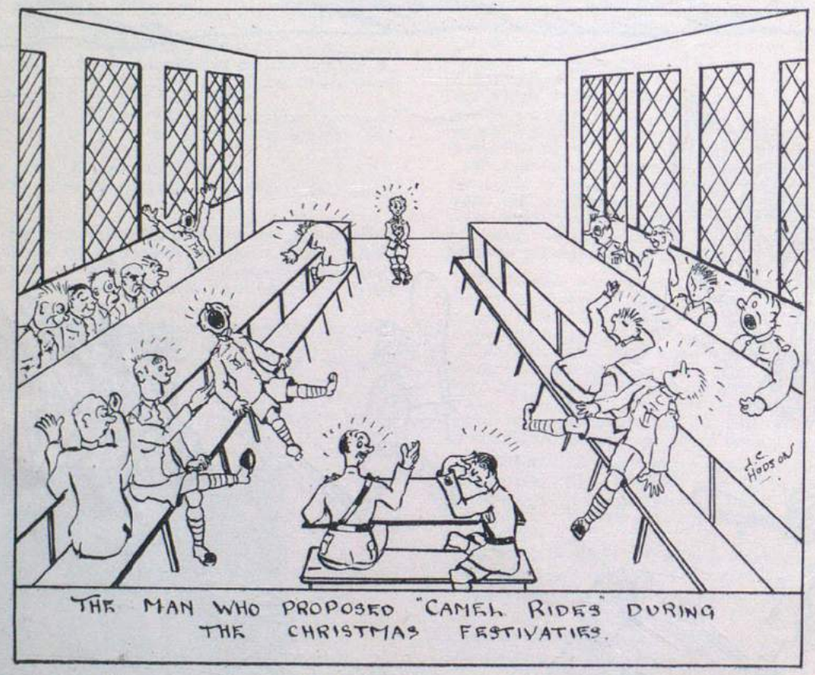
Warburton attended the tournament held at the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall, Bombay, unaccompanied by anyone from this unit (more credit to him!) so we are unable to give any details of his three fights. The Press report broadcast from Bombay stated that he fought Simmonds in the final, and used both hands so well that Simmonds took the count in the first minute. The two previous bouts were won on points and a knock-out respectively. We of the unit are exceedingly proud of Warburton's achievement and wish him luck in even higher circles.

" creating a stir." The publishers of Mrs. Beeton's Cookery Book will be informed as to whether or not a Christmas pudding tastes all the better for a dash of Sind Desert. Our cartoonist has perhaps exaggerated a trifle.

At a very serious meeting convened by the officer i/c Christmas entertainments, some one suggested camel rides as a feature. This time, our cartoonist fairly depicts the scene.

Entertainments.—A very successful all ranks dance was held on the unit tennis court. How could it be otherwise, with R.S.M. Bayliss and his committee of live wires to run things? A consensus of opinion proved that the function was the most successful held by the unit for years. In an evening where we had lots of interest and fun, the palm must be awarded to C.S.M. Weston and Sergt Clark for their entirely unrehearsed temporary enlistment into the Navy.

We had a revival of the " tin and bottle " this month on the tennis courts of the unit club. As usual, it was very enjoyable



Further, in our boxing activities, the team has now been taken over by the Corps-famous Corpl Pat Mills. It is a well known fact that the greatest flattery never causes him to blush, so it can safely be said that his training of the team should be the one thing necessary to make them the best in India.

Local Laughs.—In an application one of our M.T. drivers referred to himself as an " empty driver." I have been requested to say that in future applications the state of the head will *not* be referred to.

A D.R. makes a statement: " When an engine is in reverse the piston goes backwards." Hardly a doubtful statement!

Scene: Lecture room. Instructor writing on the board. A voice: " Corporal, you have spelt panel ' p-a-n-a-l.' " Instructor (irritably): " Yes, yes! I know I have left a ' n ' out. Keep quiet."

Stirring Times.—This unit did not take part in the recent excitement on the N.W. Frontier, but it has had its moments. Recently, with great pomp and ceremony, what was alleged to be the unit's Christmas pudding was brought on parade and the anticipated consumers thereof were given the opportunity of

and made you wonder why there are not more of these shows run. Come on, you live wires, what about it?

In both of the above functions, the unit dance band excelled.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergeant and Mrs. Robinson on the arrival of Margaret Ann.

Regret.—That Pat Mills missed Toddy—by only a few hours, too! S.W.B.

Sergeants Mess.

You Know What Sailors Are.—Emptiness of pocket and time on my hands, due to the visit and (according to the wives, happy event) the departure of the Navy, lead me to write these notes.

Whilst they were here we had an excuse to hold three socials and dances, to say nothing of a couple of farewell " do's." What affairs! Naturally, I took advantage of all the fun that was going, and even managed to sandwich in another celebration—the occasion of a lady ceasing to be addressed by the tradespeople as " Madam " and answering only to the title of " Memsahib "; in other words, the arrival of my wife from England.

Departures.—We said goodbye to Sergeants (Give it to Walter) Bridge, Dowie (who distinctly remembers Clive arriving in India),

Lambke (a man to whom engines and Urdu have no mysteries), McAdie (the Gordon Richards of Karachi) and lastly Dodger (Flat-foot) Green—all good fellows who would be welcome anywhere.

Arrivals.—To make up for the departure of Sergt Dowie, we have R.S.M. Beresford J. (late of T Company I.S.C.) to spend a short time with us before leaving for the land he last saw when troopers were rowed by galley slaves.

Definite.—Sorry! I can't go on—the memory of the Navy's visit is too recent. NOBBY.

Corporals Mess.

Social.—We welcome Corporal Pat Mills: an addition to any Mess. Members are requested to ignore his little characteristic of using the current correspondence with their best-beloveds for bridge scoring pads. Knowing him, I assure you that it is quite an oversight on his part. Equally are we glad to see L/Corporal (Soapy) Hudson on his return from a doubtfully earned holiday in the U.K. With the return of the latter gentleman, the billiard table and the shove-ha'penny board are suitably policed as a measure against his plotting graphs on them.

Apart from a completed fortnight's camp by the Wireless Company and an anticipated one by the Line Company, not much out of the ordinary in the technical sphere of our lives can be reported.

With the moving of Signals trooping arrangements from Bombay to Karachi, we are enabled to set eyes on many faces that we thought we would never see again. Visits to incoming and outgoing troopers are very fashionable nowadays, and a visit from the Navy has left us quite dazed with the social round.

Tennis.—Pat Mills, unsatisfied with his triumphs in other realms of sport, has taken to knocking the tennis team into shape. I freely admit that they need it; even the coach should not turn a deaf ear to his own advice. However, in consideration of the headgear, eyeshades and apparel affected by our players, any of their opponents should start with a handicap.

Bezzler, Colchester.—Writer's cramp? or is it Halstead, marriage licence or (knightly) overwork? Smoky Joe. S.W.B.

6th Field Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Lucknow.

Tuesday 14th November 1933.

Notes.—I am sorry I could not manage to get these notes ready in time for the December publication, as we arrived here too late.

We left Quetta on the 28th/29th October and arrived in Lucknow on the 1st November. Since then we have been very busy. We were inspected by the District commander on the 8th inst. and everything went well considering the short notice we had to get ready.

We arrived here in time for the Lucknow Horse Show and have entered four horses: three jumping and one best trained horse—Jumping, Lieut. W. G. Daubeny on No. 8 (Archie), Sigmn McFarlane on No. 67 (Baggie) and Naik Karam Singh on No. 41 (Jimmie); trained Troop horse, Sergt Sneddon on No. 74 (Sussie).

The Section consists of Lieut. W. G. Daubeny, Sergts Jones and Sneddon, Corpl Scott, L/Corpl Collington, Signalmen Jenner, McFarlane, Ryan, Thorpe and Skellon. Corpl Scott, who is at present on an "S" course at Jubbulpore, will join the Section in February next. HAGGIS.

EASTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Tuesday 14th November 1933.

General.—When these notes appear in print the remainder of the n.c.o.s and men due for repatriation will have departed for colder climes, and many new faces will be here to replace them. The first batch of the latter are due to arrive in the unit about the 18th December.

On Friday 3rd November the G.O.C. paid his annual visit of inspection and found everything to his satisfaction.

Training.—Section training is now in full swing. People who have acquired higher ratings during recent Trade Boards now have the opportunity of using their knowledge to gain the required experience.

Another Section (L) have proceeded to camp, leaving for Jhansi on the 6th November.

Arrivals.—Sergts Foley and Lemon, Corpl Kirkby, L/Corpls Potesta and Page, and Sigmn Fabian have returned from U.K. leave. Pte Perkins on probation, prior to transferring. We welcome them all.

Departures.—Corpl Gristwood and family to home establishment on the 8th November by H.M.T. *Lancashire*. Sergeant Cummins and L/Corpl Stonehouse to Peshawar. Sergt Harper and Signalmen Halstead and Clavering G. to Muttra. R.Q.M.S. Mitchell to B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. We wish them luck in their new units.

No. 1 Company.

Arrivals.—Corpl Kirkby and Sigmn Fish from Blighty leave. Good for you, Jim! you would not have arrived here if your leave had not terminated and saved you from worse trials. To Corpl Kirkby, after a six months rest in Ireland, we extend a hearty welcome. We hope his stay with us will be one long sweat.

Departures.—Lieut. Beeton left us on 13/11/33 for temporary duty with the Cavalry Troop. We expect him back early in the New Year.

Sigmn Fish J. to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. I thought you said at Aldershot that you could not ride, Jim!

L/Corpl Brett to Calcutta on permanent duty. His call sign is " J.A.M.," otherwise Eastern Command W/T Group.

Corporal Catt to Blighty on a Foreman-of-Signals course. Good luck, Pussy!

Sigmn Sherry to the home establishment. A supply of sick reports accompanies him.

General.—Can any orderly sergeant tell me (reference church parade) " Was he where he was?" and " Is the signalman excused for telling you that he was outside the Kot?" Good old Boxer!

At last we have been given a wonderful boxing ring and such lights as have never been seen before in the 3rd Div. Meerut. Now we have to find the boxers. Sergt Fee, that well known crack, has been seen dashing about, inviting people to spar in the ring. Of course, hitting hard is not allowed in " our ring ": you might damage the lighting arrangements.

There has been talk of a novices boxing tournament. This means that all the Div. are barred. However, Puncher will do his best to fight anyone of his own weight on his own conditions: five blue lights a-side. What was that? Ah! at last a fight is to be staged. Two bumpers are still at it tooth and nail; now they have stopped. " All right, I'll see you in the ring to-night," says one. " That suits me," says the other. Now we are waiting for to-night to see the first battle staged in our ring—the brightest and most colourful ring ever seen. I hope they don't spoil the look of it!

Section training commences with a Crash. What a crash! (better left unwritten).

We offer our sincere regrets in announcing the death of a certain young mongoose, the private property of a well known gentleman of leisure. After being a favoured pet for years and years, it suddenly attacked its owner for some unknown reason, running up his leg and biting a vital spot. This caused much unpleasantness in having to undergo the usual course to prevent poisoning. Then the most unusual thing occurred: the mongoose died two days later, the verdict being blood poisoning!

Howlers.—Can anyone tell me what a "mechanical dentist" is? My idea is a " dentist's mechanic." Other possible conclusions will be welcomed, so that I may inform the originator of the " mechanical dentist."

Sigmn Hud. . . . . says " Roll on, 1938," so that he can have six months leave and come back for another five years. I think he heard Sigmn Fish talking about Blighty. But then Sigmn Hud. . . . . has only been here six months; is it possible that he has forgotten Blighty after such a long period of absence?

Agony.—Sigmn Huddlestone craves—in fact, is on his knees, begging—for a letter from Sigmn T. J. Johnson, last heard of at Pindi.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Training in No. 2 Company is now in full swing. F and L Sections have left us for Jhansi, where they have joined their Brigades for the training season.

During the past month Major J. E. F. Paton arrived from leave in the U.K. to take command of the Company. To him we extend a hearty welcome. We hope that his stay with us may be long and pleasant.

On the eve of Armistice Day a dance was held in the Rink, and everyone spent an enjoyable evening.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Page and Sigmn Fabian from leave in the United Kingdom.

Departures.—L/Corpl Stonehouse to Peshawar. No wonder our bright young things are looking downcast these days.

Agony.—FitzP.: Avoid the Christmas rush. Post early. B.

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

November 1933.

The entry of this month brought with it a short period of gloom which even now is not entirely dispelled. Whilst returning from a duty run one of the Section's Ford vans carrying five I.O.R. passengers, in trying to avoid a cyclist riding without lights, skidded and overturned. All the occupants sustained injuries of varying severity—which in two cases subsequently proved fatal. The remainder are now out of danger.

Another clean handkerchief had to come out of the box this month, to wave goodbye to Sergt Male and family on their departure to the U.K. for service in a station possessing no rat club. Any tendency towards long and languishing farewells, however, was squashed by the rip-tearing suddenness of their departure, which compelled them to blow kisses with one hand while hammering nails into packing cases with the other. The Section has resigned itself to the loss of our one link with home life. Our married patch is now occupied by a foreign invader, and further expectations of man-sized dinners, elephantine meat pasties and other snacks have passed into limbo. We wonder, though, where Rene is to gather her next crop of "uncles"?

The mantle of Section sergeant has descended on Sergt Harper G. A., who arrived here from Meerut complete with petrol feet and mobile gymnasium. We learn that his loyal and staunch adherents were disappointed at not being able to follow him. Better stay where you are, H.1. You may get another opportunity of waging war in the compound of the Soldiers' Home, New Delhi. PICIT.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

November 1933.

General.—The unit has had quite a busy time during these last few weeks with unit camp, schemes and numerous other parades and events, all of which have gone to keep the time well occupied. To well and truly crown this, our regular scribe has been attached to K Signal Section on temporary duty for the manœuvre period. Prior to proceeding to Ahmednagar (that delightful health resort) this scribe casually mentioned that a few notes for the jolly old Corps Journal would not be amiss—just like that! Gentle reader, what would think of a chappie like him? Yes, I do, too!

The Passing Pageant.—What is the situation? What is a raspberry? (we should know). Who chlorinated the drinking water at Jiddimatla? and did he drink any himself? Two charpoys—hard life? A washed out camp. Claims—C.M.A.

Jiddimatla.—On Tuesday 14th November the unit paraded in full war paint, ready to proceed to unit camp at Jiddimatla. On this parade even the cable wagon—the pride of Q Branch—emerged from its shed glittering in the brilliant sunshine. The D.R.s of H Section, the Fords and the lorries shot off this parade in true mechanised style, leaving large clouds of dust in their wake. On the way out, one notable person was seen riding in state on "the Pride of Q"—and (let us bow our heads) even the combo was used; but our special correspondent points out that he saw the usual hikers on their poor feet.

Life in camp was very much the same as usual; the daily schemes were fought and won (or did we lose?) During one scheme—a gas attack—the S.B.O. made strange gurgling noises through his gas mask into the mouthpiece; and judging by his temper, it is thought that the operator on the other end was either gassed or also gurgling his best.

During the period we were at Jiddimatla our C.S.O. (Lieut.-Colonel P. B. D. H. Foot) paid us a visit and took great interest in the scheme and the subsequent discussions. However, the camp—as all things must do, whether good or bad—drew to its termination, and the unit returned to Trimulgherry to prepare for the visit and inspection by the G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command. That sounds better than stating that we were inundated with water. We might have known that something like this would happen!

The greatest game learned at camp was "Chess, with tents, and how to play it." A few B.O.R.s (who shall be nameless) had taken down the bearers' tents and re-erected them in a different position when someone yelled "Checkmate!" and then the game was abandoned. Very funny, had it not been so tragic!

Departures.—We say a fond farewell to Corporals Windy Breeze and Birchall J. (the scribe of F Section) who leave this unit on the 27th November on posting to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. The first-named has not been in India a year, and this will be his third station: "Join the Army and see the world." The very best of luck to you both!

Arrivals.—Captain T. C. Morgan, A.I.R.O., joined the unit from Bangalore for training and is due to return on the 28th November. We trust that his stay with this unit, though short, has been a pleasant experience.

Jerusalem Mail.—Toc Eddy (or Ginger) desires to hear from Jimmy Green and H. Bedford, whom he knew during Catterick days of 1930 ('way back?) What about it, fellows?

Ringing Bells.—We wonder if W.F.K., a past member of this unit, ever speaks of Freda in his sleep.

Tailpiece.—Trooping, still trooping. A.F.W.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

November 1933.

Greetings.—These are extended from the writer of these notes to Lieut. S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan. The Jhelum road does not alter very much, sir.

Yuletide is drawing near, and we now extend to all ranks of Royal Signals at home and abroad our heartiest wishes for a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

General.—Towards the end of October we said farewell to the 23rd Field Brigade R.A. on their departure to the U.K. (Exeter and Bristol) and we renewed our acquaintance with the 15th Field Brigade R.A. from Kirkee and Trimulgherry, who have taken up residence here for the next three years.

On Armistice Day the Section attended the annual parades on the rugby ground and at the War Memorial, from which all troops marched past the Governor of the Central Provinces. Judging from the accounts and remarks of spectators, we acquitted ourselves creditably.

The Section moves out to camp on the 27th November, returning on the 19th December.

Jubbulpore Week is in progress at the time of writing. Of our entries Sergt Penfold reached the final of the open B.O.R.s jumping but unfortunately was unplaced, there being five clear rounds.

In the handy hunters, three of our competitors ran the full course but once again had to concede points to others. This course was rather tricky and called for much good judgment on the part of the riders. Opening and closing the gate caused a great deal of amusement to the spectators. All that remains for me now is to wish the Section better luck next time.

Arrival and Departure.—L/Cpl Howard arrived from H.Q. to swell our ranks (the Howard Memorial still awaits its erection at Jubb). L/Corpl Coker returned to H.Q. on completion of his rest cure. How are the rough exercise blanket galls getting on?

We Would Like to Know.—Who thought the chit system termed blue lights was a drink? (not a very appropriate thirst quencher). Who is the B.O.R. with bell bottom patrol trousers? (we did not know the Navy came this far).

A Scribe's Farewell.—The time has now come for me to hand over the position of Section scribe—a job I have held only a very short time; but during that period I have had great pleasure in contributing to the pages of our Corps Journal. My successor has already appointed himself in my stead, so I trust that I shall still be able to keep in touch with my old Section while sojourning in my new station. One makes plenty of acquaintances during the course of one's service, but unfortunately moves must take place. THE WIRE provides a happy medium, however, for keeping in touch with chums scattered miles away.

Conclusion.—We shall be away at camp when the next contribution falls due, but an effort will no doubt be made to keep our space in THE WIRE pages duly filled.

Farewell! PILAH NAICK.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia, 29/11/33.

Extensions of Service.—Sigmn Barber T. to complete eight and four years, and Signalmen Nash and Yeadon to complete twelve years.

Promotion.—L/Sgt Walker promoted Sergeant w.e.f. 6/9/33.

Education.—Sigmn Gidley and Drivers Perree and Watson awarded second class certificates of education.

Change of Name.—Corpl Lynton re-assumed his true name of W. W. W. Sims.

Re-Musterings and Trade Tests.—Signalmen Graham, Beckley and Stevens re-mustered as linemen C.ii. Signalmen Donnahey and Buckman passed trade test as elect. fitters A.ii.

Arrival.—Signalman Hicks from Gibraltar on 26/11/33.

Embarkations.—To U.K. on the *Nevasa* on 28/11/33: Signalmen Bostock, Pallett and Samuels to Army Reserve, Sigmn West for discharge, L/Corpl Gibson tour expired, L/Sergt Luck invalided, Sigmn Caveney A. P. for discharge, Sigmn Nash tour expired, L/Corpl Edwards (with family) for discharge, Corpl Brookes and family to home establishment, families of Sergt Wells and W.O. class ii. Instructor Hawkins, A.E.C., Captain C. A. H. Chadwick and family tour expired.

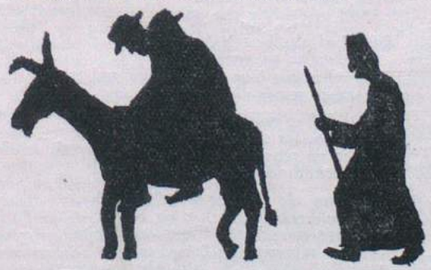
Departures.—W.O.Instructor Hawkins, A.E.C., to Khartoum.

No. 1 Company:

Headquarters Section.

Yes, there is such a Section in Egypt Signals, although nobody seems to know much about it round here; perhaps its personnel are quiet and retiring. I know one who will be if he keeps on jewing much longer. Oh, Abe! how could you? I like shooting my head off now and again, as the folks here know, so I'm making my first attempt as a scribe.

Arrivals.—We have had no new visitors to the Section of late, unless it's Busty, the short-wave station's Abbassia mastiff. He's been here longer than I have, so I must be wrong: but he's not quite so rough as he used to be—is he, Pedler?



BURGON AND BATES RETURNING FROM EVENING GLASSES

?

Departures.—There will be a train leaving Cairo on the 28th of this month for Alexandria, and L/Corpl Hoot Gibson and Mr. Bertie West are catching it. At Alexandria they will be jumping on that famous old trans-Med-Atlantic liner the *Nevasa* for a trip to Blighty. Hoot is going to Catterick—so he says—to do handsprings and backlifts for the education of the young bloods in the Depot, while Bertie is going there also to demonstrate to the aforementioned young bloods how to go into civvy street after doing twelve. We lose a good sportsman in Hoot and a No. 1 chippy-cum-ration man in Bertie. Good luck to both of you! Items of interest to old H.Q.ites and those who have the patience to read this.

WHOOPEE !!!



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE WHEN A TYRE COMES OFF

For further particulars of the above sketch apply to Dick, Sophie and Hoot. It isn't very often they go out, but when they do—well! Whoopee, what's a tyre between friends?

It is rumoured that during the Signals concentration schemes some of our n.c.o.s (all workshops) will have to do their stuff on horses; again it's whoopee. We shall get some fun out of the rodeo, especially when I get up on one of them. Thank heaven there is a trough in the stables for me to mount from, though how I'm going to get back if I have to dismount, Nebby only knows!

Abe will give a correspondence course on the art of saving to anyone desiring it. This includes the stitching of the old piece of shaving soap on the new, 1¼-acker suppers in the mess, washing of old pipe cleaners, and sundry other useful things. He is not the only one in the Section, but he has the honour of being Chief Rabbi. I started once, but was weak and fell to the charms of Mc of the Ewan Clan.

That's all for this month. If I survive the turmoil that I've stirred up in H.Q. Section, I'll see you all again next time.

PORKY.

Signal Troop.

General.—Whoopee! Group E! D.iii.! and other expressions of joy. By the time these notes appear, the festivities will be over, but if it's not too late, here's the best of luck in 1934!

Schemes.—This winter sport is now in full swing, and everyone seems to be enjoying to the full the rich beauties of the countryside. We have not yet managed to work seventy miles whilst on the move, but hope springs eternal in a trooper's breast, so who knows? It is very nice to spend an occasional night on the desert. How the folk at home must envy us and say to each other "Simply too thrilling, my dear," or "Now, isn't that just too cute!" They have never been to Knanka Drifts, the Virgin's Breasts, Coombe Hill, etc.

Is It True?—That several B.ii. ratings were missed from the Company office after the two minutes silence?

That a certain leader of men has been excused puttees because they shake off when he is on parade? Surely, the chilliness of mere winter does not make one tremble so!

True Story.—A certain sand strangler ambled forth one night to go to Kasr-el-Nil barracks. After two and a half hours fruitless wandering, he found himself dodging the traffic in a busy square and listening to a native policeman shouting to him in

(presumably) good Arabic. During a lull, our hero approached the bobbie and opened the attack. Our hero: "————." Bobbie: "?x!—!½?x—." Our hero: "Anna Inglizi Askaru. Fien Kasr-el-Nil, for —— sake, fien?" The policeman's face lit up with a beam of understanding, and with many salaams he directed our hero to his destination (across the road). Within thirty seconds the wanderer had passed the smart Guardsman on point duty at the barrack gate, leaving the policeman to congratulate himself on having averted another war.

Just An—ode.

In days of yore, or maybe more,
When wireless was a mystery,
A man named Morse
He did a course
And started making history.

He gathered lots and lots of dots,
And dashes to complete it;
Then with this code
The seeds he sowed
Of visual. Can you beat it?

It was a snag to wag a flag
For several hours duration;
A helio soon came on show,
Which eased the situation.

But sometimes this was all amiss;
Then, telegraph invented.
With this resource
They speeded Morse
And most ops were contented.

Then wireless came and made its name
With screened valves and re-action,
But sets we've got are not so hot
And drive one to distraction.

Our Yimkin sets are not safe bets—
Signals are oft distorted,
And though remote,
Roll on that boat!
When we shall be deported. S.E.B.

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—On Sunday 26th November a large draft arrived from Gibraltar; in fact, it was so large that some said the very Rock itself had arrived. It was a one-man draft, and you can believe it or not: it was a man, a whole one. He has already been christened Oliver Hardy's big brother.

A second class candidate, when told to describe a sphere, replied "Sigmn H——." But, still, he is a great asset to the Company. It is untrue to say that guy ropes are required to keep his topee in place and that mops have been issued to clean the eyepieces of his respirator.

Medical.—Are you ill? do you suffer from ailments real or imaginary? do you abhor work? If you can truthfully or otherwise say "Yes" or "No" to any or all of these questions, come to Egypt Signals, where you can have your name recorded on a sick report and be placed on excused duty or light duty by a medical orderly who may be a private in the Notts and Jocks. But, somehow, we don't think it will happen again.

Badminton.—The Company dining hall has recently been marked out for badminton, and within a few days we shall see who's who at that game. Those who have served in Egypt will realise that although every day offers its sport, the evening offers nothing. It is hoped that badminton will fill that gap. Those who are still serving in Egypt and do not play are recommended to take up the game, as it is equally as enjoyable as tennis, and certainly faster.

Training.—This is Signals concentration period, and Sections are daily disappearing into the blue and sometimes not returning until after 10 p.m.

Christmas Festivities.—Preparations are being made for what we all hope will be the happiest Christmas ever spent in Egypt.

Arrivals and Departures.—We hear that there will not be any arrivals or departures until April 1934.

Corporals Mess.

Our Mess takes this opportunity of wishing all Messes at home a happy New Year and Messes abroad a happy new boat!

Very little of note has happened this month, so notes will be few, though the appearance of some is essential to show that we are still on the map.

Arrangements are in hand for the Mess annual dinner, which this year is being held in the mess as previous attempts to hold it in town have always proved unsatisfactory. We all hope that it will be a success. More of this next month—if I am able to remember anything of it.

Our football team lost their fixture to the Garrison Military Police on one of those peculiar days when nothing goes right. On the run of the play we should have won easily. We have a home fixture on the Signals ground on the 13th December, when we hope to turn the tables.

Departures.—Corpl Brookes and family and L/Corpl Edwards have left for home on the *Nevasa*. Our best wishes go with them.

Arrivals.—We welcome Mrs. Betty, who arrived with a young edition of Joe on the 1st December; so now the phat school has broken up, with Corpl Betty living out. I have heard that some more arrivals are expected, so some more "livers out" will be recorded; but until officially announced, I cannot welcome them, though I think Pay and J Sections are interested.

An Ode to Snorter.

Did you hear the tale of Snorter,
Who on active service went
To cover himself with glory?
The chance seemed heaven sent.

He scoffed at Abu Gildi—
D.R.s never fail;
He even stuck his chest out
And tried to wag his tail.

For three long days he hung around—
He never had a run;
But then an urgent message came,
And Snorter got his gun.

And off to Haifa Snorter went,
With Paddy as his escort,
And visions of an O.B.E.
And medals by the quart.

But alas! the best laid plans
Are apt to go astray,
And when his bike broke down and conked,
Strange words we heard him say.

But did that stop him getting through?
Old Snorter said "Ha! ha!
As I'm on active service now,
I'll commandeer a car."

And poor old Snorter wondered why,
While knocking back their beer,
The lads turned round and callëd him
Their commanding Brigadier.

As Paddy towed him back to camp,
Poor Snorter hung his head,
And when he saw us gathered there,
These words the poor lad said:

"It wasn't me that failed, lads;
My bike, it let me down."
He tried to get our sympathy,
But we gently turned him down.

And that's the end of Snorter—
Perhaps you know that name:
The man whose bike had a breakdown
But got there just the same. F.H.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

6th November 1933.

Weather Report.—It is now much cooler and I can write my humble contribution in peace, as the mosquitoes are confining their activities to other members of our community. Mosquitoes are in abundance owing to the famous river Nile overflowing its banks. A suit of armour would be very welcome to make oneself proof against the warlike attentions of these pests.

Radio Society.—We are still going strong, and we decided to have a test to see if the set would work to Alexandria. A W/T Leyland left Helmieh for Alexandria on the 30th October, taking the S/W set with it. Tests were carried out with a receiver in barracks for two days, but unfortunately we failed to get through. Probably "skip distance" had something to do with it.

Sport.—Our sporting activities were rather greater last month than they have been for some time past. Here are one or two of the results:—

Football—v. No. 1 Company Egypt Signals lost by 2—6.
Hockey—v. 9th Light Battery R.A. lost by 1—3; v. A Squadron 12th Royal Lancers lost by 1—4; v. No. 1 Company Egypt Signals lost by 4—5.

Radio Flashes.—To VU2BM, Rawalpindi, from SU2GA Cairo: We were very pleased to work you on 17/10/33 and 23/10/33. We have not yet had your QSL, but are looking forward to getting it soon. Best wishes until we pick you up again.

Agony.—To all 1st Cav. Troopers, Risalpur: What about a line to Corporal Neal?

Conclusion.—I am sorry the notes are short this month, but I will endeavour to find more for next. PAT.

5th December 1933.

Prologue.—The office boy has just dashed in for WIRE notes, so herewith is my humble effort for December.

The Troop wish all members of the Corps a bright and merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

There has not been much excitement in Helmieh during the past month. That in itself is not unusual: there very rarely is any. We sometimes get some scandal to talk about if Mrs. So-and-so's dog suddenly dies, but dogs—or cats, for that matter—don't die every day. Much to our sorrow, they are very active at night.

Training.—On the 23rd October No. 3 Detachment (Eggy and Co.) left Helmieh with A Squadron to reconnoitre the Nile Delta.

On the 25th No. 1 Detachment (Ike and comic troupe) proceeded to Alexandria (the Mecca of the élite in Egypt—and No. 1 includes itself among the élite) to join the 12th Lancers Detachment stationed there. On the way (we travelled by road, not by the desert) we passed through towns and villages which weren't exactly Monte Carlos, but Freddy swears by Allah that they turned out to give us a rousing welcome. We arrived at Mustapha Barracks without mishap and saw some of the 12th Lancers new draft who were paying a visit to the Detachment. With all the pomp and dignity we could muster, we drove into the square, although we weren't exactly spotless. A certain private in the Warwicks approached our Academy celebrity and asked what England was like. Our A.C. replied that, as he had been residing in Egypt for the last four years, he wasn't quite sure, and further that he didn't know who was reigning king of that foreign country Inglise. Everything went quite well after that, and on Monday we set out with the Detachment armoured cars to spy out the land and find and completely rout the Delta reconnaissance people. After travelling some miles, we discovered them and fought them with machine guns. It was declared that we won the war, so we went back to Alexandria. On Tuesday we set off for Cairo, arriving safely the same afternoon.

While we were doing our bit in our sector of Egypt, Nos. 2 and 4 Detachments, under Corporals Neal and Shaddick, went off with B Squadron to carry out a reconnaissance of the Suez coast, travelling by way of Ras Za'faran, their destination being a place named Hurghada. Up to the time of writing they are still reconnoitring. An account of the trip will appear in next month's issue.

Sport.—We congratulate our neighbours, Egypt Signals, on making their soccer match with the R.A. a goalless one, as the Pack had beaten the K.O.R.R., one of the toughest teams in Egypt, the previous week.

Hobby or Hobbies.—Baali is shortly getting his own S/W to work. His ambition, no doubt, is ultimately to become the head of the R.S.G.B. "I started as a soldier boy"—you know the rest, so nuff sed.

Agony.—A new song has just been composed; composer, Anon; title, "Jimmy's Lament." The poor fellow thought it was the January felucca, but he has just been advised that *the* felucca (with him on board) does not sail until April. I heard it whispered that the Butchers Association wanted to buy him out, as there is a great demand for butchers in Great Britain; but as I can't get to the root of the statement, the least said, soonest mended.

Advert.—Anyone interested in machinery and wishing to buy a lathe (small pattern) and a table on which to work the contraption, please apply to Ghee, Anti-Knitters Movement, Box 24.

Espionage.—I am glad to report that the spy system is now out of commission and the heads nearly bankrupt.

We Want to Know.—What is a churer—or is it tourer? What is a mariner (pronounced here as "marreener")? Has H——i indented for his nickel knitting needles yet? What is this game, tig? Is it ker-ect that No. 2 are undefeated champs?

After-Thought.—"Where's moi poipe? D'ju wear?"

PAT (DRANOEL).

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

General.—The lot of the amateur journalist, like that of Gilbert's policeman, is not a happy one. He is faced with the seeming miracle of producing news out of nothing. However, I will do my best to perform the miracle, so kindly place those rotten eggs and old vegetables in the wastepaper basket on your left. Thank you!

Old "2 W/T-ites" will doubtless be interested to learn that Constables Corbett and Hill, both late of this unit, were mixed up in the affray at Jaffa during the recent spot of bother in this country, and acquitted themselves nobly. This Company was confined to camp and lived in hourly expectation of a call to arms, but fortunately (or unfortunately, according to one's point of view) this failed to materialise. In fact, the whole show, from our point of view, was extremely dull, and shouts of joy made the welkin (whatever that might be) ring loudly when the ban of confinement to camp was lifted.

Weapon Training.—We fired our annual weapon training course at the beginning of November with very gratifying results—the average score for the Company being 61.43; and it is a noteworthy fact that there is *no* third class shot in the Company. The leading scorers were Sigmn Twiss (93), Lieut. A. J. H. Masters (84), Sigmn Roden (79), Sigmn Pritchard (78), L/Corporal Weeks (78), Corpl Storey (75).

The good work was continued by our Lewis gunners. The results of *their* classification exceeded our wildest hopes. Thirteen of them fired, and the results were one second class shot, one first class shot, and eleven marksmen. Sergt Jones and L/Corporal Cokayne tied for top score.

In passing, may I say that to the best of my belief this unit is the only one in Royal Signals which provides its own defence force of Lewis gunners; and I think that in these circumstances the results are especially praiseworthy.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Tate and wife from the U.K. May their stay be a happy one!

Departures.—On the 26th November Captain F. S. Thompson, our second-in-command, to take up an appointment on the R.E. Board. We wish him the very best of luck in his new sphere.

Golf.—This ancient game, craze, habit, disease, or what you will, has re-established a firm hold on the Company in general. A monthly handicap is being run throughout the season, the prizes for which are some very handsome clubs. The winner of the October tournament was Sigmn Peters (Possy) with a handicap of —9. For the November tournament the handicaps were revised, and the preliminary round saw the defeat of several notables, including friend Peters. At the time of writing the finalists are Sergt Harris (—6) and Sigmn Horne (—4).

It is realised, of course, that our club cannot be run on the strict procedure of St. Andrews, and it is more noted for its

friendly spirit of disregard for the conventions than for any close adherence to the book of words.

The Month's Bright Sayings.—On the ranges. "Blimey, Biff! no wonder I couldn't hit the —— target: did y'see that —— beetle crawlin' over my foresight?"

Heard in No. 1 billet: "Let's go down the bazaar for a quiet walk."

Heard in the canteen: "Drink up, lads; it's me birfday."

Education (?)—The Soldier's Alphabet:

A is for Army. A national institution employing some 100,000 men, the purpose of the maintenance of which is to provide politicians with an excuse for continental tours to Geneva, Locarno, etc. Was formerly used in defence of the realm.

B is for Beer. A very popular beverage (60 per cent. water) sold to troops at exorbitant prices.

C is for Canteen. Another name for N.A.A.F.I., an institution for selling penny articles to troops. Presumably under the directorship of Ali Baba.

D is for Duties. Painful necessities (?) in a soldier's life.

E is for Exercise. Usually associated with horses. An unpleasant business.

F is for Forage. Meaning grub for the aforementioned horses. Generally entails the unpleasant task of oat-crushing.

G is for Grub. "An Army fights on its stomach." Royal Signals must be Thugs.

H is for Horse. An animal with a leg at each corner and a kick in each leg. Old-fashioned means of Army transport.

I is for India. A hot place east of Suez. Associated with Gandhi, goat's milk, and old soldiers' yarns beginning "When I was in 'Pindi in '21."

J is for Jug. A vulgar term meaning digger, mush, nick or clink.

K is for Khaki. Fashionable gents' wear in the Army. See regimental tailors' advertisements.

L is for Leave. A period during which a soldier does nothing at home instead of following the usual custom of doing ditto in barracks. This period is usually a prelude to some very tall yarns: "I remember a girl I met on leave" (you know the rest). Nuff said.

M is for Manœuvres. A period equivalent to a sentence of "hard." Teaches (?) a soldier the art of war.

N is for Nobody. This is the gentleman who borrows one's cleaning kit and forgets to return it.

O is for Orders. A daily bulletin published for the guidance of the troops. Starts off: "Main Guard." Too pithy for enjoyable reading. Cannot be compared with the daily Press.

P is for Pay. The miserable pittance drawn by a soldier for serving his country by keeping off the dole.

Q is for Quarterbloke. It has been said that there are two kinds of wealthy men: those who become rich by honesty and quartermasters. I cannot comment on this, never having met the former.

R is for Rations. The hopelessly inadequate portion of food on which a soldier is expected to thrive. The total inadequacy of this ration necessitates the assistance of N.A.A.F.I.

S is for Sentry. A poor fool who trudges wearily along a few yards of ground while other and more sensible folks are in bed.

T is for Tea. A mixture reminiscent of mud, sand, lukewarm water and chalk, sold by canteens to their misguided customers.

U is for Urdu. Ex-Indian wallahs are invariably fond of claiming an extensive knowledge of this language (even when they only know about a dozen words). Useful for cursing the fellow who puts you on guard.

V is for Vernacular. Local dialect, such as "Boogle blows in marnin', and they there sodgers wi' twisted trowsis and 'andles on they boots cooms arrooshin' out o' they there rag-'uts in swaarms and swaarms," "Be I 'Ampshire," etc.

W is for Women. Too much has already been said on the subject. I will say no more.

X is for Xanthippe. This lady (wife of Socrates) has nothing at all to do with the subject. She just fills up a space. This is known as literary evasion and is a method very popular with the sensational Press.

Y is for You. You—the person reading these notes. It's a pity you haven't something better to do.

Z is for Zig-zag. The mode of progress adopted by the soldier who has spent a convivial evening with friends. H.H.

Malaya Signal Section.

Pulau Brani, Singapore.

General.—Nothing exciting has happened here for some time; hence the absence of notes during the last few months—unless, of course, one can call schemes exciting. During the last few weeks we have had our share of them.

The first one, an all-night scheme, took place in September, the scene of operations being Pasir Panjang. All communications were laid by the Section. I know of no one who enjoyed it more than a certain ginger-headed chap. How it was wangled, I don't know; but he was conspicuous by his absence. You should have seen our quartermaster. He was actually drinking tea that night! (What happened, Quarter? you tell us—we'll believe it.) We would like to know what happened to the message pad and umpire line, and also where the F-of-S was when our Good Samaritan supplied us with "tiger."

The second scheme took place on Sunday 1st October in the Jurong area, and again that ginger fellow wangled it. Influence, I suppose, Ginger!

Arrivals.—By the time these notes are published, we shall have welcomed our new O.C., Captain H. N. Brown. All our tour-expired people were looking forward to seeing more new faces on the first boat, but I'm afraid they are due for disappointment.

Departures.—We shall also have said goodbye to our present O.C., Captain H. E. Rance, who is leaving us by the first boat for U.K. and the Staff College. Captain Rance has only been with us for a short time, but everyone will be sorry to say goodbye. I know of some more, too, who were suffering from "first boatitis." Hard luck, eh! still, there are two more, Rajah. Cheer up, Chippy! she'll wait.

Courses.—All past and present Colchesterites, please note that Peter Weekes proceeded to Blakan Mati to study pram pushing. It had to be Blakan Mati because that's where the nurse keeps the pram!

Agony.—Jock Glass, somewhere in Blackdown: What about a reply? G.H.G.

Ted Stalch, somewhere in India: How about a line to Singapore?

Sigmn Riley is waiting for news of Sigmn Chapman, Hong-Kong. Come on! how about it, George?

Signalman B. Eames, Singapore, would appreciate a line from Sigmn Eames, Bulford.

An old Chathamite came across a picture of Sigmn Boulton, now in Peshawar. I see you still adopt your favourite attitude, Ted. Do you ever stand up? Eames would like to know what Gillingham was like when *you* left? B.E.

Pulau Brani, Singapore, November 1933.

O.C.A. Dinner.—On Saturday 4th November we held our O.C.A. dinner at the Union Jack Club, Singapore, which was attended by our O.C. (Captain H. E. Rance) our newly-arrived O.C. (Captain H. N. Brown) and one or two old comrades.

After the toast to the King had been given, C.Q.M.S. Thorpe (Foreman-of-Signals) bade farewell to our old O.C. and welcomed the new one in a short speech; and by what Captain Rance and Captain Brown said in reply, Singapore was made to appear a veritable Eden.

The function was undoubtedly a great success, and I still cannot understand why one fellow couldn't eat—probably homesickness was the cause. It did make one feel that way, seeing such a grand spread; didn't it, Sydney?

After dinner our versatile pair Dell and Doreen (better known as Sigmn Dell F. and Private Wright of the Wiltshire Regiment) entertained us with a comedy ballet dance. It may interest someone to know that we have with us an exceptionally gifted artist in Fred Dell, who with his partner has made several appearances at various hotels and cinemas in Singapore. Besides being a dancer, he is a real honest-to-goodness he-man, as his partner knows only too well: at present, "she" is nothing but a mass of bruises.

Another entertainer was Sapper Flanagan, R.E., who gave a wonderful exhibition of the art of conjuring. It has been said that a home safe is not so safe when Flanagan is about, and he certainly proved to us all that the quickness of the hand *does* deceive the eye, particularly of L/Sergeant Simm.

Many of our chaps showed various signs on the following morning of having had a good time. Some of them looked rather tired; it was probably a good thing that the next day was Sunday.

Our budding poet-laureate has been at work again, spending some of his spare time in writing the following verses, which appeared on the menu card. We certainly have some gifted people in this Section!

We extend our welcome to the C.S.O.,
Newly arrived in this land of woe;
Three years is a long time, but it will go—
Some of us have done it, and we ought to know.

At the top of the Section tree
Comes Captain Rance, our bold O.C.;
He must be smiling at you and me,
For he cannot stop to do his three.

Q.M.S. Thorpe is next step down,
A worthy chap of great renown;
You'll find him, with a perturbed frown,
Super-imposing all the town.

Sergeant Carpenter, as we all know,
Gets his man by bowling slow;
To lose this man will be a blow
To cricket in the Cant. What ho!

In charge of lines is Sergeant Simm,
Who tackles faults with face so grim;
No hidden shorts will get by him,
And chance of feeble phones is slim.

Rumour hath it widely spread
That Taffy Ellis will soon be dead;
A coming dirt track man, 'tis said—
He'll probably get a harp instead.

All our broken tools we cart
To Corporal Dacombe, our I.R. smart,
And he will return them to the mart
As good as new in every part.

The Section's "handsome Harry," now,
Is easily Corporal Wood, I trow;
You'll see the blush rise to his brow;
In modesty he's supreme—and how.

Now four of the Signals' worthiest men
Are Davis, Barcock, Brooks and Ben;
They're the Sparks of the Section, d'ye ken,
But Blighty is calling three of them.

Our two pioneers are Riley and Kirk,
Who in the wilds of Changi lurk
And erect routes without a quirk,
And from the hardships never shirk.

Of course, Weeks and Eames are a worthy pair,
Though they drive the subscribers to despair;
You'll oft find the officers tearing their hair
At the Blakan Mati Exchange so fair.

I must have a couple of words to say
About Potter, Williams and Davis S. J.:
Pulau Brani is where they stay—
But they're merely linemen, by the way.

Lindsay, Barnes, Smith, Dell and Guy
All work at Canning under no one's eye;
"Oh, to get back to Brani!" they say with a sigh—
And we on the Island all wonder why.

Who Was It?—Who filled his petrol lighter with beer? Who left his beer on the table?

And Why?—was Taffy late?

Jamaica Signal Section.

November 1933.

For many weeks past a great thought has been simmering in the back of my mind, and it has at last bubbled to a boil, only to burst, as do all bubbles—and boils, for that matter—into nothingness. Ah me! why think at all? But you shall hear. The great thought was that there is a wonderful opportunity of making hundreds and thousands—nay, millions of pounds in this part of the world just at present, and by means of that very old and yet efficient device (whisper it hissingly): blackmail! For is it not true that by giant posters and vivid prose, by long reels of coloured film, by exhibitions, by physical culture, wireless, health movements, and the proverbial signatures of famous medical men and body developers, there has spread over the face of the world news of the tremendous and far-reaching results of the treatment of the sun on puny human bodies?

The south of France, Africa, Madeira and the West Indies all rely for their very livelihood on the tame tourist biting at their dangling bait, the sun. With it, of course, goes the moon—a soft, shimmery, silvery, flippity-floppity kind of moon; and with the moon goes hard-baked—no, no, sorry! I mean sun-baked maidens and wingy-wangy guitars, not to speak of sobbing palms and prickling cactus. All these delights bring with them dollars, shekels, bullion—filthy, wonderful lucre—to hundreds of hotels, spas, bathing beaches, casinos, councils and even governments.

Now the great thought. Suppose I burst the whole bally scheme of things! upset the apple-cart! spill the beans! blow the gaff! Don't you think they would all graciously hand out a few of the dollars to prevent me? If I could secure the power of the mighty Press to tell the whole sun-mad world that they are being tempted to come to the sun and being swindled, I guess I could do a little swindling myself by accepting anything up to twenty thousand to keep quiet.

"But how would you do this, my pretty maid?" you quite naturally will ask. Listen, hoboes! here it comes: the stark, awful, naked truth, the bomb which will destroy the income of the West Indies. . . . there ain't no sun!

For the past four months the weather has gone from bad to worse and then back to bad again. Rains and gales and thunders and lightnings, and very little else. The damage to the Island has been terrific and many small planters and agriculturists have been ruined, while even the larger companies have suffered immense losses. The Governor has started a relief fund for the distressed people, and it will be a very long time before the Island recovers from the effects of these storms. No wonder I said in lighter vein that "there ain't no sun": we have seen very little of it for some time past.

The trouble started in June, as I mentioned in my last WIRE notes, but on the 15th August a devastating electrical storm struck the Island and the city of Kingston was severely affected. Nearly eleven inches of rain fell in a few hours; houses, bridges, roads, water and gas mains were damaged; and with torn-up roads and landslides, our poles and those of the civil company were thrown down. Most tragic of all is the fact that there was loss of life, many people being drowned in their houses and some washed down the streaming gullies into the harbour.

The Camp was, fortunately, comparatively untouched, except for the fact that the water supply was cut off, for the mains were broken and the filters in the river beds choked with earth. The roads over the hills leading to the city were impassable and communication was impossible.

Our route to Newcastle, which lies some twenty miles from the Camp and is four thousand feet above sea level, was very badly damaged and poles were washed completely away; but the linemen of the Section, both British and native, worked hard and long, and all credit is due to them for restoring communication under severe conditions in a very few hours.

Signalmen Turton and Dearden had the unenviable honour of suffering the horrors of a nightmare in complete consciousness and before nightfall. After working all day in the open and in teeming rain (just to get an appetite for tea, of course) they found at dusk that the line was still broken down somewhere "in the back o' beyond"—which meant in the route that wound up the mountain towards Newcastle. The paths had completely disappeared in the storm; landslides were frequent, and the darkness intense; while to add to the general harmony of outraged nature, the skies wept in sympathy with our toiling linemen—and the toiling linemen cursed that sympathy and its effects! They had not so much as a match between them; in any case, it would have been of no use; and thus they stumbled forward for eight odd miles and up three or thousand feet (with the full twelve inches to each of them). They got through safely, which was not guaranteed; and their tale of woe, very much like the match-seller's in the Strand, won them a hot bath, a supper, and

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Air Defence Formation Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1

Our tenth annual dinner was held at headquarters on Saturday 9th December, and there was a large gathering of members of the unit and guests.

On previous occasions the lecture room has been used, but this year the numbers necessitated better accommodation and the dinner was held in the drill hall. In order to make it look more comfortable and attractive, the entertainment committee procured large quantities of bunting and with the aid of the permanent staff, after many hours of work, the hall was completely transformed into the semblance of a sumptuous Eastern palace.

Of the excellent dinner provided little need be said except that, to the accompaniment of the orchestra, course after course disappeared with surprising rapidity. Our hon. colonel, Colonel O. W. Nicholson, was in the chair.

Major G. J. Morley Peel proposed the toast to the guests, amongst whom were Colonel H. Carter, T.D. (our late commanding officer), Colonel M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., Major H. Carey Thomas (Chief Signal Officer, Air Defence Signals, Uxbridge), Major B. S. Taylor, T.D., R.E., Captain E. Hindle, R.E., Captain F. J. Ford, Captain Daft, Flying Officer H. Hamilton and Messrs. Kepple, C. R. Fright, Cassel, Langdon, Arnold, Green and Holliday.

Major Peel commented on the Oriental atmosphere and apologised for the absence of the dancing girls. He made humorous references to many of the guests, and said how pleased we were to welcome them all to our annual dinner. Group Captain Edye R. Manning, D.S.O., M.C. (R.A.F. Station, Manston) and Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., were unfortunately prevented from attending.

Colonel Carter replied for the guests, and he took the opportunity of saying good-bye to the unit following his retirement.

Colonel Nicholson proposed the toast to the unit, coupled with the name of Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins, our new commanding officer. He congratulated the unit on its successful year, and also mentioned that we were practically up to strength. He hoped that everyone would bring along his friends so that we should have a waiting list.

Lieut.-Colonel Wickins replied, and during the course of his speech he mentioned the question of next year's camp. He pointed out how essential it was that we should go to Manston again in order to co-operate with the Air Force and to have suitable ground for our signal exercises, with special reference to the village of Acol. He asked the assembled company where they would like to go for camp, and the answer came as one voice: "Manston." Major Carey Thomas has an interest in the location of our camp, and we feel sure that he will always remember our reference to Manston.

Colonel Nicholson then presented the following challenge cups for the year 1933-34:—

Inter-Company airline cup, No. 26 (London) Company.
Inter-Company sports cup, No. 27 (London) Company.
Inter-Company Trade Board cup, No. 27 (London) Company.
Inter-Company control cup, No. 27 (London) Company.
Inter-Section control cup, No. 1 Section, No. 26 Company.
Inter-Section drill cup, No. 2 Section, No. 26 Company.
Inter-Section musketry cup, No. 1 Section, No. 26 Company.
Inter-Section tabloid sports cup, No. 2 Section, No. 26 Coy.
Individual military efficiency cup, Sergt Price H. E. J.
Individual musketry cup, Sigmn Willis R. H.

An excellent entertainment was arranged, most of the items being provided by members of the unit. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester, 16.

Prize Distribution.—Our prize distribution took place on Saturday 25th November, and we were honoured by the presence of Lieutenant-General W. M. St. G. Kirke, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-Chief, Western Command, who presented the prizes.

Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley, our commanding officer, in his report stated that the unit was up to strength and in a satisfactory position in every way, and a spirit of keenness was apparent—every member, whether an officer, non-commissioned officer, trained man or recruit, being keen to maintain the high standard of efficiency and the good name of the unit. The past year had been very successful, and at the annual camp some ambitious schemes had been carried out. Next year's camp would be at Scarborough, so he felt sure that every member would do his best to make the 1934 training season even more successful.

Lieut.-General Kirke, in a brief speech, referred to the Royal Signals as being a young Corps but a very thriving youngster. To use racing parlance it was, he said, "By Royal Engineer out of Great War" and had proved itself worthy of its parentage. He considered it the most individual of Corps, as each man was trained to think and act for himself and so he developed his own individuality, which did not happen in many Corps. Also, it was a Corps which had to march with the progress of science and so the work was very interesting.

Sir William Coates, K.C.B., the chairman of the East Lancashire Territorial Association, also spoke and touched upon the subject of disarmament. He explained in a few words the difference between defence and taking the offensive, and emphasised the need of a force for defence or police work. Real disarmament, in his opinion, would not be practicable until it was possible to abolish the police force, retire at night after putting all one's money, valuables, plate, etc., on the table downstairs, leave the door open all night, and come down in the morning to find everything just the same. Until such Utopian times arrived it was necessary to have forces for the defence of our Empire, and the Territorial Army of to-day was a very necessary part of such forces.

Over fifty prizes were presented, the inter-Company challenge trophy being awarded to No. 2 Company for the second time in succession. The total points gained by each Company were No. 1, 148; No. 2 (winners) 152; and No. 3, 149.

At the conclusion of the presentation of prizes, a demonstration was given by personnel of the unit showing various instruments used by the Signals. This was followed by dancing.

Sergeants Mess.—Another successful whist drive and dance was held on the 9th December, at which a good number of members and friends had an enjoyable evening.

Fashion Note.—Answer to correspondent: No, my dear, I am afraid that wearing a medal on blue patrol dress is simply *not* done. I am sure the case you mention was due to ——. Well, was it worn before or after refreshments?

Old Comrades Re-Union.—Nearly ninety old members foregathered at the Stock Exchange Restaurant, Manchester, on Saturday 9th December, for the second annual reunion and supper of the 42nd (East Lancs) Divisional Signals Old Comrades Association. This Association, formed only eighteen months ago in order to revive and cement old friendships of the Great War and to back up the present Signal units, has supplied a long-felt want and its future is now assured.

The president, Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., A.M.I.E.E., occupied the chair, and he was well supported by Major A. Roberts, M.C., Major G. N. Robinson, T.D., Major A. G. Jameson, T.D., Mr. H. Willcock, D.C.M. (chairman), Captain H. Andrews, T.D. (vice-chairman) and Mr. P. E. Parker (hon. secretary). The principal guests were Major C. B. Delaney, Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., R.S.M. Grist G. and R.Q.M.S. McVittie J. (representing the 42nd Divisional Signals, T.A.) and Major G. Hamilton (R.Signals S.R.)

After an impressive tribute by all present to "Our fallen comrades," the president read out a large number of letters and telegrams of apologies for absence, and then gave a most hearty welcome to all old comrades—particularly to those who had travelled long distances to be present. He referred to the distinction enjoyed by the old East Lancashire Divisional Company R.E. in being the first Territorial Signal Company to go abroad on September 10th 1914, and to the fact that it served continuously in Egypt, throughout the Gallipoli campaign, on the Suez Canal and Sinai Desert, and in France and Belgium, until March 1919—remarking that it never failed to do its job and had maintained the highest traditions of the Corps of Royal Engineers and Signal Service at all times.

Colonel Newton stated that his ambition to have some memorial to those who gave their lives in the Great War erected in the Royal Signals headquarters, Manchester, would soon be realised. An old member, Mr. S. H. Tiltman, L.R.I.B.A., had prepared a design and offered most generous help. Lieut.-Colonel Ashley, the commanding officer, fully supported the project and had promised his assistance. It was hoped that as many old members as possible would contribute a small amount and be present at the unveiling ceremony in the spring.

Major Roberts welcomed old friends and wished them all prosperity and many more such pleasant gatherings.

The toast of "Our Guests" was happily proposed by Captain H. Andrews, T.D., and responded to by Major C. B. Delaney, who expressed the pride of the Royal Corps of Signals units in being descended from the Signal Company of the Royal Engineers, and spoke of the constant aim of serving members to be worthy of their heritage. He looked upon the Association as a tremendous backing to the 42nd Divisional Signals; a support which had been lacking to previous commanding officers. On behalf of Lieut.-Colonel Ashley (who greatly regretted another engagement) he gave a cordial invitation to old members to visit headquarters and see what present-day Signals were doing.

The evening was enlivened by a good musical programme, but the outstanding success of the function was the pleasure of meeting old friends and the talk of old times. KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—By the time these notes appear we shall have entered the New Year, with all it holds in store for us. The new training year has commenced splendidly, and there is a marked keenness amongst all ranks to get on with the job. The various classes and lectures embodied in the "Training Memorandum" have commenced with good attendances, and one hopes this will be maintained.

Recruits are coming along steadily, and they are assured of a real welcome.

Two Companies have held successful annual dinners, and the third, which is scheduled to take place about mid-January, is expected to be equally successful. These annual gatherings are in the nature of family parties, and they do a great deal towards strengthening the various links in the chain.

On the recreational side of our life, boxing has received a fillip in the west country portion of the unit. This pastime was unfortunately crowded out at annual training last year by a very full programme of equally important items, but it is hoped to include it in the next annual training recreation programme.

Congratulations from the chair to all who have attained promotion since annual camp. There are still quite a number of vacancies yet to be filled, and opportunities are now available to assist those who are suitable and keen enough to climb to the dizzy heights. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

All the news for this month seems to be crowded into one week-end. On Friday 10th November the sergeants held their second dance of the season, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all who attended. Our heartiest thanks are due to R.S.M. Herbert, C.S.M. Scrivens, Mr. A. Webb and all the sergeants who worked very hard to make the dance a huge success—and I am sure they succeeded.

The annual Company dinner was held on the following evening. It is a great disappointment that this function is not better supported, but we were pleased to welcome a good number of "has beens." We were also pleased to welcome representatives of Nos. 2 and 3 Companies and No. 225 F.A.S.S. Speeches were short, but it was a sheer delight to have Major J. W. Western again on his feet. We are extremely grateful to him for the great interest he still takes in us. We are always pleased to listen to his sound advice, and hope to benefit by his presence amongst us.

The following day being Armistice Sunday, the Company, together with No. 225 F.A.S.S., attended the Garrison church parade at Exeter Cathedral. We were well represented by all ranks, and it is hoped that those who turned up will make a point of always attending these parades. There are only two a year, and it is asking very little in hoping that we have a 100 per cent. attendance.

Winter training is in full swing, and it is hoped that everyone will put it "all in" and so reap the full benefit of the advice and instruction given to them.

Boxing.—The first boxing tournament held in connection with the local units took place in the drill hall of the 4th Battn Devonshire Regiment, Bedford Circus. This Company had seven entries and there was one from No. 225 F.A.S.S. Boy Fildew of this Company won all his bouts and after a really good fight in the final he "downed" his man. Well done! Corporal Colwell and L/Cpl Chambers were runners-up in their respective weights. Two others were injured, and two were over weight owing to an oversight.

Departures.—We have to say good-bye to 2/Lieut. W. S. G. Edgecumbe, who has started on a Cook's tour. We are sorry to lose him after such a short time. Goodbye is also said to Lieut. W. A. Tomlinson, who has left No. 225 F.A.S.S. for London.

Arrivals.—The glad hand is extended to all the recruits who have joined this Company, and we hope that they will soon settle down and have a very enjoyable time.

We are very sorry that we were unable to send a representative to No. 2 Company's dinner on Saturday 9th December, but owing to unforeseen circumstances it could not be helped. Better luck next time, No. 2! ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

The annual dinner of this Company and No. 224 Section was held on the 9th December. Captain A. F. S. Fane, our O.C., presided, and he was supported by a distinguished company, including Colonel The Lord Basing and our adjutant, Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. We were indeed pleased to see and welcome them. The Deputy Mayor and the Postmaster of Southampton also honoured us with their company. Our esteemed R.S.M. (Mr. Herbert) was a very welcome guest, and we hope that all concerned had a very jolly time.

We sat down to dinner about a hundred and twenty strong, and it was the most successful dinner yet held by this Company. We hope to go on from strength to strength as the years go by.

We thank the mayor, our colonel and the adjutant for the very nice things they said about the Company, and we hope during the forthcoming training season to earn a little more praise. We do try to do our job. This Company is indeed strong both in quantity and quality.

We were very sorry that the other Companies could not send representatives, as we should have been very pleased to have given them a good welcome. We were also extremely sorry that the esteemed president of our secret club (the Mousers) could not be present, but he will be glad to know that an able deputy was found and the ceremony carried out on a few of our younger members, who will become good "mousers" as time goes on.

All ranks have asked me to convey to the president (Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D.) their hearty good wishes for the New Year. Cheers, sir!

I would also like to convey to both Nos. 1 and 3 Companies the very best wishes of this Company for their success in 1934. May it be a bumper year for the unit!

I am afraid I am exceeding my space, so shall have to dry up. "May 1934 be a great year for the dear old Corps!" is the wish of PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

The advent of the individual training period gives the recruits a chance to show their keenness. Signalmen cannot make much progress until they have mastered the art of operating, and the current classes give them the opportunity of improving their knowledge and winning a money prize on qualification. Senior n.c.o.s are being catered for by a series of most interesting and instructive lectures. These courses have commercial value and should be gratefully accepted by all concerned.

We were represented at No. 1 Company's annual dinner by Messrs. P. W. Shaw and A. S. Crocker, who were very impressed by their reception and were delighted to have been able to attend. We hope to have the pleasure of accepting an invitation to the n.c.o.s' dance in the near future. Unfortunately, we cannot reach No. 2 Company this year, but we send them our best wishes.

We congratulate Sergt Field F. G. on his promotion, and No. 1 Company on securing the services of a very fine soldier. His service to this Company will be missed at the drill hall, but we hope to retain it for next camp.

Mr. A. S. Crocker is at present attached to the 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford. Sergeant Stone, our P.S.I., also has been there for the past month.

Without doubt, the most entertaining evening in the recent history of No. 3 Company resulted from the boxing match between Signals and the 4/5th D.C.L.I. at our drill hall last month. Six contests and two exhibition bouts were staged. The drill hall had been transformed into a very convincing boxing hall for this occasion, and it was packed to the doors by an enthusiastic audience. The fights were hard, clean, skilful and exciting. They were, indeed, of such a high standard and so keenly contested that they had the crowd standing and cheering wildly.

Surgeon-Commander H. A. Ginn, R.N., refereed and Surgeon-Lieutenant O'Mally, R.N., officiated as medical officer, whilst Captain M. C. Bawden, T.D. (4/5th D.C.L.I.) and Captain W. J. L. Cornelius acted as judges. S.M. Gibbings acted as M.C. in his inimitable fashion, with Sergt Ford i/c hospital squad.

We have to record that our opponents were successful in five of the events, but we hope to reverse the result at our next meeting in February.

Pte O'Connor (D.C.L.I.) beat Sigmn Mitchell on points after a spirited contest.

Pte Carter (D.C.L.I.) knocked out Sigmn Gynn in the first round (the latter is waiting now for another chance!)

Private Train (D.C.L.I.), having the advantage in height and weight, outpointed Sigmn Smith, but the latter was complimented by the referee on an extremely plucky display.

Private Denney (D.C.L.I.) beat Corpl Dear in a good fight by a very narrow margin.

Sergt Reed (D.C.L.I.) used his greater experience to knock out Sigmn Bartlett, who, despite his cleverness, failed to avoid a vicious right hook.

Sigmn Ferrand beat Pte Doidge (D.C.L.I.) in the best fight of the evening. This contest was of a very high standard, and thoroughly deserved the prolonged applause which accompanied it.

Good exhibitions of boxing were given by Signalmen Paterson and Edwards, and by Sigmn Hirons and Private Dawes.

The evening ended with speeches by Captains M. C. Bawden and W. J. L. Cornelius, and the referee (Surgeon-Commander H. A. Ginn). The latter remarked that all concerned were to be congratulated on a fine show, and he confessed that several of the results were so close that the tables might easily be turned on another occasion.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and No. 11 Air Squadron Signal Section (S.R.)

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

We apologise to our readers for our unfortunate lapse in missing the post with our December contribution to THE WIRE. What a treat the said readers have missed! but old news is worse than no news. We have, however, gone to considerable trouble and expense in inaugurating an express pigeon postal service to ensure that such a thing does not happen on any future occasion.

New Year Greetings.—On behalf of all members of the unit, we wish the members of all other units at home and abroad a happy and prosperous New Year.

Training.—We are pleased to record that all members of the unit are tackling their respective jobs in an energetic manner, and in consequence the winter programme is proceeding smoothly according to plan.

The P.T. class on Wednesday evenings is very popular, and we understand that a young fellow by the name of Carnera is anxious to take advantage of the excellent training dispensed by the instructor.

Armistice Parade.—A strong detachment from the unit—forty-eight of all ranks—participated in the local Armistice Day service at Chiswick on Sunday 5th November. We congratulate all members of the detachment on their smart and soldierlike turn out. The unit band was present and performed very creditably.

Permanent Staff.—We are pleased to welcome to the unit our old friend Sergt Wales, and trust that he will enjoy the period of his attachment to the Terriers. We all wish C.S.M. and Mrs. Freemantle the best of luck in their matrimonial adventure—better late than never!

We trust that the Brighton air agrees with C.S.M. Pearce and family, and that C.S.M. Nash has settled down comfortably at Colchester.

Rifle Club.—We have much pleasure in announcing that the Rifle Club has at last awakened from its sleep. A new committee has been elected and is already hard at work. An Inter-Section League has been formed and it should prove very popular.

Sergeants Mess Dinner.—The Sergeants Mess dinner was held over the period from 7 p.m. on Saturday 18th November to some time on Sunday 19th, and a good time was had by all.

Sports and Entertainments.—The boxing class is growing in numbers week by week, and it is understood that what the novices lack in skill is made up with enthusiasm.

The dances are proving popular, but we would appeal once again to all members of the unit to support home industries. Roll up, the dance fans! a bob a nob and a good time for all.

Don't forget the unit children's party to be held in the drill hall on the 27th January.

Invalids.—Everyone is pleased to know that the farrier-sergt is out of hospital. It is a great pity that he has parted with his beard; we should have loved to have seen it. It is proposed to set up another court of inquiry to find out why he persists in arguing with motor cars.

Social Gossip.—Rumour has it that a certain person thought it would be a good idea to welcome the C.S.O. to Stamford Brook with an illuminated address. Unfortunately, the Chiswick Fire Brigade thought otherwise!

A boxing match has been arranged between officers of the unit: Tiny the Brighton basher and Horsey the Highgate hacker. Owing to the slight discrepancy in the height and weight of the two contestants, the former will box in a kneeling position and the latter will use a sword. The match will take place if we can catch the Highgate hacker.

Once again bounties have been paid, and we hope that each recipient has purchased at least two tickets for the next dance.

This Month's Joke.—Scene: the Q.M. store at annual camp. Enter recently equipped recruit. C.Q.M.S.: "What might I have the pleasure of doing for you, sir?" Recruit: "Please, sir, can I have these puttees changed? they are too tight."

NOT BY WIT.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters and No. 1 (Derby) Company.

We apologise for the absence of notes in recent numbers, but since camp there has not been very much to report.

No. 1 Company held a dance—the first venture this season—on the 10th November. This proved a great success and was very well attended. It is hoped to hold another in February.

The Sergeants Mess annual dinner was held at Derby on the 2nd December. As usual, this was a great success and all praise is due to the organising committee for their endeavour. The guests included Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O. Northern Command (whom we were delighted to see on his first social visit

to us), Lieut.-Colonel N. G. Pearson, Mr. J. E. Barlow (Postmaster, Derby), Lieut. C. B. Venn (7th Battn The Foresters) and practically all the officers of the unit. Amongst the w.o. and n.c.o. guests were R.S.M. Coffin and C.S.M. Minion from the 49th Divl Signals, Sergeants Lombard and Henshaw from the 1st Divl Signals, ex-R.S.M. Hayburn J. B., ex-R.Q.M.S. Barlow G., ex-C.S.M. Jones and ex-C.Q.M.S. Joe Johnson. Headquarters 46th (N.M.) Division were represented by Mr. Chapman (chief clerk), Mr. Barker and staff, and Sergt Howlett (R.A.S.C.). We trust that all had a very enjoyable evening and will attend again next year.

Advantage was taken of this occasion to make a presentation to the late R.Q.M.S. of the unit—Mr. G. Barlow, who has retired after nearly thirteen years service in the unit and takes with him the best wishes of all ranks. We also said good-bye to A/R.S.M. Davey, who is leaving us for civil life at the end of December. All ranks wish him good luck in his new sphere.

The officers' ball was held at the Mikado Café, Nottingham, on the 8th December and was a tremendous success. About ninety officers and their friends attended. The Derby contingent who gathered together in the small hours of the morning, prior to departure, at any rate agreed that the journey had been very well worth while. Great credit is due to the organiser, Captain R. J. de C. Barber of No. 3 Company, for its success.

We have much pleasure in welcoming to the fold Sergt (now A/R.S.M.) Jackson J. and Sergt Field E. G., the latter as P.S.I. to No. 1 Company. We wish them all success and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

We take this opportunity of wishing all readers a very happy and prosperous New Year.

H.Q.1.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Much water has passed under the Trent bridge (and others) since our last notes, but we want everyone to know that we still survive and that evidence of our survival will be seen monthly in future.

Among the many things that have happened since our return from annual camp is the big change in the permanent staff, not of this Company, but of the unit. Of course, these changes only affect us indirectly, but we cannot let them pass without comment.

Wally of the Lombard Clan has at last been unearthed and is now basking in the sunny breezes of the 'Shot, preparing for a long voyage. We hope the canoe which he said was being built for him will prove adequate, and that he won't lose too much weight going through the Lal Pani. Bon voyage, Wally! good luck! and may you soon be returning to see your old Blackbirds!

Another familiar figure to forsake us is our old P.S.I., who left this Company last April for a better appointment at H.Q. He has or will soon become a real civvy. We take this opportunity of wishing him and his family all the very best for a happy and prosperous future.

All who have the pleasure of knowing Sergt Field (ex-rat Tich), Wally's successor, will be as sorry as we are to know that he is at present in hospital suffering from pneumonia and malaria. By the time these notes are in print we trust he will be well on the way to complete recovery.

Our new R.S.M. (erstwhile Hav. J. Jackson, S.T.C. India) is about to join the ranks of the benedicts (14th December). We wish him and his wife all the very best, and trust that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Wanted, Elucidation.—(From Barleux) Why did Morris, on his wanderings during the summer, dodge such places as Chesterfield and Nottingham?

(From Bramjee, Sigskool, Jubb) Tips on the training of junglee wallahs.

(From Krim, Abdul) News about old faces.

Congratulations.—To H. C. Bedford on his promotion to the rank of dadda.

Conclusion.—Heartiest wishes to all members of the Corps for the festive season, with the best of luck in the New Year.

SIGSNGM.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, S.W.6

General.—Individual training is proceeding with a great swing. The attendance at the various classes on Mondays and Thursdays is most encouraging, and there is no doubt that all ranks will know a good deal about their jobs by the end of the individual training period in May.

We hope to arrange one or two week-end camps before our annual gathering, which is being held at Wareham in July. It is then that the instruction of the individual training classes will be put to the test.

If sufficient cash is forthcoming, we intend to ask the 1st Divl Signals to accommodate us for Easter training. We know how much our Regular parent unit puts itself out to help on the training of the T.A., and the results of our mixing with Regulars of our own arm cannot be too strongly emphasised.

One of the great events of the year occurred on the 11th December, when bounties were paid out. It is surprising, what a good attendance there is on such occasions!

Sergt Sewell took over the duties of P.S.I. on the 15th November in relief of Sergt Philpott.

We close down for Christmas on the 18th December and open again for active work on the 8th January.

On the 11th January we are holding a concert which is being arranged by the famous Roosters concert party. This event has been greatly looked forward to, and it is expected that we shall have about four hundred people present. Incidentally, we hope to raise a few recruits as one of the results of the concert.

Officers.—We regret to announce that 2/Lieut. Alsop has left London for the north. Although only a young officer, he proved himself very keen and efficient. We shall greatly miss him.

We were very pleased to see our late adjutant, Captain Oliver, who is home on a few months leave. He returns to India again in a few weeks, and we wish him a very pleasant voyage.

Obituary.—All ranks extend their deepest sympathy to Sergt and Mrs. Sewell in the death of their infant son, who lived only a few days after birth.

Sport.—We are glad to report that our football team won the semi-final of the Division football competition, and now we are looking forward to the final, which takes place early in January.

Social.—The New Year's ball will be held on the 1st January. This is always a very popular affair and well attended.

Other dances are being held on the 13th and 27th January. We shall be delighted to see any of the Corps who can come along.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

General.—There has been little activity, from a technical point of view, during the month, although classes for recruits have been held under the guidance of the P.S.I.s.

Annual Camp, 1934.—When the unit goes to Scarborough racecourse for this year's annual camp, from the 5th to the 19th August, it will be the first held under canvas for three years—the last two, though spent in Scarborough, being in barracks.

It is many years since the unit went on the racecourse, but it is interesting to recall that on one such occasion—long before the war, and while the present 49th Divl Signals were still embodied in the old 2nd West Yorks Volunteer Royal Engineers—the colonel of the day was recalled hurriedly to Leeds, as his business premises had caught fire. That was in the days before mechanisation was dreamed of, and to get from Scarborough to Leeds he had to charter a special train at a cost of some £50. Had that happened to-day, he would probably have gone by air or possibly on the pillion of a D.R.'s bike. We record, without further comment, the remark of a member of another Section on hearing of this latter suggestion: "In that case, the colonel would have had to take his roller skates with him."

No. 3 Company G.H.Q. Signals will be going into camp at Aldershot, but the dates are not yet fixed and no further details are available.

Attachment.—We welcome, on attachment, Lieut. A. Woodland from the 224th Field Company R.E. for duty with D Section.

Social.—Although the outstanding event of the season has not come to pass at the time of writing, there are the strongest grounds for saying that the unit annual ball to be held in the barracks on the 15th December will be an even bigger success than in previous years. The drill hall was arrayed in all its ball night splendour early in the month, and a record number of tickets has been issued by the R.S.M., who must have become

heartily fed up of saying "No! only one lady's ticket." The committee in charge of the arrangements had a busy time indeed, as had the dance band, whose practice nights in the canteen added greatly to the geniality of that retreat.

Band Concerts.—Audiences at band concerts continue to grow, and on Sunday 10th December there was a very large number of people present in the drill hall to hear a concert by the massed bands of the Yorkshire Hussars and the 49th Divl Signals. Lieut-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., together with several of the officers (including the Band president, Lieut. W. L. Hey) attended.

?—If anybody who aspires to become a medical man wants a job and a bit of training, one word will seal the bargain, because we want a unit medical orderly. Come on, you poultice wallahs!

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Greetings.—To all units, both at home and abroad, we extend the seasons greetings: "A happy New Year."

Winter Training.—It is pleasing to note that the attendance has improved considerably of late. Don't forget the trade test at the end of January—100 per cent. passes, please.

Recruits.—As was anticipated, we report "house full." We welcome to our fold H. May, J. Renshaw, T. McCartney, W. McCartney, R. McCartney (hello! triplets—I wonder?) and R. Simblet. May their stay with us be a long and happy one.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual ball is due to take place on the 12th January. A great night is being looked forward to.

Social Events.—The Company's annual smoker will take place on Saturday 16th December. Full details next month.

Badminton.—This game is going strong, and at the present rate the drill hall will soon need to be repaired. It is hoped that by the end of the month we shall have another court going. All ranks are invited to put in as much practice as possible, as we hope to send a challenge in the near future to that famous team known as 2/50th Signals at Middlesbrough.

Boxing.—We have arranged a match with the 6th Battalion The Northumberland Fusiliers for the 27th January. All ranks should start training at once. This match will be followed by the Dent cup fixture early in February.

Indoor Games.—From the start, these have been a huge success. The first inter-Section show took place on the 8th December, K Section playing No. 206 Section and winning by four points. Everyone voted it an excellent night.

Children's Christmas Tree Party.—This will take place in the drill hall on Boxing Day. All the children *and* the ladies will have their stockings filled.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

To Signals all over the globe, greetings for 1934; and special Hogmanay salaams to all our old friends, especially to Colonel F. R. G. Forsyth (globe-trotting somewhere, we suspect!); Lieut. C. Mackie, Colombo, Ceylon; Coptain B. House, Gibraltar; Sergt Quick, P.S., trooping to the Crown's brightest jewel via Aldershot; and Mr. Jimmy Hadfield, now a royal civilian and still on the map—we hope!

Social.—The all ranks carnival dance held in the big drill hall at Fonthill Barracks on Friday 8th December was, like the previous one, almost too much of a success. The dance floor was again crowded to its full capacity, and at times it was difficult to keep on one's feet. It's wonderful, what a few coloured paper streamers can do to add to the fun; but it's terrible, the amount of mess there is next day!

The next all ranks dance will be held on Friday 12th January. Roll up!

Badminton.—In a thrilling match at Fonthill Barracks on the 7th December, the officers beat the sergeants by five games to four. From the start, the games were well contested and thoroughly enjoyed both by the players and the gallery. Considerable improvement over last season's play was evident on both sides, and if the rate of progress is anything to go by, then we should be able to produce a Company side which we would back against any other.

The next match to be played will be sergeants v. the junior n.c.o.s and signalmen, but a date has yet to be fixed. There are many dark horses among the corporals and men, and some of us think the sergeants will have their boots seen off when they meet. Wait and see!

A few of the senior n.c.o.s' wives continue to enjoy a quiet game on Thursday afternoons (and if you want the sergeant-major then, I know where 'e is!)

You, Too, May Laugh.—"My dear," said the young Aberdeen wife: "there's a man at the door who wants to see you."

"Who is it?" asked her husband. "Do you know?"

"Darling," replied the wife, "you must forgive me for acting without telling you, but that dreadful cough of yours has bothered me so much lately and I have been so worried!" She threw her arms about his neck, and sobbed "What should I do if I were to lose you?"

The husband was touched. "Men," he said tenderly, "don't die of a cold. However, if you've set your mind at rest by calling in the doctor, I'll see him. Then you'll feel easier, won't you?"

"It isn't the doctor, dear," was the answer. "It's the man from the Prudential!" LANKA MK.II.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Greetings.—We extend our hearty greetings for the New Year to all members of the Corps at home and abroad.

General.—There is little to report this month. The sixty-hour course is near its end, and it is encouraging to see the benefit gained by those who have attended regularly. We hope to commence a new course on the 7th January, the object of which is to "catch" the forthcoming Trade Board for more pennies. If keenness will do it, it's as good as done.

Entertainments.—The Company dance held on the 18th November was such a success that it was repeated on the 25th. Never were such crowds gathered together on one floor! The committee are to be congratulated on both shows. They are running a Company dance each month from now until the training season commences.

Agony.—E.G., B Corps, Rawalpindi, India: No WIRE notes for past six months. What's wrong now? Has the Oliver conked at last, or did last summer fix you up? J.L. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—All of this Company wish all members of the Royal Corps of Signals, and of our unit in particular, a happy and prosperous 1934.

Courses.—The recruit winter course ends this week. The O.C. Company has been very pleased with the work done, the keenness shown and the good attendance.

Entertainments.—A Company dance was held in the drill hall for members of the Company and their friends. Simpson's Band, which provided the music, was at its best. Considering that no outside invitations were sent out, the attendance was excellent. Sergt Marshall had quite a busy time at the door. A very happy evening (and morning) ended all too soon, and not a few were sorry (or unable) to go home. Lieut. McInnes, as officer i/c entertainments, takes this opportunity of thanking all members of the committee for their assistance, and also those members of the Company who brought along their friends to swell the happy throng.

It is hoped to run a whist drive, supper and dance on a much larger scale some time in February, when we hope to welcome representatives from other Companies of the unit.

We Want to Know.—Why did the signalman take the sergeant home, and how long did they stand in the doorway? Was he frightened to go in? FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divl Signals and S.R. Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

Greetings.—To our comrades in the four corners of the Empire—Gib to Jubbulpore, Shanghai to New Zealand—greetings from Glasgow: a guid New Year, and many may ye see!

Unique Distinction.—In the Corps there are indeed "lads o' pairts"—or should we say, for the benefit of our Sassenach comrades, "lads of talents"? We have to record a notable achievement by a member of the Corps: Sergt Mason G., of No. 1 Company, 52nd (L.) Divl Signals. At the June examination of the Corporation of Accountants, 492 candidates entered—13 for the preliminary, 204 for the intermediate, and 275 for the first and second parts and full final examination. Of these, 8 passed the preliminary, 101 the intermediate, and 134 the first and second parts and full final examination. Sergt George Mason was prizeman in the final examination. The diploma of the Corporation of Accountants is in itself an honour, but that the first place for the United Kingdom and the prize for the final examination should be awarded to Sergt Mason is a supreme honour of which the Corps and the Lowland Signal units may be justly proud.

Obituary.—The poignant news of the passing of Sergeant W. Lennox (No. 3 Company) was indeed a blow to all ranks of the Lowland Signal units. Dear old Bill!—a rough diamond with a heart of gold. 'Twas his, many a time, to dispel our gloom with the word of cheer, the hearty laugh. Treasured memories!

Yet another good comrade has "crossed the bar." Sergeant Laurie T., after a connection with the Jardine Street Signal units extending over fifty years, has passed to his rest. How can we realise that Tommy has gone? He never forsook us: his heart and soul were with the Signals. No one was more proud of the Corps than Tommy. How he would yarn of the old days, how he delighted in the new days! Sleep peacefully, old comrade!

Armistice Day Parade.—The Lowland Signal units added their quota to the impressive ceremony at the Glasgow Cenotaph on Armistice Day. A pleasing feature was the number of those expressing a desire to be present on this important occasion. Several members had to be reluctantly informed that the number parading was in excess of the strength required. Nevertheless, the splendid spirit and enthusiasm displayed is worthy of note.

Social.—Happy nights are here again! The men's club social events proceed apace. The initial gathering proved to be an outstanding success. The large attendance was most gratifying. Under the direction of Lieut. Rankin and his helpers, a bumper season is assured. The programme is indeed an ambitious one and well worthy of the support of all concerned.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sergts Fred Curtis and Syd Cozens have gone. The loss is ours! Two grand fellows, peculiarly adapted to P.S.I. work, they will long be remembered for duty well done and for the helping hand gladly extended to all ranks at all times. The departure of these two good friends was, of course, duly "celebrated." Goodbye, old comrades! You will long be remembered.

Sergt Dodds W. has joined us from Scarborough. Welcome! He will be happy here. Sergt Dodds' appointment to Glasgow should be of peculiar interest to Peshdist Signals and to Beefy Smith, from whom a few words would indeed be welcome. Sergt Dodds is contemplating another raid on the "hat box."

To Peggy Hoyland.—The "girl you left behind you" sailed on the 18th December. Good wishes to you both, especially from the R.A.F. Sections S.R.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual general meeting revealed the fact that, despite hard times, we are weathering the gale. 1933 has been a difficult year. The separation of the Territorials from the S.R. units for annual training purposes was not conducive to the usual satisfactory financial results, but thanks to caterer David Reid and an energetic committee, we have emerged with flying colours.

Salisbury Plain, 1933.—It is only now that we are privileged to write of the sojourn of our S.R. units on the Plain. The assembling of these units at Glasgow can be fittingly described as a veritable triumph for our permanent staff. From the Hebrides and the Border came our members—from isolated places where the mail boat calls once weekly, or the train once daily. There was not a single absentee on that memorable 9th September. It is impossible to over-emphasise the splendid work of R.S.M. Wylie and P.S.I.s Tracey, Curtis, Cozens and Savage. The travelling arrangements de luxe can easily be traced to the astute minds of Major J. W. Robertson and R.S.M. Wylie.

To be associated with A Corps Signals during the manœuvres was a privilege of the first order. There are names we cannot refrain from mentioning: the commanding officer and adjutant of A Corps Signals, Captain Duncan, R.S.M. Grieg, R.Q.M.S. Dorrington and C.S.M. Ritchie. The organisation and experience of A Corps Signals—freely and in splendid spirit placed at our disposal, while we worked in the limelight and took the honours—provided a superb example of helpfulness and goodwill. The powers that be have praised us for our work on the Plain. The Chief Signal Officer bade us goodbye at Amesbury with words of encouragement and thanks, which were deeply appreciated by all ranks. R.S.M. Grieg and dear old Paddy were there to give us a last farewell. We are not forgetting the 3rd Divl Signals. No effort on our behalf was too great for them. We will remember them and Bulford for many a day.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

General.—On our Armistice Sunday church parade we had a disappointing attendance so far as No. 1 Company was concerned. Just under 50 per cent. of our strength is not good enough; but we appreciate the fact that bad colds, etc., *do* make some difference and were responsible for our lowest attendance on record for these affairs. The turn-out of those ranks present was simply remarkable, which no doubt was due to the unforgettable lessons derived from the annual camp of 1933.

The preparations for the Company dinner are going on apace, and the committee deserve the satisfaction of a 100 per cent. attendance. The date is not yet fixed, but it is anticipated that it will be the second Saturday in February. Further details can be obtained from the Company office. All ranks are assured that the dinner will be well worth attending and will come up to the standard set some years ago.

Training.—Our V/T team again failed to lift the commanding officer's prize—this time by nearly four points. It was a very disappointing result after the really hard practice the team have put in, and on nearly all try-outs they had managed a meritorious standard. This points to the team's nerves not being in the best of condition, and a tonic appears necessary. Well, No. 3 Company just failed, so there is another chance, but our congratulations go to No. 3 on obtaining the highest yet.

The physical training and the boxing classes are still going strong, but our drill hall is large enough for more aspirants to honours. Why not come up and enjoy an hour's good healthy fun, lads?—because, judging from those already in the know, it is really good fun, and it's all free!

For those who are preparing for the coming Trade Boards a nice warm lecture room is ready, and we have many aspirants coming along.

There is a queue waiting for a "go" on our A wireless sets, but in the meantime we are grateful for the slip-reading contests inaugurated by No. 2 Company. These contests bring in the old adage "Speed versus accuracy." Anyway, it is very interesting and is producing good results.

Looking Ahead!—The n.c.o. who applied for bounties for 1933-34! ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The unit paraded on Sunday 12th November for the annual Armistice Day church parade. It was gratifying to see that over 50 per cent. of No. 2 Company were present. The unit wreath was laid by C.Q.M.S. Fleming W. and the unit marched to church. It speaks well for the recruits that the training received at annual camp was evident in their bearing and marching. Apparently those "few words" on the square in the early hours of the morning were not forgotten.

Training.—The muscle factory still holds its own and is working wonders with our youthful sportsmen, though the staunch adherents of the key refuse to be lured away from Morse and are slowly showing improvement. The latest popular pastime is slip-reading, and it certainly does help a great deal to familiarise the embryo operator with the mysterious symbols of Morse.

We are helped, too, by the A sets of No. 1 Company, which accommodate a number of our recruits on drill evenings. Our lads are learning to operate all instruments (with exceptions) with which they come in contact. This reminds me of an Indian mule driver who, when asked his trade rating by a youthful subaltern,

replied (with a twinkle in his eye) "Operator mule, sahib." I think he was quite right!

Original.—The man in No. 1 Company who has invented the *third duplicate*. You ought to "warn'er," Ernie. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Greetings.—We wish all units of Royal Signals a happy and prosperous New Year.

General.—At the present time training in the Signal sense is very quiet, but in the boxing line very much alive. Our boys under the instruction of Sergt Banks (R.A.) are coming along in fine style, and there is no doubt that we shall retain that cup we have held so long (No. 2 Company, please note). If keenness and punching can win, we've won!

For those who do not wish to go in for boxing, there is the small buzzer room where they can do all their punching on the key and finish up with half an hour's agility movements and gym. Evidently some of them like backlifts better than back-handers.

Visual.—Sunday 3rd December saw us trying to win the C.O.'s prize for the first Company to reach the meritorious standard in the Divisional commander's test of visual. The standard being an average of 24 points, our first team were very unfortunate in reaching only 21.75, thereby losing the prize by 2.25. Still, some very good lessons were learnt through mistakes, and by the time these notes are read we hope to have won the prize (hurry up, Ernie). S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Greetings.—Better late than never: a merry Christmas to all. We hope that all had a good time and are by now fully recovered from the effects of the Christmas goose, etc.

General.—With the arrival of the New Year, we hope that the spirit which has kept the Sections together in the past will continue to hold good. We should like to thank all the members of the unit for the way they turned up last year, and we hope they will all turn up and get a few more trade ratings this year.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Don Sharp on being awarded the I.G.S.M. with clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31." How did you manage it, Don—holding them back at Wana? I see you still have the Bugler attached to you.

To L/Corpl Bright on having fully recovered from his dangerous illness. We hope he will keep well in the future.

To L/Corpl Steinmetz on presenting the beautifully decorative electric sign to the somewhat dismal suburban road of Ashburnham. Sort of brightens up the road, Lawrie (yimkin).

Social.—We hope to hold a unit dinner somewhere in the near future, and to put up as good a show as we did at the supper held last month. Roll up, you fellows, and let's get together for a good evening's entertainment. We should like to see you all, and I'm sure Bill Tarbard would, too. BEDFORDIAN.

UNITS ABROAD. *Continued from page 33*

JAMAICA SIGNAL SECTION *(continued)*

warm and tender companionship and clinging affection—a glass of whisky. On the morrow they dried their clothes, mended their boots, powdered their blisters, and set out again, while sorrowing nature again welcomed them with tears!

Seen Through a Rose-Coloured Telescope.—Out of the misty blue distance, wreathed in the wisps of purple and gold, slowly and majestically floating into shape and size, gaining in girth and in depth, is the bulk of an iron-clad steamer. The letters on its side, vague and undefined at first, are gradually steadying into the words "H.M.T. *Dorsetshire*." And in February the outline will be quite distinct and the first magic rope will have bound it to the docks of this "Kingdom of the Past," and the first turn of the screw will take two of our number a little way towards the "Kingdom of the Future."

Day by Day.—According to Lord Horder, of the forty-odd million inhabitants of the British Isles one in every hundred persons is mentally unstable and one in every two hundred absolutely loco, with sundry hundreds of nervous wrecks, neurotics, paralytics and anæmics. What the odd two or three are suffering from, I am not quite sure, but I feel convinced that we have our fair share of the "fit" in this Section when I look at the work on the new aerial cable that is taking the place of the old overhead route from the Camp Exchange. It certainly does not bear the imprint of the asylum for the mentally deficient; neither does the installation of the two automatic lines working to the civilian Exchange. A new main frame has just arrived, to be shortly installed, and the whole system will have a higher degree of efficiency coupled with a faster service for the heavy morning traffic—the result of the dialling system.

The annual range practice has again passed without undue event, and we gladly leave the Long Mountain ranges, complete with mosquitoes and scorpions, to the new Section, for we hope to be many miles away ere the next shooting season comes along.

Congratulations.—To L/Sgt Minchin C. on securing his first class certificate, with a distinction in that most tortuous of subjects, maths. To Sigmn Dearden J. on passing the second class with a flourish. To the Signals Display party of Catterick on their good work during the past summer. The best of luck next year!

Greetings.—Jamaica Signal Section send their heartiest wishes for a prosperous New Year to all members of the Corps throughout the world. JAMCAN.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 1st December 1933.

Thursday 2nd November saw us all assembled in the unit recreation room to celebrate the ending of another successful year's sport. This annual celebration is an event instituted by our commanding officer last year, and if we can judge by its success so far, it will be continued in future years.

About forty people sat down to supper. The guests, in addition to the commanding officer, included Major B. E. C. Dixon, M.C. (Royal Engineers), Lieut.-Commander F. G. L. Bullock (Royal Navy), Captain D. V. Hill (Royal Artillery), and Captain W. J. Bradley, M.C. (Army Education Corps).

A feature of the evening was not the brevity of the after-supper speeches, but rather the amount of wit and humour which flowed around the table. To Captains Hill and Bradley we must give full honours in this respect, and our regret that this was the last opportunity of the former visiting us is only softened by knowing that Captain Bradley is likely to be with us again next year. Major Dixon's pithy remarks, as an ex-Signal officer, were not only very interesting but also to some instructive, and were received with loud applause. We are indeed sorry that owing to the exigencies of the Service he, like Captain Hill, will not be in a position to honour us by his presence at our festive board next year.

We were indebted to Q.M.S. Lovering (R.A.P.C.) and Sergeant Mills (R.A.M.C.), two well known artists in the Fortress, for the music during the evening. Right well did they perform! Talent hitherto unknown (but *not* unlooked for) appeared to be behind every glass, and time alone prevented the rendering of many encores.

We strike a rather dismal note when we chronicle the departure of Sigmn F. Hicks from Gibraltar. He sailed for Egypt per the *Nevasa* on the 18th November. As he has served continuously in this unit from February 1922 (a few months after its formation) until now, we feel that we have lost one of our pillars of strength. The whole Section join in wishing him every happiness in his new station.

We offered our good wishes to Q.M.S. Harris G. (our Foreman-of-Signals) and family, who left us on the 13th November for a short furlough in the United Kingdom. We trust that the weather clerk is dealing more kindly with the Weymouth district than he is our locality. Our rainfall is twice as heavy this year as by the corresponding date in 1932.

With the arrival in Gibraltar of the Fourth Destroyer Flotilla, en route for Malta to join the Mediterranean Fleet, we met many old friends and, of course, made new acquaintanceships which we trust will be renewed in the near future.

. . . SPORTS NOTES . . .

Corps Rugby Matches, 1933.

Corps XV. v. R.M.A. Woolwich.—Played at Woolwich on the 13th November. Signals started well, and play remained for some time in the Shop '25. Forward rushes, however, carried the game into the Signals half and the Shop scored under the posts. This was converted. After some interesting mid-field play 2/Lieut. Stephenson ran right through the Shop side to score a most spectacular try under the posts. Lieut. Denholm-Young converted. Immediately afterwards the Shop scored a try at the corner which was not converted. Half-time came with the score 8—5 against us.

Early in the second half Lieut Goldsmith got over in the corner, but 2/Lieut. Williams' kick fell short. The Shop replied with a try in the corner by Bradley. The Signals forwards were working really hard but were not getting the ball in the tight. Eventually they did get it and the ball came out to 2/Lieut Stephenson, who again ran through to score fairly close in. Lieut. Denholm-Young converted. With Signals leading by 13—11 the game became a very sternly fought struggle, and just on time the Shop scored in the corner from a forward rush and ran out winners of a well fought match by 14—13 points: one goal and three tries to two goals and one try.

Team.—2/Lieut. P. C. Williams (T.B.), Lieut. D. J. Goldsmith (4th Div.), 2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson (D.B.), Sigmn Hopcroft (3rd Div.), L/Corpl Etchells (3rd Div.), Sigmn McKenzie (3rd Div.), Sigmn Larkin (4th Div.), Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young (D.B.), 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead (T.B.), Sigmn Woodward (4th Div.), Sigmn Fenton (T.B.), Corpl Holden (T.B.), Sigmn Beckett (4th Div.), Lieut. D. White (3rd Div.), 2/Lieut. C. T. Honeybourne (D.B.).

Corps XV. v. Royal Engineers.—Played at Aldershot on the 20th November. This was a most disappointing game. The Corps forwards could not get the ball either in the right or in the line-out, and the defence of the three-quarters was definitely poor. The Sappers fielded a strong team which ran through to score 19 points to nil. The Corps scrum half, Sigmn Larkin, put up a very good show, and so did 2/Lieutenant Stephenson in the centre. 2/Lieutenant Williams was safe at full back, but he was usually left with with two or three men to tackle. The Rev. V. J. Pike (United Services, Aldershot) officiated as referee.

Team.—2/Lieut. P. C. Williams (T.B.), Lieut. D. J. Goldsmith (4th Div.), 2/Lieut T. G. V. Stephenson (D.B.), Lieut N. M. Hay (4th Div.), Sigmn Atkinson (T.B.), Sigmn McKenzie (3rd Div.), Sigmn Larkin (4th Div.), Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young (D.B.), 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead (T.B.), Sigmn Woodward (4th Div.), Sigmn Fenton (T.B.), Corpl Holden (T.B.), Corporal McKenzie (T.B.), Sigmn Beckett (4th Div.), 2/Lieut Honeybourne (D.B.).

Corps XV. v. Royal Artillery.—Played at Aldershot on the 24th November. A somewhat re-organised side took the field for this match. From the start Signals looked like scoring and were getting the ball fairly regularly in the scrums. The Gunners scored first, under the posts, and converted. Almost immediately afterward 2/Lieut. Stephenson went over for a grand try. He got the ball on our side of mid-field, dribbled a few yards, and then picked up and ran for the corner flag. Shaking off several opponents, he ran right round to score under the posts—a really spectacular effort. Lieut. Denholm-Young converted. About five minutes later Signals were given a free kick near mid-field and 2/Lieut. Williams kicked a beautiful goal. Signals thus led by 8—5 till nearly half-time. The Gunners scored again, however, and the score at half-time was 10—8 against us.



The Corps XV. which played against the R.M.A., Woolwich, on the 13th November 1933.

In the second half weight in the scrums told, and the Gunners scored another goal and try to win a well-fought match by 18—8 points: three goals and a try to one goal and one penalty goal. This match was a really good show, the whole side contesting every yard throughout the game. Capt. Hinde, O.B.E. (R.A.S.C.) was the referee.

Team.—2/Lieut. P. C. Williams (T.B.), L/Corpl Etchells (3rd Div.), Sigmn Atkinson (1st Div.), 2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson (D.B.), Lieut. D. J. Goldsmith (4th Div.), Lieut Finney (3rd Div.), Sigmn Larkin (4th Div.), Sigmn Ryder (2nd Div.), Sigmn Thomas (3rd Div.), Sigmn Woodward (4th Div.), Sigmn Evans (4th Div.), Lieut. Denholm-Young (D.B.), 2/Lieut. Honeybourne (D.B.), Lieut. N. M. Hay (4th Div.), 2/Lieut. R. E. Crawford (3rd Div.).

It is interesting to note that four members of the Corps XV. played on Wednesday 22nd November for Catterick Garrison v. United Services, Aldershot. They were 2/Lieut. P. C. Williams, full back; 2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson, left wing; and Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young and 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead, forwards. 2/Lieut. Stephenson scored a try. 2/Lieut. Honeybourne and Sigmn Atkinson were reserves for this match.

Headquarters, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cross-Country: Mackworth Trophy.—As in previous years, the runs for this trophy provided some close finishes. The method of scoring was twelve points for a win, ten for a second, and so on. The teams each comprised fifteen runners, twelve to count. The first run took place on the 21st October and resulted in a win for F Company by the narrow margin of 22 points. In the second run, on the 4th November, F Company again took the honours, but on this occasion their worthy rivals E Company reduced the margin to a mere two points. The Boys Company are to be congratulated on again winning the Mackworth cross-country trophy. Results:—

First run—F Company 184 points, E Company 206, D Company 347, Mounted Wing 589, Dismounted Wing 672.

Second run—F Company, 187 points, E Company 189, D Company 304, Mounted Wing 621, Dismounted Wing 729.

Catterick Garrison Cross-Country League.—The conditions governing this league were slightly varied for the 1933-34 season. The teams consist of fifty runners per unit, twenty-five to score. Handicapping by means of a fast pack was eliminated, each team starting scratch for every run. With the arrival of several new units in the Garrison—including the 2nd Battn Lincolns, 2nd Battn Gloucesters and the 1st Battn Essex Regiment—it was thought that honours would be very evenly contested.

The first run on the 23rd November, over a distance of approximately four miles, resulted in a win for the Training Battalion by 297 points. One cannot fail to comment on the meritorious performance of L/Corpl Blades of F Company, who finished tenth in a field of about five hundred and was first man home for the Training Battalion. Some old soldiers refuse to fade away!

The second run in the Garrison League commenced in the lines of the Gloucester Regiment at 3.15 p.m. on the 7th December. The course was slightly longer than the previous one, and owing to the recent rain the going was much heavier. This was an important event from our point of view, as it was utilised to decide the S.T.C. individual championship. The Training Battalion won this race, but by a margin of 94 points only, the 4th Battn Tanks giving a very good account of themselves by coming up to second position. Boy Verlander (12th), Boy Terry (14th) and Sigmn (ex-Boy) McQuade (16th), of F Company, secured first, second and third places respectively in the S.T.C. individual championships, and earned the congratulations of all.

The remaining runs are due to take place in the New Year, the results of which it is hoped to publish.

First run—1st, Training Battalion, Royal Signals, 1439 points; 2nd, 2nd Battalion The Gloucester Regiment, 1736; 3rd, 4th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, 2431; 4th, 1st Battalion The Durham Light Infantry, 2763.

Second run—1st, Training Battalion, Royal Signals, 1756 points; 2nd, 4th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, 1850; 3rd, 1st Battn The Essex Regiment, 1954; 4th, 2nd Battn The Gloucester Regiment, 2011.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Shooting.—The Company team has been successful in beating the Mounted Wing and F Company, but suffered defeat at the hands of E Company. Having defeated the Mounted Wing, certainly the best team in the S.T.C., that we should lose to E Company, whom we expected to beat, was a surprise. However, owing to these wins and losses the next round will prove most interesting, and concentrated training will be the word after the holidays.

In the Battalion team for *The News of the World* competition the Company was well represented, and we hope they were successful enough to get through the first round.

In the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess shoot, the winner came from this Company in Sergt Miles, with second and third as runners-up; but by good luck and judgment, the wooden spoon went to the next door office!

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—Colts v. Ampleforth Colts. Played at Ampleforth on the 7th November. Lost by 0—22. A good and quite even game up to the close of the first half, when the score was only 6—0. The Ampleforth threes were by far our superiors, but our team acquitted themselves well throughout. Verlander played a very sound game at back.

Colts v. Richmond School Colts.—Played at Richmond on the 15th November. This time we played only boys under sixteen years of age, but even then we were too strong and heavy for our opponents, winning by 19—0 points. Considering the little experience our junior boys have had, they played remarkably well together. Hawley, Parker and Sheppard were the best.

First XV. v. Richmond School. Played at Richmond on the 2nd December. This was our third match against the School—an extra fixture—resulting in a draw of 10—10 points. A very good game. Webb, Verlander and Harrison were conspicuous, the latter scoring a fine drop goal.

F Company v. "A" Team, The Gloucester Regiment. Played on the 27th November. It was difficult for the Gloucesters to know our form, so they brought over too strong a team, winning by 22—0 points. However, it gave our team good experience, especially to the cadre personnel who had not had a previous game.

Soccer.—Semi-final Mackworth Trophy: F Company v. School of Signals. A very even and keenly game resulted in a draw of 5—5. The replay will take place later.

Boys' Army Cup.—"A" Group No. 1 Section have drawn the boys of the Military College of Science, Woolwich, in the fourth round. This match will be played at Woolwich some time before the 20th January. We wish our team the best of luck.

Cross-Country.—An account of the Garrison runs appears in the Training Battalion H.Q. notes, but we wish to congratulate Verlander, Terry and McQuade on their magnificent efforts in obtaining first, second and third places respectively in the S.T.C. championships.

Boys' Team v. Durham University (Durham Colleges). This run took place at Durham on the 28th November. The home team had the great advantage of knowing the course, which was not marked in any way. In spite of that we only lost by eleven points. Verlander was the first man home.

Boxing.—Garrison Novices Competition, 14th/16th November. F Company rather monopolised the boys' section of this competition, having twelve entries while the rest of the Garrison only produced eight. All boxers are congratulated on putting up a very good show. Results are as follow.

In the midge weights Allaway beat an S.W.B. boy but lost to a D.L.I. representative; Ball lost to S.W.B.; and Garfield beat Brookman and S.W.B. but lost to D.L.I. In the fly weights Murray beat both the S.W.B. and D.L.I. boys. In the bantams Brown beat Hawley and Offord. In the feathers Parker beat Sheppard. In the lights Mayhew beat Bond but lost to Willis, who had previously beaten a D.L.I. boy. Willis had twice before tried to win the light weight championship and this, his third attempt, proved successful.

F Company v. Ampleforth. This boxing contest took place at Ampleforth on the 6th December, when Ampleforth won by five fights to three. The opponents were matched as nearly as possible. All the contests were very close, but O'Brien's fight was very unequal, as he was at a disadvantage in weight, height and reach. Results were as follow (Ampleforth names shown first in each case):—Miles beat Ball, Bohan beat Allaway, Rochford lost to Garfield, Ryan beat O'Brien, Rosenvinge lost to Murray, Garbett lost to Kendall, Gregory beat Mayhew, Baker beat Willis.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Willan Trophy, 1933.—Those people who have their doubts about the decline of British boxing should have been present at the Marlborough Lines gymnasium, Aldershot, to witness the final bouts for the Willan trophy.

A Corps Signals were fortunate to have a bye in the first round, and they eventually met the 1st Divl Signals to take away the trophy with a decisive victory. Out of the fifteen contests billed, A Corps Signals won ten. The majority of the fights, however, were won with only a very narrow margin of points.

The following represented A Corps Signals and succeeded in bringing the trophy to their unit: Bantam weight, Sigmn Homer; feather, Sigmn Hughes; light, Signalmen Walker and Anderson; middle, Signalmen Edwards, Craddock and McNeil; welter, Signalmen Gough, Deighton and Kennedy.

The closeness of the contests can be judged by the fact that throughout the evening only one knock-out was witnessed. This was in the contest between Signalmen Gough and Weldon. Half way through the first round Gough managed to connect with a right hook that put his man on the boards.

At the close of the evening Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Meredith, M.C., presented A Corps Signals with the Willan trophy, and bronze medals to the winners of each contest. He congratulated both teams on a fine display of boxing and sportsmanship, and if the applause of the spectators was any indication of the justification of this compliment, then it was certainly "carried unanimously."

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 2 Company.

Sport.—F Section did not do well in the semi-final of the inter-Section soccer and made their exit from the competition, being beaten by 5—1 by K Section.

Inter-Section hockey is proving rather a scream for some people and rather a sore point for others. E and F Sections of this Company were drawn together in the inter-Section knock-out (this, by the way, is quite an appropriate word) to be played off one cold Saturday afternoon. As quite a number of the Company are at present on leave, both Sections found it hard to find a team. However, F Section, though somewhat harder knocked than E, took the points after long and tiring efforts to scrape up the necessary eleven to be able to claim the match.

I may add a little here about No. 2 Company members of the unit novices boxing team. The whole team put up a good show against 1st Div. and the men from No. 2 proved themselves well up in the fistic game. Why don't you take an interest in it, Snaky? You have only this and the deep sea diving to complete the whole round of sport.

No. 3 Company.

Sport.—Once again our little Company has proved itself. The final of the inter-Section cross-country runs resulted in a win for L Section, thus making them the winners of the series. J Section came in a good second. L Section, who possess most of our Marathons (Sigmn Copestake, ahem!) are to be congratulated on their win.

Judging from the results of these inter-Section cross-country runs, No. 3 Company are sure going to do their stuff later on in the running season. Yes, sir!

Football.—Under the able management of Signalman George Dickerson, our team has so far proved unbeatable. We played No. 2 Company a few days ago, the result being a win for us. Of course, No. 2 had most of their good players on leave (oh yus, oh yus!)

K Section met F in the semi-final of the inter-Section soccer competition. The result proved to be a win for K, the score being 5—1 (sorry, F! but we just had to mention that). The final will be played in January, as most of the teams have gone away for a month by the sea.

Sigmn Dickerson has left the Company to spend a month's holiday at his London club. He hopes, after having carefully studied Arsenal's methods of training, to put a team in the field that will just walk away with that final. Acha, Karl.

L Section upheld the sporting traditions of the Company by beating B Section at hockey, the score being 3—1.

K Section also taught H.Q. that they needed a few lessons in hockey by winning their match with them, the result being 2—0 (and to think Sigmn Kitchen told K that they had better scratch!)

We congratulate the unit novices boxing team on the splendid show they put up when they fought 1st Divl Signals at the Marlborough Lines gymnasium on Tuesday 5th December.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—Our progress in this branch is still disappointing; that is, as far as results are concerned. However, after more reshuffling with fresh players an improvement is noticed. This is evidenced by the results below.

17th November—1st Survey R.A. 6, 3rd Divl Signals 4
20th November—3rd Divl Signals 2, 3rd Divl R.E. 11
22nd November—3rd Divl Signals 2, 6th Medium Brigade R.A. 8
24th November—1st Battn R.W. Fusiliers 4, 3rd Divl Sigs. 1
27th November—R.A.F. Andover 4, 3rd Divl Signals 2
6th December—3rd Divl Signals 13, 9th Lancers 2

At last victory has come! Now, boys, keep it up when the New Year arrives. Our next match, versus the 11th Hussars, is on the 10th January.

Rugby.—Matches are not so frequent as in soccer, but what is lost in quantity is gained in quality, as the games played have been really skilful exhibitions of the art. Honours are even as the results show.

v. K.O.Y.L.I. lost by 3—14
v. Aldershot Signals won by 9—3

Hockey.—The unit is still riding on the crest of its conquering wave with the hockey sticks, and great hopes are entertained of annexing the local trophies in the district. Results of recent games are as follows:—

v. A.F.V. Signals won by 7—1
v. Experimental Wing, Porton, won by 9—4
v. 3rd Divl R.E. drew at 2—2

Boxing.—Bulford Garrison Open Competition. The second phase of unit boxing advanced a stage further when the above competition took place at the Garrison Institute on the 4th December. We were again unlucky, not being able to field a full team, and lost to the 9th Field Brigade R.A. by 16—14 points. However, our team put up an excellent fight, especially against such seasoned opponents. All bouts were very good, but the fight for the first string middles was worth going a long way to see.

Feather: Sigmn Beveridge v. Tptr Rodgers. Sparring in the centre of the ring for openings occupied the first round. Rodgers with a longer reach appeared to have the advantage. However, Beveridge with better ringcraft was the chief scorer and gained the verdict.

Light.—First string: Sigmn Black v. Gunner Pyle. Advantage was again with the Gunner, his longer reach and height giving him the scoring points. However, at in fighting Black showed up well. The last round saw both tiring. Pyle, finishing the stronger, was given the fight.

Light—Second string: Sigmn Notley v. Gunner Clarke. Notley soon opened his account with a couple of right swings, which made Clarke retreat. In round two most of the attack was made by Notley. The Gunner, however, now adopted straight hitting and gained the upper hand towards the end of the round. Both tired in the last bout, and Clarke, by his cleaner hitting, got the decision.

Light.—Third string: Driver Wright walked over.

Welter.—First string: Sigmn Excell walked over.

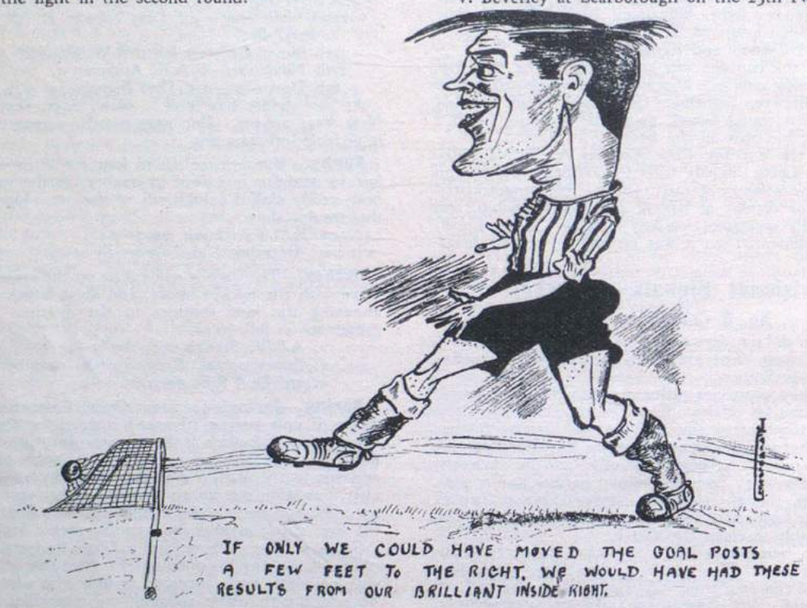
Welter.—Second string: Sigmn Barrett v. Gunner Lovegrove. Both opened at long range. Lovegrove attacked but Barrett landed a smart uppercut which floored Lovegrove for a short count. In the second round the latter was the better boxer, using a straight left which troubled the signalman. Barrett forced the pace in the last round but could not get away from his opponent's straight left, which gave him the verdict.

Welter—Third string: Driver Birtles v. Gunner Newlands. Birtles quickly opened his account and twice landed with sharp left hooks, but Newlands, with most of the physical advantage,

kept him off. Newlands was the stronger in the last round and, making much use of a long left arm, jabbed his way to victory.

Middle.—First string: Lt. J. P. North v. Bombardier Holmes. On this one occasion we held the advantage of height and reach. Holmes, however, was a stockily built fellow with a wealth of boxing experience behind him. Both opened eagerly and Holmes at once looked dangerous with a vicious right hook. However, Mr. North avoided this and scored with good left leads. Round two opened much the same, Mr. North again scoring with that piston-like left. Holmes managed to connect on the face with his sledge-hammer right, but the blows were not on a vital spot. The last round opened with both willing to stand up and swap punches, each landing with heavy blows. Mr. North held the advantage of scoring hits and gained a good verdict.

Middle.—Second string: Sigmn Sokell v. Gunner Johnson. Sokell came in and willingly fought his battle with only a day's training. Both fought cleanly in the centre of the ring and heavy punches were exchanged. Johnson, the stronger and much fitter man, was given the fight in the second round.



[See 3rd Divl Signals notes on preceding page]

Middle.—Third string: L/Corpl Abrahams v. Gunner Neale. Neale was very aggressive from the start and, being a much stronger boxer, landed heavy blows on Abrahams. A heavy right swing and Abrahams was counted out!

Light heavy: L/Bdr Tremasent walked over.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Rugby Union Football Notes.—v. York Leeman at York. We gained a good victory at the expense of York Leeman on the 18th November on the latter's ground. The game was played under wretched conditions; the ground was very soft and a drizzling rain fell throughout. We had rather the better of the exchanges during the first half, despite the handicap of kicking uphill, and should have had at least three tries. Farmer was forced into touch on the corner flag; Tumilty failed to hold a slippery ball in a line out on the Leeman goal line; and a dribbling movement in which Watts, Cooper and Hatton were prominent failed owing to the dead ball line being only five yards deep. Cooper opened the scoring right from the kick-off. He took a cross kick from Stowers and crowned a magnificent run down the centre of the field by grounding underneath the bar. Watts failed with the kick. A few minutes later the referee disallowed a goal dropped from a penalty kick by Cooper. Then Stowers got over for another try which was not converted. Further tries would have been added by Beaumont, Stowers, Cooper and Hatton but for the wet ball, which was always too slippery for handling.

This was without a doubt the soundest team we have had so far. It is a great pity that Hatton, who was a marked success in his initial game as a wing three-quarter, left for India on Thursday 23rd November.

v. Scarborough "B" on the 18th November. This was a most enjoyable game, great keenness to become proficient being shown on both sides. The result, a draw of three points each, was a satisfactory conclusion to a game fought out in the true rugby spirit. What was lacking in knowledge was made up in gameness by both sides. Our forwards were quite good in the tight scrummages, but indulged in too much hard kicking in the loose: they must learn to dribble. The backs must tackle low and hard, and when in possession of the ball run straight. Malone (loaned by us) scored for Scarborough, and Harrison for the Div.

v. Beverley at Scarborough on the 25th November. We won a really hard fought game by 8—0 points. Farmer and Anthony scored the tries and Cooper converted one. A feature of this game was the splendid display by Webber in leading the pack and the sound loose work of Stowers. The three-quarters, both in defence and attack, were above their usual form.

v. Beverley at Beverley on the 2nd December. A very scrappy game in which our team never seemed to get together. They played well for the first quarter of an hour to gain an eight points lead, but after that did very little except to defend, and when Beverley drew level their attempts to draw ahead again were very spasmodic. The forwards played hard but committed the mistake of keeping the ball close instead of making use of their exceptionally speedy backs. Brooks scored a beautiful try for us, taking a knock-on from a Beverley half and running through to touch down between the posts. The same player converted. Webber forced his way over for another try a few minutes later, but Brooks failed with the kick. Wright played one of his best games at full back, his kicking being of exceptional length and very accurate. Result: Beverley 16 points, 5th Divl Signals 8.

v. Scarborough "A," also on the 2nd December. Another scrappy game which resulted in a win for Scarborough. Our Second XV. played much below their usual form and deservedly lost by 6—19 points.

v. St. John's College, York, on the 6th December. A mixture of our "A" and "B" teams played what should have been a mixture of St. John's "A" and "B," but owing to a misunderstanding they turned out a mixture of their First and "A" teams. Still, it was a good game, hard fought and clean, and resulted in a win for the College by 16—0 points.

v. Scarborough "B" on the 9th December. Our "B" team turned out against Scarborough, but owing to furlough, etc., we were unable to field a representative team. Two or three of our men had not played before. In addition to this, Scarborough turned up three men short and two of our first team and one of our "A" players were included in their side to help them out. This so stiffened their side that after half time, when there was no score, they ran away with the game and won by 14—0 points.

This game closed our programme until the 27th December, when we entertain Leeds Chirons.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
First XV.	12	7	1	4	82—99
Second XV.	6	3	0	3	41—64
Third XV.	2	0	1	1	3—17

Hockey.—Second round Army cup: 5th Divl Signals v. 3rd King's Own Hussars. The Div. outplayed the Hussars in all departments and at half-time were leading by six goals to nil. The scorers were Gibbons, Thompson (2) and Dillon (3). Play eased off in the second half, but the Signals remained on top and Dillon scored two more goals to bring his total to five in this match, which was won with ease by 8—0.

Semi-final Army hockey cup, Northern Command: 5th Divl Signals v. 2nd Battn King's Own Regiment.—Played at York. This was a contrast in styles, the Signals playing hockey as a team, but weak in finishing, whilst the King's Own hit hard and ran for it. The game opened fast and the Signals pressed almost continuously, but after fifteen minutes the King's took the lead with a breakaway goal by Lowe and retained it to the interval. This was all against the run of play.

Signals opened strongly in the second half, but after twenty minutes a weak clearance by the left back let in Valliant to score a second goal for the Infantrymen. With ten minutes to go, the Signals swarmed to the attack and Webb reduced the King's lead. Signals then made a great fight of it, and it was no surprise when Thompson put us level. Time was getting short when another faulty clearance led to the Signals goal being pierced for the third time, when Lowe ran in from the wing and netted. Excitement ran high when, a minute from time, Gordon scored the best goal of the match with a good drive, and the final whistle came with the score reading: 5th Divl Signals 3, 2nd Battalion King's Own Regiment 3.

Extra time was played. Signals pressed home attack after attack, but failed to score in the first ten minutes, and crossed over a goal behind, Kilbright scoring for the King's following an individual effort just before the whistle sounded for the change of ends.

The game now seemed lost, for the King's pressed, but Webber saved two good drives from their inside left before our half backs got the ball away, and from a combined forward line movement Dillon put us level. This proved the turning point in an epic struggle and Dillon scored twice more, to complete a hat trick and give Signals a great victory by 7—4, which takes us again into the final of the Northern Command.

Cooper at right back played a sturdy game for the Corps, and we wish him the best of luck, as he is leaving us for India.

Soccer.—The performances of both First and Second Elevens since the last contribution of soccer notes have been satisfactory, although the dismissal of the First Eleven from the Scarborough challenge bowl at the hands of the Junior Imps F.C., at home, has still to be explained. A four goals to love defeat registered by this team is something new—previous encounters in the league this season resulted in the unit collecting three points.

The First Eleven gained a little compensation by defeating Northcliffe F.C. in the following week by six goals to love, and drawing at 1—1 with Whitby A.R.F.C. (League champions) last Saturday. From the league table below, it will be observed that only four goals have been registered against the First Eleven in six matches—a creditable performance by the defence. Now it is up to the forwards to better their average.

The Second Eleven have only had one fixture since November, but they scored a decisive victory (5—2) over St. Peter's F.C. away from home.

Sigmn Reid has joined this unit from Colchester and, having played in his first match against Whitby, has shown us that he is likely to be a permanent fixture in the First Eleven.

As the unit will be away from Scarborough enjoying a spot of furlough during December, there will be no fixtures, and in consequence there will be a nil return of soccer notes for February's publication of THE WIRE.

Good luck to the 4th Div. in the following rounds of the Army cup!

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Division I.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals	Points
Whitby	8	5	1	2	37—11	12
Imps	9	5	2	2	21—12	12
Signals	6	4	0	2	19— 4	10
Pickering	7	2	3	2	28—21	6
Filey	4	2	1	1	15—12	5
Hunmanby	5	2	3	0	18—13	4
Kirbymoorside	7	0	6	1	15—35	1
North Cliff	4	0	4	0	2—45	0

Division II.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals	Points
Filey II.	8	6	0	2	40—11	14
Scarborough Juniors	8	6	1	1	46—11	13
Snainton	8	6	2	0	28—20	12
Gristhorpe	8	5	2	1	28—20	11
Imps II.	8	5	3	0	34—16	10
Scalby	6	4	1	1	19—11	9
Signals II.	6	4	1	1	21—15	9
West Leigh	6	3	1	2	29—15	8
Forge Valley	8	3	5	0	26—39	6
Oriel	8	2	5	1	22—27	5
Y.M.C.A.	9	1	7	1	11—50	3
Sherburn	8	0	7	1	10—44	1
St. Peter's	10	0	9	1	19—54	1

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Jubbulpore Brigade Revolver Competition.—In the absence of any small arms competitions within the 10th (Jubbulpore) Infantry Brigade, Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham obtained permission to organise an open revolver team competition, which was held on the 7th November. It was enthusiastically supported both by the Brigade, who presented a challenge cup, and by all units, who sent in a very representative entry of twenty-one teams. The teams, each of three men, were drawn from the various messes within their units. Thus the S.T.C. (India) entered three officers' teams, three w.o.s and sergeants' teams, and two teams of Indian officers.

Teams fired in pairs on the knock out system at two sets of six-inch circular tiles suspended from a wire at 15 yards range. When any pair of tiles was broken, the corresponding firer of the opposing team was "dead." The winners were the team which broke all their tiles, or more tiles than their rivals, in one minute. The competition, therefore, had the great merit of being interesting to the spectators—a feature very difficult to introduce into shooting matches.

The S.T.C. (India) achieved a very satisfactory result in getting three teams into the semi-finals. The fourth was the 15th Lancers officers' team, which to our relief had just defeated a strong 1st King's sergeants' team. In this round the S.T.C. (India) officers "A" beat the 15th Lancers officers by a narrow margin, and the S.T.C. (India) officers "C" beat the S.T.C. (India) sergeants "B." The final was noteworthy for an amazing display of "competition nerves" by both teams; neither shot up to its previous form. Two reshoots were necessary on account of ties before the officers "A" team eventually won.

Brigadier C. G. Ling, D.S.O., the Brigade commander, after presenting the prizes, remarked that the S.T.C. (India) although wiping the eyes of their competitors so thoroughly, would be unlikely to remain long in undisputed possession of the cup.

The following represented the S.T.C. (India):—

Officers "A"—Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham, Captain T. A. R. Scott, Lieut. N. G. Newell, winners.

Officers "B"—Lieut. E. C. Thompson, Lieut. D. W. R. Burridge, Major A. Beatson-Bell, defeated in the first round.

Officers "C"—Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Captain J. Wynn, Captain A. E. Barton, runners-up.

Indian Officers "A"—Subedar-Major Tej Sing Gurung, Subedar Bhav Rao Sawant, Jemadar Karam Illahi, defeated in the second round.
Indian Officers "B"—Subedar Panch Nadan, Subedar Sawar Khan, I.D.S.M., Jemadar Hari Chand, defeated in the second round.
Sergeants "A"—Sergts F. Farmer, G. Whittington and K. Snow, defeated in the first round.
Sergeants "B"—R.S.M. T. W. Harrison, Sergt R. Fishwicke, L/Sergt L. Baker, defeated in semi-final.
Sergeants "C"—R.Q.M.S. S. C. Brown, Q.M.S. (Fof-S) V. J. King, L/Sergt A. Dunn, defeated in the third round.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Cross-Country Running.—The second run of the season took place on Thursday 9th November over a two and a half miles course. Nullahs and holes throughout the course severely tested the runners. B Company Right Half were the winners with the small total of 98 points, and we congratulate them on their fine performance. Seven teams competed, and in view of the small numbers this Company has from which to choose a team, we did well to secure third place. This is an improvement of one place on the last run, and we are hoping for a further improvement in the next one, which will be a three miles road race.

Football.—
A Company beat Attached Section by 2—1
A Company "B" team beat R.A.M.C. by 1—0
A Company "B" team beat Brigade H.Q. Eleven by 1—0
A Company beat the King's Regiment by 2—0
Attached Section beat R.A.M.C. by 3—0
A Company beat S Battery R.A. by 4—1
Attached Section beat S Battery R.A. Second Eleven by 1—0
Attached Section beat Brigade H.Q. by 4—0
A Company beat U Battery R.A. by 4—2
A Company beat R Battery R.A. by 2—0
A Company "B" team beat R.A.M.C. by 2—0
A Company lost to S Battery R.A. by 0—3
A Company drew with U Battery R.A. at 2—2

It is generally known throughout India that the 1st Battn The King's Regiment of Jubbulpore were the Rover cup winners of 1933. Critics have remarked that the King's were the finest team that had ever played football on a ground in India, but on the 28th October a team selected from the S.T.C. (India) defeated the cup holders by 2—0 goals (English papers, please copy). It was a commendable feat. As usual, the match between these two teams drew a huge crowd to the Garrison ground.

Signals won the toss and had the advantage of playing with the sun behind them. They went near to scoring in the first few minutes, but the King's defence held out and fast play ensued with occasional breakaways by both teams. Following some fine passes on the left wing Edge, from a pass by Jennings, beat both backs and, drawing the goalkeeper from his ground, placed the ball over his head, thus opening the scoring for Signals. The King's attacked with vigour and repeated shots were well saved by Brooks. The Signals defence at this time were at the top of their form and repulsed many a move made by their opponents. Half-time score: Signals 1, King's 0.

On the change over Signals renewed their attack and a shot from Keenlyside narrowly missed the upright. The King's attacked strongly for the equaliser, but fine clearances by Bourton and Nelson prevented their scoring. From a pass by Matthews Jennings cut in from the left wing and shot for the far corner of the goal; the ball rebounded from the goal post to the opposite corner of the net, thus giving Signals a two-goal lead. The King's at this stage were a beaten team, and Signals ran out winners by 2—0 goals. Congratulations are tendered to the losers on a clean and sporty game.

The team was as follows:—Brooks; Bourton and Nelson; Cooper, Murphy and Chapman; Keenlyside, Matthews, Edge, Roberts and Jennings.

On the 1st October the 23rd Field Brigade R.A. were relieved by the 15th Field Brigade R.A. from Kirkee, and as anticipated, the respective Batteries gave us some hard games. They have a good reputation so far as football is concerned. The results of matches played were as follows:—
A Company beat S Battery by 4—1
A Company beat U Battery by 4—2
A Company beat R Battery by 2—0

We are looking forward to more good games in the near future.

Hockey.—
A Company drew with Robertson's College at 2—2
Attached Section lost to R.I. School by 0—3
A Company lost to D Company by 0—3
Attached Section beat F Signal Section by 2—1
Attached Section lost to Muslim Gymkhana by 2—3
A Company beat D Company by 3—0

Cricket.—The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess beat the Rest by 57 runs (89 to 32). A Company lost to the Gun Carriage Factory by 31 runs (97 to 128).

In the Garrison shield the S.T.C. lost to the 15th Field Brigade by four wickets (90 all out to 95 for six).

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Cricket.—On Thursday 4th October a match was arranged with the 1st Battn K.S.L.I. They won by three wickets.

Winning the toss, the Signals elected to bat on a true and fairly fast pitch. Wickets fell very quickly until Captain G. P. Pavey came in. Being one of the batsmen looked to for a nice score, he was very unfortunate in being run out just when he looked like making a good stand. L/Sergt Askew batted very well for his contribution of 18 and he was not out at the close of play.

With L/Sergt Askew bowling, the K.S.L.I. did not fare any better than we did. At one time the score board showed 47 for seven wickets. However, a good stand was made by Major Bryans and Lieut. Hereford, this partnership being unbroken when the winning hit was made. Lieutenant Hereford was very lucky; he was badly missed from the first of his strokes, but after that "life" he did not give any further chance. Major Bryans, after a slow start, was hitting very hard—he almost hit a six over mid-on's head.

Captain Pavey (27) L/Sergt Askew (18) and Sigmn Simcox (12) were the principal scorers for the Signals, and the bowling honours were taken by L/Sergt Askew with five wickets for 36 runs. For the K.S.L.I. Major Bryans scored 28, Lieut. Hereford 22, and L/Corpl Fraser 18. Bowling: Lieut. Hereford three for 16 and L/Corpl Fraser three for 23.

Football.—The unit now possesses a fairly good team and has given some very good shows lately. A match was arranged between the Corporals Mess and the signalmen of the unit. The signalmen won by 3—0, which was considered a very good performance, seeing that the Corporals Mess had already beaten the signalmen of our neighbours B Corps by 5—4.

The following matches have been played during the past three weeks:—
v. B Corps Signals, home, lost by 1—2
v. B Corps Signals, away, lost by 2—3
v. B Company K.S.L.I. away, won by 1—0
v. H.Q. Wing K.S.L.I. home, won by 2—1
v. B Company K.S.L.I. home, lost by 1—2
v. H.Q. Wing K.S.L.I. home, won by 2—0

The team of B Company K.S.L.I. included half a dozen members of the team which succeeded in winning the Durand cup this year.

A match was arranged between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, but only four of No. 2 Company turned out—the remainder of the team decided that the ancient and honourable game of grooming was a far better fate than a heavy defeat at football. (What about it, No. 2 Company?)

The match of the season was played (I say that advisedly) between Ruby Mares and Kind Hearts elevens, on a beautiful day, before a record crowd (quite fourteen!) The players fought to a standstill. We read about the Arsenal v. Spurs match, but that was nothing compared with this as far as football was concerned, and the wires between here and Highbury have been very busy ever since.

The Kind Hearts lived up to their name. They were *very* kind. When one of their number about to take a penalty kick was told to take it easy, *he did!* After numerous players had been called on to the field to take the places of those who had had enough, time was called with the Kind Hearts winners by 2—0. Twisted played a great game at right-half, and so did Spud on the opposite flank.

A challenge has been sent out by the secretary of the Kind Hearts Eleven to all teams whose members would like a few days "attend C."

Hockey.—Two games have been played against the 1st Battn K.S.L.I. and we lost them both—the first by 1—5 and the second by 0—4. These were two rather heavy defeats, but seeing that the K.S.L.I. included one or two internationals in their team, it does not seem so bad (this is not an excuse).

Against the Ordnance Corps our team had rather a field day, winning by the handsome margin of nine goals. The scorers were Signalmen Crimes (4) and Froud (4) and Sergt Foley. C.S.M. Westwood and Sigmn Sanderson W. played splendidly at back and consequently our famous (or notorious) goalie had very little to do. Sergt Foley has regained his old form: it is a great pity that we lose him this trooper.

We played the Indian ranks of B Corps Signals, and after a well fought game ran out victors by the only goal scored. Our team had numerous corners in the first half, but the I.O.R.s were quite equal to their task and half-time arrived with the score nil. The second half opened with the I.O.R.s making fierce onslaughts on our goal, but the splendid work of Sigmn Costello and our trusty backs kept them at bay. The forward line broke away midway through this half, and Sigmn Macken scored a good goal from the edge of the circle. End to end play followed for the remainder of the time, and the final whistle went without any further addition to the score.

7th December 1933.

Tennis.—W.O.s and Sergeants Mess v. Junior N.C.O.s and Men. This match was played on the men's courts on Sunday 12th November. Some excellent tennis was witnessed, and the w.o.s and sergeants won by 82—72 points. Each set consisted of eleven games, and the biggest win of the afternoon was made by C.S.M. Westwood and Sergt Elders (A.E.C.) against Signalmen Arnott and McDougall, the score being 10—1. A good game was witnessed when Sergeant Francis and Mr. Lamond (I.M.S.) opposed L/Corpl Graham and Sigmn Bundy. Sergeant Francis started to play like the little book that he is always talking about, but L/Corpl Graham and Sigmn Bundy eventually gained the upper hand and won a good match by 6—5. The following are the results of the matches played:—

Sergts Hay and Foley lost to L/Corpl Graham and Signalman Bundy by 5—6; beat Signalmen Arnott and McDougall by 6—5; beat Signalmen Ashworth and Masters by 9—2; beat Corpl Yalden and L/Corpl Millichip by 8—3.
Sergt Francis and Mr. Lamond lost to L/Corporal Graham and Sigmn Bundy by 5—6; beat Signalmen Arnott and McDougall by 6—5; beat Corpl Yalden and L/Corpl Millichip by 6—5; lost to Signalmen Ashworth and Masters by 5—6.
C.S.M. Westwood and Sergt Elders beat Signalmen Ashworth and Masters by 6—5; beat Corpl Yalden and L/Corpl Millichip by 7—4; beat Signalmen Arnott and McDougall by 10—1.
R.S.M. Wills and Sergt Archbold lost to Corporal Yalden and L/Corpl Millichip by 4—7; lost to Signalmen Ashworth and Masters by 2—9; lost to L/Corpl Graham and Sigmn Bundy by 2—9.

Tea and refreshments, which were served on the courts, were generously provided by the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess and the senior n.c.o.s' wives.

A tournament was held on the men's courts on the 19th November. Twenty-four entries were received, and each player had to play four sets with a different opponent each time. Each set consisted of seven games; and the player with the highest aggregate being the winner, Sigmn Dew took first prize with a score of 22, closely followed by Sergt Foley with 21.

1st Indian Divisional Signals v. Northern Command Clerks Club.—Played on the men's courts on the 23rd November. Some excellent games were witnessed, and the Northern Command team won by 13—12 sets and 106—96 games. The following is the result of the matches:—

Sergt Francis and L/Corpl Graham beat Staff/Sergeants Ross and Kent by 6—3; lost to Sergts Guilbert and Melia by 5—6; beat R.S.M. Billing and S/Sergt Blacker by 6—2; beat Sergts Wade and Mason by 6—5; beat Sergts Woolston and Wade by 3—2.
Sergt Foley and Sigmn Arnott beat Sergt Woolston and S/Sergt Kent by 6—2; beat Sergts Wade and Mason by 6—5; beat Sergts Guilbert and Melia by 6—2; lost to S/Sergts Ross and Kent by 3—6; beat R.S.M. Billing and Sergt Blacker by 3—1
L/Corpl Millichip and Sigmn Dew beat R.S.M. Billing and Sergt Wade by 6—1; lost to S/Sergts Ross and Kent by 3—6; beat Sergts Wade and Woolston by 6—5; lost to Sergts Guilbert and Melia by 0—3; lost to Sergts Wade and Mason by 2—3.
Sergt Cadell and L/Corpl Shepherd beat Sergts Guilbert and Melia by 6—4; lost to S/Sergts Ross and Kent by 0—6; lost to Sergts Wade and Mason by 3—6; beat R.S.M. Billing and S/Sergt Blacker by 6—5; lost to S/Sergt Kent and Sergeant Woolston by 2—6.
R.S.M. Wills and Sigmn Holland lost to S/Sergt Blacker and Sergt Mason by 1—6; lost to Sergts Melia and Woolston by 5—6; lost to R.S.M. Billing and S/Sergt Blacker by 3—6; lost to Sergts Guilbert and Melia by 2—6; lost to S/Sergts Ross and Kent by 1—3.

Owing to bad light the last five sets had to consist of five games only, and after twenty-four sets had been played the score stood at 12—12 sets each. It was almost dark when the last and deciding set, L/Corpl Millichip and Sigmn Dew v. Sergts Wade and Mason, was played. The former pair were leading by two sets to love and managed to reach 40 love in the third set, when they seemed to fall right away, and their opponents took advantage of this to win the set by 3—2 games.

Hockey.—The following are the results of matches played since last month's notes:—
30/10/33 v. R.A.M.C. away, won by 2—1
31/10/33 v. K.S.L.I. home, lost by 1—2
2/11/33 v. I.O.R.s, home, won by 2—0
5/11/33 v. R.A.M.C. away, drew at 0—0
8/11/33 v. H.Q. Northern Command, away, won by 3—0
10/11/33 No. 2 Company v. No. 1 Company, drew at 5—5
12/11/33 v. K.S.L.I. away, won by 2—1
13/11/33 v. The Gordon College, home, won by 2—1
14/11/33 v. H.Q. Northern Command, home, lost by 0—4
22/11/33 v. The Moon Club, home, won by 2—1
23/11/33 v. R.A.M.C., away, won by 3—2
25/11/33 v. Dennis College, home, lost by 1—6

The match between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies was a splendid one. No. 2 managed to break away in the first minute and find the net, but No. 1 managed to level the score before five minutes had passed. Again No. 2 managed to score from the bully, but No. 1 this time got two goals in quick succession, though the score was again levelled before the whistle blew for half-time.

Play opened in the second half with No. 1 Company penning No. 2 in their own half, but eventually the latter broke away and scored. This seemed to liven things up a bit, and No. 1 again scored twice in the space of five minutes, making the score 5—4 in their favour. No 2 scored again just before the final whistle blew, and a draw of five goals each was a fair result of the play. The teams are now anxiously awaiting a replay.

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

General.—In spite of our severe losses of personnel in the world of sport—notably Sigmn Delaney—we continue to meet with a fair amount of success. Here are results of matches played recently.

Football.—
A Corps Signals 0, Royal Scots, Quetta 1
A Corps Signals 3, Royal Scots, Quetta 0
A Corps Signals 4, H.M.S. *Enterprise* 1
A Corps Signals 2, Details R.I.F. 2
A Corps Signals 3, R.A. Manora 0
A Corps Signals 0, H.M.S. *Enterprise* 3

In the first round of the Fazal Ellahi cup we had to meet the full strength of the R.A.F. Depot and were beaten by 4—1. The last quarter of an hour made all the difference.

Hockey.—
A Corps Signals 3, Burmah Shell 2
A Corps Signals 4, Karachi Port Trust 3
A Corps Signals 4, Royal Scots, Quetta 1
A Corps Signals 1, G.P.A. 0
A Corps Signals 2, H.M.S. *Enterprise* 2
A Corps Signals 1, Royal Sussex Regiment 2
A Corps Signals 3, H.M.S. *Enterprise* 1

Rugby.—A Corps Signals 3 points, R.A.F. Depot 12. Owing to injuries we finished this game with thirteen men. A full side should enable us to make a better show during the forthcoming tournament.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Cricket.—With the departure of Captain J. A. I. Watts has gone the mainstay of our team. We hope this trooping season brings us some talent. Practice at the nets has just commenced and enthusiasm is being shown, so that we are hoping that we shall in the near future do better than we have done in the last two matches: v. Indian Gymkhana lost, v. the Royals also lost.

Hockey—In the O'Donnell hockey tournament we have entered two teams. Results as follows:—

"A" team—First round v. 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, won by 3—0. Second round v. 12th Field Brigade R.A. won by 2—0. Third round v. 10/2nd Punjab Regiment [no score shown.—ED.]

"B" team—First round v. Meerut College, lost by 0—5.

Soccer.—Recently the unit have taken part in a series of games, mainly with E Battery R.H.A., the 6th, 29th and 91st Batteries R.A., and last (but not least) the Armaden Club. The results of these matches were rather surprising, the majority of the team being stationed at Ranikhet. Now that the rear partv have arrived from the hills we are able to field a stronger team, and we scored a smashing victory by 4—1 against the 91st Battery. Our last game, also against the 91st Battery, ended in our favour by 3—1 (Sigmn Houghton (2) and Sigmn Spriggs).

Results of our most recent matches: v. E Battery R.H.A. won by 1—0 and drew at 2—2; v. 91st Field Battery won by 1—0, 3—1 and 4—1 (Sigmn Spriggs completing his first hat trick) and drew at 2—2; v. 6th Field Battery lost by 0—2 and 0—4.

No. 1 Company.

Cricket.—Playing against No. 2 Company, as usual No. 1 scored such a smashing victory that I dare not give the result. This means another "Derby day" next week—the result of which I *will* publish in next month's issue.

Hockey.—Versus No. 2 Company, another win.

Football.—No. 2 Company defeated us. Our revenge at a later date will be sweet.

In conclusion, let me congratulate the unit hockey team. Well done! Don't forget that we want some more cups this year.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Hockey.—In our last Sports Notes we shouted plenty about the wonderful performance of our British hockey team, and this time we must do the same about our Indian team. Assisted by three British ranks, they put up an excellent show in reaching the final of the Indian inter-Company hockey tournament. Their conquerors in the final were really a first class Company side and fully deserved their victory.

Tennis.—The 17/21st Lancers challenged us at tennis during the early part of November. Owing to the requirements of Q Branch we were not able to turn out our best eight players, but the team selected rose to the occasion and defeated the Lancers by 9—7 sets.

An American doubles tournament has just been completed, Signalmen McQuire and Bailey beating C.S.M. Kingman and Sergt Peerless in the final by 1—6, 6—1 and 6—1. Signalman McQuire is to be heartily congratulated on the great show he put up. His partner was only a learner and is likewise to be congratulated on entering the tournament.

Billiards.—Congratulations to Sigmn Walker on his success in the unit billiards handicap tournament. In the final he had to play a very stout and experienced player in Captain S. J. Fielder. The handicap of both was owe 40, the game being 100 up.

General.—Another inter-Section games tournament has been organised, but more of this anon, as at present the Sections have their time fully occupied with training and manœuvres.

Sports.—The following are results to date. For the purposes of sport we combine with R.A. Brigade H.Q.

Football—v. S.T.C. (India) won by 3—1 and drew at 1—1; v. S.T.C. "A" team lost by 0—2; v. S.T.C. "B" team won by 2—1; v. Attached Section drew at 1—1; v. R Battery won by 1—0 and lost by 0—5; v. S Battery drew at 2—2 and lost by 0—1; v. U Battery drew at 3—3: v. 10th Infantry Brigade won by 3—1.

Hockey.—v. S.T.C. "A" team lost by 0—4; v. S Course lost by 1—2.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Football.—We had three representative players in the Pulau Brani team which took part in the S.A.F.A. competition and had the misfortune to lose to the R.A.F. by 1—3. Our "tower of strength" has crumbled at last. Weekes will tell you all about it.

Hockey.—So far, we haven't been able to make much headway at hockey. We have had a couple of practice games, which proved that we have a few dark horses. In fact, everything points to our having a good team this season.

Tennis.—The Garrison tournament has commenced. We hope to find a few candidates for the centre court. In the singles Sigmn Davis S. showed great form by defeating Sergeant-Major Trout, R.E. Sigmn Weekes beat L/Sergt Simm of the Signals, and Sigmn Brooks lost to Sergt Capsey, R.A.O.C. In the doubles Sergt Carpenter and Sigmn Barcock defeated L/Corpl Waldron and Pte Quibell of the R.A.O.C.

Cricket.—We congratulate Sergt Carpenter, who for the third year in succession was selected to play for the Colony versus F.M.S. at Penang. In his first innings he was rather unlucky and was dismissed after scoring only eight runs. In his second innings he made a wonderful stand and knocked up a fine score of eighty-three, just missing the highest score of the match by two runs. Well done!

November 1933.

Football.—Owing to the smallness of the Section, we are combined with the R.A.O.C. for certain branches of sport. Recent results:—

2/10/33 v. 11th (H) Battery R.A. lost by 2—4
7/10/33 v. s.s. *Antenor*, lost by 0—2
10/10/33 v. Malays, won by 2—1
11/10/33 v. s.s. *Corfu*, won by 8—0
12/10/33 v. Malays, lost by 0—4
14/10/33 v. 7th A.A. Battery R.A. won by 8—1
17/10/33 v. 11th Battery R.A. lost by 2—5
20/10/33 v. 11th Battery R.A. won by 9—1
25/10/33 v. s.s. *Manchuria*, won by 3—0

Hockey.—
15/10/33 v. Royal Engineers, lost by 1—2. This is the first occasion on which we have been beaten by the R.E.s for three years.
18/10/33 v. Fort Canning, won by 1—0
19/10/33 v. Royal Engineers, won by 2—1
26/10/33 v. Royal Engineers, won by 3—1
31/10/33 v. Fort Canning, won by 4—0

Ping-Pong.—
10/10/33 v. Royal Engineers, lost by 12 points
16/10/33 v. Royal Engineers, won by 59 points

Tennis.—In the Garrison singles competition Sigmn Weekes lost to Q.M.S. Richardson, R.A.O.C.; Sigmn Davis A. G. lost to L/Corpl Black, R.A.M.C.; Sergt Carpenter beat Sigmn Barcock. In the doubles competition four of our members managed to reach the semi-final. Sergt Carpenter and Sigmn Barcock beat L/Corpl Wood and Sigmn Davis A. G., thus qualifying for the final. This was played on the 14th November, and we must congratulate Sergeant Carpenter and Sigmn Barcock on defeating Sergt Cashman (R.A.P.C.) and Sergt Burrage (R.E.). Well done, both of you! It's good to know that the Signals—no matter how small in number—always make themselves felt.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Football.—At the risk of being called over the coals for repetition, we must blame the continued inclement weather for our spoilt football programme. Out of thirteen fixtures only eight matches were played. Unfortunately, we cannot attribute the cause of our reverses to the same source. Results of the matches played are as below:—

v. D Company 2nd D.C.L.I. friendly, won by 3—2
v. 1st (F) Company R.E. friendly, drew at 0—0
v. H.M.S. *Cormorant*, friendly, won by 5—0
v. A Company 2nd Battn R.W.F. friendly, lost by 0—2
v. H.Q. Wing 2nd Battn R.W.F. ("B" League) lost by 1—3
v. Signals, 2nd Battn D.C.L.I. friendly, won by 6—1
v. H.M.S. *Cormorant* ("B" League), lost by 0—7
v. D Company 2nd Battn R.W.F. friendly, lost by 0—3

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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- Editorial Notes -

Attention is called to paragraph 1 of Benevolent Fund Notes overleaf.

❀ ❀ ❀

The recent newspaper reports of the earthquake disaster in India recall a similar catastrophe which occurred in Baluchistan as recently as 1931. We are indebted to ex-Sergeant W. Wish, late of the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, for a series of photographs illustrating some of the damage done on that occasion. These will be found herein on pages 68 to 71.

❀ ❀ ❀

Dominion Notes.—Apropos paragraph 3 of Editorial Notes in our issue of December last. We acknowledge with thanks the first instalment of contributory notes from the Royal Canadian Signals, Ottawa, suitably illustrated by descriptive photographs.

For the time being, we must perforce publish such articles under a plain type heading, but trust that our old friend Lawrence H. Drake will nobly rise to the occasion and repair the deficiency at an early date.

❀ ❀ ❀

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition, 1934).—The work of compiling up-to-date information for this publication has been put in hand and it is hoped to have the booklet ready for distribution at an early date.

Will those unit representatives who have not already done so, kindly indicate as early as possible the number of copies they will guarantee to dispose of? Orders will be dealt with in strict rotation. The price per copy is 1/- post free (at home or abroad).

Bound Volumes of "The Wire."—All readers, units, messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of THE WIRE for 1933 are asked to submit their orders at an early date. *No Royal Signals Library is complete without it.* Price 8/- per copy, post free (at home or abroad).

❀ ❀ ❀

Sports Clothing, etc.—The following articles are stocked at Signals Association H.Q. Office and can be had on application at the prices quoted:—

Blazers, Barathea, Corps Colours	from	42/0
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Cuff Links, Corps Colours	per set	3/0
Signals Association Badges of Membership	each	1/0
Ditto ditto Sterling Silver	each	3/0

(Postage extra; cash with order)

Any of the above articles can, if desired, be sent on approval to accredited and responsible unit representatives. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

It is notified for general information that an effort is being made to organise a **Re-Union of Old Comrades** in the North of England during the current year. In all probability this function will take place at Scarborough early in June, but confirmation, together with full details, will be published in these columns at the earliest possible opportunity.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Ex-Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1 Ex-Signalman, Nottingham .....Postman (temporary)
2 Ex-Signalman, Nottingham .....Canvasser
3 Ex-Signalman, Nottingham .....Postman (permanent)
4 Ex-Signalman, Nottingham .....Joiner
5 Ex-Signalman, Croydon.....Postman (temporary)
6 Ex-Signalman, London.....Labourer
7 Ex-Signalman, London .....Porter
8 Ex-Signalman, London .....Porter
9 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Labourer
10 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury.....Post Office (temporary)
11 Ex-Signalman, London .....Postman
12 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury.....Post Office (temporary)
13 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
14 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
15 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
16 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
17 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
18 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
19 Ex-Signalman, London.....Film Work
20 Ex-Signalman, London .....Caretaker
21 Ex-Signalman, London .....Dairyman
22 Ex-Signalman, London.....Gas Works
23 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
24 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
25 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
26 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
27 Ex-N.C.O. London .....Clerk
28 Ex-Signalman, Manchester ...Post Office (temporary)
29 Ex-Signalman, London .....Porter
30 Ex-Signalman, Croydon.....Houseman
31 Ex-Signalman, Birmingham.....Labourer
32 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool .....Agent
33 Ex-N.C.O. Middlesbrough .....Labourer
34 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
35 Ex-Signalman, Chatham .....Labourer
36 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
37 Ex-Signalman, London .....Fitter's Mate
38 Ex-N.C.O. London .....Fitter's Mate
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53 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Post Office (temporary)
54 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Post Office (temporary)
55 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Post Office (temporary)
56 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Post Office (temporary)
57 Ex-Signalman, Brighton .....Post Office (temporary)
58 Ex-Signalman, West Riding.....Porter
59 Ex-Signalman, West Riding .....Telegraphist
60 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool .....Labourer
61 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool .....Labourer
62 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool .....Post Office (temporary)
63 Ex-Signalman, Devonport .....Post Office (temporary)
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68 Ex-Signalman, Bristol .....Post Office (temporary)
69 Ex-Signalman, Bristol .....Post Office (temporary)
70 Ex-Signalman, Croydon .....Post Office (temporary)
71 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough .....Labourer
72 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough, Post Office (temporary)
73 Ex-Signalman, Glasgow .....Post Office (temporary)
74 Ex-Signalman, Glasgow .....Post Office (temporary)
75 Ex-Signalman, Glasgow .....Post Office (temporary)
76 Ex-Signalman, Taunton .....Post Office (temporary)
77 Ex-Signalman, Taunton .....Post Office (temporary)
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84 Ex-Signalman, London .....Conductor
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89 Ex-Signalman, London .....Electrician
90 Ex-Signalman, London .....Restaurant Attendant

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

Time-serving members of the Corps will please note that all applications for assistance from the above Fund must, in all cases, be submitted through the applicant's Commanding Officer, and not direct to this Office.

Applications of a similar nature from ex-members of the Corps must be made in person at 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, or by letter (preferably the latter). In no case can any attention be given to requests received by telephone or telegram.

❀ ❀ ❀

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

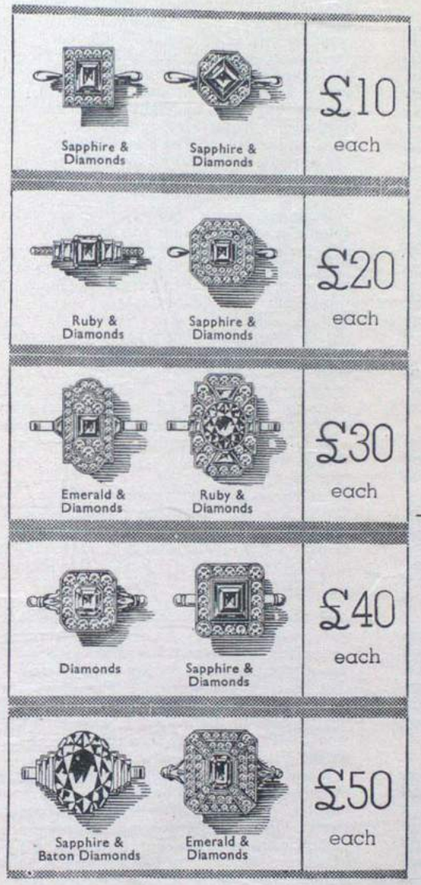
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Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command (Tidworth Tattoo).
Officers Mess, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
Mr. F. O. Rhodes.
Mr. W. Moffatt.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1 Ex-Signalman, Darlington. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
2 Ex-Signalman, Manchester. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
3 Ex-Signalman, Durham. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
4 Ex-Signalman, Newcastle. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
5 Ex-Signalman, Herts. Domestic difficulties. £5 grant
6 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £1/7/6 grant
7 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
8 Ex-Signalman, Birmingham. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
9 Signalman, Karachi, India. Domestic difficulties. £6 loan
10 Signalman, Karachi, India. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
11 Ex-Signalman, Darlington. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
12 Ex-N.C.O. London. Temporary difficulties. Ten days board and lodging
13 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
14 Ex-Signalman, Rotherham. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
15 Signalman, Karachi, India. Domestic difficulties. £2/8/0 grant
16 Ex-Signalman, Norfolk. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
17 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
18 The Reedham Orphanage, Quarterly Maintenance Fees for Orphans, £3/18/10
19 The Farningham Boys' Home, Quarterly Maintenance Fees for Orphans, £10
20 Ex-Signalman, Margate. Domestic difficulties. £1 grant
21 Ex-Signalman, London. Temporary difficulties. £1 grant
22 Ex-Signalman, Huddersfield. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
23 Father of deceased ex-Signalman, Coventry. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
24 Ex-Signalman, London. Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
25 Ex-Sigmn. London. Temporary difficulties. Gift of clothing

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



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Here and There.

Reminiscences of an R.E. Telegraphist: No. 6.

BY R.G.M.

To many of the citizens of Bristol, members of the 2nd T.B. were a puzzle. Residents in the vicinity of our headquarters were familiar with the sight of the linemen and others going off to their daily tasks, carrying over their shoulders tool baskets loaded with insulators, battery material, or what not ; or, if they happened to be up and about early enough, saw us in full war paint on Sunday mornings when we assembled for church parade. Further afield, however, the appearance of soldiers engaged in the work of constructing or repairing telegraph lines was a source of wonderment.

A conversation between two damsels which I once overheard, when walking with a colleague in one of the outer suburbs, gave an indication of how we were regarded by *some* people. On observing us, one of the maidens called out to her friend across the road: "I say, Liz, look at they sojers." "Sojers!" exclaimed Liz, in scornful tones. "Sojers! they bain't no sojers ; they be telegraph chaps." The "sojers" refrained from offering explanations. Liz and her companion would probably not have believed them!

That was bad enough, but not quite so bad as the observations of the lady to whom I once applied for permission to fix a stay in the hedge-bank of her cottage garden. From the ample development of her lower jaw and her physiognomy generally, I think she could have claimed unblemished descent from one of the pirate chiefs who invaded this island under the command of Hengist and Horsa in the fifth century. She had a steely blue eye. Not an attractive person to interview.

In answer to my solicitations for the required wayleave, she promptly replied: "No! I don't have no sojers tramplin' about over my garden and making messes." Further arguments and explanations from me seemed only to exasperate the lady, and finally she burst into a tirade against the British Army in general and myself in particular, winding up with the remark "Why, I keeps the likes o' thee."

After that, there was no more to be said, and I retired from the scene as gracefully as possible. I rather prided myself on being successful in securing wayleaves—a job requiring the persuasive powers of a commercial traveller and the tact of an ambassador, together with other qualifications too numerous to mention—but I didn't pull it off that time. A robust sense of humour is a valuable possession in circumstances such as these!

. . . . . .

The annual meeting of the 2nd T.B. Rifle Club was held at Bristol about the middle of September '99—for me, as it turned out, the last of many similar happy gatherings. There was a larger muster than usual, the weather was perfect, and the dinner and smoking concert that wound up the day proved most successful—altogether a day to look back upon. The restaurant where the dinner and smoker were held was near the People's Palace—then a music hall—and I remember that several of the artistes came over and entertained us with some of their "numbers." George Robey was the star turn at the Palace that week, and after he had finished his performance there he came in and gave us three or four songs ; and after the songs, he told a number of highly coloured stories, all of which kept the room in a roar. I think that George Robey (and other things!) caused a good many of those present to miss the last train home that night!

The South African war was then impending ; indeed, several of those who came to the rifle meeting were under orders for Aldershot, where they were due on the following Monday. They formed part of the first telegraph contingent to go to South Africa, and arrived there in time for some of them to get locked up in Ladysmith. All hands had been medically examined for active service a week or two earlier, and speculation was rife as to who should be the first to go.

Queen Victoria visited Bristol in November '99 and had a most enthusiastic reception. "Queen's weather" prevailed: it was a glorious autumn day of bright sunshine. Half the countryside poured into the city, and the route of the procession from the railway station to Durdham Down, where the Queen opened a convalescent home—a distance of three miles—was lined with cheering spectators. The South African war was in full swing by then, and everybody appeared anxious to assure the old Lady of their loyalty and devotion.

From the telegraph point of view, the royal visit was a great "special arrangement"; for the Press representatives, of whom there was a big crowd, reported the day's proceedings in great detail, and the number of words telegraphed that night exceeded all the records of the Bristol office. I remember that not only were the twelve or fourteen additional Wheatstone sets demanded for the occasion fully utilised, but three or four other sets that I had taken the precaution to fit up in excess of the official requirements were taken into use as the work piled up in the course of the evening. By midnight all circuits were "clear," and the staff went off duty feeling that they had done their bit to their own and everyone else's satisfaction.

Mention of a special arrangement reminds me of a cricket story that, as far as I know, has never appeared in print, and it seems worth telling.

During the cricket season of '97 or '98 I went up to the Bristol county ground to see (as was my duty) that the special telegraph apparatus installed for the Press work was going on all right, and (be it whispered!) in the hope of seeing a little cricket. I forget just what match was in progress—Gloucestershire v. Somerset, I think—but the Gloucester side was in and W. G. Grace was batting. "W.G." was in great form, knocking the ball all over the field, and looked like making a century or more. The spectators were waxing enthusiastic as the runs came quickly, when, alas! after a brilliant fifty-odd W. G. was clean bowled.

As he approached the pavilion, with his bat under his arm and pulling off his gloves, an admirer—probably a friend—called out "Ah, Doctor! you should have been more careful."

W.G. gave him a withering look and, in his bluff way, replied "I came here to play cricket," and passed on to the dressing room.

I have often thought, especially during recent months, that the Doctor's remark would be a good motto to have painted in big letters and hung up in *some* club houses. W.G., in his time, evidently regarded cricket as a game ; nowadays, the gentlemen of the journalistic world (and a few other people) seem to think it is something else!

. . . . . .

During the winter of 1899-1900 the R.E. staff of the district steadily dwindled, as one draft after another went to South Africa—civilians lent from other districts being brought in to fill the vacancies. By February 1900 only a few R.E. were left, and in that month I was ordered to Exeter to take temporary charge of the sub-Division—all the officers except the two at District H.Q. having gone to the front. It was anticipated that the chargeship would last for not more than three months, by which time the war would be over. Actually it lasted nearly three years.

It was a pretty tough time, due in great measure to most of the older and experienced hands being away, and to other causes into which I needn't enter. "To scorn delights and live laborious days" (and nights!) was my lot during the three years, and the "forty-eight hour week," or anything like it, was not for me. However, the work was done, and after all, that was the great thing.

The only outstanding incident of that period that I recall was the visit in September 1900 of Mr. Hookey (then the engineer-in-chief of the Post Office) to the west of England, to examine "storm areas." The Cable Companies, whose cables landed on the coast of Cornwall, had been complaining of the delays to their traffic when the land lines connecting their Cornish stations with London were broken down by gales ; and the question of laying a land cable from London to Land's End was under consideration. Mr. Hookey came down to see for himself the exact state of affairs, and as I knew where most of the bad smashes had occurred in the sub-Division during the previous thirteen or fourteen years—chiefly through trees being blown across the lines—he took me with him on his tour of enquiry.

We drove in a horsed conveyance (the day of the motor car had not then arrived) through most of the main lines from Exeter to Land's End, and afterwards from Exeter to Taunton. Brilliant summer weather favoured us throughout, and I think both the occupants of the vehicle enjoyed the outing. I know I did! Today the journey could easily be done by motor car in a couple of days. We took a week over it—quite a leisurely affair judged by the standard nowadays.

When visiting the cable hut at Tereen Cove, we had an experience that is probably unique. The line to the hut ran across some meadows, so we left our conveyance in the road and proceeded to walk. We had not gone far before we noticed that the two wires forming the line were twisted together. We looked at each other, and I said "We can't pass this fault, sir ; can we?" "No," replied Mr. Hookey, with a twinkle in his eye. "That would grave failure in duty."

I tried to separate the wires, which hung very low, by means of a stick I was carrying, but failed ; and as a last resource, I suggested that I should "give a back" to the engineer-in-chief, so that he could reach the wires and clear the contact. No sooner said than done, and the fault was quickly removed.

I remarked that in future I would claim to be the only individual who had ever helped the engineer-in-chief of the P.O. to clear a fault ; and as Mr. Hookey promptly agreed, I suppose my claim is a sound one. Engineers-in-chief do not often go after faults. They have other fish to fry!

The troops returned from South Africa in February 1903, and things began to settle down into the old groove. I received the thanks of the engineer-in-chief for services rendered during the three years I had been in charge, and my commanding officer recommended me for the meritorious service medal—a decoration which, by the way, has not yet been conferred. But I live in the hope that I *shall* wear it—some day!

In August '04 I finished "serving my twenty-one." My colleagues, both military and civilian, gave me a great send-off at a smoker held in my honour, at which many more nice things were said about me than I felt were deserved ; and my old comrades-in-arms presented me with a gold watch and an illuminated address. Other presentations were made by the Exeter telegraph and postal staffs with whom I had been so closely associated during many years.

That night was the last on which I wore "the scarlet jacket," and my adventures and misadventures (such as they were) *as an R.E. telegraphist* came to an end. In the years that followed, my experiences were those of a mere civilian, and they would therefore be of but slender interest to readers of THE WIRE.

. . . . . .

In writing these reminiscences, my object has been to give a sketch, however imperfect, of the activities of the 2nd Division Telegraph Battalion, a unit that has disappeared from the Army, or (to speak more correctly) been absorbed into a larger one. Its doings will soon be but a memory, if they have not already been forgotten. And if the first person singular has had undue prominence, my excuse must be that its frequent repetition is a defect inherent in all personal narrative, and one difficult to avoid. I hope my readers will overlook it.

Vale.

Some Reminiscences of Hospital Life.

BY A LONG-SUFFERING VICTIM.

It is only after one has been a guest therein for a year or so that one really begins to understand and appreciate the workings of a large hospital and really feel at home—and by home, I mean home: where one can say exactly what one means to (and about) all members of the family therein, including the housekeeper. The chief thing one learns is that whilst they have a few hundred words of their very own, and not included in the layman's dictionary, they must needs very considerably upset the interpretation of some otherwise very ordinary words and expressions. All of which has led to the conclusion that it may not be out of place to give a short dictionary of hospital terms.

Bed—A rectangular base upon which, with the aid of a ruler and some bed clothes, some of the more regular of Euclid's figures are designed. This is more commonly known as "bed tidying" and, in accordance with a primary rule of the game, must be done at least every half hour and irrespective of the presence of a patient in the bed.

Comfort—Tidiness.

Day—This is the period during which the more wise patients sleep. It is quieter—and longer. It ends at "Lights out" and begins as soon as the night sister has had her midnight meal.

Diet—A happy arrangement whereby a healthy hungry man has less to eat than is given to a man who has no desire for anything. By the natural law of man, this automatically adjusts itself.

Matron—A lady of severe aspect who always has more Service and medal ribbons than the most hardened soldier patient.

Orderly—A man who is anything but. Has a natural penchant for "putting out of sight" any good book which a patient has laboriously acquired.

Patients—They are, but are only officially recognised as such in notices continuing "are prohibited." Individually known to the medical staff as "cases." This is thought to have originated in an unwritten hospital law: "In cases where men show an aptitude for floor polishing, they may be retained for a further period of observation."

Senior Sister—A lady who gathers a medal not only for skill in medical work, but also for exceptional ability in discovering a speck of dust on a two-acre polished floor.

Staff Nurse—A younger lady whose god-parents presented surgical probes instead of christening spoons.

Temperature Chart—The history of a patient's progress set to music.

Thermometer—A small glass instrument which is given to a patient to suck twice a day. It is kept in methylated spirit so that a man's taste for alcohol may be kept alive without being satisfied.

Ward—By a strange coincidence, the whole of a hospital staff here combine to give a word its more or less dictionary meaning of "something to be looked after." E.A.B.

In the Garden.

Last month I told you how to rear pine-apples—or perhaps I didn't, but in any case it doesn't matter: you can't grow them—so this month I propose to deal with the garden generally.

As you know, now is the time to take viola cuttings—but be careful whose you take. Mine are of a distinctive colour, and I shall recognise them later—particularly those which have already been taken. Carnations, too, may now be freely taken. First of all, select the plants which are healthiest. The next step is to wait for your neighbour to go to the pictures. The rest is simple, provided you remember to keep to the grass borders: otherwise the local police might trace your footprints.

Just now we are all thinking of that excellent show we hope to make in the early part of the year. Look over your more open borders for blank patches. If there be none, you are lucky. If there are, well, blame your neighbours' dogs and sow pepper as heavily as possible. As a further precaution, you might shoot the dogs.

In exposed gardens, late cauliflowers and early brussels also need attention. At this time of the year, they are very susceptible to a blight which, if not checked, will rob you of your entire crop. I refer, of course, to "vanishing." In the case of cauliflowers, this occurs during the night—usually Friday or Saturday—and plants which have been attacked retain only the outer leaves. In the case of brussels, the blight is not so readily detected, but a careful examination of the plants will reveal that the largest sprouts have entirely disappeared. The quickest remedy is to spray the plants with a strong solution of poison and watch the "Deaths" column of your local paper. If this method does not appeal to you, you should dig up the plants.

Next, your spring cabbages. There are two ways of ensuring a good spring supply of this commodity. You can either take your neighbour's or buy them from the greengrocer. If, however, you prefer to grow them, then get on with it.

Rock gardens are now finding favour. For Catterick readers, the formation of a rock garden presents no difficulty except that of procuring the soil. On the other hand, there are many who, with a little patience, might have something really effective. Arrange for a load of large pieces of rock to be deposited near your back door. Then, when you have told your wife what you think of your mother-in-law, just walk into the garden: the rocks will follow quite naturally. Afterwards, to pacify your wife, put in a few plants.

For the ornamental pond you might try watercress—it is always handy, and encourages tadpoles. It is advisable for readers residing in Scotland to procure the water for their ponds from this side of the Border, as the tadpoles from Loch Ness have been known to reach proportions not generally favoured for ornamental ponds.

In conclusion, we must not forget our wild oats. These may be sown at any time and will provide your envious neighbours with "something to talk about." Usually, they mature quickly and need little or no attention after sowing. B.W.

Dominion Notes

Communication Systems of the Royal Canadian Signals

In addition to Signals duties of a purely military character, the Royal Canadian Signals are charged with the operation of a number of communication systems in Canada. Among these are the following: North-West Territories and Yukon system, the Inter-Provincial system, and the Air Mail system.

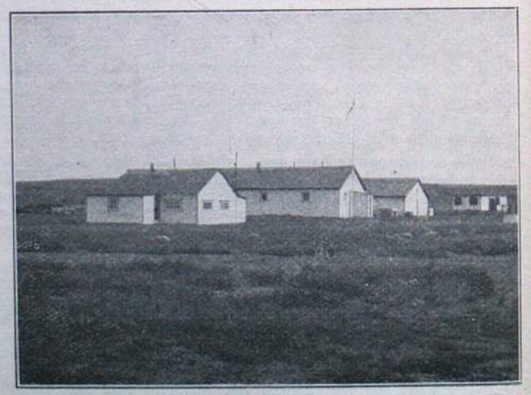
With one exception, the stations of the Air Mail system were closed in 1932 for reasons of economy. The Inter-Provincial system resulted from a linking up of various stations operated for different Government agencies throughout the country, from Edmonton to Montreal.

The North-West Territories unit comprises some thirteen stations extending from Edmonton, Alta., to Herschel Island in the Arctic Ocean—a distance of 1500 miles. This chain of stations, originally five in number, was established for the purpose of providing communication with the isolated communities in the North. To-day the functions of these stations have been greatly increased. Some of the personnel are required to act in an almost infinite





Wireless Station, Cameron Bay, North-West Territory.
Operated by the Royal Canadian Signals.



Wireless Station, Herschel Island, North-West Territory.
The station, operated by the Royal Canadian Signals, is shown on the right.

number of capacities, included among them being that of radio inspector, meteorological observer, post master, air port attendant, guide and interpreter. During the early years of their existence, most of these stations received only two or three mails during the eight months winter. The aeroplane has since brought great changes to the country, and regular air routes are now in operation over a considerable portion of the territory. The aeroplane is also responsible for a new outlook in the general scheme of wireless communications. Formerly, it mattered little whether a message was delivered to-day or to-morrow. Nowadays, patrons demand replies to their messages in a matter of minutes, all of which becomes difficult with 1924 equipment.

Most of the stations are complete with comfortable buildings; in some cases, with accommodation for married personnel. Transmitters, both long and short wave, with an output of approximately 300 watts, are in use. These were all constructed in the Signals workshops. Two or three stations have smaller sets. It is, of course, regretted that the emitted waves of the self oscillators do not conform strictly to the frequency tolerance recommended by Madrid, but there are none to complain in those regions. Power is derived from 3-k.w. D.C. kerosene engine units with floating 110 volt battery. These units are being replaced by Diesel engine driven alternators and high voltage mercury-vapour rectifiers. Gasolene costs $1.25 per gallon in Dawson City.



Wireless Station, Fort Simpson, North-West Territory.
Operated by the Royal Canadian Signals.

During the long winter months, when the temperature drops to 50° and 60° below zero F., reception conditions are ideal and there is no need to worry over signal/static ratios. In the summer, however, the static is almost tropical in severity—particularly at Edmonton, where the traffic is heaviest. Higher powered transmitters are therefore being installed at Fort Smith, Cameron Bay and Edmonton.

Cameron Bay is the centre of intense new mining developments on the shores of Great Bear Lake, where at the second annual prospectors' picnic on the 4th August 1933, the prize for putting the shot was the "shot" itself: a 14-lb. pure silver nugget. Trout of 50-lb. may be caught in the bay with only slight persuasion and a strong arm.

Herschel Island must be one of the most northerly wireless stations of the Empire, if not *the* most northerly. It is now of less importance than a few years ago, when it was the headquarters of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police inspectorate, now moved to Aklavik. The wireless station is now only manned in the season of navigation, although the equipment is permanently installed.

In the summer of 1933 the writer had the privilege of accompanying Major-General J. H. MacBrien, Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, on an inspection trip by air from Winnipeg, Manitoba, to Herschel Island, and return to Edmonton. All stations were visited with the single exception of Mayo Landing, Yukon Territory. The journey, covering 6000 miles, was completed in sixteen days.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April 1931) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2306309	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) McGrath P.	23/10/33	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2308169	C.Q.M.S. Ingles W.	23/10/33	14

To be Sergeant.

2306621	L/Sergeant Sayers A.	2/ 9/33	30
2306627	L/Sergeant Walker H.	6/ 9/33	30
2309615	L/Sergeant Perry G.	11/ 9/33	30
2312512	L/Sergeant Sykes F.	7/10/33	30
2314287	L/Sergeant Field H.	23/10/33	30

To be Corporal.

2317394	L/Corporal Sneddon G.	1/11/33	59
2315733	L/Corporal Rickard R.	15/11/33	59
25365	L/Corporal Davenport P.	15/11/33	60
2313623	L/Corporal Fairclough R.	24/11/33	60

Discharged.

2306390	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) Gibson H.	22/10/33	5
2311807	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) White J.	23/12/33	6
2306986	C.Q.M.S. Birch F.	8/12/33	14
2306404	C.Q.M.S. Watts R.	22/12/33	15
2306239	Sergeant Foot C.	6/10/33	17
2311489	Sergeant Coleman M.	7/10/33	21
2306319	Sergeant Carey E.	18/10/33	22
*1857038	Sergeant Dowie W.	15/11/33	72
2303470	Sergeant Withers W.	5/12/33	20
2309345	Sergeant Massey S.	7/12/33	19
*1857186	Sergeant Pope J.	7/12/33	72
2316133	Corporal Hanna G.	6/10/33	45
311923	Corporal Heffernan P.	31/10/33	51
2314270	Corporal Savage A.	1/11/33	39
2318036	Corporal Ferguson J.	14/11/33	59
2309586	Corporal Lowe T.	23/11/33	55
2314316	L/Corporal Redrup A.	17/11/33	
6334361	L/Corporal Davidson A.	23/11/33	
2312501	L/Corporal Edwards T.	13/12/33	57
2314337	L/Corporal Myddleton C.	27/12/33	

To Army Reserve.

2318164	L/Corporal Biggins H.	17/11/33
2318261	L/Corporal Jones F.	19/11/33
2318169	L/Corporal Dougal L.	19/11/33
2317226	L/Corporal Lane W.	19/11/33
2317552	L/Corporal Ellis G.	23/11/33
2318714	L/Corporal Alexander J.	27/11/33
2318685	L/Corporal Harrison J.	30/11/33
2318264	L/Corporal Bennett J.	1/12/33
2318580	L/Corporal Mann J.	29/12/33

Deceased.

*1038999	C.Q.M.S. Potter W.	11/12/33	71
1859106	Sergeant Philpott V.	23/12/33	22
2309285	L/Corporal Lovell R.	13/10/33	

Transfers.

2310578	L/Sergeant Dipple R. to 2nd Welch Regiment	4/10/33	30
2318346	L/Corporal French H. to Army Educational Corps	24/ 3/33	

True Name.

3590596	Corporal Lynton W. W. W. assumes true name Sims W. W. W.	20/11/33	44

* *Special Roster (India)*

Plain Tales

Tra La La.—A meeting of considerable interest to students of entomology took place in the Crumpet Hotel last Saturday. The subject under discussion was "The pedal extremities of the common house-fly." Professor Van der Scrum tried to propose an alternative subject, "Should girls leave home?" but the chairman, the Hon. Blanc Blanco, pointed out that there were six perfectly good reasons why girls *shouldn't* leave home—five of these being present at the meeting, whilst the sixth was on the high seas; at least, he hoped they were high. The chairman was about to rap on the table for order when a handful of asparagus took him sweetly across the eyes. Doctor Froud sat down with a satisfied air and another handful of asparagus for use as occasion required.

Some extraordinary facts emerged from the subsequent discussion. Mr. Crauk, representing Upnor University, made the startling assertion that the common house-fly looped the loop before landing on a ceiling. This was supported by the chairman, who informed the meeting that the fly not only looped the loop, but actually landed on its four rear feet. Cries of "No! no!" and "Shame!" greeted this bombshell. Mr. Thomasari kicked the chairman on the shin to attract his attention. "Listen, you big stiff," he cried. "Flies land on their three side feet except when alighting on a horizontal surface (cries of 'Hear! hear!' and 'What ho!') Yes—and bank steeply just before landing on vertical objects." This gentleman, who preferred to remain anonymous, transferred a fire bucket from one pocket to another and, not to be outdone by the previous speaker, bashed the chairman over the crust with a guitar.

At this point the committee room burst into flames, but these quickly died down on the approach of Mon. Grand Marnier. A well aimed grape-fruit caught Professor Van der Scrum in the ear, and the meeting broke up in some disorder. Which is just as well because, apart from a thick ear, I'm dashed if I can see that this is leading to anything.

* * * *

The New Service.—The Sergeants Mess member rang the bell for his dinner. Nothing happened, so he rang again. Within a few minutes the cook appeared carrying the roast beef and Yorkshire on a plate. "Where the devil is the waiter?" asked the Mess member. The cook looked at the speaker reproachfully. "He is having his dinner, of course!"

* * * *

More Education.—

"Honoured Sir and Sahib.

"I beg honour to report on evening of last night Sukhi have large misfortune and fall into No. 1 Reservoir at Moondakotee and is therefore died of sunk. Praying for Sahibs lifelong death in happy circumstances,

"your excellent, honest and sober servant,

"GURGA."

* * * *

This Month's Prize—consisting of a suitably inscribed piece of turf—goes to Sergt D. Waldron for buying a double whisky, carrying it across the room for the saxophonist of a dance band, and drinking it himself—"because," he says, "the saxophonist appeared to be busy." Gertcher.

* * * *

Overseas Note.—I was glad to see my old friend Mr. E. S. J. Haines appear in THE WIRE again in December. He need wonder no longer whether his articles are welcome. They are eagerly read by the majority. What a pity we can't get a few more from other "furrin" parts in the same style. And say, boys, whatever you do, resist the temptation to hold this page up as a tragic example of paper wasting. I'm thick skinned.

* * * *

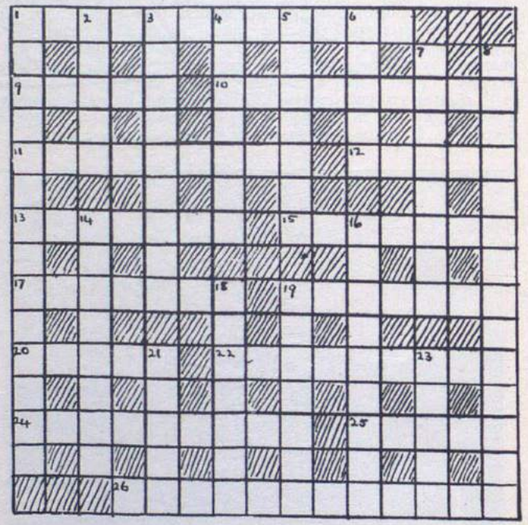
Old Boys' Corner.—I have just received a most interesting letter from Lord Colledge-Howle (whose mother, of course, was a Screeme). He condemns what he is pleased to call my unsporting method of hunting tiger. A man who goes after big game with a revolver is nothing less than a Cad, or at most, not much less. He concludes a long letter about sporting rifles, machans, bearers, beaters and what not, by getting all worked up over his old school. He has never forgotten the things that matter, such as shouting "Nerts!" and resisting the temptation to wear a school tie with a dinner jacket. I made a suitable reply to his lordship and pointed out that Rugby was a railway station, anyway.

* * * *

Invitation.—Come up and see me some time. BARLEUX.

Cross-Word Puzzle: No. 8.

[For amusement only]



Clues—Across.

1 Gilbert's could write his washing bill in Babylonic cuniform (*two words*).
9 Six sit for a call.
10 I treat men (*anag.*)
11 Peerless.
12 A hater turns to the soil.
13 A broken platter causes a lot of talk.
15 A slight wound for the man on the line.
17 Hollows about the Royal Navy.
19 Dwells with the Sappers inside.
20 Might be the state of a fresh pack of cards.
22 A rebel makes haste after the start of insubordination.
24 Madame who was "full pleasant and amiable of port" (*Chaucer*).
25 "Told by an . . ., full of sound and fury (*Shakespeare*).
26 These relatives name a North London road (*two words*).

Down.

1 Paintings that cause tears? (*two words*).
2 Won a sheep-skin.
3 The one to hold back as the carter turned on the hill.
4 Meet Rex (*anag.*)
5 Enter the start on the lists.
6 Stay, nearly hide with the sailor above.
7 Related.
8 Is proverbially lost (*three words*).
14 A mouse.
16 Peace after the downpour stops.
18 Duce is I (*anag.*)
19 Bits of Bacon one enjoys,
21 7 is in the past,
23 Flower.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain H. E. Rance from Malaya to Camberley (S.C.)
Captain N. H. Edes from R.E. Board to Camberley (S.C.)
Captain J. E. S. Walford from Catterick to Woolwich (R.M.A.)
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick from Egypt to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. P. H. Smitherman from Catterick to Aldershot (A C/S)
2/Lieut. A. J. H. Fisher from Catterick to Aldershot (A C/S)
2/Lieut. G. E. G. Brown from Tidworth to India (2nd D/S)
2/Lt. L. Whitbread from Catterick to Tidworth (A.F.V. Sigs)
2/Lt. F. P. Rickard from Catterick to Tidworth (A.F.V. Sigs)
2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead from Catterick to Colchester (4th D/S)
2/Lieut. E. B. H. Robertson from Catterick to Scarborough (5th D/S)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 19/12/33

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major R. H. Rayner, M.B.E., retires on retired pay, 20/12/33

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Major A. L. Harris, M.C., R.Signals, to be Inspector (Cl. Z), R.E. Stores, 1/12/33

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major R. H. Rayner, M.B.E. (retired pay) to be Major 20/12/33, with seniority 29/11/31

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

A. C. Layzell to be 2/Lieut. 20/12/33

War Office 29/12/33

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The date of appointment of Captain L. A. E. Tozer as Instructor (Cl. CC) School of Signals, is 19/9/33 and not as stated in *The Gazette* of 13/10/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

C. Stagg to be 2/Lieut. 30/12/33

War Office 2/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—HALF YEARLY BREVETS

Major P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, to be Brevet-Lieut.-Colonel 1/1/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—

The undermentioned appointment is made: Colonel A. C. Fuller, O.B.E., half-pay, to be Chief Inspector R.E. Stores. 19/12/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D., to be Brevet-Lieut.-Colonel, 1/1/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Captain A. H. Read to be Brevet-Major 1/1/34

War Office 5/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major A. L. Harris, M.C., is seconded whilst employed as Inspector R.E. Stores, 1/12/33

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

E. A. Mayne to be 2/Lieut. 6/1/34

India Office 5/1/34

INDIAN ARMY—

The undermentioned appointment is made: To be Lieutenant (Quartermaster) "Special List" of Quartermasters, Indian Army: R.S.M. H. L. F. Fegan, M.M., from Royal Signals, 17/11/33

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War Office 9/1/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major P. B. W. Stanley resigns his commission, 30/12/33

War Office 16/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain G. G. Glanville, M.C., retires on retired pay, 17/1/34

Captain M. Duke to be Adjutant vice Captain J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E. 17/1/34

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major J. G. Deedes, M.B.E. (retired pay) to be Major, 1/12/33, with seniority 15/12/27

Captain G. G. Glanville, M.C. (retired pay) to be Captain, 17/1/34, with seniority 21/5/25

Correspondence.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 16th January 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir. The following is notified for publication in the February 1934 WIRE.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll.

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 20/4/29

C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c R.Signals Records.

Reminiscences of the Great War.



Opposite.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales at Locon, France, 1914

Bottom Row.

Left — Sergeant "Dick" Rockall, France, 1914

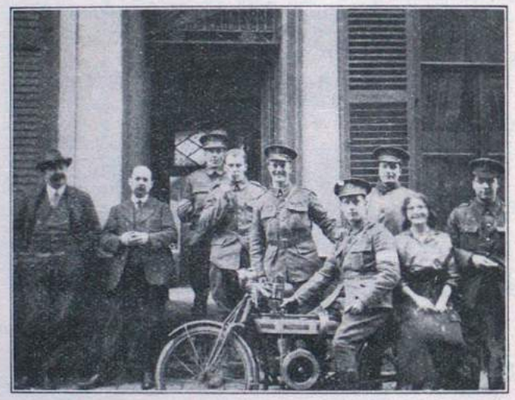
Right—Sergeant Barnes, 6th Infantry Brigade, France, 1914

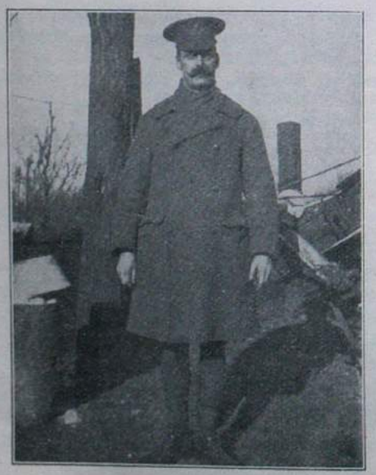
Centre Row.

Left—Corporal A. J. Harris (now Major, O.B.E., Royal Corps of Signals, India) at Festubert, France, 1915

Right — Group of Despatch Riders, 2nd Signal Company, outside the Hotel Lion d'Or, Bethune, France, 1914









[Received too late for inclusion under "Units Abroad" heading.]

North China Signal Section, Tientsin.

British Military H.Q., 7th December 1933.

They say Edgar Wallace wrote a book in two hours. I don't want to write a book, but it has taken me two hours to write this much, so perhaps it is just as well. As I have still seven days in which to finish these notes, I have hopes—faint ones. The room is littered with my discarded efforts, and the clerk is looking carefully at the office stationery. Still, now I've got a start, perhaps I'll be able to let the Corps know that Tientsin and Peking still harbour a few Signals.

General.—The recent Sino-Japanese scrap gave our operators quite a severe test—messages flying all over the place—but, as usual, they gave a good performance and kept up the Corps standard. The Foreman-of-Signals and his merry men got busy constructing W/T sets, which worked: and all round, the Section has good cause to be pleased with itself. The only thing that was neglected was THE WIRE, but we intend to make up for that in the future.

At the present moment we have two topics of conversation: Christmas and the boat. As I have had no experience of either in Tientsin, I'll leave them alone for a bit and adjourn to my corner, muttering "Roll on, '35!"

The Japanese and Chinese insisted on having a scrap in Shanhaikuan and most inconsiderately blew up the railway near to that pleasure resort, with the consequence that our summer camp didn't open until July this year. This meant a very short sojourn there for most of the Section, and a few didn't go at all. Those who were lucky enough to get the break spent a most enjoyable time by the sea and came back with "all handsome men, etc." complexions and a host of tall tales. They even say that one operator got through to Tientsin (Rg each way) and, when he had finished the call, found he had forgotten to switch the transmitter on. You *are* good, but not that good, Red!

Arrivals.—Signalmen Fill and Terry arrived from the United Kingdom per the s.s. *Ranpura* (lucky fellows!) for duty at the British Legation, Peking. They both appeared to be very happy about it, but Fill has since come back to Tientsin and is now even more happy (memories of those delightful days spent in Peking). Hong Kong, please note.

Sigmn Allen arrived recently from Shanghai on inter-Section posting. We now possess a Red, a Ginger and a Rusty. No other blondes need apply.

Departures.—Sigmn Ayres prefers U.B. to 5 Star, so he volunteered to take Sigmn Allen's place in Shanghai. His farewell was conducted in the usual goodbye manner; in fact, his sorrow was really drowned.

L/Corpl Why left us for Blighty in order to collect his ticket. Always popular, he is greatly missed. It is credibly reported that half the Chinese population wept and wailed loudly as the train left Tientsin East station for Tongku. He was distinctly heard to mutter "Free at last!" and "No more shroffs!"

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) West, Corpl Bowie, L/Corpl Chinery, and Signalmen Williams and Michael are all busy getting ready for the next boat to the United Kingdom. Some Blighty units will be lucky and a sergeants mess will have its entertainment problem solved off-hand.

Congratulations.—To our O.C. and Mrs. Whiteway-Wilkinson on the birth of a daughter.

To L/Corpl Chinery on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Judith Kosmin at the British Consulate on 10/11/33. The junior staff mess members were entertained by the happy couple on Sunday the 12th, and all voted it a most enjoyable evening.

To U/L/Corpl Burch (British Legation, Peking) on his elevation to that dizzy height. It won't be long before you get the extra dollars for it, Lofty, and my tastes have not yet altered (shades of the Cosy Café many long years ago).

To the Duke of Ottley on his return from a long vacation spent in game hunting on the Yorkshire moors.

To Steve, Aldershot, on dodging the drafting season so long. Jock E.

To L/Corpl Emary H. K. on his promotion to that rank. Sorry we are a bit late, Chubby.

Things We Want to Know.—Who was the operator who got through without a transmitter? Is an aerial really necessary for good reception? If the electric fan in the transmitting room is switched off, does it improve your note? If the Deccan Deaths have finished their efforts, can we expect a letter from there?

Agony.—Bill, Meerut: What about a line? Syd. Chubby, Hong Kong: Thanks for the good wishes. Jock E.

Will the Section clerk, being a Scotsman, give me another sheet of paper? He won't, so these notes are now finished. Au revoir until next month. TINPEKE.

Stop Press.—Since these notes have been typed, notification has been received that L/Corpl Chinery has been allowed to sign on in Tientsin for a further period of one year (makes it five now, Freddy, eh?)

Sports Notes.

The Corps in North China, in conjunction with the Royal Engineers, R.A.M.C., R.A.S.C., R.A.O.C., R.A.P.C. and A.E.C., form the Staff and Departmentals Sports Club and compete in the various leagues in Tientsin.

Soccer.—The S. and D. are at present third in the league table, having played six matches. The following are the results to date:—v. Texaco won by 2—0; v. Cheng King won by 4—1; v. St. Louis won by 3—1; v. Tientsin Grammar School drew at 1—1; v. D Coy. Queen's Regiment drew at 0—0; v. T.A.C.C. won by 4—0.

Hockey.—The S. and D. are the strongest side in the league, having two Army players. The Corps supply four members: Lieut. Whiteway-Wilkinson, Corpl Walsh, Signalmen Addis and Williams. Up to the present no league fixtures have been played, but several friendly games in which the side have come out on top by a big score, so hopes have been raised and we aim to win the league this season.

Rugby.—The rugger grounds here are much too hard to allow the game to be played to any great extent, but several of the old F Company players have had a game for the Tientsin Rugby Club. It is hoped that an S. and D. team will be formed in the near future and give our leading ruggerites an opportunity to show clean heels.

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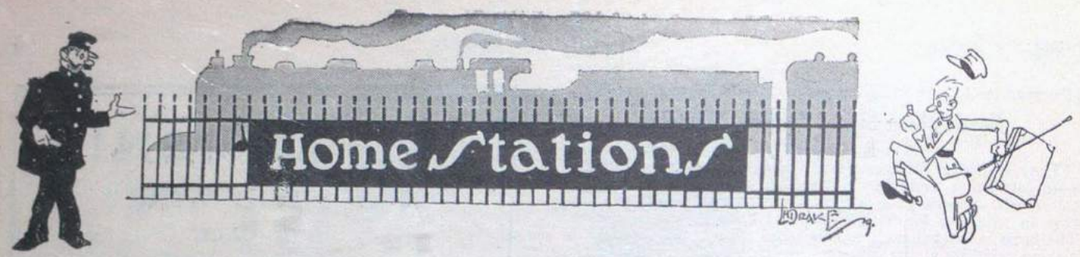
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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

The New Year.—*The Daily Express* reports that we are now in a New Year ; further, that this was preceded by some curious thing called Christmas. As I was in the wilds, I may possibly be forgiven my surprise. While you folks were stuffing yourselves with meat and drink, my Christmas dinner was two small sandwiches, one eighth pint of tea and three poems by Rupert Brooke ; and we spent all that day looking for a mountain. Come back to me, my Gable ; I would steps cut and metal try on you.

Reception Committee.—We extend the glad hand of welcome to our new regimental sergeant-major, R.S.M. Caulfield C. H., who has just arrived from India. Our sincere good wishes to you, sir. May your stay be long and pleasant!

R.I.P.—The Wing is slowly settling down to work once more, and one no longer hears " Well, we had another and then she sort of. . . .," " Couldn't get a 'bus until. . .," " Woke with a blazing head. . . .," or " Had a mouth like the Loch Ness monster's and. . ."

Departures.—I must record the departure of Messrs. Elsey, Causton and Frames for the great open spaces. What does it feel like to be called Mister?

Harmony.—According to *The Morning Post* (see Official Secrets Acts, etc.) the Chinese national anthem is now an accomplished fact (or as the French put it, faux pas). All bands should be in possession of at least one copy of the music, so ask your bandmaster to play it at his next concert and watch his face.

Cook's Corner.—L/Corporal Haslam has left us for a much warmer region—India. (Had you there!) Our best wishes, Pete—and bullets (?)

Children's Corner.—

THE SERGEANT-MAJOR'S GONE ON LEAVE.

Let the bells of joy be sounded ;
You simply *must* believe
The news that once seemed so unfounded:
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

Send work and duty to the devil ;
Offences new conceive ;
Spend night and day in one long revel—
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

Let hair be long and curly ;
Your *libidos relieve
On those who think (and still are surly)
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

Let your hat be backward tilted ;
Pluck flowers " by your leave ";
Go gaga—and while at it, kilted—
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

Ignore the n.c.o.'s surprise ;
Give him a sedative ;
Tell him you hate his socks and ties—
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

Stay in bed till nearly seven ;
Offensive orders give,
Directing Corporal Blank to heaven—
The sergeant-major's gone on leave.

* Highly technical term. Enquire of Driver Joe or B-rtr-nd R ss-ll.

Flower Department—Very hearty congratulations to R.Q.M.S. McGrath on his elevation to that rank.

In Memoriam.—You know the old yarn about the breaking up of china, the downfall of turkey and the overflow of grease? Someone tried it in the cookhouse at Christmas. What a sense of humour some people must have! POSTLETHWAITE.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Apologia.—My regional professor in tautology has spoken of my abrogation of the regal or editorial " we " in these notes. He considers (the low fellow!) that I should use the more modest (stap me) first person singular. So don't blame me for any autocracy in these notes, from whatever cause arising. (Authority: W.O. letter 14/o.k./drunks/B.F.U. B.F. dated. . .whoa!)

My sympathies to all suffering from premature spring fever. Try Freud and Jung alternately.

Agony Corner.—

The cross-country team.
" The following will report to the Dental Centre. . . ."
Postings: Inter-Squad.
Meal parades.
" The undermentioned. . . confidential reports. . . noon. . ."
The wireless set which was more less than wire.
Bobbie's curls.

Poesy Department.—

FRAGMENT.

Being lines written on things not lost but indubitably gone before anyone could stop them.

Then the air shall be filled with loose talk,
And the bears that infest the Naffay
Shall each pocket his knife and his fork
And finally gallop away.

Thank you one and all, ladies and gentlemen. My servant will collect the guineas. Good night! good *night!*

Farewell Corner.—I must record the departure of Signalman Edwards to the wilds of Wales. He made a deep impression on the Wing and was very popular, and I know I speak for all when I wish him the very best success with the wild horses and perhaps wilder clients.

Free Gift.—Cut out this paragraph and use instead of a match or automatic lighter.

The Sign of the Glad Hand.—To our old friend Alec Hill, a very audible ex-member of our cross-country team, greetings. Just in time, Alec. Let us hear from you.

GEO. C. MURPHY, D.C.M.

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Lucky Dip.—What price cross words, Sergeant Oliver?

BAXTER.

Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion.

Christmas passed off very quietly, but was brightened up by a couple of dances held previously to break the monotony.

On the 9th December a new feature was introduced. All the tough guys conferred and thought it would be a bright idea to anticipate " my 21 " and roll up dressed in raiment such as each expected he would don after a short era on the dole, by which time—looking ahead—it was considered the old country would be able to hold its own with Uncle Sam's cutest gangsters, and in fact take the lead.

Without doubt, we produced some of the toughest. In order to produce a little realism, several members proceeded on a few days leave in order to grow the necessary fungus and divest themselves of that Erasmic-like bloom which is so unnecessary to real he-men. The dance room was appropriately arranged to resemble a (?) kitchen. The effects were startling, but everybody felt at home in the new atmosphere: to some, it was even natural!

Admission was by password, and the door was ably guarded by King Kong until the School, jealous of such a successful innovation, swooped down in their hordes and trampled the unfortunate Kong underfoot, and having thus effected their surprise entry, boldly commandeered the floor for the execution of a war dance.

Peace was eventually restored. Later in the evening the police got wind that Jimmy the Stiff was being harboured on the premises with cargo complete, and sent Topper to investigate. An arrest was nearly made when there was a flashing of ghats, a few sharp explosions, and the representative of the law was carried out feet first.

The evening was brought to a successful conclusion amidst a considerable amount of wreckage with the last toast to " Absent friends."

The Christmas draw was held on the 21st December. A good display of poultry, wines, spirits, etc., was strewn about and the wangle commenced at 8.20 p.m. The single members did themselves very well and are now walking about looking very fit, having lost that lean, cadaverous appearance of yore. Apparently the wangle was well thought out, as there wasn't a spare "blank" at the last.

A dance and drama that followed was supported mainly by toughs, and a programme arranged by Sammie and Ben went down very well. Most of those present knew the words of " Little girl of my dreams " and " The last round-up," having heard them somewhere before. The last toast—no, I won't repeat myself.

The proposal that a stock of grape fruit be laid in for rehearsal nights has been vetoed.

Members will not be asked to bring their own glasses to future socials: we still have a few left.

Does anybody know anything about a drum?

* * * *

R.S.M. and Mrs. Caulfield have returned from disembarkation leave and are settling up to settle down in their new home. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

It is with much regret that we part with the services of C.S.M. Payne, who has gone to Colchester. There are a few strained faces watching Part II. Orders to see if anything happens, but of course they are the youngsters with only eighteen years or so service and are still optimistic about " sudden rushes," but we old 'uns just sit back. We know that one now and then is inevitable.

A smoker was held on the 3rd January as a send-off to C.S.M. Payne and Sergt Willis. The latter has since left for China. The bulk of the talent was supplied by themselves, and a first class sing-song was held. There *was* other talent. Sergt Luck, looking up to heaven with eyes closed, gave a most able rendition of something or other, and Sergt Crowhurst also came to the rescue with something else. I can't get any nearer than that. Unfortunately, Sergt Luck has now been posted to the Training Battalion, so we suppose he will take his talent with him. That leaves us pretty well stumped. The evening terminated with the loast toa. .—chuck! chuck!

We all wish C.S.M. Payne and Sergt Willis the best of luck in their new stations. The C.S.M. will be particularly missed, as there is hardly a place in the camp where he hasn't sung at some time or other during his short stay with us. Sergt Willis was properly escorted to the bus stand later in the week.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The absence of our WIRE notes of late has been somewhat conspicuous, hence we send a few now, trusting the Editor will find a space for us.

It is the general custom to ask everyone to accept apologies for the absence of notes, but it is too much of the old song " I'm sorry," and old hands have seen and heard it too often. However, as some folks are screaming to know who's who and what's what in E Company, here goes.

Christmas has come and gone (sighs of relief from all who signed a credit balance) and once again all hands are settling down to the old routine of training, etc.

Arrivals and Departures.—These are too numerous to mention, but we wish good luck to all who come and go. Special mention must be made of Sergts Cayley W. C. and Shilton E. D. Sergt Cayley, known by all who have passed through E Company, has left us for the final preparation for civvy street, i.e. vocational training at Hounslow. Good luck, Gabbo! we wish you all the best. Sergt Shilton—another old flame—has left us for A Corps Signals, Aldershot. Good old Dick! We hear that you have a Baby Austin now. The best of luck from all.

C.Q.M.S. Edmunds D. J. and Sergt Hinds W. H. have joined this Company from India and Liverpool respectively. May they enjoy the Catterick breezes!

Births, Marriages and Deaths.—Congratulations to C.S.M. and Mrs. Lane on the birth of a son, Norman William, at Catterick on 20/12/33. (Mother, son and father are doing well.)

Corporal Hampton P., who recently joined the Company from India, has joined hands with Miss Anne Phillips Dalzell and now hopes to be struck off rations in the very near future.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Policella J. on his appointment to that rank. (How many years, Polly?)

Sports: General.—All our results in hockey, football and rugby are well up to standard, and the Company is certainly standing its ground against all comers. Results of recent fixtures are too numerous to mention, but it is hoped that some will be ready for publication next month.

Time waits for no man (Corpl Lee, Headquarters S.T.C., is waiting to seal the envelope now). Here ends until next issue.

W.J.T.R.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—If you have second sight, you might have seen our tears dropping last month because we defaulted with our notes. We had such a choice bit of news to report! However, we have got it in under " Marriages " this month. It would have appeared under that heading just the same, last month, but of course it is not such " hot news " now.

So far, the Company have weathered the winter in fine style. Of course, we have experienced the usual coughs and colds, and it is a funny thing that a lot of the local lads don't seem at all keen to get rid of one, once they catch it. Perhaps " Att. C." means something, after all!

At this time of the year, individual training is naturally the only item of real interest. A lot of our linemen are sweating on the c.ii. idea ; and in case any one of them becomes too ambitious, we would like to remind him that there is no harm in sweating, except that it really isn't done in the best of circles.

The furlough season proceeds apace, and doctors' certificates and telegrams come pouring into the Company office. But to sort out these little matters is a pleasure to a long-suffering staff. Smacker took his usual twenty-four hours French, and for seven days after returning he dashed back and forth to the guard room to make sure that he was marked in on time. Fancy being so unbelieving!

The Stable Sections have had a very nice time lately ; at least, so rumour has it. Personally, I have noticed that no one from there has been on the mat for at least two days ; but, then, a driver's life is not an easy one—as Lloyd said when a horse playfully kicked him on the shin, and the sergeant was too near for Lloyd to tell the horse (also playfully) that it must not be so playful.

And so life goes on. Half of the Company—at least, it seems like that—has gone on discharge and to the Reserve. "Where are the old faces that once we loved?" Our recently appointed Company commander, Captain Wiseman, has gone to Catterick on a three months course and he'll come back when musketry is in the offing—happy days.

Well, it's obvious that I cannot go on any longer. Obvious, because even the deepest well runs dry sometimes. So farewell, sweet maids, and don't try to be clever, because there is always a Section sergeant more clever than you are. That one is from the " Bedtime Story " edition.

Marriages.—C.S.M. E. H. Spindler to Miss Dorothea Jones (daughter of the late R.S.M. C. Jones, R.A.M.C.) at Fulham on the 5th December last. How could you, sergeant-major? You—the ideal of bachelor bliss! Those discourses, learned and wise: do they mean nothing to you? But we will forgive you slowly and remember that, after all, it really was not your fault. Woman, the tempter in Adam's day, is the tempter still. Now that you have done it, don't forget C.R.A. once a month, and Tuesdays and Saturdays at the butcher's shop.

Also Sigmn Meeson R. to Miss Marjorie Capewell at Walsall on the 26th December. No wonder you wrote for an extension, Bob!

Appointments.—Congratulations to U/L/Corporals Smith G. W., Quinn T., Barker E. and McNeil J. on being elevated to the junior mess. It's a grand feeling, isn't it : but wait till duty week!

Arrivals and Departures.—There are such a lot of them that the Editor would flatly refuse to allow us space to report them. We will just mention one. Our one and only Charlie (L/Corpl Drury C.) has gone to India and left us here all alone to die. Drink up, Charles! we will shed a silent tear now and then for you. F.R.K.

No. 2 Company

General.—The Company is undergoing a great change, and it would be a rather tedious job to mention the arrivals and departures for the past month. Nevertheless, we have done our bit towards supplying some good men to replace those who have arrived from stations abroad.

Once again our instructors are working at top rate, and judging from the tittle-tattle, we assume that all is well with the new I.T. squads.

The oxometer is still in the possession of T.S., but rumour has it that a senior n.c.o. is swotting hard to win this coveted trophy.

Promotions.—Signalmen Robertson and Spreckley appointed U/L/Corporals. Congratulations! (No snakes and ladders business this time, Robbo.)

Sport.—Shsh! wait till the inter-Company events take place.

Agony.—Angus, 2nd Div. Sigs: When can we expect you? Johnno finishing shortly.

7.45 a.m. L/Corporal: "Tin of cherry blossom, please." Fair assistant: " Would sixpence and six coppers do?" (Total collapse.) DIXIE.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—Firstly, our greetings to everybody : secondly, our apologies for the absence of notes from this unit for the last two months. Once again we make a New Year resolution that we will not be conspicuous by our absence any more.

Unless I make these notes in the form of Part II. Orders, I cannot possibly hope to mention all the additions and subtractions that have occurred since our last appearance. Suffice it to say that India is the chief cause of the subtractions.

Sports Trophy.—All ranks of the unit join in thanking the 1st Australian Divisional Signals for the very fine cup they have presented to the unit. This trophy, to be competed for annually, will be presented to the best all-round officer, n.c.o. or man of the unit. The winner will receive a silver miniature of the cup.

Christmas Tree.—Some say " Good old Father Christmas "; some say—well, they might, bless 'em, but I do not think any who attended our great endeavour on Tuesday 2nd January would have been really justified. He really was great—massive—and what understanding! A popular hero. But that is starting at the wrong end.

The way to the heart is via the stomach, 'tis said. These kiddies certainly toed the mark at tea time ; it was excellently served by " servitor servientium."

A conjuror next took attention. He was really good and could be understood and appreciated by all and sundry. During this entertainment the youngsters under five years of age were amused in the N.A.A.F.I. hall. Balloons were in evidence, and clowns—natural actors in unnatural costumes—did the rest, or tried to.

Father Christmas, quite up to date in his methods, arrived by plane—the noise could be distinctly heard—and with pardonable loss of dignity he tumbled down the chimney complete avec sack. L/Sergt Andrews took the part. He thinks he was good, but we do not mind, really, because after all he was. The giving out of his good things was quite an affair, rather long and tedious, but it ended smoothly.

The " Amen " was sweets and oranges at the door. We hope they were as much enjoyed as the rest of the entertainment appeared to be. In view of the many congratulations received, it is excusable if those responsible take a little extra pride in their combined achievement.

Whist Drive.—On the 29th December L/Sergt Andrews, our entertainment king, organised a whist drive for the O.C.A. Prizes were scrounged from all and sundry ; there were twenty four in all, everyone having a good chance of getting their money back. We are sorry that the organiser did not have a chance to win one of the turkeys. However, he was amply compensated in knowing that nearly £10 could be handed over to the O.C.A.

Individual Training.—The first period of individual training ended very successfully with a number of higher ratings and much rejoicing at the extra pay before Christmas. This year the training was split into two parts, October to December and January to March, with the furlough period in between. This arrangement has certainly been a success. The instructors can be congratulated on good work well done, and the men on putting their backs into it.

Retorts Courteous.—Who told No. 2 Company 2nd Div. that there were two ladies at the dance? (your January WIRE notes).

Trimulgherry: Give me a break. I cannot show the January WIRE to my better half, and she wants to know why. Yes, I am married. A letter to 1st Div. would still find me.

W.F.K.

No. 1 Company.

Now that we have embarked safely on another year, it behoves me to report on the doings and happenings in Oneco. Due allowance must be made for a quiet Yuletide, and as I have been holidaying myself, I am somewhat out of touch. The festive season passed right merrily for the few left in barracks.

Individual training was the last important event prior to Christmas. Many came ; several saw ; but only a favoured fortunate few conquered at the ensuing Trade Board. However, there is a next time soon, and maybe several more will be able to walk with their heads in the clouds.

At the time of going to press the major portion of the Company are on furlough. Soon, however, they return, and we shall once more be at full strength ready to commence the new season's training.

Sections are for the time being in cold storage, and considerable shuffling of their personnel has been the piece de resistance recently.

Congratulations.—To the undermentioned on gaining their respective awards in the first class educational examination held in October last: Sigmn Lymn, maths and geography ; Signalman Willcocks, maths. To Sergt Field on being promoted to that rank, and to U/L/Corpl Jenkinson on gaining a foothold on the first rung.

Adieu.—To Sergt Law J., to T.A. Aberdeen. L/Corpl Bennett E. to T.B. Catterick. L/Corpl Cleveland, Signalmen Banham D.

M., Allan F., Batten W., Faulkner, Feltwell, Morey and Wood J. to India. Sigmn Hicks J. to Malta. Signalmen Blackett and Dawson to China. L/Corpl Davidson, Signalmen Gregory, Glasspool and Petrie to discharge. Sigmn Barker to the Army Reserve.

Nuptial.—The following have joined the ranks of the benedicts and may be seen daily, complete with grid, feedbag, accumulator and a worried look: Sigmn Graham W. to Miss Nellie Maud Goodall at Petersfield on 7/11/33. Sigmn Mansfield A. to Miss Irene Jean Elder at Aldershot on 11/11/33. " England expects," etc.

Welcome.—To the fold: Sergt Lombard W. (Wally of Yore) from T.A., and family. L/Corpl Fearnley C. and Sigmn Brown A. from India. Corpl Hibbett, Signalmen Atkinson and Dunlop from T.B. Catterick.

Congratulations.—All Oneco-ites send their hearty congratulations to L/Corpl Turner (Spud) on getting paid for the bar. Well done, Spud! keep a straight bat. Cam. DODGER J.J.

No. 2 Company.

Apologies to all concerned for the absence of notes during the past few months.

New Year's Resolution.—That these notes will become regular in the future.

Hopes.—That all bad English and grammatical errors will be overlooked (remember, I'm still getting my second).

What's Gone Before.—My memory is very bad, and the only recollections I have are of a sore and tired route march to Salisbury Plain and back during the past Divisional exercise, and the feather in our hat that has come our way on completion of the training period.

THE ANNUAL HORSE INSPECTION.—The Assistant Director of Remounts reports " Condition and turn-out very satisfactory " (Jubb papers, please copy. " O.k. sir ").

AND our C.S.M. (C.S.M. Goodman) getting his rooty gong (eighteen years *undetected*: how did he do it?)

Next, of course, came the Trade Boards. To all who passed, we tender our congratulations ; and to those who missed it, may you next time!

YULETIDE.—Christmas and the New Year came and went ; and to all, we tender our belated greetings and wishes. Those who stayed on at the Ranch had quite a decent time in between ranging hours, and we trust that our C.O. has found a good stall for Ruff, the Mons Nest Monster. Opportunity is taken to tender our thanks to the messing staff for the excellent catering and a good time on Christmas Day. Meanwhile, our four-footed friends are being roughed up on the Four Ace Ranch, and this allows some of the hard bitten bow-legged ranch hands to proceed to other spheres, dressed by Clubs and Four Aces, that well known firm of outfitters. By the time these notes appear, they will have returned from their furlough with a hunger that can only be appeased by Bullett, who still hangs on as our cook. Then will all those posh outfits be put in cold storage to be ably looked after by Uncle Rogers until next year.

So we pass on, but not before we tender our hand in farewell to our late O.C. (Captain Barton), Lieut. Ellis, L/Sergts Isaacs and Bryant, Signalmen Dexter, Kimpton, Moss, McSweeney, McGuire, Horsefield, Cox J., Reed, Satchwell and Dewhurst, who have left us for a warmer clime. Good luck to them!

Next, that same hand is tendered in greeting to Captain Morrison, our new O.C., and several n.c.o.s and men, and we trust they may find the amenities of the Ruffs to their liking. Really, there must be something about these 'ere hosses, for one member of the Company came all the way down from Catterick (where he is " coursing ") to see the feed away on New Year's Day. That right, Jack?

For the next month, anticipation. Speculation will be rife as to "who will be what" in the "Bolshy B," the " Easy E," the "Flying F," and the "Galloping G." We trust that all will not end in consternation.

Congratulations.—Ladies first! (us hoss sojers being nothing if not chivalrous) so we salaam to Lieut. Gambier and Drivers Greening and Jackam on tying the knot. Bless 'em! Lieutenant Gambier will be well remembered as the late O.C. G Section, and for his wedding two old members of his Section did all in their power to get there. They even thought of walking until they realised that the chances of success were against them on a one-day pass.

Next, more congratulations—to the Corps-famous emblem, Jimmy Bullett, on getting U/L/Corporal tacked on to his name ; to U/L/Corpl Green E. E. on dropping the "U"; and to Drivers Troke and Brown on becoming linemen.

Lastly, a farewell salaam to L/Corpl Needle Pinn, Signalmen Pullthrough Whittingdon, Panshine Brady, Blondy Hill and Dickie Drew (the Mons Murderer) all of whom have left us for civvy street. May they never dole!

One other epitaph is needed, but not for a human being, although but one thing was needed to have made her one. If she could have talked, she would have bobbed down a few. Ex-members of the Company as well as serving personnel will join in a heartfelt "R.I.P." to Wompo, alias Maggie, the gamest little mare that ever wore a breast collar, who was cast for destruction (a good word from our C.S.M. saved her from being sold outside for work). " One of the best " is her well-deserved epitaph. Even though the horses may entail a lot of extra work in comparison with M.T., we are not devoid of feeling when it comes to losing one of them, especially Maggie.

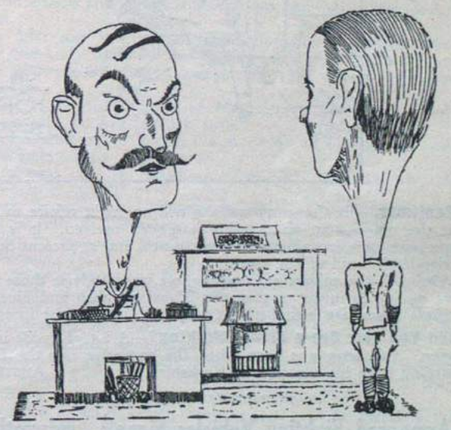
This constitutes all I can render for the first attempt, but I trust it may serve to jog old Ruffites' memories and let them know how we carry on. And so, till next month, olive oil.

Tail-Piece.—We're heading for the last round-up. Clip on, dear friend, clip on. DODGER E.E.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

If anyone cares to accept them, our apologies are tendered for the absence of WIRE notes of late. Like Chinese Morse, material for notes is almost nil, and yet the cry repeatedly goes up: "How about some WIRE notes?" " What a correspondent!" etc., until I am forced to do something or lose this job and its many blessings.



"AND WHAT DID THE SERGEANT MAJOR SAY THEN"?
"WELL SIR, CAN I LEAVE OUT THE SWEAR-WORDS"
"MOST CERTAINLY"
"WELL SIR, IN THAT CASE HE SAID NOTHING."

G.BATEMAN.

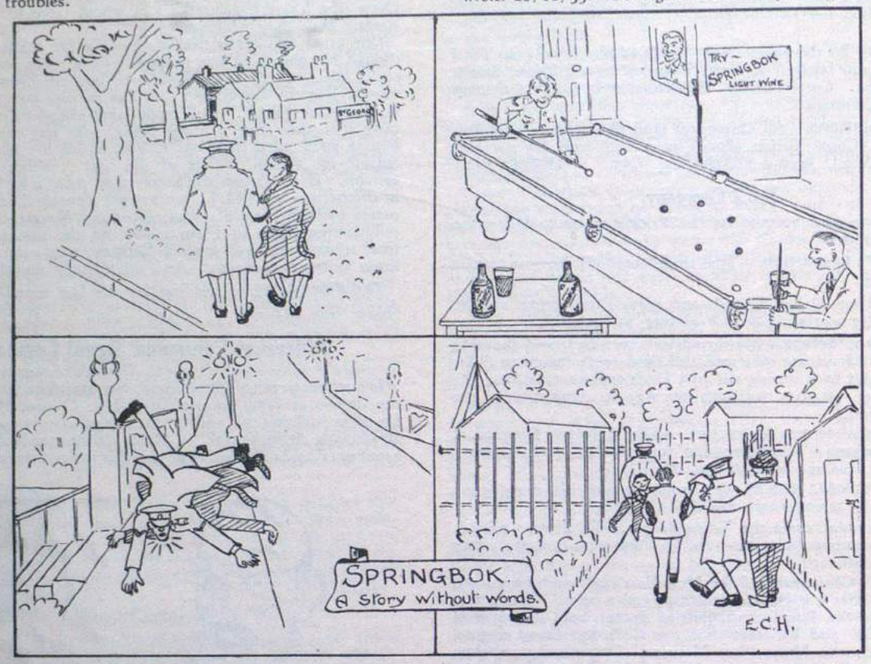
Honours.—Quite the biggest event of late was the appearance of another medal in the Company. It was presented amidst terrific applause on the part of his fellow slaves to Sigmn Abbott W. What he had done to be burdened with the " lone star " seems obscure, but the Duke of Otley says it was for " charging under heavy acid fumes on the Chitral column." Jealousy is now rife in the fitters shop, and the Duke is seriously contemplating signing on in the hope that one day he may win one of these gongs.

Departures.—Captain J. B. Hickman, M.C., has left us for a sunnier clime, i.e. Palestine. Needless to say, we were very

sorry to lose him and hope that nodes will not be so elusive in his new Company.

Arrivals.—Captain H. H. Anthony has taken over command of the Company, and we hope that he will enjoy his stay in the land of frequency deviations and Mansion polish.

C.Q.M.S. Yates also reported to take over the duties (?) of C.Q.M.S. Hartley, who is shortly deserting us to help Egyptsigs out of their troubles.



Pastimes.—Ex-Company wallahs will no doubt rejoice to hear that the old custom of bumping has been revived. It is now carried out each morning with great gusto, and at present Sigmn Verlander is head of the river.

Whilst on the subject of bumping, we would advise those who have money to invest to put it in Mansion polish and Bluebell, as these shares are bound to rise very high in the near future.

Did You Ever See a Dream Walking?—A bit of inside information: this song was born when the composer saw the Duke returning from his vacation in Yorkshire. AUSTIN.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—A happy New Year, everyone! So sorry to be late, but the sincerity is there just the same. Also, I must apologise for missing notes day last month; this furlough business is terribly disorganising, don't you think?

The unit has settled down nicely after the annual furlough period, now that the effects of gorging over the Christmas and New Year have completely worn off. Individual training, second period, and smartening up all round are the orders of the day.

The Christmas tree party is being held on Wednesday 17th January, and in my next month's notes I hope to let you know how everything went off—with or without fireworks.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following arrivals and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Signalmen Ingram, Scriven, Bailey, Hancox, Alltoft, Metcalfe and Addlesee from the Training Battalion. Signalmen Pearce, Douglas and Houghton from F Troop. Signalmen Clark, Baldock, Baxter and Kennard from overseas. Corpl Ives from 4th Divl Signals, Colchester. Sigmn Holberton back from Bulford. Driver Heale from E Troop.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Honeyborne H. on reaching paid status for the second time on 20/10/33. To Sigmn Clay on extending his service to eight and four. To L/Corpl Etwell F. on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity. To U/L/Corpl Paling on reaching such a dizzy height w.e.f. 28/11/33. To Signalmen Allen J., Angier B., Cooper J., Farley J., Petherick J. and Tickle G. on being awarded their second class certificates of education. To Sigmn Milner on being married to Miss Nellie Martin at Birmingham on 16/12/33. To Sigmn Petherick J. on being likewise caught by Miss Violet Pocock at Devizes on 9/12/33. To L/Corpl Adkins J. on also making the supreme sacrifice on account of Miss Jessie Elizabeth Bisset at Glasgow on 20/12/33. To L/Sergt Hamilton C. on being caught in the marital net by Miss Elizabeth Emily Cross at Reading on 6/1/34. To Sigmn Lovegrove C. on at last giving up the ghost to Miss Ettie Sophie Florence Morel at Tooting on 23/12/33. Dear! dear! Tut! tut! Well! well!

Departures.—Sigmn Parnell on attachment to 2nd Battalion R.T.C. Farnborough until September. Sigmn Haslam likewise to the 3rd Battn R.T.C. at Lydd, and Sigmn Yule to 4th Battalion R.T.C. Catterick Camp.

L/Corpl Ellis G. to civvy street on 23/11/33. Good luck, old boy, from all the lads, but we all hope you don't develop a swede's accent.

The following members of the unit have left us for a sunnier clime, and we wish them the best of luck and good health in their new environment. Sergt Hoy C., L/Corpl Shufflebotham T., Signalmen Cochrane J., Pittman W., Shipley W., Ledger D. and Moseley E. for India on 24/11/33. Sigmn Attrill E. C. to India on 19/12/33. Sigmn Harvey L. for Gibraltar on the same day. Signalmen Cole and Hirst for China Command Signals on 6/1/34.

L/Cpl Wilson N. and Sigmn Dale M. to Catterick on 2/12/33 for an upgrading course, and Sigmn Clay W. to Perham Down on attachment to the 5th Battn R.T.C.

The following have also left us for a spot of civilian life, and all ranks wish them the best of everything for the future.

C.Q.M.S. Watts R. S. discharged on 22/12/33, and Signalmen Jones J., Pearce C., Humphrey W. and Spalding T. on transfer to the Army Reserve. RUSTY.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Now that the furlough season has terminated, the Troop have settled down to the routine of barrack life and the second period of individual training. All are looking forward to the time when we shall be able to get on the road once more.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Sergt Archer W., who arrived from the 56th Divl Signals (T.A.) on 15/1/34.

Departures.—It is with genuine regret that we record the departure of Sigmn Douglas S. to A.F.V. Signals prior to his embarkation for India. During the two seasons that he has been with the Troop, he has proved a good all-round man, taking a keen interest in sport. The unit to which he has been posted will find they have gained quite a useful football and hockey player. Our best wishes go with him, and we hope that he will remember to drop us a line when he has settled down.

Sigmn Pearce C. has also left the Troop on transfer to the Army Reserve. We trust that he will soon find suitable employment in his new sphere.

Records have claimed yet another in the person of Signalman Houghton, who has been posted to A.F.V. Signals pending his departure to Egypt.

Sports.—Owing to absence on furlough, our activities in the sporting line have been somewhat curtailed during the past four or five weeks. We start the New Year on a fresh basis, as the administration of the sports fund has been re-organised. The Troop are now an independent unit in so far as sports are concerned. A good stock of winter sports kit has been purchased, and we hope to have sufficient funds in credit to purchase necessary cricket gear when the season arrives.

Barrack Damages.—These have shown a slight increase over the normal quotation: Edgar has returned from furlough. Three windows and one locker constitute an enviable record, but judging from the remarks of the unfortunates who are situated in the vicinity of the breakages, the said Edgar has proved a bird of flight. His own bed space is intact, which is more than we can forecast for Edgar should the depression continue.

Troop Cameos.—"?": known to the inhabitants of the Near and Far East as Hard-Boiled. Sired by Lombard. Perpetrator of the famous Snurgepurge system: "Don't be continually without the necessities of life. See Bunker and be permanently without." Occupation, second-in-command to that famous but mysterious Snurgepurge. Possesses a plausible manner and an extracting personality. Cloaked in a mantle of goodwill, he is to be observed snooping around at sundry times and in divers manners, distributing alms to the poor and needy at a personal loss to himself. Created first Baron of Faberston, and is at present engaged in the reconstruction of Bunker Court. Can play a remarkable tune on a cash register. Baronial crest: two pentodes on a sound financial basis, intertwined with the motto "There's one born every minute."

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Two tragic deaths strike the note of our contribution this month. In the evening of the 23rd December, having barely completed the Christmas decorations, Sergt Philpott collapsed in the sergeants mess and died before medical aid could be summoned. A post-mortem showed that death was due to heart disease. He was buried on the 27th December in Tidworth Military Cemetery, in the presence of all ranks of the unit then in the station. Full military ceremonial could not be observed owing to the lack of resources during the holiday period, but honour and respect were in no way diminished on that account.

Sergt Philpott had only recently joined us from the permanent staff of the 47th Divl Signals (T.A.) but he had been here sufficiently long to show his sterling qualities both as a man and as a soldier. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Philpott and her four-year-old daughter in their loss.

On Sunday 7th January, shortly after 10 p.m., Lieutenant J. H. Taylor was found lying unconscious beside his wrecked motor car on the Salisbury—Amesbury road. He was taken to Salisbury Infirmary, where without regaining consciousness he died early on the 10th January. His skull had been fractured. An inquest held in Salisbury returned a verdict of "accidental death," and in the absence of witnesses what actually happened will for ever remain a matter of conjecture. It was an exceptionally dark wet night, and the only thing proved was that no other person or vehicle was involved.

The funeral took place on the 13th January at Bexhill-on-Sea and was attended by representatives of the unit. Wreaths were sent by the Colonel-Commandant and officers of the Corps, the commanding officer and officers, the warrant officers, n.c.o.s and all ranks, the boxing and athletic teams of 3rd Divl Signals, the officers of the R.A.S.C. Bulford, and Lieut.-Colonel and Lady Mary Naylor.

Lieut. Taylor took an active part in the work and play of the unit. He always kept himself physically fit and was a member of the boxing and athletic teams. He will be much missed.

Born on the 1st November 1910, Taylor was educated at Lancing. Before he left school his father had made all arrangements for him to be trained for a legal career. The boy, however, could not face the prospect of an office life and expressed great keenness to join the Army. He went therefore to the R.M.A., whence he was commissioned in the Corps in 1930. He was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of Bexhill, and to them we can do no more than extend our heartfelt sympathy in their tragic loss.

1933 and the first month of 1934 have brought us more than an ordinary measure of sorrow. May the memory of those who have passed inspire us in the future for the good of the Corps they called their own!

By the time these notes appear, we shall once more be in full (winter) swing. The second period of individual training will have started and, fortified by Christmas leave and all it entails, we shall no doubt see vast efforts to gain all those higher trade rates, those riding, drill, musketry, gymnastic, cooking, gas, educational and similar qualifications required in the modern soldier.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to our commanding officer and Lady Mary Naylor on the birth of a daughter; and to the following who have taken the pledge—I beg your pardon! plunge:—

Lieut. P. B. G. Gambier to Miss Ursula Davies at Chard, Somerset, on 4th January 1934.
Corpl Woodbury to Rachel Gwen Lewis at Tiverton on 20th December 1933.
L/Corporal Coles to Kathleen Alice Cox at Exeter on 18th December 1933.
Sigmn Paine to Ethel Florence Madeline Dalimore at Romney Marsh on 4th November 1933.
Signalman Spearman to Phyllis Boyd Batey at Bulford on 2nd December 1933.

We welcome Lieut. and Mrs. L. C. C. Harrison and hope that the pleasure of their stay with us will be mutual.

Captain R. H. Wall is packing up for another tour in the shiny. Reports that he was deficient of an earth pin and a terminal are, we understand, groundless.

We are very glad to hear that the Council of the Carnegie Heroes Trust Fund have made a posthumous award of their certificate of gallantry to the late Lieut. Agar.

Our sports news is brief. Such as it is will be found in the appropriate place. The cross-country runners are now being taken seriously in hand.

C.S.M. Seymour A. J. (3rd Divl Signals) was very bucked to find so many old comrades and his late Section officer of the 1st Motor Airline Section present at the annual dinner of the Air Defence Formation Signals, but was surprised to note the absence of Mr. Fuller. He suggests that energetic ex-L.A.T.R.E.s get together and arrange an annual re-union dinner. He also wonders whether Arthur King still dispenses the liquid sustenance, and would like to know whether George Powell and Fred Creighton are still serving with the above unit. BULFORD.

Arrivals.—The following have arrived in this unit, and the usual welcome is extended to them. L/Corpl Darby, Signalmen Mansen, Lavis and Gent from overseas. Corporal Rice from 1st Divl Signals. Signalmen Nicholson, Watts, Eggot, McDonald, Fenton, Barber, Arnold and Moxon from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—We are sorry to lose the numerous departed members and wish them all the best in their new units. C.Q.M.S. Yates to Aldershot Command Signal Company. Sergt Tinsley

to 48th Divl Signals (T.A.). Corpl Strickland to 1st Divisional Signals.

The following departed for India on 19th December 1933:—L/Corpls McCann and Dennison and Signalmen Cockram, Fry, Costin, Hurst, Simbler, Soutar, Shepherd, Fairclough J., Ross and Doris.

They were followed on the 6th January 1934 by Corpl Woodbury, to Ceylon; L/Corpl Morton and Sigmn Currie, to Malaya; Signalmen Shuttleworth and Middleton, to China.

Sigmn Hoddinett to "collar and tie" land on transfer to the Army Reserve. L/Corpl Myddleton kissed the A.B.5's a fond farewell and went on discharge. Signalmen Staton, McCreeth and Huntingford decided that five years and six months was a long time in the Army, so they departed to Chisledon to prepare themselves for the civil war.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Humphreys J. on reaching that rank. The usual witty remark about the Field-Marshal's baton to U/L/Corpl Kings.

Births.—To the wife of Signalman Burfield a daughter, Jean Sylvia, at the Married Families Hospital at Tidworth on 13th December 1933. To the wife of L/Sergt Butcher a daughter, Beryl Priscilla, at the Married Families Hospital at Tidworth on 21st December 1933. Did they get any more Christmas presents?

Vagrant Verse. By "Tinker."

I REMEMBER.

(with apologies to T. Hood)

I remember, I remember
The place where I enlisted:
The little office where the sun
Showed places still undusted.
The smiling sergeant winked at me;
He didn't long delay:
But now I often wish that he
Had turned me right away.

I remember, I remember
The roads all covered with white,
The snowflakes, and the slushy camp
In which we fell that night;
The canteen where the old sweats drank,
And where my bed-mate ate
The scone that finished his career—
The place is standing yet.

I remember, I remember
Where I was wont to swing
And thought the corporal far away—
That was a silly thing.
My spirit flew like feathers then,
But it's so heavy now,
And Lake Hepburn could hardly cool
The fever of my brow.

I remember, I remember
Those pay days, few but good:
I used to think they'd never come,
And yet they always would.
It was just a rooky's ignorance,
But now let's close this ditty;
I know I'm farther off from heaven
Than when I was a civvy.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—By the time these notes appear, Christmas and the furlough season will be memories—pleasant or otherwise.

Most of the Company have returned from leave and individual training is in full swing, and all one can see is big heads and small note books. However, a good many are hoping to pass for class ii. in trades by the end of March.

In addition to the above training, we are spending our afternoons in squad drill and physical training. With regard to the latter, it is astonishing to note the number of people who try to make out their birth as prior to 1904.

A very pleasant Christmas was spent by the junior n.c.o.s and men who had to remain behind with the unit. A splendid dinner was served up in the men's mess. A visit was paid by the commanding officer and other officers of the unit while dinner was in progress.

On the 4th January the officers entertained the children of the unit to a Christmas party. It was a real good show and the kiddies fairly enjoyed themselves, especially when Father Christmas appeared with the presents.

Congratulations.—To C.S.M. Pearce and Corporal Varley on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. To Corpl Davenport on his promotion to that rank. To L/Corporal Price on being awarded the first class certificate of education.

Arrivals.—From India, L/Sergt Newton, Corpl Beazley, Signalmen Delaney, Peach, Baird and Crocker. May their stay with us be a pleasant one!

Departures.—L/Corporals Staley and Kitley and Signalmen Mathews and Hancock to civilian life. Sergeant Watmore and L/Corpl Pearson to Malaya. L/Corpl Funnell to Hong Kong. The best of luck to you all!

Sport.—The Company hockey team were drawn against the 47th Battery R.A. in the first round of the Garrison inter-Company knock-out competition and ran out winners by 4—3 goals. We have to meet C Company 1st Battn Lancashire Fusiliers in the next round, but more of this match anon.

Inter-Section matches in both hockey and football have commenced, and the Sections of the Company are giving the others a little bit to think about; but wait until the competition proper commences!

L/Corpl Price and Signalmen Larkin, Woodward and Beckett were chosen to represent the Corps at rugby this year.

Marriages.—The following joined the noble army of benedicts in December: Corpl Birkett, L/Corpls Funnell and Camp, Signalmen Lloyd and Gartland.

Greetings.—A happy and prosperous New Year to all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We now have all our personnel back to the fold after annual furlough, and are settled down to serious training and higher ratings. Individual training is the topic of the day, and we spend some of our time in muscle building and Company drill.

Arrivals.—Sergt Scrivens from No. 1 Company, Sigmn Chapman from India, Signalmen Mullholland, Scobie and Peck from Catterick. Handshakes to all, and we hope their stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Departures.—Captain W. G. L. Kennard to Catterick on a refresher course. L/Corpl Nother to Catterick on a regimental instructors course.

Sergt Boon to No. 1 Company and Sergt Lewis to No. 3.

Sigmn Blunt to Malaya Signal Section. Our best wishes go with him, and we sincerely hope he won't contract rice fever.

Signalmen Fenn and Richards and Driver Souter to the Army Reserve. We wish them every success on their return to civil life. What about a penny in the meter, Burglar?

Sport.—We managed to force a draw with No. 3 Company in a friendly hockey game. F Section lost to B Cable in the inter-Section hockey game by 1—2 goals (we are still wondering why one of the players appealed for a penalty kick).

Congratulations to G Section on winning the inter-Section cross-country run. A little more tock and you will be catching the judge's eye?

Heard in the Stables.—Sergeant: "Why are you feeding your horse on acorns?" Stableman: "Training him for the Oaks, sergeant." MUSH.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Owing to our notes for last month being sent in too late for publication, we will endeavour to cover two months in this contribution.

During December several members of this Company were enjoying their annual furlough, and we were left with very few men to carry on the good work of the Company. However, half a dozen were able to take advantage of the Christmas leave, and those left behind enjoyed themselves although they had several duties to perform.

Individual training commenced on the 1st January, and it is hoped that everybody of Three Company on courses will be successful in obtaining higher ratings when the time comes.

Besides individual training, the whole Company indulges in physical training for an hour every afternoon, except on Fridays, when it is replaced by drill parades.

Arrivals.—Since our last notes appeared, the following have joined this Company, and we give them a hearty welcome. C.S.M. Nash E. from 44th Divl Signals, Brighton. L/Sergeant Newton, Corpl Beazley, L/Corpl Fox, Signalmen Carr and Smeed from India. Signalmen Ebbage, Kerr, Prebble, Hodgson, Kells and Thorp arrived from India on the 13th January and have been provisionally posted to this Company. Other arrivals include Corpl Brookes from Egypt, and Signalmen Duggan and Harding from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—Several have left us recently for service overseas. Signalmen Crellin, Kelly, King, Hobden, Stevenson, Turvey and Young embarked for India on the 18th December. Corpl Neeve and Signalmen Cann and Lowe embarked for Hong Kong on the 6th January. Sergt Catchpole, L/Sergt Newton and Corporals Cooke and Beazley have been posted to No. 1 Company.

Marriage.—Congratulations to Sigmn Raymond C. on his marriage to Katie Hermina Lewis at Clifton, Bristol, on the 4th November 1933. THREE COMPANY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—After a visit to the depot of the East Yorks Regiment at Beverley, it has been decided to brighten the barrack rooms of the unit. A party of men from Nos. 1 and 3 Companies has been put at the disposal of the R.S.M., who is in charge of the colour scheme, and before going on collective training we are looking forward to living in barrack rooms which will not be recognisable by ex-members of the unit.

Christmas Festivities.—The dinner on Christmas Day was served in the unit gymnasium, and a good dinner it was. Lieut.-Colonel Wemyss attended and gave the customary greetings to the n.c.o.s and men dining, and the usual toasts were accorded. The waiters were drawn from the members of the Sergeants Mess, and it would appear that one or two of them are quite adept at the trade. The thanks of the n.c.o.s and men who enjoyed the dinner were accorded to the cooks (L/Corpl Watts i/c).

Unit Christmas Tree.—The families of the married n.c.o.s and men were entertained to tea on the 10th January. Prior to tea, games were indulged in and the party were entertained by the unit dance band and a Punch and Judy show. After tea, dancing took place and Lieut. Ponsonby entertained with his feats of magic, which all enjoyed. The thanks of all, I think, are due to the P.R.I. and the R.S.M. for this good show.

Departures.—Goodbye was said to Signalmen Brookes W. H., Matthews M. K., May E. C. and Venner F. A. The two former have left us for Malaya Signals and the latter for China Signals. We hope they will enjoy their sojourn in their new stations.

Goodbye was also said to C.S.M. Hales, who has been posted to the 2nd Divl Signals, and to Sergt Murphy, who has joined the 52nd Divl Signals as P.S.I. C.S.M. Hales took particular interest in the unit hockey team, and it may be said that his influence was the means of the players showing such keenness in their games as to enable them to reach a very high standard. Sergt Murphy will also be missed, for he was a member of the unit dance committee. The Sergeants Mess have lost by his move, for he was always willing to take an active part in the social life of the mess.

Salutations.—To L/Corpl Webb C. F. on having attained his first step on the roster.

Marriages.—Sigmn Moore W. J. to Agnes Richardson Burt at Edinburgh 8/12/33. L/Corpl Cooper A. D. to Doris Boylin at Scarborough 9/12/33. Sigmn Adams A. B. to Doris White at Scarborough 9/12/33. Sigmn Walton A. to Gladys Hawthorne at Burnley 9/12/33. Sigmn Dillen L. O. to Lily Gough at Scarborough 16/12/33. Signalman Haughton H. to Elizabeth Mary Brown at Sunderland 8/1/34.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—The birth of 1934 has put fresh ideas into our heads, and we hope it will prove as enjoyable as last year for this Company. Captains A. J. Hannah and F. T. Pope commenced the New Year by making a tour of our wireless stations, embracing a visit to Forts Dunree and Lenan, Omagh, Armagh, Ballykinler and Londonderry.

Lieut. Aldridge and a party of linemen under L/Corpls Lowday and Baker have gone to relay the cables on Ballykinler ranges.

Promotions.—Sorry, nil. Several honourable members are ambitious.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sigmn Swetnam from the Training Battalion and hope he will enjoy his stay in N.I.D.

Departures.—L/Corporal Simmonds left us for Catterick on 29/12/33 to be held on command for drafting to India on the 14th February. We were sorry to lose him, especially after his good work on the Christmas dinner committee.

Sigmn Griffiths left on the 9th January for transfer to the Army Reserve. He was with this Company some five years. We wish him the best in civilian life and hope he will get work with the C.P.O.

Vocational Training.—Sergt McKee, late Indian Telegraph Company, is attached to Belfast whilst attending a local vocational course.

Christmas, 1933.—The Company upheld the time-honoured tradition by holding a sumptuous feast and drinking gallons of good English beer. Captain Pope, Sergts Tosdevin and Packman presided at the dinner, and we drank the usual toasts. In the morning a comic football match took place on the square, and the Garrison had a shock on seeing the antics of the usually sober-minded Signals. Bearing in mind that one can be sued for libel, it were better that no names be mentioned. We hope other units had an equally enjoyable time.

Sport.—The furlough season has rather cut down our sporting activities, and we have played only two football and two hockey matches, having the luck to win in every case. Next month, it is hoped, we can talk of our prowess through the medium of the Sports Notes.

Marriages.—We congratulate Sergt Goodman and Signalmen Burnett and Hilliard on their recent marriages.

Miscellaneous.—Signalmen Roberts and Hilliard have received final warning for Egypt Signals. They leave next month for Catterick.

We notice that there is a Radio Club at Catterick. L/Corpl Swift and Sigmn Hayes of this unit are very interested in short wave, and would like to listen for Catterick if they can get the necessary details.

Scotch Mail.—T.P.S.: Letter received; am writing. Pdy.

Bingo: The only part where I am troubled with aches is my feet.

Conclusion.—That's the lot. HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, 9th January.

General.—There must be some special attraction about this corner of Ireland to induce men from England to spend their leave here. It certainly cannot be the weather—or the beer. Can someone enlighten me?

We have not had a wedding in the Section for some time, but Sigmn Mallett F. M. has decided that it is about time we did. Details will appear next month. Also, if Dame Rumour is correct, two others will shortly follow suit.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Foster J. from A Corps Signals, Aldershot, and Sigmn Wilmot L. V. from the Training Battalion, Catterick. We extend the glad hand of welcome, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—L/Corpls Sugg H. M. and Statham H. W. from the Bere Island Detachment—the first-named to China Command Signals and the latter to L Company, Jubbulpore. Sigmn Mallett F. M. has been warned for Sarafand and should sail from the merry shores of England on the 14th April. Sigmn Burrows A. E. to A Corps Signals, Aldershot. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new stations.

Sport.—The Section have had very little owing to the leave period of H.Q. 2nd Heavy Brigade R.A., to whom we are attached for sport; but in the few games of hockey and football we have played we have made ourselves felt.

Agony.—Ernie: What is the state of the tide? Tide: How is Athlone now? Squarehead: What was Christmas like on a trooper? PIP.

Scenes after the 1931 Earthquake in Baluchistan.



Mach Bazaar



Mach Central Jail

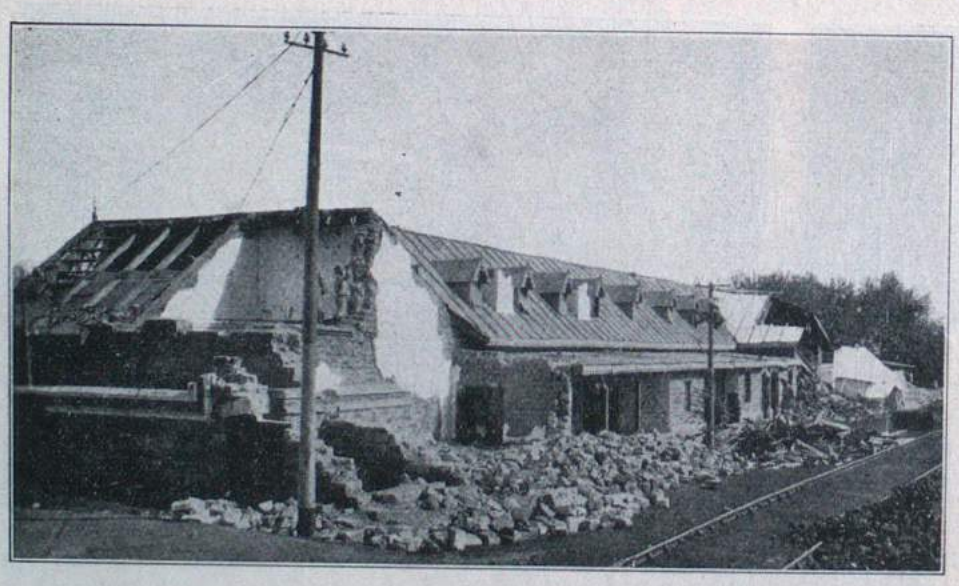


Quetta Bazaar



Village in Baluchistan after the Earthquake

Scenes after the 1931 Earthquake in Baluchistan.



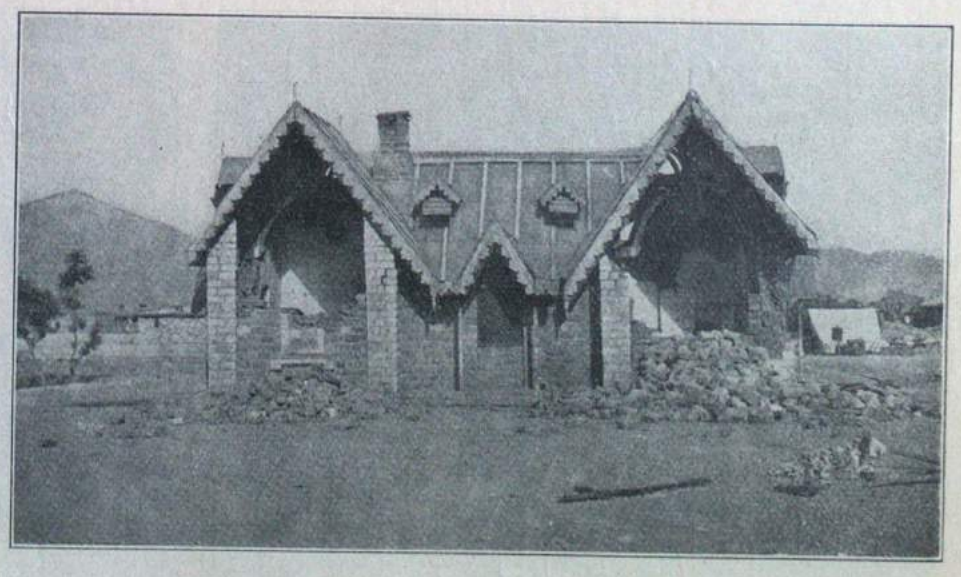
Mach Railway Station



Mach Bazaar



Quetta Bazaar

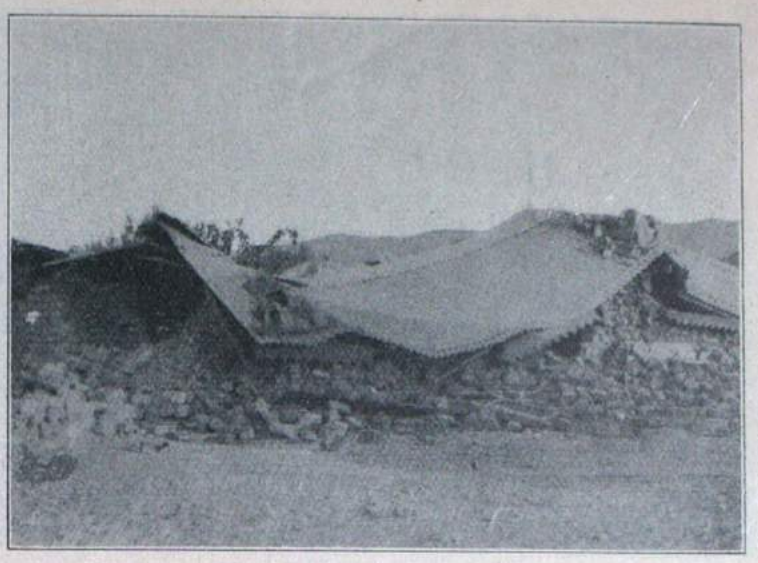


Railway Rest House, Mach

Scenes after the 1931 Earthquake in Baluchistan.



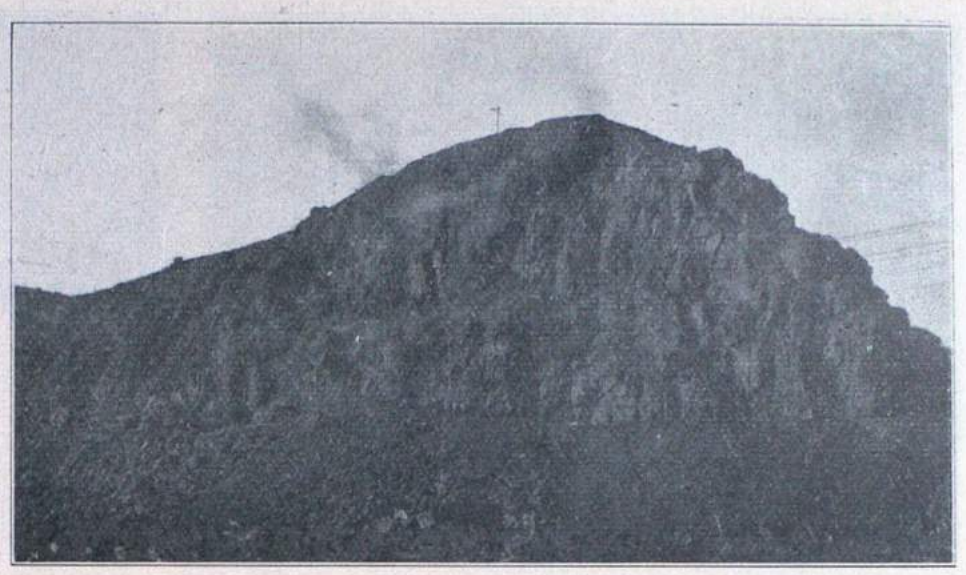
Inside the Central Jail, Baluchistan



Railway Bungalow, Mach



Quetta Bazaar

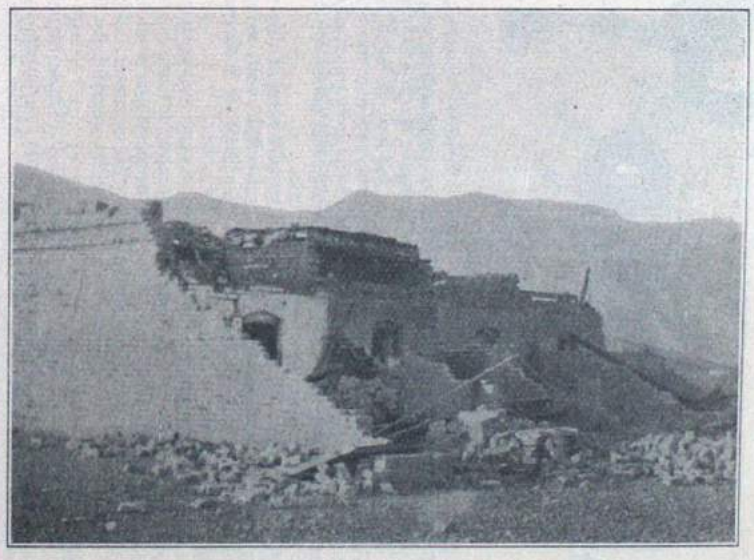


Damaged Hill of Bolan Pass being blown up to protect the Railway Lines

Scenes after the 1931 Earthquake in Baluchistan.



Mach Town



Native Houses at Mach



Mach Village



Railway Bungalow, Mach



NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

12th December 1933.

Once again the unit is back in Rawalpindi after three weeks at Riwat. I think this camp was the first done by this unit in this locality. Reports received from those who were fortunate enough to attend are very favourable. The camp turned out a great success both from the training and recreational points of view.

The general opinion is that the unit should have more camps —not that we need the training part, because we get plenty of actual field experience, but that it ensures the whole of the unit coming together for work as well as socially. With so many different Sections, the unit is very often split up in attending the various little wars that occur in this part of the world.

However, despite the hours of hard work that were spent on various schemes and their preparation, the periods of recreation were much appreciated. It is reported that the canteen tent was a place of great interest to all ranks. The voice of Crowther could be heard nightly calling forth " Number fourer," " Kelly's 'igh," " Top o' the shop," etc. It is reported that the gatherings included very select company at times.

To bring this section to a close, we are all wondering how long we will have to wait for the next camp. Let us hope it is not too long.

I have received some notes from the Sergeants Mess, but I think they must have been written on the night when they invited the families out to the camp for tea. Anyway, I can't read 'em!

Present Activities.—The unit parade ground is at present a source of great interest to all n.c.o.s and those about to become n.c.o.s. The seniors are undergoing a drill course under the R.S.M. They are enjoying themselves immensely ; at least, they tell us so. The interest in this particular squad centres on one individual who is not seen very much in barracks, and then only if you happen to look into the orderly room. However, he tells us he has done it before.

It is understood that a new drill manual is about to be introduced, based on the instruction that some of our bright lads have been giving. Future recruits will need to be double-jointed in all limbs, and the possession of two right arms will be a great asset. However, Rome was not built in a day, so we still have hopes.

The Signal Officer-in-Chief in India paid the unit a visit last week. This was his farewell visit, and we are pleased to think that he left B Corps Signals in a happy and contented frame of mind (the unit, as well as himself).

The M.A.B. Section under Lieut. P. G. Docker are still away at Ambala on training with the 5th Medium Brigade R.A.

Lieut. A. M. W. Whistler left us a few days ago, with Wireless and Construction Sections and despatch riders, to take part in the 2nd Cavalry Brigade exercises at Kasur. L/Sergt Watt of Everest fame, having been in barracks quite three weeks, was of the opinion that life was too slow, so he also has gone to the cavalry war.

Arrivals.—The following have joined the unit recently and are now more or less settled down: R.O.M.S. Mitchell from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, and Sergt Baker from Waziristan District Signals. The weight of the unit has greatly increased with the arrival of these two. We hope that the summer in Topa next year will not be a thin time for them.

Departures.—Sergt Payne G. to Waziristan District Signals.

Saturday 6th January.

Christmas and New Year.—Whether these notes will arrive in time to be published with other Christmas records is in the lap of the gods.

Another Christmas has been and gone, and one more Proclamation parade held. Rawalpindi reminds us very much of Christmas at home. The weather is very cold, and snow can be seen on the Murree Hills in the near distance.

All the correct " birds of feathers " usually seen at this time of the year have made their appearance and faded away, as many of their like have done before—the B.O.R.s Mess of B Corps being responsible for the demise of no small number.

The festive programme in the unit was very well arranged and carried out. The events were too numerous for me to tabulate them all—I am thinking of space as much as personal labour! However, a few words on the Sergeants Mess dinner. This was a most entertaining evening and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The catering was carried out by Colonellos. Those readers who have been in Rawalpindi will realise that a dinner in India compares favourably with one at home. Those readers who intend coming to India in the near or distant future have still that much to learn. The dining room of the mess was tastefully decorated, and music from our recently obtained radiogram helped digestion quite a lot. A gala dance followed the dinner and was well attended by all officers, w.o.s and sergeants and their ladies. I believe the show finished about 3 a.m., but am not quite clear on that point, thanks to Shoey Vanstone's cocktail. A touch of fever the next day appeared to account for the non-appearance of several members.

The Corporals Mess dinner and dance has been referred to as one of the best events in Rawalpindi during 1933. From that, you can gather your own impressions.

The all ranks dance on the 30th December was an excellent event for the winding up of the festive season.

The 1st January saw the unit on parade, complete with M.T. cable laying detachments. Being one of the onlookers, I am able to vouch for the following remark from a nearby civilian: " See, man! the Signals can march just as good as the soldiers." Anyway, it was a good show, and all ranks are to be congratulated on the splendid turn-out and smartness on parade.

The following were presented with the long service and good conduct medal:—C.S.M. Gradden, M.M., C.Q.M.S.s Pony Moore and Jock Fleming, and Sergts Paddy Conway and Tiffy Thornton. How they managed to dodge the pictures in red on their 120's is beyond me. Congratulations to all of 'em! It was remarked that five of the ten recipients of this medal in Rawalpindi District, this time, were from Signals.

General.—The unit is now busy on technical training ; that is, when various Sections are not required for manœuvres all over the globe. The drill courses have terminated amid great applause, especially from those who participated therein. By the time these notes are published, we will be thinking of preparations for migrating to Upper Topa for the summer season.

Arrivals.—Our first batch of reinforcements has arrived from U.K. and the men are settling down nicely in their new home. They will, no doubt, soon adapt themselves to the ways and means of India. Hurry up, all you others who are coming to Bekore. We are waiting to welcome you.

A few changes in officers have occurred. Captain R. Maguire to S.T.C. (India). Good luck, sir! may you soon settle down and have as good a time as I did in " Worry-no-more." Lieut. R. G. Yolland to Waziristan District Signals. We welcome Lieut. and Mrs. Shawcross from Peshawar, and Major Smitherman (Indian Signal Corps, Special List) from 1st Divsigs. We must not say

much about the unit to Major Smitherman, as he was one of the originators of it.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

December 1933.

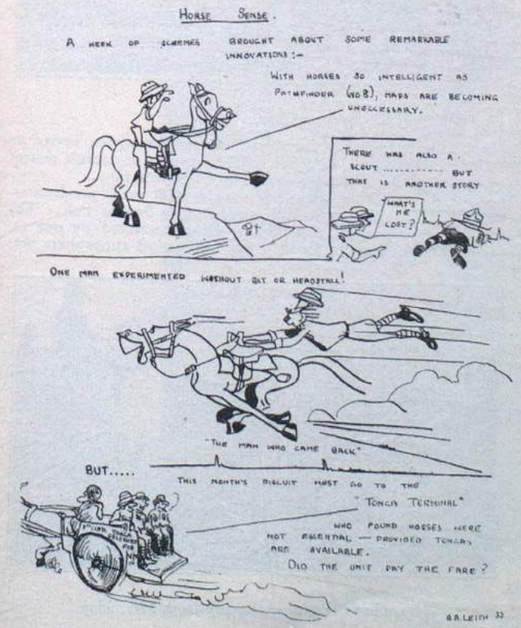
Arrivals.—A very hearty welcome is extended to Lieut. G. S. Knox, who has joined us from Jubbulpore and will be taking over from Lieut. F. R. B. Moore, who proceeds home to Catterick in January.

We also extend the glad hand of welcome to Signalmen Pittman and Goodall, who joined us on the 19th inst. from the U.K. We trust they will soon settle down, and that by the time these notes appear in print they will have been fully initiated into our select Circular Motion Club.

Sergt Minns' days are numbered, for his wife joins him from the U.K. in January.

Departures.—We have only one departure to record this month, namely Sigmn Nippy Vine, who left us on the 18th on transfer to the home establishment. His presence in the Troop will be missed, especially by our dance band. Our best wishes go with him.

The bold bad lad will be bidding us farewell in January, for Sigmn Boughton departs for the home establishment. It won't be so easy to get back to the Troop this time, Joe. One thing, the Military Engineering Services will breathe a sigh of relief,



for maybe now they will be able to unearth some of their own circuits.

Training.—Collective training and schemes are now the order of the day. Two W/T Sections, under Sergts Minns and Hopkins, accompanied B and C Squadrons 15th Hussars to Jaganath and Jalbai for Squadron training. Apart from maintaining communication between the camps and Risalpur, they also co-operated with the Air Force during Squadron schemes.

Extensions.—Corpl Way has decided to give us his company for another year, and will not now visit the U.K. until the 1934-1935 trooper. All his English engagements have therefore been cancelled, but his Indian ones have increased and are too numerous to mention (what's that, Peshawar?)

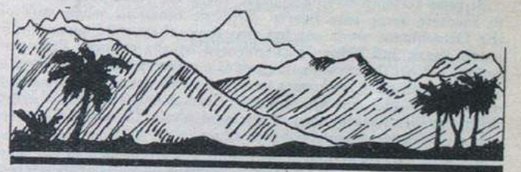
Equitation.—For some months past we have been under strength in animals, but this month we have received eleven new mounts from the Remount Depot at Saharanpur, and speculation is now rife as to who will be chosen to train them.

Queries.—Many Troopites are wondering why a certain member has only recently been asked to play in a trial for the unit football team, and also in what year he first played for this Troop.

The scheme was over and the Troop had returned to barracks, but who were the two men seen slipping into barracks on a tonga (as per attached sketch), and the horseholder of the same terminal who returned minus headstall, bit and reins? Newcastle and Manchester, please note, for two of them will be home next year.

Then, again, there were the pathfinder and scout who were captured by the enemy.

Agony.—Sigmn Dillon, Scarborough: Keep me a bed-space. I'll be home in March. Don. G.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

30th December 1933.

Well! another Christmas has gone by with its usual festivities, inebriations and subsequent resorts to good old aspro, and now we have just its memories and hopes and resolutions for the New Year.

Christmas in Peshawar, according to reports, was a most enjoyable affair, but as I was not in the station for it, someone else is deputising for me—vide next month's Journal.

Peter and his angels in "L" at Landi Kotal kept up the Section's name by having a thoroughly good time as in past years. The Boxing Night sketch " Bring them back alive," introducing the dhobi's donkey, should go down to posterity. The other revue, " Bring them back dead," I dare not mention!

The F and K Sections scribe will doubtless tell us about Christmas at Nowshera in his next notes.

Arrivals.—Lieut. E. P. Blake and five B.O.R.s from the land of no Proclamation parades. Just a warning. One of your predecessors this season attended a drill parade in shorts and spurs. It is winter, too, but keep your topi on! Still, there's the " welcome " on the mat to you all, and do not forget to buy a Unit History.

Departures.—Sergt Bennett J. to Waziristan District Signals prior to appointment as C.Q.M.S. Cheerio, Jim! remember us now and then.

Sergt Dunn P. and Corpl Gildea to the U.K. for discharge. The best of luck to you both. Send us a line, Peter, when you have reached stardom at the Gaiety.

Dear Old Pals.

When dear old Peter wends his weary way
Back to the land where he thinks he's going to play,
He'll walk the streets and sing the whole day long,
And you can bet that this will be his song:

What I couldn't be, my dear pals,
I want you to be, dear old pals.
I'm putting my faith and my trust in you
Not to make the mistakes that I used to do.
As I sing all my songs, little pals,
I'll be thinking of you without gals.
If in civvies we meet,
Heaven knows where or when,
Stand me a drink now and then, my old pals.

Before old Peter packs his songs away,
He'll reckon up his takings for the day ;
Then to his bench in the park he will go,
And as he goes, he'll murmur soft and low :
Chorus.

JOHNNY.

Finis.—As these notes are going by air mail, there is a lot of news left pending, so look out for a bumper issue next month. Cheerio! and remember your resolutions.

MIIM.

Nowshera Detachment.

Chitral Lines, 18th December 1933.

Arrivals.—Only one of note: one Stony by name and stony by nature.

General.—Peace and quietness reign once more. Belinda, who has been suffering from some horrible disease for some time, has completely broken down, and many are the sighs of relief that have escaped. I don't think her owner has given her all the attention he might have done, owing to the fact that he is more interested in the Stock Exchange at the present moment. The items he is investing in, however, are not very firm, being of the Murree Brewery type, although it is rumoured that they have risen considerably since the arrival of the notable Stony.

Brigade training having started, there are some sore feet, not to mention some sore hearts. On one occasion, when part of the Detachment went out for two days, they were given some patent steak and kidney pies invented by the eminent Professor Stony. What those pies contained is a mystery, as after trying in vain to break off a few pieces to eat, the lads gave them the order of the boot—and next morning four dead jackals were found lying amid the wreckage of two of the said pies. Circumstantial evidence can be very convincing at times!

Sport.—The Detachment still continues to do well in the way of sport. The hockey team wins a good percentage of its games, and the time is not very far ahead when it will win one hundred per cent.

On Sunday 26th November a cricket team turned out and played the 3rd Light Battery R.A., winning by sheer good play. After being well in the rear on the first innings, they won by one wicket and thirty-five runs. The highest individual score was made by Sergeant Wyeth, who got 47 by some good hard hitting. On the bowling side the best feat was that of Sigmn Griffiths G., who took four wickets for five runs in the first innings and three for seven in the second.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is the senior n.c.o. who said that he had been in India so long that he had forgotten the way to make snowballs?

Who is the man who jumped off the cable wagon because he is going home next year?

If the darzi who was given the address "Station Road, England," as a security for twenty rupees, ever got his money?

REARGUARD.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Monday 1st January.

General.—First in importance is to welcome back to duty our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., after a long and serious illness. We are pleased to see you fit again, sir, and trust that you will long remain so.

Farewell.—It was with great regret that we said goodbye to Captain W. M. Clapp, M.B.E., who for the past three years has been adjutant of the unit, on his reversion to the home establishment. He was deservedly popular with all ranks, and we can do nothing else than in all sincerity quote that old saying that our loss is somebody else's gain. The best of luck, sir!



Spectators at the Inter-Company Football Match.

General, Again.—Even before Christmas arrived you had to hand it to A Corps for enthusiasm. The sight of the cook orderly pounding around with samples of mince pies and brandy sauce was quite common. Even the idea of growing our own holly, mistletoe and Christmas trees was toyed with. Great was the competition for the rôle of Father Christmas and many were the suggestions for entertainment. The timbre of the selected carol singers' voices was perfection.



The Ladies' Hockey Team.

Well, the festive season arrived. Some, I suppose, regret its passing ; others say "....." Anyway, it doesn't matter much what they did say ; it makes no difference now.

A varied programme extending over a week made good entertainment. The high spot was undoubtedly Bayliss Fair. The idea, of course—as the title implies—was conceived by our respected R.S.M., but the actual 'Appy 'Ampstead atmosphere was



Mrs. Helps receiving the cup from Mrs. May.



Bayliss Fair. Boxing Booth and Nautch Girls.

created by the junior n.c.o.s. Although none of the latter have ever laid claim to having served an apprenticeship with Mr. Bertram W. Mills (definitely no relation to Pat of that ilk) in their youth, they seem to have had a pretty good grounding for the job.

The dance band was very much in demand over the period. In addition to several unit functions, they entertained at most of Karachi's exclusive hotels and of course kept up their reputation —one which I suppose even Jubbulpore couldn't touch at the height of their fame.

Arrivals.—In the place of some very capable people we've recently given to Blighty, we met our first batch of "new girls" this month. A hearty welcome is extended to them, and it will be their own fault if they don't have an enjoyable stay here.

Sind Point-to-Point.—A description of this important local event was given in the December issue of THE WIRE. We are now able to publish a photograph of A Corps Signals record-breaking team.

Inspiration.—"It's an ill wind that blows. . . .," etc. A "grinding" of procedure should hardly be responsible in inspiring verse. It is said that the following was written in the lonely night watches of W/T Police duty.

(With profuse apologies to the immortal poem)

The boy sat in the burning Tech
More dead than alive,
For someone had been binding him
With a lecture from Vol. V.

The roaring flames he heeded not,
Nor smoke, nor boiling tar ;
The only thing that worried him
Was the meaning of "A.R."

He didn't have to wait so long,
As far as we can hear ;
Surely, someone had the pluck
To send a loud "G—Beer."

At last the boy lay in the Tech,
A sorry sight to see ;
And then they whipped him in the "digger"
For "nattering" on the key.

And now, my brothers of the key,
Since my story you have heard,
Consider what your fate will be
If you give Vol. V. the "bird."

Musketry.—Another addition to the Sergeants Mess silver is the Scissors musketry cup, secured by No. 2 (Wireless) Company: a handsome pot won by fine shooting during the annual musketry —an average of over 52 was obtained.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Signalmen Jordan E. and Roberts A. on being appointed U/L/Corporals. The purchase of a new Corps Promotion Roster is optional.

S.W.B.

Corporals Mess.

General.—One welcome this month: to Corpl West C. He's been in the country before, so we can tell him nothing.

The ranking list of gigolos is unchanged. Evergreen Hutch, despite the loss of his false teeth, retains pride of place. His next set of teeth is going to bear his regimental number.



A Corps Signals Sind Point-to-Point Team.

Left to right—Lieut. E. J. C. Harrison, Captain W. M. Clapp, M.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., Lieuts. F. R. Booth and D. E. Harrison

Christmas gave us an opportunity for a display of talent. In spite of the temporary absence of the "mouf" organ master, a very enjoyable smoker was held. Our carol singers possessed a varied repertoire and imparted the true Christmas spirit. In their tour of the unit nine gharries were requisitioned, and the whole cost one anna. Is this a record? The anna was presented to someone who brought one of the gharries. Eight annas, two pice and drinks at every quarter were duly collected.

Our crowning achievement, however, was a pagal gymkhana. This, run as a fair, was so successful that the following tribute from the C.O. appeared in Orders: "The commanding officer wishes to congratulate the Corporals Mess as a whole and particularly those who took part in the pagal gymkhana on the 28th December 1933. It was an extremely good show, full of talent and ingenuity." Motto: "Leave it to the Corporals."

Tennis.—In spite of what I said last month, we are hot favourites for the Maurice Clapp tennis cup. We've beaten the sergeants and the men, and have very rosy chances of adding the officers to that list.

Golf.—In the event of any golfer coming to this unit, don't trouble to bring your clubs: our "pro" will provide them.

The Mess.—Owing to the interest displayed by our P.R.I., Major Humphries, the mess is now a home from home. Tastefully decorated, the married members' wives no longer question their spouses' visits to it—they come with them. GIG.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

December 1933.

General.—Christmas is upon us once more. To some of us, it will be our first in sunny climes; for others, another one less; and yet for others (fewer in number) their last. For twenty-eight old soldiers, it will be spent on the Indian Ocean. Happy Christmas to them!

Preparations are on foot for an excellent day's enjoyment within the unit on Christmas Day. Full details are not yet ready for publication. All poultry and such like have for the past month been in the capable hands of our head chef L/Corporal Fletcher (Angus) who has been fattening them up. We only hope that their quality is in goodly proportion to their quantity.

To all, both at home or abroad, we give the wish for a merry Christmas and a bright New Year.

Arrivals.—These, for a change, are really too numerous to mention individually. On the 18th December the first draft from the U.K. arrived, and it included the family of Sergt Hoyland, Sergt Gavey and family, and fifteen signalmen. We welcome them all and hope they will enjoy their stay with us, even though it is for so short a while.

Departures.—Almost synonymous with these arrivals will be the departure of the remainder of the personnel of this unit due for repatriation—twenty-eight in all. The gap caused by their departure will at first seem hard to fill. This home-going draft sails from Karachi on the 22nd December and includes U.H.Q.'s doctor. We wish them all the very best of luck and good stations.

Training.—This is in full swing and men are daily to be seen going to war, so we stay-at-homes are told. Since our last notes appeared, another Section have left us for their annual camp at Jhansi—G leaving at the beginning of December. When these notes appear in print, the whole unit will be in concentration at the same place.

Education.—To the following, we offer our congratulations on their success in the recent examination held for first class certificates. L/Sgt Crummey, Corpl Lowes and Sigmn Bratchett ("D" in maths), Signalmen Dutton, Lintin and Rudd on obtaining their first class certificate. Corpl Brown S. A. on passing in English, map reading and geography. Sigmn Hodgson W., English and maths. Sigmn Justice, English, maths and map reading. Sigmn Birkbeck, "D" in maths. Sigmn Harrison, English, maths and map reading. Sigmn Barlow, maths, geography and map reading. Corpl Lynham, English, maths and map reading. Sigmn Clavering G., English and map reading. Sigmn Peart, maths and map reading.

No. 1 Company.

At the time of writing No. 1 Company is all over India. We have parties at Ranikhet, Delhi, Jhansi, Bareilly, etc., etc. (see map of cantonments, India). Bulletins have been received from time to time that all our exiles are doing well.

Having despatched (by road) a party to Jhansi, we are preparing to follow as a Company in a few days. There are quite a number among our party who will be doing their first manœuvres out here, and we hope to put up a good show for our annual picnic.

The festive season—still a vague memory in the minds of some people—passed with a lot of merry-making, Christmas dinner and other stuff. The Christmas dinner was an unqualified success, and our mess room the best decorated in India, both before and after.

We have welcomed to the Company from units at home Sergt Udell (from Bulford) and Signalmen Anderson, Ager, Britcliffe, Brickles, Baker R., Everson, Forrest, Tweedley, Young and Mc Mullen. They were sorely needed and we welcomed them warmly. We are waiting for the summer to welcome them more warmly.

First step to Field-Marshal: U/L/Corpl Rudd.

We congratulate all those men who recently passed their firsts and specials. We are always doing that in this Company.

Some of our well known band have left us for home. We said goodbye to Signalmen Burchett, Kells (trumpet), Page, McManus (sax), Sheldon (pianist), White (trumpet) and Wellard. Obviously a disbandment, especially as we have lost Sigmn Brachet (banjo) to Allahabad on a carpenter's course. He left estate to the value of three lamps, one adaptor and 45 yards of flex, to say nothing of twelve pullovers.

Corpl Catt to Catterick on a Foreman-of-Signals course. We hope he will uphold our traditions.

The new draft have supplied us with some keen sportsmen. Our inter-Section games programme is proof of this. To date we have played about fifteen games in three nights (work that out). Preparations are being made for our unit sports, but that will be another chapter.

It has been decided to say a few words to the Company prior to moving off to Jhansi. Excuse me!

Out from the trade that covered thee,
O'er which brave past dim memory floats.
Oh, thank whatever gods there be
For Volume V. procedure notes.

Throughout those days of lecturing
Ye have not winced nor closed your eyes.
Through all its wild conjecturing
Ye murmured not, nor showed surprise.

Behind the horror of the trade
Loomed the gruesome thought of schemes;
Yet having faced them, firm and brave,
Ye still do live—or so it seems.

It matters not how great the cost
Of what great things have gone before,
Of ratings won, of ratings lost,
But the manoeuvres—'34.

After delivering which harangue, it befits me to close. PETE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Some Sections have already gone to Jhansi for collective training with their Brigades, and they have been dividing their time between playing a great deal of hockey and football, showing off their No. 1 W/T sets with much pride and success to incredulous senior officers, and pitching their tents again after a particularly vicious rainstorm had struck them.

L Section succeeded in adapting the No. 1 set for use when loaded on a pack mule, listening on the move and halting just long enough to press the key and send "R." It is rumoured that they asked Mr. Heath Robinson for his suggestions on this subject.

The rest of us are either working, waiting eagerly for a trooper, or looking forward to Christmas or camp in January.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Major A. Beatson-Bell, who now commands the Company, and hope that his stay may be long and pleasant.

Agony.—Sigmn Lewis of L Section would be pleased to hear from Sigmn Crouch, late of Belfast and believed to be somewhere in India.

L/Corpl Mattock, somewhere north: 6490 would still be pleased to hear from you.

Sigmn Erridge: Sigmn Cripps of the Naughty 90 (oh, boy!) would like to receive a letter at any time.

Leyland, India: Not through by line yet. 440 (or the nice boy).

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia, 11/1/34.

Extensions of Service.—Signalmen Graham and North to complete eight years. C.Q.M.S. Deyermond to continue in the Service until 27/11/37 to complete twenty-one years from attaining the age of eighteen.

Education.—L/Sergt Murphy passed in English "C" towards special. L/Corpls O'Neil and Scott and Signalmen Smith C. and Joyce W. awarded first class certificate (Sigmn Joyce "D" in maths). The following passed in subjects as shown. Signalmen Thompson, English, map reading and maths ("D"). Sigmn King, English, maths and geography. Corpl Mayer, maths and geography. L/Corpl Lavender, English and geography. L/Corpl Trout, maths and map reading. Sigmn Costigane, maths and map reading. Sigmn DeLacey, maths. Signalmen Tacey and Smith D. H. map reading. Driver Allen, English.

Foreman-of-Signals Course.—Corporals Brice and Forrest to England on a Foreman-of-Signals course.

No. 1 Company.
Headquarters Section.

The C.S.O., officers and sergeants were hosts to the families of Egypt Signals at the annual Christmas tea and tree on Friday 22nd December. Everything was a huge success, and the treat was voted by all as the most enjoyable yet spent. A word of praise and thanks to L/Corpl Hughes and Sigmn Towers for the masterpiece erected for the benefit of Father Christmas.

After each child had received a present from the tree, Father Christmas (Honest John) discovered presents for all the officers' ladies, the officers and dining members of the Sergeants Mess. Then, to everyone's surprise, handbags, trays with stands, jugs, flower pots, etc., were fished for by the wives and all had a good catch. A toboggan run, guli-guli and games concluded a very happy party.

Christmas Day.—The junior n.c.o.s and men's dining hall was tastefully decorated by Wardley, Paxton, Wheatley and Co. The dinner was prepared by the cookhouse staff, who turned out a meal worthy of the occasion. The empty plates and contented faces spoke volumes. (Who said the cooks could not do it?) The greetings from Major Carey-Thomas were received with cheers. It's the little things that count.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of our new O.C., Major Thorne, and hope that his stay with us will be a pleasant one.

No. 2 Section.

A fortnight's sojourn with No. 3 Company at Helwan (sulphur baths treatment) at the beginning of October was a prelude to a continued weekly programme of Desert warfare. Our "C" sets have behaved themselves wonderfully well considering that two out of the three are installed in a forward controlled Morris and a 12-cwt. Morris respectively. Improvised roof aerials are quite fashionable, too, thereby saving quite a lot of time when halting and moving off again—thanks to the Foreman-of-Signals and his merry men in workshops. It may therefore be seen that, when moving off, the Section displays quite a mixture of vehicles to the onlooker.

The Signals concentration scheme gave the operators an unexpected downpour of traffic, which was handled extremely well. A feather for the operators.

Christmas festivities have since intervened, with a temporary loss of memory for those who did not "click." The click rather affected four individuals of no mean status such as O.O., R.O.S., conducting n.c.o. and a sentry. Is this a record?

The children's party was a huge success. Didn't we get a shock to see so many young Signals suddenly make their initial appearance! Marvellous! One youngster wanted to know if it were Father Christmas or Bernard Shaw on show!

Anyhow, New Year's greetings to all.

Signal Troop.

General.—At the time of writing, everyone is walking about with that after-Christmas feeling: work always comes hard after a holiday, especially such as Christmas. From all accounts, the Company Christmas dinner was everything that could be desired. The catering was left in the hands of our own cook-house staff, and a very good show they made of it.

We experienced a real English Christmas as far as the weather was concerned; it has been exceptionally cold. With fires going and surrounded by Christmas cheer, it was not very difficult to imagine oneself back at home.

The usual Christmas tree and tea for the kiddies, given by the Officers and Sergeants Messes, went off very well indeed. The guli-guli man, with his box of tricks, attracted the usual crowd. Some of the tricks performed by these men are really astounding, considering they are done quite close to the audience. Perhaps it's a case of the more you look, the less you see. Anyhow, they never fail to attract me for one. Father Christmas appeared on the scene via the chimney and dispensed presents to all and sundry, not forgetting some of the members of both messes.

A carnival dance was held in the Slade Club on Friday 22nd December—and a very good show, too. The Christmas spirit was much in evidence, and everything went off with a swing. I hear that McEwan had to charter special planes to deal with the extra requirements.

Camp.—The Troop spent a week under canvas at Beni Yusef during the Machine Gun Concentration Camp. We found part of the danger area patrol: our job was to collect reports from Austin car and D.R. patrols and pass them by W/T to a car at the firing point. The job was not very interesting, as once the "all clear" message was sent through, there was very little to do. It was a pleasant change to be at camp, and everyone was quite fit and happy.

Regimental Marches.—We were expecting to have one of our W/T cars with the K.D.G. on their march to Geneifa. The march was to be somewhat in the nature of an experiment: feeding a regiment by air—but owing to an outbreak of 'flu amongst the cavalry horses, the march has been postponed.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the unit our new Company commander, Major Thorne. May your stay be a long and pleasant one, sir.

No. 3 Section.

With the aid of No. 2 Section we managed to secure the inter-Section cross-country challenge cup put up so kindly by Captain C. A. H. Chadwick, late of No. 3 Company. This feat was accomplished under rather trying conditions. Signalmen Slim Brierley, the Oldham straddle-broom walker, and Taffy Slacks Player, funny-ball player, were two of the veteran runners. Oh, how they came in! Recruits Toft and Ward showed amazing qualities, obtaining fourth and tenth individual placings.

Most Sections are out to give us a really hard game of soccer. It really is an event for us to draw or occasionally lose. The opposing sides perform all manner of tricks after scoring a goal: kissing the goalie, etc. I don't know if this caper is just a Christmassy re-action, or not. In any case, I've given up goalkeeping. Hence I must discontinue; I daren't keep it up!

An informant gives me to understand that we are now "safe" for the Pritchard cup for all-round Section sports. However, when I'm drinking and/or filling it up, I will be more sure about the situation.

No. 3 Sub-Section.

Having successfully disposed of the festive period, together with a couple of doubtful turkeys, we are now looking forward to a spell of winter training away from the Company. So far, our schemes have kept us near to the camp, Virgin's Breasts, Black Hills, etc., being our limits.

Old Egyptonians will be interested to learn that quite a new range of howlers and faults is in vogue this season. The older ones of "press key no buzz" fame have died a natural death.

A fair number of grids have leaked so far, but I think the epidemic is now under control. It is surprising, what an amazing

increase of S/S (not steam ships) can be obtained by cleaning that little brass terminal. A rather charming effect is obtained when distinctly different pairs of hands are tuning that small silly condenser at the same time. I wonder, do other folk have these experiences?

It's been terribly cold over Christmas ; yes, really cold. The badminton enthusiasts, however, undaunted by this serious decline of temperature, have recently moved to their open-air course, or whatever those silly lines are called.

Agonies.—Taff Player is desirous of much letter, if you please, from Zel Tank Wilson.

Will a U/L/Corporal with one eye (literally) kindly correspond with Slim Brierley of Oldham?

Will Tomato Drury, of A Corps, England, please continue correspondence course avec uneasy slacks? Thompson of this unit.

No. 3 Company.

Christmas, 1933.—The most movable holiday in existence is Christmas. Although it is commonly known as a fixed one, it falls any when between September and April, and it recurs frequently between those dates as well. At times it appears to be in danger of falling even earlier than September, as in July or August one can see some people feverishing mossing up for Christmas as though it were due in a couple of days. In September certain people get hot and bothered, demanding a boat at once so that they may get home for Christmas.

Some who have had the misfortune to take a short walk with their "cap off," quickly work out if they will or will not be clear by Christmas. Then there are those who feel the festive spirit round about October and say " Oh, have just one more, because we may not meet again before Christmas."

If, however, Christmas has not arrived by November, everyone decides that it is high time it was here and preparations are made on a more extensive scale. Christmas draws are announced offering something for nothing, and full of good cheer at that. By December the culminating point is reached, and the juveniles are allowed to enter into the spirit of the thing, as adults are by now mellow with Christmas spirits. Irrespective of the number of Christmases already held, it can be expected that at least six will fall during this month.

Guards and duties now enter into the question, and nearly everybody can prove that they performed some duty last Christmas, i.e. between September and April.

At last, decorations appear in the mess room. Blankets adorn the walls, and they are enriched with cotton wool woven into various designs and quaint lettering, such as crossed badminton rackets underscribed " No play to-day, girls," in allusion to the badminton court marked out in the mess room. Another depicts a boat and the figures 1930 with the word "We," and underneath an aeroplane with the date 1940 and the word " They " (looking ahead sort of thing). Yet another shows a pair of riding breeches encircled with carrots and the words " Atta boy." What can that mean? The remainder proclaim seasonal greetings to all ranks.

On the Christmas Day which fell on the 25th December 1933, the Company had rum and coffee at reveille—this reveille, by the way, was as movable as Christmas Day. Dinner was at 12.30 p.m. and was prepared by our own cooks in preference to contract catering, and the general opinion was that it was by far the best arrangement which could be made. The C.S.O. and all officers entered the mess room shortly after 12.30 p.m. to wish all ranks a merry Christmas. In concluding his speech, the C.S.O. said it was his pleasure to present our C.S.M. with a badminton racket subscribed for by a number of n.c.o.s and men of No. 1 Company. This magnificent racket, made of non-durable wood and rotten string, and bearing over twenty autographs, was then presented. This was followed by speeches, all of which were punctuated after alternate words by cheers, which also drowned the remaining words. It was a most enjoyable Christmas. May all succeeding ones be as happy!

K Section.

1934.—This year we opened up at Polygon, and we hope to come up every month in future. Though late, we wish all units at home and abroad all they can wish themselves for the coming year, and our best compliments to Captain C. A. H. Chadwick, our late O.C. (of " holding them back in Palestine " fame 1929/1933). What about a warm scrounge when we arrive in T.B., sir?

Now for Some Replies and News.—We should like to repudiate the statement made in Egypt Signals Corporals Mess notes of December, regarding "K," the Arsenal of Egypt Signals. Though we have decided on Southend, it must be remembered that all crack teams have their off seasons, and it is just kind-heartedness that prevents us from winning soccer matches. Don't you think our laurels are big enough to rest on?

Reference cross-country championships and our knack of winning cups on their first year of presentation. Having held the championship before, we decided to loan it to Nos. 2 and 3 Sections for a year. We congratulate them on winning, but remind them that it is *only* a loan.

We have decided to release the shooting cup which was loaned to H.Q. Troop, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. . . . . and Tank Signal Section.

Sure Things—Though we are staff-employed and short-handed this year, we shall still maintain our usual high standard of efficiency for Brigade training. We can always call on the assistant adjutant (with dressing gown) not forgetting Q.3.

Kolos.—Thoughts for 1934: Mechanisation or sore feet.

The Cock-Eyed World.—Extract from a local paper: " Last Sunday afternoon the Potiniere held a roller skating meeting, when a variety of competitions were organised. Many competitors, *the majority of whom were young men and women as well as children*, took part. . . ." To make sure of a majority, it would have been safer to include the aged and infirm as well.

Corporals Mess.

Now that Christmas festivities and the annual dinner are over, I will try to place our deeds for December on record. Early in the month the Mess played a return football match with the Garrison Military Police and reversed the score of our previous meeting, winning by 3—1 with a weakened team. The match was followed by a small " at home " in the mess.

Christmas is naturally a hazy memory, all members passing it according to their various tastes. Accounts of any particular members are withheld, though I believe that several are going to take a postal course in " tamborine " playing.

The annual dinner held on the 30th December was an enormous success. This year it was held in the mess instead of a restaurant in town, and I do not think it will in future be held out of barracks. A worthier banquet has never graced our tables, and through the medium of THE WIRE I voice the thanks of the whole mess to our committee. A great show! The dinner was followed by a smoker in the mess, but as this was a carbon copy of so many other smokers, to attempt to record it would be a farce. Last month we said " Cheerio!" to Corpls Forrest and Brice, who have gone to a far far better land to attend a Foreman-of-Signals course. We wish them both success.

No doubt the Mess will now return to normal routine until a boat goes in April, though I will try to make an appearance monthly just to show that we still exist.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Monday 1st January.

General.—Having managed, after varied efforts, to get over that Christmas feeling (something after the style of " the morning after the night before ") the Troop have settled down to work again. I believe, though, that one or two people found this required an almost superhuman effort.

Arrivals.—At present nil, but the trooping season has only just begun.

Departures.—Well, in regard to the Troop, it's a case of this year, next year, some time, never, we are inclined to think ; but hopes run high and sweats are the order of the day. Let's hope we soon get the order of the boot.

Wanted.—A public house with brewery attached ; money no object ; prospective sellers, please communicate with Brum, Box 5, Geetrup, Le Caire.

Agonies.—C.S.M. Nash: I think a letter must have gone astray. Where are you now? C.Q.M.S. Emsley.

To L/Corporal Edwards: Are you still residing in Bulford? L/Corpl Fielding.

To Leonard Bros. 825 and 826: Wot about a line? Leonard 121.

We Want to Know.—Who is the Troop's qualified optician? Is it another trade: optician wireless?

After-Thought.—Signalman: " Hello, Busty!" Corporal (pointing to his arm): " What do you think these are—war wounds?"

G Troop Radio Society.—We are delighted to read the account of the S.T.C. Radio Experimental Society in the December WIRE. Although we get the usual thrills from holding communication with Japs, Slovenes, Bulgars and East Indians, not to mention the more distant outposts of Empire, we have been looking forward to an opportunity of exchanging ether notes with others in the Corps. So our best wishes to the S.T.C. Radio Society and to those who follow. May we often hear you calling. Perhaps one day the whole Corps will be interconnected. I suppose we shall then be one glorious brotherhood of " old men " and " old boys " calling plaintively " Foto fer foto " and " Hpe cuagn O.M.," with occasional variations from the O.B.s abroad: " Du u no wn nxt tpr lvs fr ome o.m."

Acknowledgments.—Many thanks to all units who kindly sent us Christmas cards.

Conclusion.—More anon.

PAT.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 14/11/33.

General.—I've got to the pitch when I sympathise with all past and present WIRE scribes. I used to read all their excuses (" Nothing of note this month," etc.) and thought they were just getting tired of writing. Now I know the real reason. Since October's WIRE reached us, I've been met on every side by comments such as " Biggest load of hooey since Gabbo," " Good stuff," " Let the author do 'em," and so on ; but as the comments are about fifty-fifty, I'm staggering on.

Apology.—With regard to the Editor's note of last month re the personal touch. If any of my notes have given offence or were considered personal, I would assure those concerned that they were not meant to be. Reading this, one may think " If the cap fits, wear it," but such is not the case. People of this unit whom I mention in my effusions know the spirit in which I write, and any others whom I may mention should know that the same rule applies.

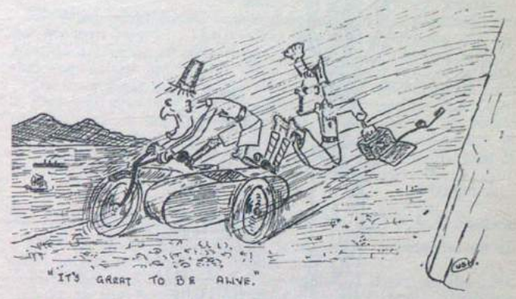
The Big Change.—Hong Kong is to have a large garrison in 1934, as Shanghai is being reduced to one battalion. Hong Kong will then have three British battalions and extra details. To cope with the big rush two blocks in Whitfield Barracks are being converted into a hospital for the Kowloon side, and the place at present resembles a battlefield with trenches, etc., and the usual gang of coolies. We have twenty-four R.A.M.C. attached to us for five weeks ; by that time their own quarters will be ready. More troops mean more sport, and already there are about twenty teams entered for the small units hockey cup. It should be a tussle this season.

Technical Training.—This is still going o.k. Another few weeks and Bryce hopes to be a prefect. It certainly reminds one of the happy days when fifty lines were lobbed out for being saucy. The usual crop of howlers can be heard any morning.

Drama.—On the 4th November a loosewallah paid the Section a visit at 3 a.m. and relieved a few of the locals of their (hard-earned?) wages, jong winnings, etc., also taking my watch from under my pillow! Jones chased the bad lad, but as he refused to wait while Jonah put his shoes on, the chase was unfruity. Ooch threw himself at the bad lad's stomach, but that did not stop him. I hate to say it, but after taking that 14 stone in the pantry he can have my watch! Those bereaved were Drake, Mills, Shove, F-of-S, two of the details, and yours truly. The sweep runners thought of making a big coup, but changed their minds after seeing the glances cast in their direction. Contributions to the relief fund should be sent c/o Mata Hari, to reach here not later than February 1935.

Answers to Correspondents.—Milner, A.F.V.: In response to your enquiry re mah jong. Jong is a legalised means of robbery whereby certain parasites live on those inveigled into playing with them. One such parasite has not drawn any pay since learning to shout " Jong!"—which happened on his first tour. Besides breeding frayed tempers, empty pockets and vain regrets, it leaves the victim with a really disgusting vocabulary. When the aforementioned parasite shouts " Jong!" for the twentieth consecutive time, the air becomes supercharged. It also keeps both players and non-players awake in the afternoons and evenings. Statistics prove that it is responsible for a big percentage of births, deaths, suicides, murders, divorces, slander and libel actions, weddings, and many other evils. Together with dope running, slave traffic, child marriage, sang kee and uncles, it is rightly adjudged a curse of the Orient. If ever anyone tries to get you to play mah jong, put your money in the bank and go in the other direction.

Enquirer: Mati Hari is not the person you think. Anyone knows she never weighed 14 stone or had a profile like Joe E. Brown.



Awards.—The big hand to Sigmn Short for being the first to ride in the combo with our new D.R.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Higginbottom and Erridge from Shanghai. Higgy has been here before, so he'll be telling *us* things. The unit cobbler has removed his stock of boots to a safe place, having heard of the " unit centipede " from his predecessor.

Corpl Ralph from Shanghai for a short holiday which consisted of staggering from bed to the Palace and vice versa.

Departures.—Signalmen Carter and Oates to Shanghai. Roscoe should find Shanghai a happy hunting ground. Anyway, we'll be hearing them over the air pretty soon.

L/Corpl Denbow and Signalmen Ward and Smith to U.K. 'Oo sed " Cook's tour "? Lucky guys! We're all sorry to see them go. There'll be a gap in the hockey team where Smudger was and a larger gap in the Casanova where Nebby was, but they'll both be filled. L/Corpl Denbow, of course, is sorry to go, but the English air will do his petrol lighter the world of good. (Aldershot papers, please copy.)

Agonies.—Army dollar, 1s. 5¼d.

Austen A.B.Y.: Thanks! Congratulations on addition to A.B.Y. staff. Send him on a drill course. Chubby.

Kerr, A Corps: Has the second bar affected your writing arm? Grand Prix Chimp.

Badgy S., Bulford: Congratulations (or sympathy). Tich.

Eddie, F Troop: Wot abaht it? Salaams to Kate, A.C. and the boys. Shovie.

Mandell, A Corps: Do you need a stamp? Black.

Fielding, Scarborough: Nowt received yet. Grunda.

MATI HARI.

11th December 1933.

General.—Christmas is getting near—too near, in fact—and last week we had our Christmas greeting from H.Q. when the glad news came that the local dollar had gone up again to 1s. 5¼d. Can't you folks at home do something about it?—write to your M.P., save silver paper, or something helpful. If things go on like this, we'll be going up on a Friday to pay the Army a few bucks. In a recent conversation an old resident told of the days of '07, when the dollar was way over 10s.!—and they call 'em the good old days.

Things are about the same in the unit, with one or two changes in attachments outside which have not appeared in Part II. Orders. Zena still pines for her Nobby and dances with tears

in her eyes, while her partners shed tears, too. Smudger may be pleased to know that his pupil is doing well. The old bike still goes except when some humorist pinches a plug. In a few weeks our D.R. will be A.1. He has a trade test every morning —fault finding. The air is doing him good; he collects billiard money with a speed and dash which amazes those who know the old flip.



Two of the Amoy Contemptibles.

Friday 24th November was a red-letter day in the history of this Section. On that day the Amoy contemptibles moved off in close columns of fours—all four of 'em. I'll tell you all.

In the previous week the papers had been full of a threatened civil war in China, and Amoy was the seat of the trouble. At 12.30 p.m. on Thursday 23rd November operation orders were sent out, and Signalmen Erridge, Shove and Mills were warned to fall in under the command of L/Corpl Emary for emergency duty. That night saw great activity. Stores were hauled out, dusted and packed in hampers, and letters were written home. A lone figure could be seen (and heard) dashing about and crying in agonised tones "This is war!" The next morning kits were laid, and the lads said "Ah—h—h!" to the M.O. Shovey handed over his canary to a chap I wouldn't trust with a pet snake.

At 10.30 a.m. they moved off after fond farewells, and three rousing cheers (what for?—maskee) were given. The unlucky ones left behind adjourned to the canteen to discuss the crisis and the late lamented pals (yes, we considered them dead meat) and they were all voted good guys. At 12.30 p.m., just as we were about to start a subscription list for the relatives and the argument as to who should write to a certain fellow's harem was getting rough, another message came in that troops would not proceed to Amoy; but so that they should not be disappointed, the ones higher up said they would embark on the cruiser but would disembark at 3.30 p.m.

What a welcome they got, especially from those who had debts to collect! The joke lasted for a fortnight, by which time everyone had heard about the big war. The best I heard was about an A.B. on the *Cumberland*. When our chaps had lugged the Shameen set down below decks, he asked quite seriously "'Ave yer brought any records wiv yer?" Shades of Bob Bolton!

Sigmn Cord had hard lines a fortnight ago when playing for Kowloon in a civilian league game. During a tussle in the goal-mouth he was knocked down and fell on his arm, sustaining a sprained wrist which is keeping him out of sport for awhile. His absence has been especially felt in the soccer team, and we hope he's soon fit again.

On Saturday 2nd December the Mamak Hockey League held their first dinner and concert of the season at the China Emporium. About a hundred and fifty players were present, and an enjoyable time was spent. After dinner was best, however, when I accompanied two of the pioneers on a trip round just to see life (?) My crowning joy came when, returning on the ferry, Tich Bryce discovered someone with a schnozzle which pipped mine. That finished the night off splendidly!

Agony.—Cupid, Malay: Do you really want that stamped envelope? Dan. MATA HARI.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 9th January.

General.—Included in our New Year resolutions was one to have lengthy (and interesting) WIRE notes completed and in the post by the second day of each month, but alas! it has gone the way of many others. We are convinced (after recovering from the festive period) that New Year resolutions should take effect from about July and not from January, so criticism of our January efforts should be filed in the w.p.b.

The married families' Christmas party took place on Monday 18th December, and as usual it was held in the unit dining room. With the aid of numerous flags, bunting and streamers, and useful volunteers, the room was transformed into a really beautiful hall which should have been appreciated by all. Our commanding officer, accompanied by Mrs. House, attended the tea, which was enjoyed by all, but the crowning point of the evening—to the children, at least—was the dramatic descent of Sigmn ——— down the chimney, disguised as Father Christmas. We err perhaps in the foregoing, because when his copious sack was displayed the shouting of the children drowned his Christmas greetings.

Christmas Day was spent in the customary fashion. Our tables were loaded to overflowing with Christmas fare; when we say that eight large turkeys and several legs of pork disappeared, further comment is needless. Our commanding officer and the A.A. and Q.M.G. i/c Administration (Brigadier D. M. King, D.S.O., M.C.) visited the dining hall while the dinner was being served, and in addition to wishing the unit every success and happiness during the coming year, they expressed their pleasure in seeing the plentiful dinner so well cooked and served.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Sigmn Bull from Eastern Command Signal Company, Sigmn Cole from 3rd Divl Signals, Signalmen Fuller and Gunner from A Corps Signals, Signalman Harvey from A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth, Sigmn Holland from 4th Divl Signals, and Sigmn Postance from 1st Divl Signals—ex the *Nevasa* on the 23rd December, and we trust their stay with us will be a happy one. We feel sure that the Christmas festivities gave them a good impression of their new station.

Agony.—Moseley, Peshawar District Signals: Sigmn Harvey of this unit draws your attention to his new address.

Last, but Not Least.—To Sigmn Hicks: We are all glad to hear of your safe arrival and apparent comfort in Egypt.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 50. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

- - THE "TERRIERS." - -

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1

The headquarters presented a totally different aspect on Saturday 6th January, when the annual children's party was held. A large and tastefully decorated Christmas tree and a well designed chimney piece were in the main hall, and out of the chimney—to the huge delight of the children—came Father Christmas (Sergt Powell) in the full blaze of the spot light from the control room. Captain Hemsley and Mr. Philip Moore, in unusual attire, assisted Father Christmas to distribute the presents. The number of children was simply amazing, and how happy they all were following an excellent tea provided in the lecture room or the men's mess!

This very successful event entails a large amount of work in selecting the presents and ensuring that each child obtains, as far as funds will permit, the present that he or she desires. The entertainment committee are to be congratulated on a very fine effort, and we must specially mention Sergt Drackford, who as secretary of the committee did so much to ensure that the arrangements worked well. Our thanks are also due to the permanent staff, who assisted with the lighting of the tree and the spot light effects.

An entertainment organised by Mr. Philip Moore, Captain Hemsley and Miss Peggy Murray followed the distribution of gifts, and the united efforts of the artistes, including Mrs. Taylor and Corpl Blood, who were called in to help, were much appreciated. The entertainment consisted of an imitation "Children's Hour," complete with microphone, and it terminated with a total "collapse," due to the arrival of comic paperhangers.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester, 16.

General.—There is the usual Christmas and New Year lull at present, but we start training in earnest on the 8th January. From then until Whitsuntide we expect to have a busy but happy time, and everyone is awaiting the full pre-camp training programme. We hope it will contain an all-night scheme as it did last spring, when we left headquarters early one Saturday afternoon and returned at tea-time on Sunday. On that occasion each Section arranged its own billeting; and, particularly to the younger members of the unit, it was a great experience, as the weather was terrible, almost everybody being soaked to the skin. We managed to stick it, though, and kept smiling. We are looking forward to showing that we can do it again.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual ball was held on the 26th December, when a company of members and friends, some hundred and fifty strong, had a very enjoyable time.

On December 30th the annual party for the children of Mess members took place at headquarters, and what a time the kiddies (*and* their fathers) had! A gorgeous tea was prepared by Mr. H. Jones, and while that was being digested our C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley) entertained everyone with a cinema show.

After tea some of the children shouted up a realistic-looking fireplace which had been erected by Sergt Etheridge in a doorway, and great was the excitement when a voice was heard asking if it was the Signals, Norton Street. As with one voice the youngsters chorused "Yes!" and then Father Christmas could be heard warning his reindeers to stand steady while he delivered his sack of toys; and to the delight of all, Father Christmas came down (?) the chimney and, without getting his gown on fire, stepped out of the fireplace into the room and received a great welcome.

When every child had received a toy, games were played until it was time to G.B.; and it is whispered that certain members of the Mess are looking forward to the time when they will be able to fill up the invitation forms differently.

The best thanks of the Mess are given to Lieut.-Colonel Ashley and all who helped in various ways to make the function such a success.

Two popular members, C.S.M. Wakefield and C.Q.M.S. Peat, are leaving us on account of H.Q. No. 2 Company 1st Corps Signals (S.R.) being disbanded. This means losing one officer (Major G. Hamilton) and nine other ranks in addition. We are sorry to lose them, but perhaps we will be able to get near the dart-board now.

Obituary.—Just as we go to press we learn of the death of L/Sergt Valentine J., which took place with tragic suddenness on the 3rd January. As Corpl Valentine he was a very popular clerk of No. 2 Company, and we desire to express to his family our deepest sympathy. KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Nothing of outstanding moment has occurred during the past month. The various branches of training and recreation are being steadily supported, and it is pleasing to note that the recruits are settling down well to their respective jobs.

The attendance at the week-end exercise for officers and n.c.o.s at Plymouth prior to Christmas constitutes a record for that Company, and it is hoped that this will be maintained on future occasions. Those responsible for setting such exercises aim at making them interesting as well as instructive, and instruction of a similar nature will be carried out as opportunity affords.

MERCURY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

News at Southampton is very scarce, but we must make an effort to put something in THE WIRE.

The officers of the Company are holding a dance on the 26th January at the South-Western Hotel, Southampton, which we hope will be a roaring success and still further enhance the name of the Wessex Signals in the district.

A children's Christmas party is to be held on the 20th January, when it is hoped that the married members of the Company and their children will meet to spend a jolly time together.

We congratulate all those who have been promoted during the month, and hope they will prove successful in their new ranks.

The two courses of instruction that are now running—operators and n.c.o.s—are being well attended, and we hope to give the Trade Board a lot of work in February.

This is all I can find to write of, so will now conclude.

PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

It is pleasant to record that we were only two short of the maximum attendance of n.c.o.s at the Sunday exercise last month. One of the missing two was Sergt Ford (of all people!) who missed the boat for the first time during his long service in the Company. Delightful weather added to the enjoyment of an instructive scheme. For several junior n.c.o.s it was an initiation, and it was most gratifying to note the keenness with which they followed the arguments. Many thanks for a well organised outing. THREECOY.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters and No. 1 (Derby) Company.

Work and Play.—Back to the plough again. Heigho for plenty of work till August and annual camp come round! Commencing on the 9th January our year's work ensues. Let's hope the P.S.I.s will not bemoan *their* lack of work. Come along, lads, and give 'em summat to do.

An additional course for senior n.c.o.s starts on Monday 15th January, and all who attend are assured of an interesting thirty-six hours work. The adjutant has a spot of tactical stuff to impart. On hearing of the above, one young n.c.o. remarked: "I know! Platoons in the attack and all that sort of thing. I've had some of that at . . . .," etc.

Bram, your sounder room "policing" system is here in duplicate: old C sets oscillating and an exchange doing the controlling. Lieut. Haslehurst gets the kudos. A keen officer. Good work. We look forward with every confidence to the time when the whole unit will oscillate as well. Then, there'll be no non-attenders at drills.

In the near future the football team will be up and doing, and if supported as expected, we will join one of the local Amateur Leagues next season. Sergeant Barlow (T.A.) is doing yeoman service in this direction. His was the task of rescuing some of our strayed talent from local teams, whither they had drifted in pursuit of the elusive pill.

As these notes are being written, Mick O'Brien (our very busy R.Q.M.S.) is helping Lieut. Scott in making arrangements for No. 1 Company's annual dinner. Everything points to a success, and we expect to feed at least eighty.

Our salaams to all WIRE readers, and my special ones to S.T.C. (India). What a drastic trooping season!

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Notes this month, we regret to say, are rather few. The festive season has " been and went " and so far there are no casualties, and we hope there won't be.

This year's training is due to open to-morrow, Tuesday 9th December, but the next Tuesday (the 16th) will really be the date on which labours commence. On that date an n.c.o.s course commences, and this should prove most interesting and instructive. In our next notes it is hoped to report further on this subject.

The last course, which was chiefly for signalmen but included lance-corporals, was concluded just before Christmas, and it is pleasant to report that it was very successful. A good improvement was shown by all candidates, and it is hoped that such a state will now continue.

It is with pleasure that we are able to report that Sergt Field is back again in harness. He came out of hospital last week and is now enjoying a spot of leave in the sunny climes of Gillingham.

Congratulations.—To Havildar Bramjee of the White Company on the photo in the January WIRE. To Billie Brunton of 2nd Div. on his efforts (may they all, and always, be little ones). To Barleux on the fine photo of a man-eater and his notes on big game shooting. The writer suggests that a certain laddie once known as Wee Tosh could also pen some interesting notes on shikari (shades of Freddie Lotion!)

Salaams.—To all members of the Corps from No. 3 Company, and to Bramjee, Abdul, Kiko, Fredkitch, Willwish, Old Ruff and many others from J.H.E. SIGSNGM.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6

General.—Individual training is again in full swing after the Christmas holidays. We hope that all members of the unit have made a New Year resolution that they will do their utmost to attend headquarters for every training, and so make the week-end camps (we have been promised some this year) occasions of keen interest and all the more pleasurable because of the practical knowledge gained from these trainings.

The following special (paid) courses commenced on the 14th January: senior n.c.o.s, instruments and map reading, and linemen. Seventy n.c.o.s and men are taking advantage of these courses of instruction, which are carried out every Thursday evening and all day on every alternate Sunday. It is a great pleasure and encouragement to the instructional staff to see such keenness and the large attendance (33 per cent. of the unit strength).

It is practically certain that this unit will now proceed to Colchester for annual camp from the 29th July until the 12th August. We had previously been earmarked for Wareham on the 15th July, but owing to the inability of a large number of men to obtain leave at that period, we have now arranged a later date.

Officers.—2/Lieut. Bennett (55th Divisional Signals, T.A.) attached to this unit for training, passed the written examination for Certificate "A" Signals. 2/Lieutenants McCombie and Hawkins passed the practical examination for Certificate "A."

Sergeants Mess.—On the 2nd December last another pleasant evening was spent when members of the 25th Cyclists Battalion O.C.A. met us in a games tournament. After continuous playing for about three hours, we finished level with 23 points all. Quite a good ending, too, for a contest between such old friends. We are looking forward to a repetition in the near future.

Saturday 23rd December saw the finish of a very interesting snooker handicap. Thirty-two members and old friends took part, the final being played off between R.Q.M.S. Wrightson and Sergt Stratford. The latter was the winner by a small margin. " Useful " Christmas fare was presented to each as prizes.

Congratulations.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to L/Sergt Burrows L. on his promotion to Sergeant ; also to Lance-Corporals Haswell C. W., Rowse E. J., Bolton H., Wells A. J., Burrows J. F., Hobbs C. J., Watts G. S. G., Robins A. E. and Cheesley E. P. on their promotion to the rank of Corporal, and to Signalmen Brown E. W. C., Harvey-Smith F. W., Askew E. L., Brown J., Hopkin J. R. and Hawkes J. W. on their appointment as Lance-Corporals (paid).

Obituary.—It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce the passing of Sergeant V. Philpott, which occurred at Bulford on the 23rd December from heart failure. He joined this unit as a permanent staff instructor in 1930 and returned to duty with the Regular Army in November last. He proved himself an efficient, hardworking and conscientious n.c.o. who, by his quiet, pleasant and cheerful manner made friends of all with whom he came in contact. The poignant news of his death came as a great shock to us all.

It is also with very deep regret that we have to report yet another old friend as " through." Ex-R.Q.M.S. Jock Campbell died on the 11th December last after a long illness.

We tender our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Philpott and to Mrs. Campbell in their sad bereavement. Wreaths were sent to the funerals on behalf of all ranks of this unit and S.R. Sections.

Social.—Our New Year's ball on the 1st January was a greater success than was expected. Unfortunately, this was the night of the great fog " black-out," when cars cuddled lamp-posts and buses tried to hide in front gardens. In fact, any movement either by pedestrian or vehicle was a matter of great hesitancy. However, nearly a hundred dancers attended, and a most enjoyable and lively time was spent by all.

Why not pay us a visit on the 14th February, when we are holding our St. Valentine's ball?

On Thursday 11th January we had a wonderful concert given by the famous Roosters. Over three hundred and fifty members of the unit and their friends attended and listened to a real top-hole show. During the evening the cable competition cup and medals for the winners and runners-up were presented by Mrs. J. Gibson-Fleming, the wife of our hon. colonel (Colonel J. Gibson-Fleming, C.B.E., D.S.O.) Our commanding officer, in the course of a short speech, had a few words to say to the ladies. He told them that they formed one of the chief obstacles to recruiting members for the unit, and very frankly informed them that if they could not spare their men for one evening a week, he didn't think much of them. We hope that went home to them—and to the men! EFFEMMA.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

Training.—An intensive course of individual instruction, designed to increase the technical status of every member of the unit, entered on a three months run at the beginning of the year, after which Section training will begin and continue until camp. Entrants have been graded and split up into classes dealing with their various trades, operating being given the chief consideration ; and at the end of the course candidates will sit for an examination, and those successful will pass on to an elevated rating. So far, the course has been a great success, with good attendances, and when it is concluded it is confidently hoped that there will be a really good crop of experts. In any event, no one will be any the worse, and all will know more about their trades than hitherto. There are more than a hundred and forty attending trade training classes twice a week.

Officers' Dinner and Dance.—This was held in the officers mess and drill hall on Friday 12th January, when there was a good attendance of officers with their ladies. The unit was honoured by a visit from Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. H. C. B. Wemyss of the 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough, and Lieut.-Col. C. W. Fladgate, our C.S.O. There were also present Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D. (hon. colonel) and Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. H. McLaren.

It was a matter of great regret to all that our adjutant, Captain W. L. Schneider, was unable to be present owing to ill-health.

Annual Children's Party.—The annual party for the children was a " howling " success. It was held in the drill hall on the 6th January and followed the usual party lines, with tea, games and songs for the children ; the event afterwards resolving itself into a re-union of the ladies. One little fellow—obviously a budding cable man—took a good deal of persuading that a line-man's job was not that of guiding his toy train around its track, or that he could not put his drum (re-named by his father as " an infernal machine ") in the band stores.

Promotions & Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to the following, who w.e.f. 1/12/33 rise in rank as under:—Appointed L/Sergeants (paid) Corporals Whytell F., Calip F. and Parker C. Promoted Corporals, L/Corporals Young J., Armitage A. E., Smith E., Stewart H., Chappell H., Bell C. W. and Dobson S. Appointed Lance-Corporals (paid) Signalmen Edson R., Landy J. T., Hall S., Marchinton F., Gartland J., Hall J. W. and West J. Sigmn Thornhill H. I. (205th Medium Artillery Signal Section) has also been appointed Lance-Corporal (paid).

Cable Laying de Luxe.—Surely, our Cable Section have discovered what " the Cableman's Valhalla " is like, for, having laid lines around the parade ground, they have now commenced to litter the already full drill hall with pole crossings, evoking humorous (?) and varied remarks, such as " Um! started a circus here now. They've got tight ropes up." Let us hope the experience gained inside will prove of use outside.

Heard on the Rifle Range.—Sergeant Instructor (sweetly, to recruits firing their courses): "Well, you all missed the — targets at fifty yards. None of you hit 'em at 25 yards. Now, fix bayonets! charge!! it's your only chance."

Social.—Concerts are still held on Sunday evenings in the men's recreation room, and capital entertainment is provided for large audiences. On the subject of entertainment, the Band held a successful concert on Sunday 14th January under the baton of Mr. L. A. Wright, the bandmaster.

Conclusion.—The lads of the village still meet every night in the canteen, knocking spots off the new snooker balls there provided. Others prefer dominoes. And so everything's bright and rosy.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Christmas Festivities.—We are very pleased to report (after a rather lengthy absence from these columns, for which sincere regrets are tendered) that the usual Christmas functions held in the drill hall were very successful.

The children were entertained by the Company to an excellent treat under the able guidance of C.S.M. W. E. Battersby and C.Q.M.S. J. Gibson. The main hall was suitably decorated and a huge Christmas tree erected in the centre, illuminated by fairy lights and loaded with toys, from which the children were supplied. After having their fill with a daintily served tea, the children and the adults who were present were then entertained by a concert party provided by Sigmn Smith R. and his wife, who gave a most entertaining show. We offer to Sigmn and Mrs. Smith our most sincere thanks for their kindness in coming with the party.

On Christmas morning the usual gathering of the Company took place in the Men's Club and was attended by Major T. T. J. Sheffield, who now again commands the Company vice Captain J. W. Middleton, M.C., who has gone to the T.A. Reserve of Officers.

I should like to mention here that we have lost the services of 2/Lieut. S. Robinson, who has been transferred to No. 3 Company at Gateshead, and we hope that he has a most enjoyable time with his new unit.

Training.—This has been continued throughout the winter and has been very well attended. A small class of operator signals is endeavouring to obtain a higher rating before the summer training commences, which we are all looking forward to. It will be nice to see the Stainton and Stokesly areas again and to see the villagers hanging their washing on our lines.

Rifle Shooting.—Since our last notes, we have entertained at our range a team from the Green Howards and paid a return visit to their drill hall.. We are glad to say that our team won on both occasions. As a matter of fact, we have not been beaten as a team in our area. In the near future we are to come to grips with a team from the I.C.I. Factory at Billingham, and we are looking forward to the event, as I gather that they are a team to be feared, being really good shots.

Badminton.—This section is still going and is well supported. The challenge from No. 3 Company is accepted: any where, any when, any how or any time.

Annual Ball.—The event of the season takes place on Monday 29th January, this being the occasion of our annual ball in the drill hall. It is being eagerly looked forward to. We will be able to describe the event in our next notes.

Annual Camp.—The annual camp this year is to be at the race course at Scarborough. This has occasioned much joy in the Company, as the visit there in 1931 is still fresh in mind and was enjoyed very much. Let's hope that the weather clerk is kind to us, as we are to go to camp in June.

A notice appeared on the Company order board asking for six volunteers to bring their bicycles to annual camp this year. Already there are ninety-two names written down. Why this rush? Wait until you see the lay-out of the camp. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Winter Course.—This is nearly at an end, and now we are all looking forward to the arrival of the adjutant with his test messages at the end of the month.

Boxing.—We are to meet the 6th Battn Northumberland Fusiliers in a friendly contest in St. George's drill hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 27th January. Our boxers have been training for this event for some time now, and it is anticipated that they will put up quite a good show. The best of luck to all! Full details will be published in the next issue of THE WIRE.

Dent Cup.—The inter-Company competition will take place at Gateshead on Monday 5th February. Don't forget, lads, we must win this!

Divisional Tournament.—This is to be held at St. George's drill hall on the 16th and 17th February. We finished second last year—first this year, I hope!

Children's Christmas Party.—This was held in the drill hall at Elmgrove Terrace on Boxing Day, when quite a good number of married people turned up. I never knew we were so strong in this respect! All the children, I am sure, had a jolly good time—the mothers did, too! After tea Father Christmas gave all the kiddies a present. Our popular O.C. was not forgotten, he being presented with " the Loch Ness Monster."

Company Smoker.—This took place on Saturday 16th December. It was a very jolly affair, and everyone voted it one of the best we have had. Amongst our guests we were delighted to see our late adjutant, Captain P. Jennings, M.C. He was given a rousing reception and was forced to make a speech.

Sergeants Mess Ball.—This was held in the drill hall, Elmgrove Terrace, on Friday 12th January, and was considered a huge success by all who were present. Our guests of honour were the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. Ellis), the Chief Constable of Gateshead (Mr. R. Ogle), Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. G. H. Walton (our commanding officer and his wife).

New Arrival.—We welcome Mr. J. R. Alsop, who is attached to us from the 47th Division.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—The voluntary class continues on Monday evenings, and we hope to raise a few group E operators from last season's recruits at the Trade Testing Board.

Is it possible to shift men from four words a minute, one night a week? Lend me a mallet, someone!

We are all itching for the 1934 training season to start, and will feel much happier when it does—the recruits, especially, and the newly-made lance-corporals who wish to try out their " capabilities for independent command."

Congratulations.—There has been plenty of wetting going on lately, and whilst the medals are still frothy we hasten to con-

gratulate Sergts Rollo, Cormack and Allan on gaining the coveted T.E.M., and Corpl Gregor on being awarded a clasp to the medal which he gained before a lot of us "came up."

More Congratulations.—This time to 2/Lieut. B. M. Nicol, of No. 1 Company, on passing the examination for Certificate "A."

Still More Congratulations.—To the gentlemen from Ballogie who showed the members of the Sergeants Mess how to shoot! It's too late for anything to be said about the scores, but a lot of shooting practice has been put in since this visit.

"That Phone Again."—Feminine voice (over phone): "Hullo! is that you, Mr. Signals? I would like to speak to Mr. Sergeant Mess." Poor fish who answered the phone: "Well, that's hardly possible. You see, Mr. Sergeant Mess won't be in barracks until to-night." Feminine voice: "Oh, all right, I'll ring up again later."

LANKA MK. II.

52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals and S.R. Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

Annual Dinner.—The great event of the year, the momentous occasion which provides the opportunity to all ranks for fraternising and feasting, has come and gone. Some 350 feasted on the best—a six course dinner and free beer. Ye gods! The large lecture hall presented a brilliant spectacle. Chief electrical deviser Atkinson transformed the somewhat austere atmosphere of the lecture hall into a fairyland of light and colour. The dashing tartan and silver buckles of the pipers of the Lowland Signals added brilliancy and colour to a gathering almost unparalleled in the history of these units. The city was combed for the cream of professional talent, and the catering and service were of a high order. The entire arrangements functioned like clockwork.

Major J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., as chairman, was at his best. When we saw him rise—with forefinger and thumb placed in the right-hand pocket of his dress-vest—our ears stood to attention and our wits were sharpened. This was Major Robertson's annual stock-taking night. On such an occasion we are probed inside and out. Our shortcomings are hurled at us straight from the shoulder. Our good deeds are praised, and praised again. It can hardly be said that we know Major Robertson as he knows us: he seems possessed of an uncanny insight in tabulating and weighing in the balance each man. His speech was one of the best events of the evening. Behind it all we easily discerned his unceasing work to maintain our state of high efficiency, and his never ending effort and interest not only in the units but in the individual.

Once again we cannot pass without registering our gratitude for all that was done for us. Without the unremitting efforts of the permanent staff, the success of such an undertaking as our annual dinner could not be assured.

Sergeants Mess New Year Gala Night.—We have to record another event which teemed with success and goodwill. This proved to be the largest gathering of its kind within memory. Ninety members and friends were present under the chairmanship of C.S.M. Houston—self-styled "Heid Hog." Andy Houston's personality was a draw in itself. His manipulation of the poker produced great merriment. Andy's methods are unconventional, but he can make us happy.

So we welcomed 1934 to the tune of feasting, fun and a wee "deoch-an-doris." We toasted success to our comrades in the Signal Service. With a wee bit song and a wee bit dram, we celebrated Ne'e'rday in good old Scotch fashion. Here's to the Year that's awa'!

Arrivals.—Sergt Murphy W. M. has joined us from the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough, as P.S.I. A thousand welcomes!

The Pipe Major.—The discharge of Pipe-Major McKenzie J. on reaching the age limit is worthy of note. Jimmy's connection with the Lowland Signal units extended over thirty-five years from the time when we were the 1st Lanarkshire Volunteers. A talented piper, a man of imposing physique, the pipe-major presented a splendid figure in the full dress tartan of the Lowland Signals pipe band. An exponent of repute in pipe band training, Pipe-Major McKenzie will be greatly missed. A genial personality and great good-heartedness, added to Pipe-Major McKenzie's other good qualities, made him a general favourite with all ranks. Good bye, Mac! caber-feidh!

Promotions.—Our belated congratulations to our good friend the doctor. Captain McGreehin's elevation to majority rank, we can assuredly say, has pleased us all.

Awards.—We heartily congratulate C.S.M. Atkinson on receiving the L.S. and G.C. medal. The Territorial efficiency medal has been awarded to C.S.M. Bain and Sergts Reid D. and Smith S. B. Congratulations, comrades!

General.—We are glad to see Captain Warren amongst us again after his recent operation. He informs us that he has made a complete recovery, and that he has high hopes of seeing his wireless projects carried through this season.

Consternation.—No small misgiving has been expressed at the rumour that our super-fisherman Jim Tracy—authority on all things great and provider of immense bait—is about to leave us for Loch Ness.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 12th January.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new P.S.I.s, R.S.M. McCormick R. R., C.S.M. Maynard A. R. G., and Sergt McLachlan P. May their stay be a long and happy one!

Departures.—R.S.M. O'Connor D. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. C.S.M. Ellerbeck J. to 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. Sergt Green W. to Western Command, Chester.

Training.—Individual training commences this month, when a great effort will be made to bring the operating of the unit to a high standard.

Some very good work has been done by some of the Sections during the past month, and judging by the results obtained, competition will be very keen to win the Section trophy this year. (B Section, please note.)

Social.—Our Christmas festivities were again a great success. The mothers and children of the unit were entertained to a grand Christmas tree party, and once again we thank Madame Beaton and her troupe of juveniles for a grand afternoon's entertainment. Approximately 380 sat down to a fine tea. This was followed by the appearance of Father Christmas, ably impersonated by C.S.M. Ellerbeck, whom we shall be sorry to lose this year. Everyone remarked what a good father he was (sorry! I meant Father Christmas). Great credit is due to the committee, and especially to our new R.S.M., for making this show such a great success. He was greatly surprised at the number of children entertained, which by the way is the largest number we have had—which goes to prove that there is no apparent decrease in the birth rate in this part of the world as far as our members are concerned.

The Sergeants Mess Christmas draw was held on Friday 23rd December, and the prizes were *equally* shared—two of our new P.S.I.s, C.S.M. Maynard and Sergt McLachlan, taking seven between them. R.S.M. McCormick was unlucky. The first prize, a large Christmas hamper, was drawn by the wife of one of our corporals. She expressed her pleasure in writing to the committee. About a thousand tickets were sold and 179 prizes given. This constitutes a record for the Mess, and the committee are to be congratulated on such an excellent show.

The New Year's ball given by the warrant officers and n.c.o.s was held on Friday 29th December, and cordial greetings passed round at midnight. This was also a great success. We were honoured with a visit by our commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., during the evening. The entertainments committee are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Shooting.—Our air rifle team have this season created a record by defeating the league leaders. Our officers have now an air rifle target and are endeavouring to get fit to challenge the unit team. This should be an interesting match when it takes place.

The Company team are putting in some practice on the miniature range, and we hope to win back the Webber cup this year.

Greetings.—Sergt McLachlan would like to be remembered to all friends in dear old A Corps at Karachi and also at Bulford.

THE LEEK.

[Our Printers would appreciate it if The Leek would be good enough to forward the original sheets of his notes instead of a duplicate, which is often very faint and difficult to read, especially in artificial light.—ED.]

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

Headquarters.

General.—The annual children's Christmas tree party was held at Stratford on the 6th January, when a jolly evening's entertainment was given not only to the children of Headquarters and Nos. 1 and 2 Companies but to twelve poor children of the parish to whom an invitation was sent via the vicar of St. John's, Stratford. We were honoured by the presence of the Deputy Mayor, the Mayoress, and the children of the Mayor.

Over sixty children sat down to tea, and owing to the indisposition of the vicar, grace was said by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A. J. Walker, who deputised for His Worship the Mayor of West Ham, Alderman H. J. Rumsey, D.C.M., M.M., J.P.

The tea was followed by a romp, accompanied by Sergt Amor and his family band. The unit utilised the services of Mr. A. R. Philpott, who gave three plays with his Pantopuck Puppets: "Little Red Riding Hood," "Robinson Crusoe," and "Jack and the Beanstalk," which greatly amused the children. The Headquarters P.T. class gave displays, under the R.S.M., of physical training and gymnasia, and later they gave community singing and coon songs. They were dressed in Corps coloured costumes.

The tree was stripped, and oranges, apples and boxes of chocolates were given to the children. C.S.M. Hooper, as Father Christmas, was marched around the room to the tune of "Good King Wenceslas" by the P.T. chorus and band.

After the presentation of toys, the Deputy Mayor of West Ham spoke of the unit, the good work of the T.A. in the district, and the inability of His Worship the Mayor to attend on account of his late working hours. He expressed the Mayor's regret at not being present at the function, but we would realise from the decorations of the D.C.M. and M.M. which he held that his heart was with us. The Deputy Mayor then presented caskets of chocolates, on behalf of the unit, to the Mayoress of West Ham, to Mrs. Hooper, and her hard working staff, Miss E. Hooper and Mrs. Amor.

Our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., replied, thanking the Deputy Mayor for his kind words, and complimented the committee on the time and trouble they had taken to make the evening a huge success. He also complimented the P.T. class on their fine display and the standard they had reached in so short a time.

Jokes.—The jokes of the evening were on the P.S.I.s. The R.S.M. received a huge parcel addressed to "Master Freddie Dowie," which had to be opened on the stage. After five minutes cutting of string and undoing of wrappers, he eventually found a telephone, together with an ode to the R.S.M. hoping it will come in handy should our house phone go dis at any time. (Thanks very much, Sergt Finn and company; the coppers in the box came in very handy.) Sergt "Master Ernest" Hancock was next on the list, and he, after helping to cover the stage with litter, was the proud recipient of two feeding bottles; he is still looking for the third one!

The singing of "The King" concluded a very enjoyable evening.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual Sergeants Mess dinner will be held at The Green, Stratford, on Saturday 17th February. Mess members at Southend and Bedford attending will be under the same conditions as last year. Ex-members wishing to attend should apply to C.S.M. W. H. Hooper at Stratford.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Right here and now we wish everyone in the Corps a really happy and prosperous New Year. Rather belated, we know, but sincere. This was omitted from our last notes, so engrossed were we with the thought of Christmas!

It is usual for Companies, especially for those abroad, to get together on Christmas Day and celebrate, so it won't come quite as a surprise to read that No. 1 Company was well represented in the canteen here. Of course, the canteen has other attractions than its nice beer, namely a cosy fireside and—shirrup!—a radio. Oh, boy! what a P.R.I.! and isn't our William pleased and proud of the fact! He serves drinks, hot or cold, much better to jazz—and more often, too! On Christmas Day, we all listened (yes, actually listened, Harry and Percy) to the broadcast of greetings and the King's speech sent out to the Empire, and marvelled. Sergt Simons W. particularly asked that we should place on record the manner in which the whole Company, as one man, instinctively and immediately jumped to attention on the playing of the National Anthem. Good boys, eh, Bill!

Company Dance.—The dance held during December was one hundred per cent., and the committee thank all those who helped to make it so. C.Q.M.S. Warner E., who officiated as M.C. in the unavoidable absence of C.S.M. Simpson A., carried out his duties "as to the manner born." Even L/Corpl Hooker J., who always takes a "lion's share" in these affairs, was amazed to see how such a huge number of people could move about and enjoy it.

The committee have been so encouraged by this success that they have decided to hold another dance on the same evening as our children's Christmas party. These events will be duly reported in our next notes, and we hope that a good "double" has been backed.

Training.—In the midst of all our festivities we find quite a number of all ranks anxious to proceed with their Morse practice, and naturally these are amply catered for. Every Tuesday and Thursday evening a lecture room is nicely warmed and fitted out and work proceeds smoothly and progressively. This goes to show that our hopes for a record Trade Board this year are well founded, which is very encouraging.

In the large lecture room—now, of course, turned into a well equipped gymnasium—weak men are making themselves strong, and strong men, stronger; and the manner in which these people enjoy their exercises is a joy to behold. But when Butch can do the "scissors" properly, the R.Q.M.S. has decided to find him another job of work!

Our inter-Company boxing competition will have taken place by the time these notes appear in print, and the winning Company will receive the deserved congratulations of all. We of No. 1 wish we could have seen every man absorbing those tips on "how to bring that right cross across properly." Anyway, we did promise to fill up the cup, didn't we? The prizes given to the winners and runners-up of this competition are worth having, and as one Barnes remarked, "I'd even fight Len Harvey for one of those statuettes!"

Agony.—Ern and Vic. would like to enquire why of Jerry (of the 44th (Home Counties) Divl Signals) and congratulate him. Perhaps you would come up and see us some time, and bring Peter along too.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Congratulatory.—All ranks of No. 2 Company join in congratulating our O.C., Captain W. J. Wardle, on his recent marriage, and wish him and Mrs. Wardle a long and happy life.

General.—There is little to report of our activities for the last month. Our attendances still continue to be gratifying for the winter season, and there will be a further increase in the near future when the paid evening classes commence in February. Our boxing team continues to add to its numbers, and we hope at least to give our opponents a little run (no, not rum—*run*) before they life the coveted cup.

Social.—No. 2 Company dance, held on Saturday 30th December, was indeed a well attended affair; there was a danger at one time, I believe, of the walls of the drill hall bursting outwards. However, a good time was had by all (as the parish magazine has it) though things were certainly a trifle crushed towards the end owing to the large number present.

Programme for 1934.—This looks very interesting, and I can only say to those of No. 2 Company who want some news about it: "Come and see."

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—Christmas festivities now being over, we are hoping to settle down to a further year of interesting training. Attendances have started to rise again after the holidays, and we hope that by the time the paid classes commence on the 5th February we shall have a full muster.

The children's party held at headquarters, Stratford, was a great success, and everybody seemed to enjoy the fun. The

gymnastic display by personnel from headquarters, under R.S.M. Dowie, was the main item, and this turned out a splendid spectacle both for grown-ups and the children. A really good show.

Shooting.—This has slackened a bit owing to the holidays, but we are starting a regular programme of weekly and other shoots, and we hope to get the same support as last year.

S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

General.—After the usual festivities and the subsequent aftermath, we once more try to settle down to steady training in the lecture room.

Owing to the training grant being somewhat small we have had to select likely members for the trade classes which assemble next month. Attendances have somewhat improved, due no doubt to the fact that the competition caused through the possible inclusion in the paid trade classes has rather disturbed some of the dilatory members. Anyhow, we hope to present quite a number of operator signals at the next Trade Board in May.

Visual.—We note with pleasure that Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies have not yet lifted the C.O.'s prize for the meritorious standard. Well, I suppose that it is up to the Bedford Detachment to pull off the prize in the long run. Hard luck, Ernie and Jonno. Better luck next time.

Acknowledgments.—J.H.E. Nottingham: Thanks very much. We need them. S.V.S. Plymouth: Card received. Will write a line if you will forward address.

BEDFORDIAN.

. . . SPORTS NOTES . . .

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Hockey.—v. 11th Hussars (Army cup, first round) away, won by 5—0; v. Royal Air Force, Andover, home, drew at 1—1.

Football.—v. 11th Hussars, away, lost by 1—6.

Boxing.—The third and last phase of this unit's boxing took place at Aldershot on Tuesday 12th December. For the third time we suffered defeat at the hands of Aldershot Signals. We had to borrow two light heavies from the 5th Light and 9th Field Brigade R.A. to complete our team. The result of the match was a win for Aldershot Signals by three points, the final scores being 21—18.

Before enumerating the various fights, we congratulate the Aldershot Signals on their victory and thank them for their hospitality: our hearts were gladdened for the homeward journey!

[Aldershot Signals named first in each bout]

Feather—Sigmn Waterton v. Sigmn Beveridge. Beveridge showed more experience and, making use of it, won the fight.

Feather—Sigmn Taylor v. L/Corpl Bird. Bird showed up with a pretty left and, making free use of it, gained the verdict.

Light—Sigmn Duncan v. Sigmn Black. Duncan appeared the stronger and more experienced, scoring points very freely. Duncan's fight.

Light—Sigmn Botting v. Sigmn Notley. As in the previous fight, Botting appeared the stronger, but both eagerly mixed and absorbed a lot of punishment. Botting won on points: a good fight.

Light—Sigmn Herberts v. Driver Wright. Both mixed it eagerly, but Herberts' height and reach gave him the advantage and the fight.

Light—Sigmn Barker v. Driver Drury. A rather even match and not a lot in it. Barker's verdict.

Welter—L/Corpl Ringrose v. Sigmn Excell. Heavy hitting was the feature here and both tired towards the end. Excell's decision.

Welter—Sigmn Haughey v. Sigmn Barratt. Haughey boxed very well, and with his good defence Barratt found it difficult to score and lost on points.

Welter—Corpl Clarke v. Driver Maile. Driver Birtles should have fought here but was unfit, Maile (a light weight) pluckily stepping into the breach. He was no match for Clarke, however, and was knocked out in the first round.

Middle—Sigmn Rogers v. 2/Lieut. J. P. North. Two different stylists opposed each other here, and a good fight ensued. Rogers was awarded the verdict.

Middle—Sigmn Craddock v. Sigmn Sokell. Sokell carried the fight to Craddock all through the contest, flooring him several times in the last round. Sokell's fight.

Light heavy—Sergt Parker v. Gunner Jones (5th Light R.A.). A very good fight, with nothing in it. Jones, the younger, stayed better. Parker won.

Light heavy—Driver Parrish v. L/Bdr Tremaseur (R.A.). An old style fight: both toe to toe, swapping punches. Tremaseur was given the decision.

Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Meredith, M.C., kindly presented the prizes at the conclusion and congratulated all on such a good show, calling for three cheers for the losers. Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., replied by calling for three cheers for the winners, which were heartily given.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Soccer.—Since the last publication of our notes, the following matches have been played.

FIRST ELEVEN.

18/11/33 v. 4th (Q.O.) Hussars (E. and S. Border League) home, won by 5—2

25/11/33 v. Severalls (E. and S. Border League) home, lost by 0—5

30/11/33 v. R.A. Shoeburyness (third round Army cup), home, lost by 0—1

2/12/33 v. Brightlingsea (E. and S. Border League) away, lost by 1—3

9/12/33 v. Clacton (first round East Anglian cup) away, won by 3—2

6/ 1/34 v. Clacton (E. and S. Border League) away, drew at 1—1

13/ 1/34 v. Heybridge (Press cup) away, won by 6—5 after extra time.

SECOND ELEVEN.

16/11/33 v. Thursday Juniors (Thursday League) away, won by 4—2

23/11/33 v. Colco (Thursday League) away, won by 4—2

29/11/33 v. R.A.S.C. (Thursday League) home, lost by 1—4

7/12/33 v. R.E.C.I. (third round Thursday Hospital cup) away, lost by 2—3

11/ 1/34 v. R.A.M.C. (Thursday League) home, drew at 1—1

We lost our third round Army cup tie against R.A. Shoeburyness by one goal to nil after a finely fought game. Our opponents certainly showed the more constructive football, but we had our chances, especially in the later stages of the game.

One pleasing feature of the period under review is the win against Clacton in the first round of the East Anglian cup. We are now due to receive the winners of the Romford—Chelmsford tie, and with the help of one or two newcomers from abroad we hope to put up a creditable performance.

Corpl Palmer, L/Corpl Staley, Sigmn Marshall and Driver Souter have all left us for transfer to the Army Reserve. To each we wish the very best in his new surroundings. Pedlar and Harry have rendered yeoman service, and their positions are proving very difficult to fill. To L/Corpl Staley, our good wishes on his recent marriage and our thanks for the "undividable" piece of cake. Good shooting, Jock!

Hockey.—Since our last notes the hockey team have passed through varying fixtures which have been the hope and at times the despair of those running the game. After the drawn matches against the K.S.L.I., we were unexpectedly beaten by the Middlesex Regiment in a friendly game by 6—2. We then beat Clacton by 6—0 and lost to the R.A.F. Felixstowe by 2—3, but beat Sudbury by 4—2.

All this was very disturbing in view of our Army cup match against the Middlesex Regiment on the 27th November. However, we managed to pull this match off by 2—1 goals, but only after extra time had been utilised. Our forwards seemed to have very poor finishing powers and did not control the ball fully, but relied too much on the hit and run.

On the 2nd December a weakened side lost to the Ipswich Exiles by 2—3. In all probability the team were getting stale.

After a month's leave everybody came back very keen to beat the K.S.L.I. in the third round of the Army cup. There was no question of staleness now: after a game or two everybody seemed pretty fit. L/Corpl Moody deserted football to play left half for the hockey team. We beat Braintree by 4—0, the Beds and Herts by 4—0, and the Old Intermedians by 6—2. Then, playing the Beds and Herts on the 8th January, we only just scraped home by 4—3; in fact, until about fifteen minutes from the end we were led by 1—3, chiefly due to the weakness in the circle. Everybody was therefore fairly optimistic. But it was not to be.

The third round of the Army cup against the K.S.L.I. was played on a drying ground in quite a strong wind. From the bully off Signals pressed but failed to score. The K.S.L.I. then pinned us in our "25" and kept us there for about ten minutes. However, the defence managed to survive this hectic period, and once again we returned to the attack but missed a good chance in front of an open goal. Our failure to score in the first half had a bad effect on our forwards, and although they tried very hard, their efforts were too wild and individual. Half time arrived with no score.

The second half started with a strong K.S.L.I. attack, and owing to some excellent play on the right, coupled with a good centre well taken by their centre forward, they scored their first goal. This caused a renewed attack by Signals and for about ten minutes we severely tested their defence, but with no result. Then they broke away and scored again. Signals were, however, by no means beaten, and they returned to the attack with tremendous life, a good run down the left wing and a centre resulting in Semmence scoring our only goal. The attack was kept up, but no further goals were scored, many chances being missed. Just before the final whistle the K.S.L.I. returned to the attack and nearly scored again, but our defence held out.

For the winners, it must be said that they played better hockey and well deserved their victory; for the losers, that they were very fast but too wild. Had their inside forwards been able to hold the ball and play a more constructive game, the tables might have been reversed. We must congratulate the K.S.L.I. and wish them the best of luck in the Army cup.

The following represented the unit: Goal, Sigmn Keegan; backs, Lieut. Gardiner and Corpl Cooke; halves, Sigmn Robinson and L/Corporals Fitzpatrick and Moody; forwards, Corpl Coton, Signalmen Bond and Semmence, Sergt Male, Lieut.-Colonel Henderson. Reserves: Corporals Worth and Franklin and L/Corpl Clarke.

Rugby.—v. Shoeburyness Garrison, won by 24—0. The forwards led by Lieut. Denholm-Young, who kindly turned out for us, played well and had the Shoeburyness pack well beaten throughout the game except in the line outs. Of the outsides 2/Lieut. Goldsmith was much too fast for his opposite number; Larkin played a good game, and McPherson gave a fine cool display at full back. Tries were scored by Lieut. Denholm-Young, 2/Lieut. Goldsmith (2), Beckett, Larkin and Webb. Lieut. Denholm-Young converted three.

v. Lancashire Fusiliers, lost by 0—26. Although we could only field a weak side, this was a bad match for everybody except Larkin. The scrum was usually beaten for the ball, and bad defence did the rest.

v. Gypperwyk, lost by 6—12. This was quite a good match. Our forwards had the better of the game both in the tight and the loose. The three-quarters, however, wasted many opportunities by holding on to the ball too long and not running straight. 2/Lieut Goldsmith scored a good try after running half the length of the field and later kicked a penalty goal.

v. 27th Field Brigade R.A., won by 9—3. Possibly due to Christmas leave, this was not a very satisfactory game. The forwards were slow and scrums were bad. The outsides again wasted many chances by running across, due to not lining far enough back. Haines and Walker on the wings made the most of their opportunities. The tries were scored by Lieut. Hay and Haines (2).

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Rugby Union Football Notes.

v. Leeds Chirons.—Played at Scarborough on the 27th December. Owing to a number of our players being on annual furlough, we borrowed five Scarborough men to complete our team: three First Fifteen men (R. V. Guthrie, R. Rowe and P. Outwin) and two "A" team (L. Jeffries and W. Milner).

The game was played on the Scarborough ground at Newby, and attracted a good crowd who were well rewarded by a game of good football. The forwards were fairly evenly matched in the tight, but in the loose our men showed marked superiority. Several loose rushes by our forwards looked dangerous, but the Chirons backs defended well and in clearing generally found touch well up. It was as a result of one of these rushes that we opened our scoring. The Chirons full back kicked and the ball went into touch in the visitors' 25, and from the line out the ball was passed to Beaumont and then to Cooper, who worked the "scissors" neatly, passing back to Outwin. The latter came up at full speed and passed smartly to Fear, who crashed through three or four opponents to ground under the posts. R. V. Guthrie added the extra points. The Chirons now put on pressure, but only mid-field play resulted until half-time.

The visitors commenced the second half in storming fashion, but although they kept up a continuous pressure for the first ten minutes, they could not penetrate a sterling defence. A good clearance by our full back put our men on the offensive again, but it was not until ten minutes from the end that Milner took advantage of a faulty clearance by the visiting full back to kick ahead, and in a close race managed to increase our score by touching down well out. Cooper converted. Mid-field play continued until the end.

Result—5th Divl Signals 10 points (two goals), Leeds Chirons nil.

v. York Nomads.—Played at York on the 10th January. Our team for this match was Sigmn Kettlewell L.; Driver Hurst J., Sigmn Russell C., Sigmn Harrop C. and Sigmn Hall C.; Sigmn McTernan J. and Sigmn Stowers G.; Sigmn Parry L., Sigmn Sant H., Sigmn Beaumont C., L/Corpl Farmer N., L/Corporal Watts S., Sigmn Anthony E., Sigmn Malone F., and L/Corporal Wright H. R.

The Nomads, who include the pick of the York teams in their Wednesday side, turned out an exceptionally strong team and ran out winners by 27—6 points. Our pack was much the stronger, but the Nomads three-quarters were definitely superior. Their handling was perfect, as was the understanding between them. The left wing pair, Troop and Grieve (the former is a brother of the Hampshire, Army and International player) were brilliant and were responsible for four of the Nomads tries. Troop dropped a goal in the first minute. Then the play was taken to the Nomads 25, but their defence was sound and after ten minutes midfield play they went further ahead with a try from Grieve which was converted. Our men now commenced to press and Malone, getting possession just outside the Nomads 25, crashed his way through to reduce the score. Harrop failed with the kick. Just before half-time the Nomads left wing again broke through for another try, which was converted.

From the resumption our men set up strong pressure and were presently rewarded by a try from Watts. The same player just failed with the kick. For the last twenty minutes the Nomads pressed: and first, the right wing crossed for an unconverted try, and then Troop got away, sold the dummy neatly, and crossed for the best try of the match. The kick was successful.

Result—York Nomads 27 points (four goals, one dropped goal, one try), 5th Divl Signals 6 points (two tries).

Preliminary Round, Yorkshire County Cup: v. Bridlington—Played at Bridlington on the 13th January. Team—Signalman Kettlewell L.: Sigmn Russell C., Driver Hurst J., Sigmn Stowers

G., Sigmn Tumilty J. ; Sigmn McTernan J. and Sigmn Parry L. ; Sigmn Harrop C., Sigmn Sant H., Sigmn Beaumont C., L/Corpl Farmer N., L/Corpl Watts S., Sigmn Cooper A., Sigmn Anthony E., L/Corpl Wright H. R.

The winners of this tie were drawn to meet the winners of the Hornsea v. Scarborough game, and incidentally with choice of ground. The referee appointed by the Society failed to turn up, and a local man officiated.

Our men broke away from the commencement and Cooper, with only the back to beat, punted ahead but was held by the full back and the ball was made dead. Farmer opened our scoring with a good try after three minutes play: L/Corpl Watts received from Cooper and put Farmer through well out on the line. Cooper failed with the kick. Bridlington responded with determination and eventually levelled the scores with a try by Forman. The goal kick failed. Play went again to the Bridlington territory and Watts made an unsuccessful attempt to drop a goal. Midfield play ensued, but our men were pressing at the interval, when the score was three points each.

The Div. attacked on the resumption and kept Bridlington on the defensive for twenty minutes, during which period Watts, Cooper, Beaumont and Farmer went very close to scoring. The latter player got over for what appeared a certain try, but a touch down was awarded, although no Bridlington player touched the ball. Ten minutes from the end Cooper got over to give us the lead, but he failed with the kick. Five minutes later Farmer battered his way through to score near the flag. Parry failed with the kick. Our men continued to press to the end, but were unable to increase their score.

Result—5th Divl Signals 9 points (three tries), Bridlington 3 points (one try).

" B " Team v. York " B."—Played at York on the 6th January. Our "B" team won this match after a very good game. The team is improving with each game and settling down into a useful side. Result—5th Divl Signals "B" 11 points (one goal, two tries), York "B" nil.

TABLE TO DATE.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost		Points
First XV.	15	9	1	5	...	107—129
Second XV.....	6	3	0	3	...	41— 64
Third XV.	3	1	1	1	...	14— 17

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Hockey.—The Brigade hockey tournaments do not start this year until after the arrival of the 14/20th Hussars, so that only friendly games have been played up to date with the following results:—

Drew with Survey of India at 0—0
Lost to I Battery R.H.A. by 0—1
Beat the 28th M.T. Company by 3—2
Drew with I Battery R.H.A. at 1—1
Drew with 10/11th Sikhs at 2—2

Football.—This has not been altogether a very successful season, for in the second round of the Y.M.C.A. cup we lost to I Battery by 0—2 goals and in the Scissors cup we lost to No. 39 (Bombing) Squadron R.A.F. by 0—3 goals. In the Brigade cup, however, we defeated A Squadron 15th Hussars by 2—1 goals. In a friendly match against I Battery the game ended in a draw, each side scoring twice.

Cricket.—We offer our congratulations to three of our cricket team on being chosen to represent the Garrison: Sergts Minns and Peters and L/Corpl Rhodes.

On the 14th December we visited Peshawar and played the District Signals. Although they did not gain a decisive victory, they certainly gained a moral one, as the scores will show: Peshawar 98 and 87 for four wickets, Cavsigs 57 and 98 for nine.

This match was played on a grass wicket on the Peshawar Club ground—an unusual experience for the Troop team, who play normally on matting. The outstanding feature of this match was the fine all-round display by Sigmn Yarnell of Peshsigs, who came in at the last minute to fill a vacancy. Apart from being top scorer in the first innings, he caught three of our best men right on the boundary. Well done, Bob!

During the luncheon interval our commanding officer presented to Sergt Minns the cricket bat awarded for the highest batting average for the season. Sergt Minns' figures were 14.7 for twenty completed innings.

In this match Sergt Minns also completed his hundred wickets for the season for the first time in his career, at an average of 6.4 runs per wicket.

A most enjoyable and sporting day was spent, and all who travelled through with the team spent a very happy time.

An inter-Troop competition has been started, and the first match ended in a win for the Wireless Troop over the Visual Troop by 21 runs.

Hunting.—The hunting season has again started, and several of the Troop have been out with the local Hunt. Many good runs have taken place, and all who have been out have enjoyed themselves.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

14th November 1933.

Football.—Friendlies: v. the Lincolns Drums won by 4—0 (Whitehead 2, Bryce, Convey); v. R.A.M.C. won by 6—1 (Whitehead 4, Convey 2) and 4—2 (Convey, Drake, Buttery, one through own goal).

League—v. R.E. lost by 2—3 (Drake, Convey); v. R.A.O.C. won by 2—0 (Bryce, Cord penalty); v. 20th Battery R.A. lost by 0—4; v. 12th Battery R.A. drew at 1—1 (Buttery).

Hockey.—Friendlies: v. Club de Recrio drew at 1—1 (Neale); v. H.K.S. Brigade R.A. won by 2—0 (Convey, Smith); v. St. Andrew's lost by 0—2. Signals Second Eleven v. Mule Corps Second Eleven lost by 0—2.

League—v. H.K. Mule Corps lost by 0—1.

Tennis.—In the final of the Section tennis tournament, Sigmn Lomax beat L/Corpl Rafferty.

11th December 1933.

Hockey.—We've struck a bad patch in the Mamak League, and everyone is hoping that we are meeting the best teams first. League—v. R.E. drew at 3—3 (Convey); v. St. Andrew's lost by 0—6; v. Kowloon Indians lost by 0—3. Friendly—v. Club de Recrio lost by 1—3 (Convey).

Soccer.—v. Lincoln Regiment won by 7—2 (Convey 4, Austen, Pope, Fielding); v. R.A.S.C. lost by 1—7 (Convey) and won by 5—2 (Bryce, Cord 4).

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Owing to the small strength of the Section our activities in winter sports are confined solely to football. Our enthusiasm in this sphere perhaps exceeds our skill, as our victories to date have been woefully few! As our games are without exception played against units much stronger numerically, the results shown below are hardly a true guide to our capabilities, and our players really deserve to be congratulated upon their performances to date. The matches played during December resulted as follows:

v. H.M.S. *Achates*, lost by 0—1 (friendly)
v. H.M.S. *Boedicea*, lost by 1—4 (friendly)
v. H.M.S. *Acasta*, lost by 1—2 (friendly)
v. 27th Battery R.A. lost by 2—4 ("B" League)
v. H.M.S. *Acasta*, won by 3—1 (friendly)
v. R.A.S.C. drawn at 2—2 (friendly)
v. H.M.S. *Anthony*, lost by 2—3 (friendly)
v. 29th Battery R.A. lost by 3—4 ("B" League)

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Sport.—The 47th Divl Football ("B" Div.) cup final resulted in a win for us over the London Scottish by 3—0. Yes, that's the result of the final played on Saturday 13th January. A party of players and supporters, about thirty strong, travelled down to Hayes, Kent, to the London Scottish ground, where the match was played. We had the best of the game from the start, and play was pretty fast throughout. The Jocks—who were unfortunately playing short-handed owing to one of their men being rather badly injured during the first few minutes of the game—broke through a few times, but our defence was too strong for them and they failed to score. Half-time saw us with two goals to our credit. But for the fine play of the Scottish goalkeeper, who was kept very busy, and the packing of their goal, the total score would certainly have been considerably more than it was. Signalmen Hudson, Brocklesby and Lamerton were the scorers.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XV.—No. 169 MARCH, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

This month we have to congratulate our Territorial brethren of the 56th London Divisional Signals on the splendid show they staged for the opening of their new Headquarters at Signals House, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, London, S.W., by H.R.H. the Duke of York (accompanied by the Duchess) on Saturday 10th February. Their Royal Highnesses were received by the Lord Mayor of London, the Lady Mayoress, and Lieut.-Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., commanding officer of the unit.

In his speech of welcome, Colonel Ozanne described the new Headquarters as the finest of their kind in existence. He also expressed the hope that as the unit was at present well under establishment, the new surroundings would encourage recruits—to whom he extended a hearty invitation.

Among the many distinguished guests present were Brigadier-General the Earl of Lucan and the Countess of Lucan, Colonel the Lord Wakefield and Lady Wakefield, Colonel the Lord Basing and Lady Basing, the Mayor and Mayoress of Wandsworth, Col. the Hon. Arthur Brodrick, Wing Commander Sir Norman Leslie and Lady Leslie, Sir Herbert and Lady Creedy, General Sir Hubert Gough and Lady Gough, the Marchese and Marchesa Marconi, General and Mrs. Dugan, Major-General C. J. C. Grant and Lady Sybil Grant, Lieut.-General C. Bonham-Carter, Colonel J. Waley-Cohen, Colonel Evelyn Wood, Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchins and Mrs. Hitchins, Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge, and Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge.

The opening ceremony was reported by *The Daily Telegraph* as follows:—

The Duke of York spoke in high praise of the Territorial Army. He referred to it as a citizen army recruited on voluntary and not on corrupt lines, and as such it deserved the consideration and respect not only of our own countrymen, but also those of other nations. Its constitution and training are such that it is obviously unfitted to take part in a sudden aggressive war. In view of the short training it receives, however, the standard of efficiency attained by all ranks bears witness to the keenness and good comradeship which service in the Territorial Army calls forth in its officers, n.c.o.s and men. The 56th London Divisional Signals was formerly part of the 1st London Division Royal Engineers, and in 1908 was known as the 1st London Divisional Telegraph Company. It had, said the Duke, played an important part in all recent campaigns; and as a highly technical Corps, whose activities extended from the base to the most forward fighting troops, it required men of exceptional qualifications. It was most important for the well-being of the Territorial Army that they should be accommodated in districts where units could attract the right type of recruits, and Clapham had been chosen as such a district. " I wish you all success and good comradeship, and may you always be up to strength," he added.

[We hope to publish illustrations in next month's issue.—ED.]

❀ ❀ ❀

The Royal Tournament at Olympia.—In recent years Royal Signals have contributed largely and very successfully to the Royal Tournament programme, and this year they will be well represented by composite detachments from the 26th and 27th Air Defence Brigades of the Territorial Army.

A well-known correspondent refers to this entirely novel innovation as a welcome recognition of the part that the Territorial Army plays in the scheme of National Defence. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for the public to see and appreciate something of the work that our citizen soldiers perform. It is understood that at this year's Tournament the Territorial "scene" will be presented at each evening performance and will last about a quarter of an hour. The aim will be to bring out first the Citizen Army aspect, and then the Air Defence aspect. For this purpose it will probably show the men coming in plain clothes from their normal occupations. They will then reappear in uniform to man guns and searchlights; finally dealing with a flight of hostile aircraft which will be shown " passing over " Olympia. It is certainly appropriate that the Air Defence Brigades should be chosen to introduce the Territorial Army into the Royal

Tournament; for in the event of war they would almost certainly be the first part to come into action. Indeed, they might well be called on before any part of the Regular Army.

A most ambitious programme! and we tender our best wishes to Air Defence Formations Signals (T.A.) for the ultimate success of their efforts.

❀ ❀ ❀

The following note from a correspondent refers to the late 2/Lieut. L. F. Fenton, R.Signals. The 10th March, being the anniversary of his birthday, recalls the tragic circumstances of his death.

"On August 16th 1930 2/Lieut. Fenton was motor cycling on leave, near Madeley station, Shropshire, when he was thrown from his machine and fatally injured. The verdict was 'accidental death, accelerated by the bad state of the road.'

"2/Lieut. Fenton was born on the 10th March 1909, and was the son of Captain and Mrs. Fenton (The Loyal Regiment) of Beaconsfield Queensway, Penwortham Hill, near Preston, Lancs. He was educated at Preston and entered the R.M.A. Woolwich in February 1928, being subsequently commissioned in the Royal Corps of Signals in August 1929.

"An extremely keen officer, he was prominent, both at school and during his brief military career, as a promising athlete, especially at the long jump and foils. He successfully represented the R.M.A. in foils against Sandhurst. At the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, he showed great promise, and his sad death robbed the Corps of a popular and valuable officer."

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked by Mr. Peter Berry, late of Rhine Army Signals and now c/o Public Works Department, Kenya, Kenya Colony, British East Africa, to inform his many friends amongst THE WIRE readers that he hopes to be home on leave at the end of April next. His address whilst on leave will be c/o The Overseas Club, St. James's Street, London, and it would give him undoubted pleasure to entertain any of his old acquaintances who care to pay him a visit.

❀ ❀ ❀

Aldershot Re-union of Royal Signals Old Comrades.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Aldershot Branch of the Signals Association will be "at home" to all Royal Signals old comrades on the 28th and 29th July. Further particulars will be published in these columns in due course.

❀ ❀ ❀

Re-union of Old Comrades in the North of England.—It is also notified for general information that an Old Comrades Re-union is being organised for the North of England and will be held at Scarborough, Yorks, on the 9th and 10th June next, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding 5th Divl Signals.

The organisers hope that as many old comrades as possible will attend this function, as it is hoped to inaugurate a new Branch of the Signals Association for active work in that area. Further particulars can be obtained on application in writing to the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command Headquarters, York.

❀ ❀ ❀

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition).—Will Unit Representatives kindly note and inform their respective members that the revised and up-to-date edition of the above publication is now on sale at this office, price 1/- per copy (post free at home and abroad).

❀ ❀ ❀

Kohat District Signals, India.—We are receiving many letters from THE WIRE readers, lamenting the absence of news from Kohat in recent issues of the Magazine. Our reply in each instance has been consolatory and to the effect that we have every reason to believe the unit in question is flourishing and that its tail is still "wagging."

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of "The Wire," 1933.—A limited number of copies of the 1933 bound volume is still available to those requiring them. Price 8/- per copy (post free at home and abroad).

❀ ❀ ❀

Late News.—The 50th Divisional Signals, T.A., with 43 points, won the Divisional boxing championship at Newcastle on the 17th February. The holders, the 6th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, with 29 points, were runners-up. Full details will be published in next month's issue.

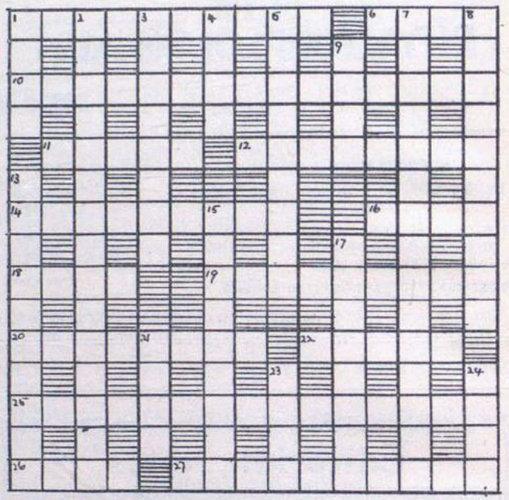
❀ ❀ ❀

Note to Unit Correspondents.—Owing to the incidence of the Easter holidays, our printers will have to go to press with the April issue a few days earlier than usual. Correspondents are therefore asked for their co-operation by ensuring that their notes reach this office on *March 16th*—the usual date for closing down and going to press.

THE EDITOR.

Cross-Word Puzzle : No. 9.

[For amusement only]



Clues—Across.

[Figures in parentheses denote number of letters required.]

1 Eraf (*two words*) (6, 4)
6 Two tanners can make this (*two words*) (1, 3)
10 The road of sin? (*three words*) (3, 5, 7)
11 This after flying is a good get-away (5)
12 The Three Kings of Cologne were . . . . (*two words*) (4, 4)
14 Takes in things though looking absent about the eye (9)
16 It's security with time (4)
18 She returns to eat (4)
19 Useful instrument for a hiker (9)
20 In lotion (*anag.*) (8)
22 In a different manner with half of eleven (5)
25 Usually follow engagements (15)
26 Home of the Magi (4)
27 Peculiarity of constitution (10)

Down.

1 It's not the truth she's lost a letter (4)
2 Equal to a sovereign (*two words*) (6, 9)
3 Unusual echo (*two words*) (4, 4)
4 Over nothing it's afraid of nothing (4)
5 Oh, I rested (*anag.*) (9)
7 A suburban notice ending in the plural might serve as a warning at the White City (*four words*) (6, 2, 3, 4)
8 Cutters that sound like nursery lads (10)
9 O Reg. a giant! (4)
13 A clean Bert in the temple (10)
15 I expel Tod (*anag.*) (9)
17 Aper (8)
21 This pie is not necessarily bitter (4)
23 Muse who presided over History (4)
24 Exists twice as a goddess (4)

Signals Association Notes

Will Unit Representatives kindly note and inform their members that Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command are holding SIGNALS WEEK during the period 21st to 28th July.

The Aldershot Branch of the Signals Association will be "at home" to all old comrades of the Association on Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th July. Further particulars will be published in these columns in due course.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Ex-Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-N.C.O. London	Lorry Driver
2	Ex-Signalman, Edinburgh	Labourer
3	Ex-Signalman, Edinburgh	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Edinburgh	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Automobile Assoc. Patrol
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Automobile Assoc. Patrol
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Automobile Assoc. Patrol
9	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Chauffeur
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Carpenter
11	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Automobile Assoc. Patrol
13	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Domestic Service
14	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Porter
15	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Postman
16	Ex-N.C.O. London	Stores Inspector
17	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Government Employ
22	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
24	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
25	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
27	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
28	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
29	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
30	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Garage Hand
32	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
33	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
34	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Postman
35	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Garage Hand
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Factory Hand
38	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
39	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
41	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
42	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Plasterer
43	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
44	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
45	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Carpenter
46	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
47	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
48	Ex-Signalman, London	Machinist

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
2/Lieut. P. A. Watts
2/Lieut. L. E. Thorpe
2/Lieut. J. M. Smith-Ainsley
2/Lieut. G. H. Starr

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CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
E Troop, Cavalry Divisicnal Signals, Tidworth
Westminster Branch, Signals Association
Sergeants Mess, 54th E.A. Divl Signals (T.A.) Stratford, E.
Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar, India

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Dagenham.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
2	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
3	Ex-Signalman, Darlington.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
4	Ex-Signalman, Ashton-under-Lyne.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
5	Ex-Signalman, Alconbury.	Domestic difficulties. £1 grant
6	Ex-Signalman, Surrey.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
7	Ex-Signalman, Hastings.	Domestic difficulties. £2/10/0 grant
8	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
9	Ex-Signalman, Darlington.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
10	Ex-Signalman, Leeds.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
11	Ex-Signalman, North Wales.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
12	Widow of ex-Sigmn, London.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
13	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
14	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £2/2/0 grant

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

Correspondence.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham.
16th February 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir. The following is notified for publication in the March 1934 WIRE.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll.

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants. 27/1/30
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File. 20/4/29

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale from 1st Divl Signals to A Corps Sigs.
Major H. A. J. Parsons from Staff to Aldershot (2nd D/S)
Brevet-Major R. F. H. Nalder from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Captain R. H. Wall from Bulford to India (3rd Indian D/S)
Captain W. M. Clapp from India to Colchester (4th D/S)
Captain J. B. Hickman from Aldershot to Palestine
Captain A. J. Hannah from Belfast to India (S.T.C.)
Capt. R. L. M. Rosenberg from Catterick to India (2nd I. D/S)
Lieut. T. W. Boileau from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. J. B. Ellis from Aldershot to India (2nd Indian D/S)
Lieut. E. J. H. Moppett from Catterick to Singapore
Lieut. R. A. Conner from Aldershot to India (3rd Indian D/S)
Lieut. E. H. Clarke from Aldershot to India (B C/S)
Lieut. N. E. I. Pocock from Aldershot to India (3rd Indian D/S)
Lieut. E. P. Blake from Scarborough to India (Peshawar D/S)
Lieut. J. T. Addenbrooke from Aldershot to India (Kohat)
Lieut. J. R. G. Walker from Aldershot to India (1st Indian D/S)
Lieut. C. D. Gardiner from Colchester to India (1st Indian D/S)
Lieut. F. R. Booth from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. H. D. Mountford from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. F. R. B. Moore from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
2/Lieut G. S. K. Maydon from Catterick to Aldershot (1st D/S)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 19/1/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

56th (1st L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. P. Allen-Williams resigns his commission 28/12/33

War Office 23/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain N. H. Edes remains seconded whilst a student at the Staff College, 21/1/34

War Office 26/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Captains to be seconded whilst students at the Staff College 21/1/34: H. E. Rance and L. R. Hall, M.C.
Lieut. H. Gough is seconded for service with the R.A.P.C. 2/1/34

R.A.P.C.—

Lieut. H. Gough, R.Signals, to be Lieut. and Paymaster (on probation) 2/10/33

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Captain M. S. Wheatley, R.Signals, relinquishes his appointment as Officer of a Company of G.C., R.M.A. 17/1/34
Captain J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., R.Signals, to be Officer of a Company of G.C. at the R.M.A. 17/1/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

H. Pickard to be 2/Lieut. 27/1/34

War Office 30/1/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieuts. 29/1/34:—E. C. Nicholls, A. R. Reeder, C. H. Stoneley, A. J. Hamilton, M. A. Lloyd
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick to be Adjutant 11/12/33 vice Capt. F. T. Pope
Capt. M. S. Wheatley is restored to the Establishment 17/1/34
Lieut. D. R. Paterson to be Captain 31/1/34
Lieut. F. J. G. Lyle resigns his commission 30/1/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Captain N. H. Edes, R.Signals, relinquishes his appointment as 2nd Military Member (Cl. CC) R.E. Board, 21/1/34
Captain F. S. Thompson, R.Signals, to be 2nd Military Member (Cl. CC) R.E. Board, 21/1/34

War Office 2/2/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain F. S. Thompson is seconded for service with the R.E. Board 21/1/34
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the R.M.A. to be 2/Lieuts. 1/2/34:—R. G. Miller, E. F. Mervyn-Smith, G. H. Starr, W. H. L. Gordon, J. W. Smith-Ainsley, L. E. Thorpe, P. A. Watts.
The undermentioned Gentleman Cadet from the R.M.C. to be 2/Lieut. 1/2/34:—G. Walton

War Office 6/2/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. D. J. Goldsmith to be Lieut. 29/1/34

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Lincoln, M.C., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the R. of O. 2/2/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. F. Smith resigns his commission 12/1/34

War Office 9/2/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., is seconded whilst employed as an Officer of a Company of G.C. at the R.M.A. 17/1/34
The undermentioned 2/Lieuts. to be Lieuts. 29/1/34:—D. H. Prissick, R. Pearce, G. M. de M. Blum.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—J. W. Grundy to be 2/Lt. 10/2/34
50th (N.) Divl Signals—G. Hammonds to be 2/Lieut. 10/2/34

War Office 13/2/34

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel (temporary Brigadier) C. H. Prickett, D.S.O., retires on retired pay 11/2/34 and is granted the hon. rank of Brigadier on retirement
Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C. to the King, retires on an Indian pension 11/2/34
Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., half pay, retires on retired pay 14/2/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Colonel (temporary Brigadier) C. H. Prickett, D.S.O. relinquishes the appointment of Commandant S.T.C. and the temporary rank of Brigadier 11/2/34

COMMANDS AND STAFF—

Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C. to the King, relinquishes his appointment as C.S.O. Aldershot Command 11/2/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., resigns his commission on appointment to the T.A. 16/1/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L.) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel F. L. Robertson, M.C., retires on completion of tenure of command and retains that rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform 16/1/34
Major J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., from Supplementary Reserve, R.Signals, to be Lieut.-Colonel 16/1/34

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Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on the opposite page. The subscription is only Two Shillings per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

Vocational Training Compared With Apprenticeship.

The Apprentice Learns by Seeing, but the Vocational Student Learns by Doing.

We all know that comparisons are odious, but as there is a tendency to compare vocational training with apprenticeship, the opinion of R. W. Selvidge is well worth reading.

He has studied industrial training and says that, except in those rare instances where apprenticeship schools are maintained in the industry, instruction for the apprentice in any real sense does not exist. Even in trades where the apprenticeship is well established, little thought is given to systematic training and advancement!

What The Apprentice Learns.

The apprentice is generally an irresponsible youth who acquires his knowledge of the trade by watching and waiting on a craftsman, with just an occasional word of instruction. Little instruction is given on the job, and practically nothing is done to teach him how to use his tools or to perform the manipulative operations of his trade. The first thing he learns is to push trucks, and the second to make tea.

The only training he gets is one or two hours a week during the winter should he attend a Technical School.

Compare this with the definite training received by the students in a Vocational Training Centre. First, the use and manipulation of tools, followed by simple exercises and preliminary instruction; then gradually being taken on from the simple to the more difficult work, the student, the whole time, actually using the tools himself and working under the supervision of a skilled instructor, who directs the work and checks it for faults. During the whole period of his training the vocational student is learning by "doing."

Vocational Students Do Real Jobs.

We agree that the ability to perform in a skilled manner the normal operations of the trade is not a sufficient basis for classifying a man as a skilled mechanic; he must have experience in the practice of his trade, and we know there is some talk of our students lacking experience. But do they? During the latter part of their training they carry out jobs without the aid of the instructor, and in this way gain experience and confidence in tackling jobs under different circumstances. We realise that our students, in six months, cannot hope to gain the experience that some men gather in sixty years, but the experience of some of those men is not worth twopence a ton! Many men only just manage to hold down their jobs by the skin of their teeth, and make a botch of many of the jobs they do. That's the kind of experience we prefer our students *not* to have.

A Great Difference.

Go to the employer of apprentices and try to get from him some detail of the skill or knowledge of the trade which he expects an apprentice to have at the end of his term of apprenticeship; try to get from him a definite list of the things he expects to teach the apprentice during the first month, or the first three months, and so on through the entire period of apprenticeship. In only the most exceptional cases can the employer afford to study the particular things which should be taught or have any organised plan for teaching them.

This is very different from the definite training given in a Vocational Training Centre, with its progressive course of instruction.

Some say that a Vocational Centre cannot create work conditions similar to those in industry. This is a mistaken idea: the Centre can and does. The students spend most of their time in training under conditions similar to those in which they will work in civil life.

Whilst it is not suggested that we consider vocational training to be perfect, we are convinced that, given normal brains, physical ability and common sense, a vocationally trained student compares favourably with an apprentice.

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10th Divisional Signal Company, 1914 - 18

The fourteenth annual reunion dinner was held at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, on the 20th January last. Despite the fact that a few of the "pillars" of the Company could not be present owing to bereavement in the family, illness, etc., the number attending was the largest for several years.

In the unavoidable absence of Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Royal Signals, the chair was taken by Major C. C. S. White, R.E., who served with the Company during the war and had recently returned from India. He filled the gap admirably, and the writer tenders his appreciation.

Ex-R.S.M. Rose, D.C.M., R.E., supported the chairman, and his journey from Limerick specifically for this event is regarded as a magnificent effort.

It was particularly pleasing to welcome a few who had not previously attended these annual functions. They had changed so little in appearance since 1918 that they were easily recognised, and it can be concluded that post-war problems have not unduly worried them.

Letters regretting their inability to be present were received from Brigadier Prickett, Lieut.-Colonel Wemyss, Major Barker (R.E.), Major Webb, Captain Darling (Royal Signals), Captain Smith, Lieut. W. T. Benslyn, ex-C.S.M. Ecuyer J., and many others.

The complete absence of formality, and the variety of different trades and professions gathered together from all parts of the country to live over again the events of their Army life, could not but result in a very enjoyable evening. The esprit de corps which prevailed, and which was fostered by commanding officers during the years 1914-1918, still exists; and as the "acid test," so far as trade depression is concerned, has surely been passed, the function will continue for many years.

The next dinner will be held in Leeds in January 1935.

J.J.G.

Polo at Rawalpindi.

So far this season two polo tournaments have been played in Rawalpindi, and the Royal Signals teams have met with a certain amount of success although failing to win either tournament. There yet remains the Tradesmen's Cup to be played for in March, and the Royal Signals team will certainly make a strong bid for this trophy.

December Low Handicap Tournament.

The following teams entered:—P.A.V.O. Cavalry "X," P.A.V.O. Cavalry "Y," P.A.V.O. Cavalry "Z," 4th Field Brigade R.A., Royal Signals and I.A.S.C.

First Round: Royal Signals v. P.A.V.O. Cavalry "Z."

In the first round the Royal Signals were drawn against the Cavalry "Z," the former winning by five and a half goals to two after receiving a half goal on handicap.

FIRST CHUKKER.—Play was opening, Signals clearing from a free hit awarded the Cavalry. Play returned to midfield, from whence the Cavalry got away but hit wide. The next run by Signals produced a goal, Good scoring. Before the close of the chukker Morgan combined well with Good for the latter to put Signals further ahead.

SECOND CHUKKER.—Cavalry tried to score from a 60 yards hit, and Smelt took the ball down for Morgan to find the flags. No further scoring took place, although the Cavalry made some good runs.

THIRD CHUKKER.—The Signals hit wide on opening and the Cavalry transferred play to the other end with a long run, but the final hit went wide. Near the close of the chukker Good scored for Signals.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—The Cavalry got away from midfield and Knowles scored after a hard gallop down the side lines. Tatham was next prominent for the Cavalry, adding a second goal for them with a neat cut shot. A 60 yards hit to Signals produced the fifth goal, Morgan sending through.

Teams—Royal Signals: Mr. J. N. Barker, Mr. E. D. Good, Captain Morgan and Major Smelt. Cavalry "Z": Mr. Buckston, Captain Knowles, Captain Tatham and Mr. Orr.

Semi-Final: Royal Signals v. I.A.S.C.

This game resulted in a win for Signals by four goals to one. I.A.S.C. received one goal on handicap.

FIRST CHUKKER.—Signals attacked and, after several mishits near the I.A.S.C. goal, Good sent wide. A free hit against Signals was cleared and Smelt passed up to Morgan, who scored.

SECOND CHUKKER.—Early in the chukker Signals took the lead, Barker scoring. Good and Barker next got clear away from midfield for Morgan to finish off a good combined run with another goal. Warren failed narrowly after a long run and, returning to the attack, both Jeffs and Cunningham came near scoring.

THIRD CHUKKER.—Warren and Jeffs, combining well, put Signals on the defensive, but a shot for goal just missed the post. After Morgan had missed with a high shot, Warren and Loup combined in a run down the side, Warren's shot going wide.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—Barker met a weak hit in from behind and sent back into the goalmouth for Good to find the flags. Loup was nearly through, but Smelt intercepted his shot and sent Barker away to the other end. Cunningham made a great effort near the close but was ridden off, and play returned to midfield as the halt sounded.

Teams—Royal Signals: Mr. Barker, Mr. Good, Captain Morgan and Major Smelt. I.A.S.C.: Captain Cunningham, Captain Loup, Captain Warren and Captain Jeffs.

Final: P.A.V.O. Cavalry "Y" v. Royal Signals.

This game resulted in a win for the Cavalry by six goals to four and a half after conceding one and a half goals on handicap.

FIRST CHUKKER.—Cavalry opened the attack, Hanmer eventually scoring with a good near side shot. On changing ends Signals attacked, Garstin saving. Then Bayer initiated an attack which ended in Hanmer again scoring after several shots had been saved. Hanmer added the third goal with another near side shot. Signals attacked, but Barker hit wide.

SECOND CHUKKER.—The Cavalry hit in from behind but were held until Bayer let Hanmer away. Morgan quickly returned play to the Cavalry goal for Good to score. On changing ends Morgan broke away and scored, his shot going in off the goalpost. The chukker closed when the Cavalry hit behind their own line in defending.

THIRD CHUKKER.—Morgan took the 60 yards hit, which was cleared, and after a hard gallop he hit the post with a near side shot, the ball going wide. Hanmer was nearly through, but Smelt rode him off. Recovering, he scored with a shot from a very acute angle. Good got away from the centre but sent wide from close in, and the Cavalry went straight down from the hit in for Bayer to score.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—Signals pressed on opening but missed a sitter. Barker next missed a scoring chance, and then Morgan scored with a good shot to reduce the Cavalry's lead to half a goal. In the last few minutes, from an exciting mêlée in the Signals goalmouth, the Cavalry added another goal to put the issue beyond doubt.

Murree Brewery Polo Tournament.

Royal Signals entered two teams for this tournament—the "B" team losing to the Cavalry "B" in the first round and the "A" team losing to the Cavalry "A" in the semi-final. Two officers from the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur (Captain Duvivier and Mr. Knox) and Mr. Patterson from the 2nd Cavalry Signal Troop, Sialkot, were brought in to complete the teams. Although well beaten, our "A" team put up a good show against an experienced team who had a great advantage in team work and in ponies. The Cavalry "A," the ultimate winners, had a total handicap of 18, and are in fact the team now representing the P.A.V.O. Cavalry in the Indian Cavalry and inter-Regimental polo tournaments.

P.A.V.O. Cavalry "B" v. Royal Signals "B."

Royal Signals started plus two and a half goals on handicap.

FIRST CHUKKER.—Wheeler got away from the centre, unmarked, and scored. After Duvivier had held Knowles and Wheeler, the former got possession and scored. Browne added the Cavalry's third goal.

SECOND CHUKKER.—Signals were mainly on the defensive, but after Knowles had scored Whistler and Barker had a long run before the former sent wide. Bayer scored before the end of the chukker.

THIRD CHUKKER.—Whistler got away, well supported by Hyde, but Bayer cleared, and after another Signals attack had failed the Cavalry took play to the other end, where Knowles scored. Immediately on changing ends Bayer added another goal.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—Signals improved and Barker got away, the move being continued by Whistler, who hit wide. Barker again sent the forwards away, but Bayer cleared. Cavalry next attacked and Wheeler sent wide.

Final score—P.A.V.O. Cavalry "B" 7, Royal Signals "B" 2½.

Teams—Cavalry "B": Captain Knowles, Mr. Browne, Captain Wheeler and Major Bayer. Royal Signals "B": Mr. Hyde, Mr. Whistler, Mr. Barker and Captain Duvivier.

Royal Artillery v. Royal Signals "A."

The Royal Signals "A" team won by nine goals to three after conceding three goals on handicap.

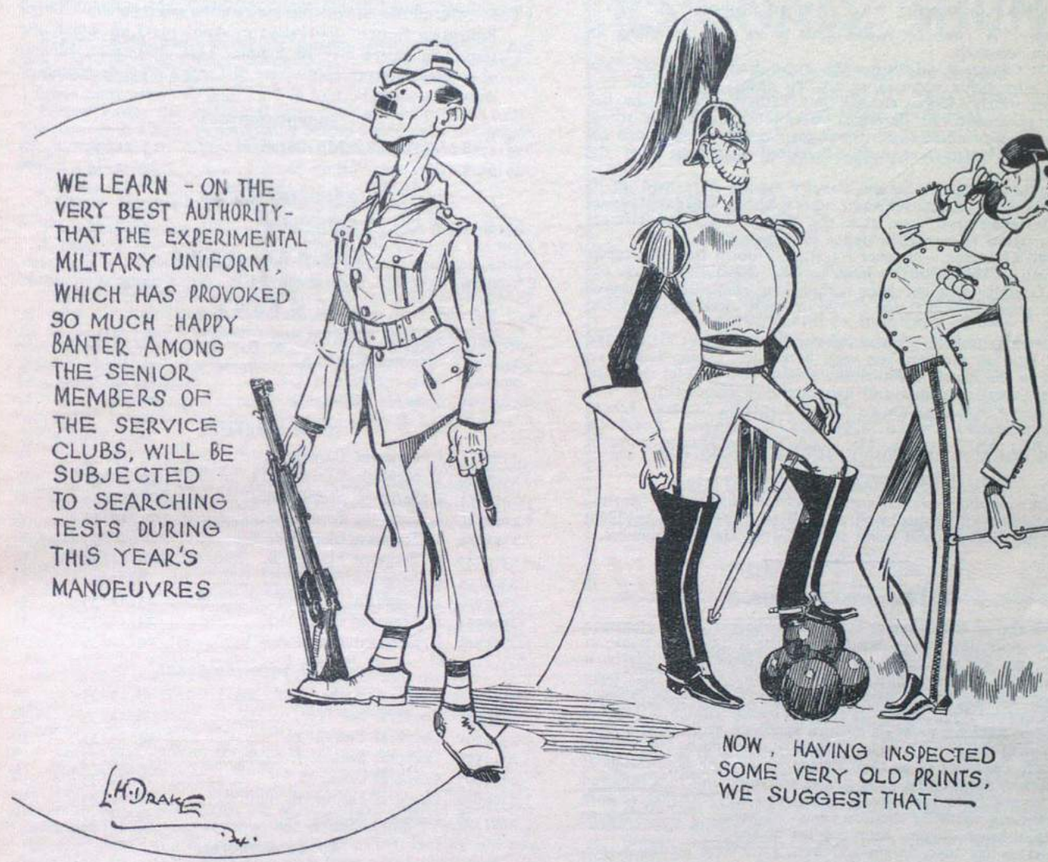
FIRST CHUKKER.—From midfield Signals went straight for goal and Morgan scored. They again got away from the centre, but Knox's shot was cleared by Ord. After Ord had sent Myburgh away, Signals returned to the attack and shots from Patterson and Good were cleared before the latter scored.

SECOND CHUKKER.—The Gunners hit in from behind and Patterson sent wide. Another faulty clearance gave Good possession, and he scored to put the teams on level terms. A 60 yards hit to Signals, taken by Morgan, was stopped, but he followed up to score. Morgan immediately put the Signals further ahead, on changing ends, with a long solo run. The Gunners then pressed, but shots from Saunders and Ord both failed.

THIRD CHUKKER.—Ord cleared a Signals attack to let Saunders away, but the latter shot wide. Patterson scored after Morgan had sent in a long hit. Knox passed up to Morgan for the latter to score before the close of the chukker.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—The chukker opened with a 60 yards hit to the Gunners, which Ord sent wide. A long run down the side line by Knox and Morgan resulted in Patterson scoring from the former's centre. Morgan next went through and Good scored an easy goal.

"MILITARY MODES." By L. H. DRAKE



Teams—Royal Artillery: Major Myburgh, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Tuson and Mr. Ord. Royal Signals "A": Mr. Patterson, Mr. Good, Captain Morgan and Mr. Knox.

P.A.V.O. Cavalry "A" v. Royal Signals "A."

Cavalry "A" won by twelve goals to six after conceding six goals on handicap.

FIRST CHUKKER.—Tatham got away from the centre and scored after Knox had cleared his first shot. Sanger sent in a long hit which Morgan cleared, but Tatham returned the ball to the goalmouth for Beresford to score. Sanger next scored after a series of mishits near the Signals' goal. Signals then got away but Morgan sent wide. Beresford scored to close the chukker.

SECOND CHUKKER.—Several Cavalry attacks were held up by Morgan and Knox before Sanger scored with a long hit. Sanger put the teams level soon after the change over, and Hanmer and Beresford then each added a goal before the close.

THIRD CHUKKER.—Hanmer hit straight down from the centre and Tatham, taking up his pass, scored. Signals got away, but Good failed to find the flags with a long shot. Sanger scored with a powerful shot from a difficult angle after Beresford had missed.

FOURTH CHUKKER.—Signals pressed, but Hanmer cleared and scored after an excellent run with Beresford. Again Signals returned to the attack and two shots went just wide of the post. Tatham scored the final goal just as the hait sounded.

Teams—P.A.V.O. Cavalry "A": Captain Tatham, Lieut.-Colonel Beresford, Captain Sanger and Mr. Hanmer. Royal Signals "A": Mr. Patterson, Mr. Good, Captain Morgan and Mr. Knox.

Subsidiary Tournament.

In the subsidiary tournament the Gordon Highlanders beat the Royal Signals "B" team by three goals to two after an excellent game, the winning goal being scored in the last few minutes.

Thomas Atkins.

No doubt, at some time or other you have gazed at a specimen pass on your unit notice board. Perhaps it bore the name of Smith, and you wondered why it wasn't Brown. Or maybe it was Jones, and you wondered why it wasn't Green. But have you ever seen a specimen pass in the name of Pte Thomas Atkins? I don't suppose you have. And yet Thomas Atkins is actually entitled to have his name on all such specimen paraphernalia connected with the Service. Having told you so much, I must take you back a century or so to Waterloo. From the happenings of that famous day several great names emerged, and in a hundred years several have also been forgotten and only the greater ones are now easily recalled: the Iron Duke, Napoleon, Thomas Atkins (and in a lesser degree, Sam and his musket).

Waterloo had been fought and won, wars were getting scarce, and the War Office, no doubt finding the compulsory idleness boring after several hectic years, looked round for something to do—and what was more natural than a look at the soldiers' pay. The wars had cost a lot, so they couldn't give him an increase at the moment, but they would do the next best thing and devise for him a new pay sheet.

So far, so good. The specimen sheet was prepared, but a name typical of the British soldier was not forthcoming. Smith, Brown, Green, White, Jones, and many other great names were suggested, but, no! they were not quite good enough. The War Office were "stumped." Then came a brain wave. The Duke of Wellington had helped them out before; why not now? So a messenger was sent to the great man, who at the time was enjoying a little well-earned rest.

In due course the messenger arrived. Could he suggest a name? The Duke gazed over the countryside, and his thoughts went back to a day at Waterloo when from a hillock he viewed the battle. Again he saw a familiar figure: one of his men cut off by the enemy and making a brave stand. Dead and dying piled around him, he was wielding his musket in a last valiant effort. The odds against him were too great, and he was borne down by the weight of numbers. Pte Thomas Atkins had fought his last fight. The scene faded and, turning to the messenger, the great man said "THOMAS ATKINS." He could think of no one better.

B.W.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April 1931) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Commissioned.

2311718	W.O.i. (R.S.M.) Fegan H.	17/11/33	3
2316225	Corporal Walton G.	1/ 2/34	56

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2311695	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Payne L.	24/12/33	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2306479	C.Q.M.S. Deyermond H.	24/12/33	16

To be C.Q.M.S.

2306517	Sergeant Archbold H.	23/10/33	17
2306493	Sergeant Smith A.	23/10/33	17
2307900	Sergeant Patrick C.	24/12/33	17
2307163	Sergeant Millross F.	24/12/33	17

To be Sergeant.

2309839	L/Sergeant Daniell C.	8/10/33	30
2303979	L/Sergeant Ramsden H.	19/10/33	30
2314533	L/Sergeant Sewell W.	23/10/33	30
2310781	L/Sergeant Bennett F.	23/10/33	30
2311279	L/Sergeant Clark H.	8/12/33	30
2310549	L/Sergeant Hayles B.	8/12/33	30
2309115	L/Sergeant Finney E.	8/12/33	30
4605978	L/Sergeant Jessop T.	23/12/33	31
2308533	L/Sergeant Good W.	24/12/33	31
735542	L/Sergeant Kemp A.	24/12/33	31

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2315263	Corporal Yorke A.	8/12/33	38
2309757	Corporal Ball T.	8/12/33	38
2315201	Corporal Powell H.	14/12/33	38
2312556	Corporal Beckett J.	23/12/33	38
2316667	Corporal Gover S.	23/12/33	38
2309850	Corporal Farlow R.	24/12/33	38
2201306	Corporal Brooke H.	24/12/33	38

To be Corporal.

2318793	L/Corporal Healey K.	6/12/33	60
1025395	L/Corporal Swift A.	8/12/33	60
1419028	L/Corporal Gay H.	14/12/33	60
2318651	L/Corporal Bennet E.	23/12/33	60
2315583	L/Corporal Tredgett A.	23/12/33	60

Discharged.

2307176	C.Q.M.S. Davey W.	31/12/33	14
*1406867	Sergeant Squires W.	30/11/33	74
4601213	Corporal Luther C.	11/ 1/34	49
1423619	Corporal Palmer G.	23/ 1/34	45
5763910	L/Corporal Styles F.	29/12/33	

To Army Reserve.

2317383	L/Corporal Wall W.	4/ 1/34	
2314493	L/Corporal Pinn P.	5/ 1/34	
2318844	L/Corporal Spinks W.	9/ 1/34	
2317598	L/Corporal Ward G.	19/ 1/34	
2317445	L/Corporal Symonds G.	25/ 1/34	
2318353	L/Corporal Cutler W.	30/ 1/34	

* *Special Roster (India)*

- Plain Tales -

Ukann Larfe, Esq.—Being the further adventures of our old pal. Say, listen to these Press opinions. "This is the absolute limit. The plot is positively. . . ." Never mind about that one. I *knew* there was only one "s" in lousy.

Ukann Larfe, the celebrated detective, threw his pen across the room with a sigh. A good many people wouldn't have thought of throwing a pen with a sigh, but that's nothing to us. We could. . . .

Uncle Alf: "Why don't you get on with it?"
Me: "Shut up! Let me do it my own way."

The telephone rang sharply. "Come in!" called the detective.

A sinni—siniss—curse it! a man climbed in through the window, tore a couple of false beards from his face, and sat on the corner of Ukann's table. (I'll bet you think the table collapsed.)

Ukann Larfe gazed at his visitor for a few minutes; then started to speak. "You came from Liverpool Street on a No. 83B bus as far as the Strand, walked along with one foot in the gutter, and stopped at the 'Fox and Winkle' for a double gin." He sighed again and threw two more pens. (Come, now; you never thought he'd do that.)

"I say, old boy, you're really wonderful. How on earth can you tell?" Inspector Faceache (surely you guessed) handed Ukann some more pens.

"Nothing in it, Facey. Comes natural to me."

"Well, well! As a matter of fact, I've just come from Mincing Lane in a taxi, but your reasoning is deuced clever for all that."

Ukann darted forward and snatched one of the false beards from the floor. He hastily adjusted it on his face, and motioned Faceache to do the same with the other beard.

"What's doing, Ukann?"

"Listen, man. Can't you hear it?"

There was a light ghostly tapping on the door: insistent: compelling. Inspector Faceache felt himself in the grip of a nameless fear, or at least a fear with a name he couldn't pronounce. Ukann drew his silver-plated pistol and was about to fire at the door, when he noticed a dull spot on the barrel. He was very proud of this pistol, because his grandfather had used this very weapon when he raided Tiger Harry's dive at Wapping in 1876. Ah, and singlehanded at that. Ukann rubbed the offending blemish with his sock and then. . . .

Uncle Alf: "Why the heck don't you get on?"
Me: "Sorry, Alf! I thought it was Tuesday."

"Look, Ukann!" Inspector Faceache went as white as a sheet, or even a pillow slip. A very fat man crawled under the door, rose (puffing and blowing) and collapsed into a chair. "Why the devil didn't you open the door?" he asked, flicking the ash from his cigar. "All the crease gone from my trousers now."

The two detectives gazed at the man in amazement. The same thought struck them simultaneously. (Gosh! what a word!) They made rapid notes in their notebooks. The man was not wearing trousers at all!

Uncle Alf: "I say! you can't get away with this in THE WIRE."
Me: "Will you please shut your gate?"

The man looked up and caught the two detectives looking at him suspiciously.

"What was that you said about your trousers?" asked Ukann, pleasantly.

The visitor rose to his feet and blushed a little. "Ah'm sorry!" he said. "Ah meant me kilt. Ye see Ah'm frae Inverrrness and Ah hadna time tae change intae trews."

"You're a liar!" cried Inspector Faceache as he clicked the handcuffs on the fat wrists. "Ye're no—I mean you're not a Scotsman at all."

"Who is he, Facey?" asked Ukann.

The Inspector ran expert hands over his prisoner and removed a revolver, a jemmy, several footprints and a number of blunt instruments (used for making wounds caused by some blunt instrument). "This is Arthur Clarendon Veremarsh Wimsey, alias the Plugger."

R.SIGNALS, 'SHUN!

Do you know how much the Signals Association is doing to help your predecessors and your comrades in their day of adversity? If not, here are one or two facts for you.

One Job a Day! Over £1 a Day!

During the year 1933

356 men were found Employment.

£400 was paid out in Grants to serving and ex-members of the Corps, in addition to Loans.

Three Orphan Children of Royal Signals parents have been maintained in Children's Homes.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association and help to support this Good Work?

If not—JOIN NOW! Don't delay any longer

Headquarters Office:
95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

"The Plugger, Facey?"

"Yes. Wanted for many years. What a capture!"

"Well, Facey, you're a fool. You'll have to let him go, because he's the bloke old Barleux wants to build his story on. Now you've captured the blinking man in the opening chapter."

At the mention of the dreaded name, Inspector Faceache went even whiter than the other sheet. A thunderous knocking on the door sent all three cowering into a corner. With a splintering crash, the door flew from its hinges, and Barleux strode into the room. He surveyed his characters contemptuously.

"Is this the best you can do to start a new serial, you insipid weak-kneed shower of. . . .?"

"Stop!" cried Ukann. "It is Uncle Alfred's fault. He keeps interrupting."

Barleux raked them with scornful stare. "I want action next month, or by Chokey I'll fetch Hermione into it." He thrust the heavy writing desk out of his way and stamped out of the room. He would have liked to slam the door, but it wasn't there. Out in the street, the sun shone brilliantly. The hum of traffic rose and fell as the volume increased or became less.

Uncle Alfred: "Any fool knows that."
Me: "You know I'm right, then."

[*More to come*]

* * * *

Special Prize.—A double presentation has to be made this month. We have therefore decided to award a bladder of lard to the gentlemen mentioned hereunder.

C.Q.M.S. O. Thomas: "Have a drink, Fred?"
C.S.M. F. Seymour: "Eh?"
C.Q.M.S. T.: "Have a drink?"
C.S.M. S.: "Sorry I didn't hear you. No, thanks, I won't have one now."

Several bystanders are said to be making a good recovery and will probably be back to work on Monday.

In view of the departure of Sergt Waldron (a previous prize winner) to Quetta, it may interest readers to learn that Taff

Thomas was also awarded the much coveted Liar's Laurel for February. He accomplished this by relating that during his stay in Quetta he had, on one notable occasion, to break down a barrier of icicles before he could leave his quarters, and on gaining the road was stricken with sun-stroke.

* * * *

Who's Where.—Old readers of THE WIRE will not have to enquire "Who is Uncle Alfred?" They will at once remember E. Alfred Brooks, now C.S.M., but once on the staff of my famous journal "The Headquarters Gazette." Uncle Alfred has completed twelve months in hospital. A notable achievement, my children. It is hoped that he will shortly emerge no longer a sick man, but a musician, or at least an accordeon player of some ability. Write to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, and send literature.

A charming Christmas card informed me that our old friend Sergt Harry (reading from left to right) Ring has his being at Western Command, Chester. To my shame, I have not acknowledged this card; but let it be said in my defence that I hadn't got a stamp. By way of a change, you tell me something. Where is Chas. Cronin?

* * *

Footnote.—The caterer says that beer drinking is a lost art. He says he got into a terrific sweat arranging the bottles, etc., on the shelf, and has now developed pneumonia waiting to sell something. It's a hard world, as the boy said when he. . . No? Well, perhaps you're right.

BARLEUX.

I'm Telling You!

Some very candid observations published by special request of the writer:—

"17th February 1934.

"I finished my Army service in January 1934, and I am *not* one of those fortunate individuals often heard of as 'going out to certain and well-paid employment.' I had *no* prospects at all when I accepted my discharge, and if my views on the 'outside' situation are of any value to those of my pals who care to read this article, here they are.

"'Why did I leave?' you may ask. Why did I? I wish I knew; and I wish I hadn't. Given any chance in the matter I would go back to-morrow; but they don't do things like that nowadays, unfortunately.

"Believe me. you fellows, THE DOLE is *not* the 'funny story' some folks think it is. I once thought it was no end of a joke, but as the weeks rolled by I somehow lost my sense of humour in that respect. Everywhere I went to try for a job, I received the same answer—'Nothing doing'—until it became very obvious that unless I got *some* kind of assistance from *somewhere*, my name was MUD.

"I therefore wrote to the Signals Association, and my luck was in. Through their agency and endeavour I got the chance I wanted within a matter of days, and I am now able to look back on the last few weeks as something of a horrid nightmare. I daresay I 'moaned' a lot when I paid my life membership subscription to the Association, but it was just a little bit very well invested—and it has taken me a long time to realise it!

"Just one other point. I had a vocational training course, which I treated as a holiday instead of learning something as I had every opportunity of doing. A vocational course provides a fine chance for anybody, but the instructors at those Centres haven't any time to waste on mutts like myself who treat their efforts as another of those funny jokes I have already referred to. They just get about their various jobs with fellows who *do* want to learn something, and simply let the others get away with it—which is something else I found out when it was too late!

"I daresay these sentiments sound strange, coming from me, but I should like to 'rub home' to my pals, if I can:—

"1 If you are not members of the Corps Association, get busy straight away, because they DO things without talking about it.

"2 If you are fortunate enough to obtain a course of vocational training, make the most of your opportunity and LEARN something.

"3 If you think of leaving the Army for civvy street, think again and stay where you are.

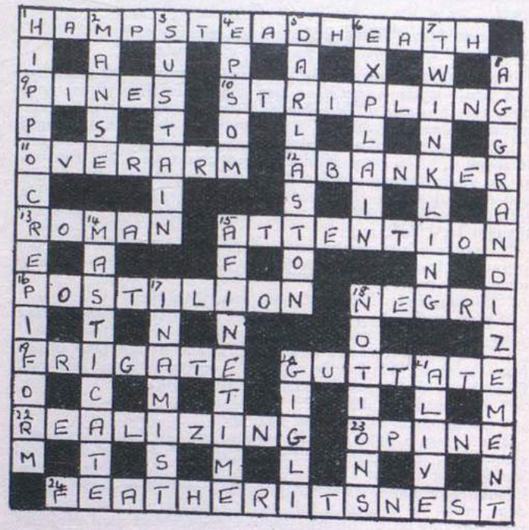
"That's all! but I've *had* some and I *know*, so I'm TELLING YOU.

"Cheerio, fellows, and the best of luck to all of you.

"DUTCHY HOLLANDS."

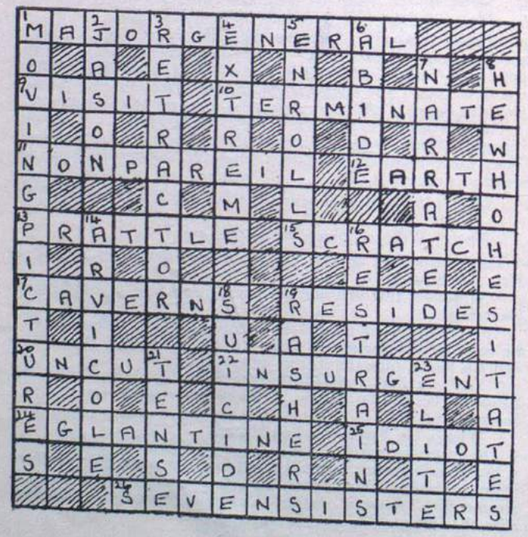
Solution of Cross-Word Puzzle No. 7

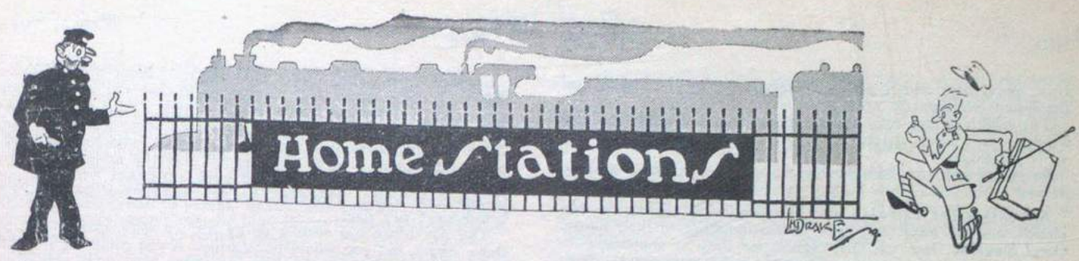
Published in the January issue.



Solution of Cross-World Puzzle No. 8

Published in the February issue.





SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Casualties.—By Jove! (as Aristophanes might have said); . . . (acidly censored) as many people definitely have said.

Armorial Enquiries.—A.W.F.: We would suggest a question mark rampant on a field of Army Forms returned. The whole superscribed "To be rendered by . . . ."

A.B.: There is a certain connection beween bars, public house, and bars, sinister, but this is a Regimenal Magazine.

Paddy: Send stamped addressed envelope for reply.

Gale Warning.—If anybody is interested in a project for the amelioration of toothache among the indigent Chinese, will he please keep his face out of my sight.

New Books.—This is another new feature. Tell the neighbours about it; burnish your baadolier with it; mix it with tea; plaster it on your tunic; burn it; tear it out; frame it; tread on it; swear at it; post it to the C.O.; write letters on it; sleep on it—do what you like with it, but for heaven's sake let me hear no more of the feeble inanity you call opinion.

"The Subconscious—Whither, if so. . . .?" D. Patterson.
"Internal Combustion Engines. Vol. XLIV." J. Lomas, B.Sc. Malton.
"The Tailor and Cutter." With a foreword by M. Jones.
"Good-bye to all that." Jake Spence.

Personalia.—Marry the girl, Fr-nc-s. What price week-ends, G-dl-y? How many green goddesses can you get into a sidecar, T-yl-r? Heil, B-xter! Who is "Will o' the Wisp Reggie"?

Entertainment Department—There were three different kinds of caracammez, each in a silver vat drawn by four snow-white leopards; twenty-three different wines served in men's skulls and the hollowed out fibulæ of priestesses; thirteen pigs, stuffed and garnished with amethysts; hundreds of ptarmigan, pigeon, wild ducks and peacocks; rare fish with cone-shaped heads and beards, each on a silver dish; the table was of beaten gold, inset with ivory tusks for elbow rests; the cushions on which the guests reclined were of the finest silk, filled with down from the breasts of very young ducks; a roast ox was lowered through the roof; a punch bowl, the size of a hip bath; and the orchards of the world had been rifled to provide the dessert.

After the orgy, dancing girls from Tangier were driven in at sword point, but all the guests had long since eaten themselves senseless and lay about the room with no more signs of life than an occasional gentle groan of pain or a restless stirring. "Come on!" said the leading girl (who was a factory hand in Bradford in her spare time) "These boobs will be out until morning. Snaffle the cash and let's beat it."

And that is all I can say about the terrible scenes due to the Stranger winning first prize in the open kit inspection. Amazing spectacle: don't miss it! Open to all: no entrance fee. Roll up! roll up! only specimen alive in captivity.

POSTLETHWAITE.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Arrivals, Departures, Battles, Murders and Sudden Deaths—By the Kleine Scheidegg, I could fill pages with the puny things, rat their souls! but would your core of esoteric consciousness of the ultimate benefit if I did?

Uplift Department.—Blank: "Yes, he's an ignorant . . . . Asked me the way to the *aquitation* stables." Dash: "Eh?" Blank: "He meant equitation, the. . . ." Dash: "Oh, yes. Aquitation's swimming, isn't it?" Blank: "Of course it is, but he didn't know."

[*Interval for bribery and scuggishness.*]

Agony.—Fudge (Alaskan frost orderly) has been excused kit. Confirmation service, 15th March: "Now then, Proudlock, clean hands; M-r- - St-p-s and Miss M-nn-n are all you really need." Gargling: We are healthy in spite of much opposition. Private mails (plurality, what evils. . . .)

Quotation (Highbrow).—Misplaced driver, as his body parts company with the saddle: "I am flying, sergeant; flying." Poor fish!

Fashion Notes.—We notice with regret the underhand play which has resulted in the Wing losing the Fashion Stakes by *n* side caps to nil. Worn at a jaunty air, these caps are doing incalculable harm by imbuing their owners with a disproportionate sense of their importance. Even the "wet number" sneer seems to have little effect on them. We appeal trustfully to the city fathers to right this shameful wrong.

Epic Corner.—Here are a few thoughts which I "thunk" in the orderly room at 16.50 hours on Tuesday. May be intoned to any suitable accompaniment. Copyright reserved in all languages, including Scandinavian.

Tiredly the moon descends, full and yellow,
On slivers of clouds, virgin in cold dawn,
And the East is flushed with the first sun-glow.
Lovers sigh and turn; and men in pain
Curse or thank God, in sea or sand or storm.
Drivers say "Oh, hell, revally again!"

Postings.—It is with regret that we have lost the services of Captain R. L. M. Rosenberg, who is posted to India. His interest in the welfare of the troops was very real, even to the provision of hot water for shaving! We all wish him good luck and bon voyage.

Sergt Lowrie and Corpl Meldrum will shortly be leaving us for India also, leaving their wives behind them. If anyone wants a first class "policeman" or a "rough," they will disembark from H.M.T. *Lancashire*—although the former is very nearly due for elevation to the peerage of the much-maligned and hardworking quarter-bloke class. The best of luck to both.

Farewell.—Rex, thou art gone, and a desolation is upon us. Was it not Sagrada of the ilk Cascara who wrote:

"Oh, leave the cash and take the 7.10 bus,
Nor heed the promise of a faint D.O."

Possibly not, after all. We make these little mistakes. A great fight, clean work all round, and a happy time was had by all. Hence the Pyramids.

Lost and Found.—Found: nil. Lost: Ten pounds, cleaning kit, seven days' pay, opportunities, half-holidays, one penny (or any larger amount), sacks of forage, spades, tempers, inspiration.

From My Envoy Extraordinary.—Sorry my training precludes my writing, and the censor (bless him!) your seeing, my inner wishes.

BAXTER.

D Company, Training Battalion.

[*Received too late for the February issue.*]

The Annual Feast.—About eighty n.c.o.s and men of the Battalion remained in barracks for their Christmas dinner; and what a dinner! The messing arrangements were excellent, and praise is due to those who were responsible for the preparation of the dinner. The menu consisted of turkey, pork (with the usual trimmings), brussel sprouts, potatoes, Christmas pudding,

fruit, nuts, beer and minerals. Everyone enjoyed himself, and the liquid refreshments soon vanished.

The health of our commanding officer was proposed by Corpl Rigden. In a short speech the C.O. wished all present the season's greetings.

So ended another Christmas repast, and we are now back to normal again.

Arrivals.—The following have joined the fold during the last month, and we hope they find the surroundings to their liking. Corpl Sneddon from 5th Divl Signals for duty as shorthand instructor (whew! we've got to do some swatting up now). Sergt Palmer and Corpl McKenzie from F Company to prepare for draft (they are now on leave).

Marriage.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Nicholson, who joined the benedicts on the 30th December last: married to Miss Marie Paterson at Darlington.

Appointments.—U/L/Corpl Jack Sowden to be paid w.e.f. 29/12/33. Another drink.

Barleux.—Since the publication of your snap of the tiger, we have been inundated with applications for a passage to India. I have a strong fancy that your tiger is an English one. Am I correct?

L.S. and G.C. Medals.—Whew! eighteen years, etc., etc. You know the old saying. The following were presented with the long service and good conduct medal by the Commandant, S.T.C., at the conclusion of church parade on Sunday 14th January, and we congratulate them: R.S.M. Roberts C. S., M.B.E., C.S.M. Newbury R., D.C.M., and C.Q.M.S. Kendall A.

Nerve.—The married man who sends his pal round to his quarter every Friday to collect the rent.

Shooting.—Since our last notes we have beaten both F Company and Dismounted Wing. We have lost the services of two good shots in Lieut. Moppett and Sigmn Hancox, who have left us for service with other units.

In the Battalion shoot the following obtained medal and certificates as shown. Bell medal, Captain R. T. Williams. *Daily Mail* certificate, Corpl Lee A. *Daily Telegraph* certificate, Sigmn Rowland. E.R.B.

February.

Apology.—We must apologise for the absence of notes in last month's issue: they were forwarded too late for inclusion. It is hoped they will be published with these further notes.

Drafts.—The following leave us to-day for service in India. We wish them bon voyage and hope they will soon settle down to the climate. Sergt Palmer H. (we thought he was a permanent fixture), Corpl McKenzie, L/Corpl Simmonds, Signalmen Fairclough, Clayton H., McNulty (footballer), Mitchell C., Thomas W. and Hamilton T.

Postings.—The following proceeded to field units on 12/2/34. Signalmen Casey, Harkins, Holt, Jarvis, Lambie and Wright C. to 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. (1st Div. Sigs are advised that Sigmn Holt is a real good soccer player.) Sigmn Brooks C. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. Signalmen Sanger, Saxby, Spalding and Slater to 4th Divl Signals, Colchester. Sigmn Veitch to 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. Sigmn Cassidy T. to North Ireland Signal Company.

Sergeant-Instructor Briar (A.E.C.) to the Depot, Lincolnshire Regiment, on 10/2/34.

Army Reserve.—Signalman Golding left us for civvy life on 10/2/34. We trust he will settle down in his new surroundings and that he will soon obtain suitable employment.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Gilmour on the birth of a son, John Henry, on 7/1/34.

Arrivals.—These are too numerous to mention individually. We trust that all who have joined us during the last month are now settled down and enjoying our company.

Barleux.—Does your tiger bite? E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The time has once more arrived for "notes of interest"—for those who are really interested.

Talking about notes, to-day was pay day. Some did and some didn't (?) draw notes, but it was noted that the seventy-four applicants for big pay were disappointed. Yes, seventy-four swettes weren't sure whether the pay bloke keeps a bank balance (a sort of sinking fund) for week-ends only, or whether the Q.M. issues kit free of charge. Heaves of pain (?) when they sign their "credits" next month—not even a £5 note left to go on Group Eddy leave. However, further applications are expected before next pay day.

The pay bloke has such a dinky file; it isn't exactly one of those affairs, but you would be surprised if you could see it. All files have a number or something on them—just to tell you what is inside—but I do not think it necessary to put "W.P.B." on this particular file, as the duty clerk or even the storeman is well aware of its function.

Well, I suppose notes—and applications for same—take time, the same as everything else, although our application for inspiration did not bring forth any notes for THE WIRE. So once again the agony is left to me.

Postings.—Field unit and inter-Battalion departures are still numerous. Last month some fifty-seven fully trained operators left us to take up the trade in earnest. Good luck, lads! if you want any tips, read "Rheostat Murders."

"Sorry, sir!" to C.S.M. Spong H. (posted to 2nd Divl Signals)—another old flame of Eddy Company fame. Good luck and good going for your L.S. and G.C. medal.

Promotions and Appointments.—These are few and far between. No wonder Pimlico had to close down. Five years does seem a long wait for the other bar. Surely, Duncan's will be closing down next. Cheers to L/Sergeants Yorke and Powell, recently appointed to that rank; also to L/Corporal Thompson. Good luck, kid!

Sporting Line.—I am afraid that football has been out of the question lately, owing to the grounds being out of bounds—got the 'flu, or something.

I had better be careful what I say here about boxing. We have quite a number of "bruisers" on the way, and they look like showing a figure—even if they don't show form—at the forthcoming Garrison tournament. L/Sergeants Brewster and Powell may be able to talk them round a bit.

Corporals Mess outing (after order): Arsenal v. Middlesbrough on Saturday the 10th February at Middlesbrough. Twenty-nine Arsenal supporters and one Middlesbrough enthusiast proceeded for the day. Result as anticipated (both ways). But, Bill, why the white rosette? you went to support Middlesbrough.

The Rheostat Murders.—In the thickest part of a D.iii. dwelt a sinister piece of work called Herb Resistance. For days he had threatened Sylvia Simplex and had caused undue trouble to Don Duplex, her lover. Laurie Relay had watched his movements every night as he strolled through the busiest part of the circuit. One day he noticed Gerald Galvo screaming and dancing from side to side—Clarence Key had had an attack of Anode Bend which caused him pain in his Contact. Laurie gave a loud chuckle, and he marked his Relay and began to investigate what had happened. Single Current Sally had been murdered; her charred remains had been found all cuddled up on a Baseboard. Suspicion fell upon Eugene Grid, who was the leader of a nasty assembly of No Goods. Selectivity Sam was instructed to investigate the murder. He called on Maggie Microphone, who had had a friendly talk with Sally over a D.iii. The first thing he noticed was that the Baseboard (as she desired to learn the Wave-Length Waltz and the Transmitter Tango) had been replaced by the Resistance Rumba. Her movements had been followed up to the time when she retired to her first class flat, No. 3 Ten Line Cordless. Selectivity Sam was horrified to find. . . . .

(To be continued) GRID LEAK.

Agony.—Mac, Hotel St. Michaels, Penzance, would like to hear from Big Skip Smith of "Galloping B" fame, Risalpur. W.J.T.R.

F Company, Training Battalion.

[*Received too late for the January issue*]

Christmas Leave.—Judging by the quality and quantity of the contents of many suitcases, the good time is only just finishing as far as the boys are concerned; but what about the cadre? Among the things we want to know is the reason why two or three of the n.c.o.s came back before their passes expired. No, it was not money; at least, that is what they told us. Anyhow, leave being over (tips) everybody is now settling down to the usual routine of soldiering. We say usual, but I think we mean un-usual. All are anxiously wondering how much they are in debt after this orgy of hitting the high spots.

We are glad to report no absentees, even though a number of our boys come from the Loch Ness district. They frankly admit that the temptation to remain behind and become bloated plutocrats was very great; but the high life at Catterick is preferable, they said. And we all believe them!

Sport.—We hate poaching, but we hope that by the time these notes are in print Beenham and Co. will have conquered and upheld the Corps' name in the soccer world. No doubt, ex-boys at present down south are very interested, and I hope they will have a chance to comment favourably upon this latest product of F Company should we beat the Military College of Science at Woolwich and so qualify for the semi-final.

Christmas "Do."—The officers and n.c.o.s of the Company, I am sure, would like to both thank and congratulate Old Man Blades and his boys for the excellent entertainment provided by them on this occasion. The whole affair was a tremendous success, and the best compliment I can offer is the fact that so far I have met no one who has suggested any improvement that could be made. Colonel Tillard attended and, judging by his applause, enjoyed the whole show immensely.

Firstly, a fancy dress competition was held, ably judged by the commanding officer and our Company commander. Everybody, I am sure, agreed with the allotment of the prizes. We thank you, sirs. The ideas were very original, and the presentation of Hitler was undoubtedly the outstanding feature. The prizes were allotted to the following characters: Herr Hitler, a Middlesex cricketer, a W.A.A.C., George Robey, a mother (?) and child (not questioned), and the Loch Ness Monster.

The concert was a masterpiece of theatrical production on the part of L/Corpl Blades, who was ably assisted by L/Corpl Boy Bond. The items included a conjuring show by Salmon. He made money galore, and then it disappeared. C.S.M. Young has vowed to watch him when he joins the ride; otherwise, maybe, a couple of horses will be straying. The other items included a monologue, a shadow show, some well known songs, and tap dancing. Then the feed. No competition was held in connection with this, for a number of ex-boys were known to be hovering around and they might have entered.

Boys' Club.—At a recent meeting L/Cpl Boy Rixon was elected as president vice L/Corpl Boy Bond, and L/Corpl Boy Reedman as secretary vice Boy Weech. L/Corpl Boy Bond and Boy Weech will be greatly missed from the Company. During their term of office as president and secretary, they performed their duties exceptionally well.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Boys Rixon, King V. and Offord on their appointment to that rank.

Arrivals.—During the month we have had the enlistment of twenty-nine boys. We give them a hearty welcome and hope that their stay with us will be always enjoyed by them. We also welcome Sergt Napper from E Company. L/Sergt Luck, from the Depot Battalion, is also very welcome. Since his arrival the following conversation was overheard. "Do you know Sergeant Luck is coming?" "Yes. I 'eard 'im."

Departures.—Our inventory board of R.E. fixtures has just been amended. Sergt Palmer and Corpl McKenzie have left us for D Company, who are responsible for the preparation of these n.c.o.s for draft to India. With all due respect to them, we hope we don't meet them again too soon. It's the land we object to! L/Corpl Sugg has finished his short stay with this Company and sailed for China. He was a man with a will of his own.

MICKEY AND FRIP.

February.

Apologies.—To all members of the Corps, and particularly to ex-boys: We must apologise for the non-appearance of notes last month. They were sent in too late for publication, but will undoubtedly be published in this issue.

To certain members of the Company: We are sorry we disbelieved that tale about going to church on Sundays.

Amateur Theatricals.—In the near future we hope to produce some plays and present them to the Company for their remarks.

"Journey's End" will be the main feature of the programme we propose to put on. Ex-boys will no doubt remember that this play was produced with some success a few years ago. Under the able direction of L/Corpl Blades, the reproduction and two short sketches will be staged as an evening's entertainment.

Rides.—Boys Rides Nos. 6 and 7 have now successfully passed off, and we congratulate Boys Kendall and Chandler on winning the whip for their respective rides. We hear that others also deserved the whip, but not for keeps. Least said, the soonest mended.

Soccer "A" Team.—I do not know why the inverted commas are inserted, for it would still be right to call them a team. Anyhow, less of this foolery; let's get on with our poaching from the Sports Notes.

Congratulations to our boys "A" team who are still playing in the boys Army cup. During the past month they have gained two excellent victories, a full account of which will be found in our Sports Notes.

The next step is the semi-final, which will be played off before the appearance of these notes, and this time our Aldershot friends will know the result before we do. We hope that they are all there to see and help us. If you shout loudly, you will not by any means annoy us.

Departures.—The following departures have taken place of late, thereby reducing our educational average, nearly all of them being in possession of first class certificates. Our educational instructors throw out their chests, while our boys boast of their brains. Signalmen Thirkell and Barrett D. to 2nd Divl Signals; Sigmn Webb to 4th Divl Signals; Signalmen Hall K. B. and the two Mc's (McDermott and McWilliams) to 5th Divl Signals; and last, but not least, Sigmn Weech to A Corps Signals.

"A" Team's Visit to R.T.C. Depot.—At 7 a.m. on the 6th February Captain V. C. Holland, accompanied by "A" team, left for Bovington Camp, Dorset, everyone being of good cheer and hopeful of winning against the Tanks.

On arrival in London, and after devious dives into its rabbit warren, we came to the surface at the Union Jack Club. After a meal, everyone combined leg stretching and sight-seeing. One or two known as "gobblers" were a trifle uneasy.

One party arrived at Westminster Bridge in time to hear Big Ben chime 3 p.m. One member, who is slightly deaf, gazed up at Ben for five minutes and then turned to his companions and said "I thought Big Ben struck the hours." (Collapse of party.)

Another party, walking down the Strand, were stopped and wished the best of luck by a representative of Raynes Limited (well known to the boys at the York Tattoo). The same party, after seeing many well known parts of London and expressing their approval, were again stopped—this time by a cyclist opposite the Houses of Parliament. The cyclist turned out to be Yorky Shields (ex-Signals), who wishes to be remembered to all his old friends.

At last—after causing much profanity on the part of London motor drivers—we all congregated at Waterloo and continued our journey to Bovington. On arrival at Wool station we were met by the adjutant and trumpet-major, with several boys of the Royal Tank Corps, and were taken by bus to Bovington Camp, where we arrived at 8 p.m. to find supper and beds awaiting us.

Everyone enjoyed that extra coir-pressing next morning. At 11 a.m. the team had a loosening kick-about on one of the football grounds. Telegrams from the C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S.s Napper and Solly, wishing us luck, were very much appreciated. After the mid-day meal, at which the team were very conscientious, they prepared for the match (see Sports Notes).

After a delectable tea, provided in style by the Tanks, we prepared to go to the pictures, the O.C. thoughtfully providing the means. That night two certain "gobblers" are believed to have come nigh to bursting. One, being a Scotsman, pressed on the restraining lever and gave nothing away. Several of the team went to visit friends in the vicinity—one in particular to Warsash, a slight mystery still concealing his motive.

The Tank Corps boys gave us a cheery send-off next morning and wished us good luck for the cup. Returning to London, and having a few hours to spare, we lunched in state with some misgiving at the Piccadilly Corner House, music being provided by the Magyar band. One or two have other recollections; in fact, one was nearly mistaken for Gordon Harker.

After lunch we indulged in a few pennyworth of variety at the London Pavilion. However, of that many tales are being told. Later we resumed our journey north in the train, where the two aforesaid " gobblers " had an argument with biscuits and Gorgonzola. Eventually, after inspecting the buffet at Darlington, we crept into the camp in the dark, and so to bed—to wake up next day to tell and re-tell our several adventures.

In conclusion, we all tender our hearty thanks to the Depot of the Royal Tank Corps at Bovington Camp for their good sportsmanship and cordiality, which was very much appreciated.

G. AND I.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Owing to the pressure of business it was suggested that, as we have nothing to say, we should say it next time—with music. Such a course is entirely out of the question. Despite the fact that there are only five of us to do two men's work, devotion to duty and a strong sense of esprit de corps make thoughts of such procrastination (the Twentieth Century Dictionary derivation of " idleness ") intolerable. But, though the spirit is willing and the flesh strong, the entire absence of anything worthy of comment renders the task akin to an impossibility.

Life, on the whole, has been quite bearable of late. I suppose that in itself is a good and sufficient reason why there's nothing to shout about. For the Headquarters Section this is just one of those periods when work comes first and foremost, and, much as we regret such unhappy conditions, to grin and bear it is the only decent thing possible.

I do not take a great pride in what has gone before in these notes, but if it will be of any interest, I would like to remind Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, Catterick, that, once again last month, their notes were conspicuous by their absence. It is really a great pity, though I can sympathise with the former writer—now deceased (?). Chauffeur-gardener is a common enough calling, but gardener-scribe, especially when interest is put in the former to the entire exclusion of the latter, is a novel if thankless occupation. However, if these few notes serve no other purpose than as a spur to his sense of responsibility, I shall feel satisfaction from the thought that I have done my best to further the common cause.

Maintenant il fait que je finis. Au revoir. H.V.S.

No. 1 Company.

The chief item of interest to report this month is the commencement of the second period of individual training. The main object has been to fit the individual for Section work. Mindful of the fact that we are largely a mechanised unit, the greater percentage are undergoing instruction in the driving and maintenance of M.T. vehicles.

Three classes are in operation. The first of them has been employed on light cars, Austin Sevens and Morris Minors, in which has been incorporated the use and manipulation of the R/T sets with which they are fitted. Quite a number of amateur announcers have progressed in the development of a B.B.C. drawl, whilst the class as a whole has excelled as a mechanical drive.

Another class has been undergoing instruction on the 30-cwt. type of vehicle. Once again they have proved that gear-changing is an art that can be acquired with perseverance and a patient instructor.

The third class has been devoted to the " heavies," or 3-ton lorry type of vehicle. Here again they have proved that man can be master over the machine, that the clutch has its use and abuse, and that the average internal combustion engine, like a woman, has to be coaxed occasionally. Man-like, they did not realise this at first.

However, the degree of progress generally has confirmed the theory that it is economical in man-power if personnel of Signal trades can drive the specially fitted vehicles allotted to Signal units.

In addition, personnel holding the higher ratings have undergone a short course in the maintenance of secondary batteries and the use of the various types of charging plant met with in the Signal Service.

In short, the individual has had an opportunity of studying every aspect of Signal work, which should result in the right man being found for the right job when the team work of Sections commences.

Upgrading.—During the first period of individual training, prior to the furlough period, quite a number proved themselves worthy of honourable mention. We congratulate the following. L/Corpl Jenkinson and Signalmen Brown J. A. and Roberts A. operator signals B.i. Signalmen Betts J. J., Edwards T., Evans A., Howley, Lane P. and Lea J. operator signals B.ii. Signalmen Bond J., Crammond W. and Otterson R. operator signals B.iii. Signalmen Cowan D.,Duffin R. and Reaney J. lineman C.ii. Sigmn Hoyle F. electrician fitter A.iii.

Extension.—Sigmn Davison G. has turned his back on civvy street for a further two years by extending to eight and four.

Departures.—The following have left us for sunnier climes, much to our regret ; just as we were getting used to them, too. Sergts Lombard W. and Oakes F., Signalmen Henrick G., Donohoe H., Lodge W., Nicholson E. and Ryalls J. to India, 14/2/34. Sigmn McNamara T. to Jamaica, 23/1/34. Au revoir, mes amis.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold L/Corpls Davies A. C. and Eldred F., Signalmen James W., Linington R., Norris L., Robson J. and Slack F. from India, 6/2/34. Signalmen Campbell J., Cannon J. and Chadwick N. from Catterick, 7/2/34. Sigmn Stansfield A. from India, 12/2/34.

In conclusion, the annual series of spring drills, with the normal recreational training, has served to maintain our physical being in keeping with our mental activity.

Adieu till next month. DODGER J. J.

No. 2 Company.

The Ruffs.—In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. Delete " man's " and insert " soldier's," erase " love " and add " training," and there you have us and our doings in a nutshell, for driving drill, rides and Troop drill are now " de rigeur "—coupled, of course, with n.c.o.s drill parades on Saturdays, and beneficial lectures on topical subjects connected with a " horsey Company " under the watchful eyes of our O.C. and C.S.M. Believe you me, we live and learn, and that's no joke.

All Sections have now been made up to full strength, and many were the wails of woe or laughs of joy on the appearance of that " slip of paper " on the order board. Many were the various comments passed, but probably the best was: " O! wad sum power the giftie gie us to see oorsels as ithers see us "—which, interpreted into English, means " We've got a fire escape. Have you?" That's that, so now for Part Twos.

Departures and Arrivals.—The great change has taken place. We have lost L/Sergt Benfield (the B Cable store wizard), L/Cpl Swallwell, Signalmen Buck Taylor, Brown C. C. R., Powell D., Hutchins and (auld Erin's gift to the Signals) Paddy Devine to other Companies in the unit. In return we gained Corporals Pratchett and Clarke G., L/Corpls Dobson and Meakin, Signalmen Banham, Brooks, Knox D., Solley and Wassell. Football has gone up fifty per cent—no " kid "—so we've started cobbing in earnest.

Lament.—We have only one this month, and it's not about a horse. Mr. Records is the cause. We have lost a fine pair of whiskers—ginger, waxed, military appearance, etc.—owing to the posting of L/Corpl Rose Effendi, etc., etc., to S.T.C. Catterick. So now we no longer hear the romantic tales of Arabian nights in Egypt or the doings of Michael the man-eating spider and the lineman who rode a lion. Gone, but not forgotten! is our cry. So look after yourself, Ging, and our kit will be alright.

The hand of farewell is extended to L/Corpl Lister (another good trouper and knight of the glass) and Signalmen Darragh, Holland and Hayes. Our best wishes go with them.

Finally, we greet Sergeants Evelyn and Ellerbeck, and six signalmen whose names I cannot recollect, on arrival at Nos. 2 and 3 Stables to swell our throng of ranchers. May their stay be like the time-honoured saying!

Postscript.—Sorry, one more! Owing to some misunderstanding—probably my bad writing—an error crept into last month's notes. It read " Congratulations to the Corps-famous emblem, Jimmy Bullett, on getting U/L/Corporal . . . ." when it should have read—never mind! only Jimmy Emblem has a tape ; so old stagers, please note.

Tailpiece.—That's all. DODGER E. E.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes last month, or, rather, thank our lucky stars that the R.S.M. was on leave and therefore unable to chase us for them. In any case, he is back now, and as we write these notes with a good heart, here goes!

Leave.—First and foremost, we must congratulate our orderly room sergeant on letting us all get away for our annual furlough over the Christmas period. At the time I thought there was method in his madness, and apparently I was correct: he has now proceeded on one month's leave for the duration of the senior n.c.o.s drill and duties course. It was the only possible way that he could dodge it, and he grabbed at the last straw.

Promotions.—Something is radically wrong, for this month we have something to publish under this ever-welcome heading. We congratulate Corpl Gover S. on his promotion to Lance-Sergeant. It was a long time coming, Stan, but it's well worth it in the end, even if you do get caught for regimental orderly sergeant now and again.

Drafts (better known as Trooping Season 1933/34). This month we lose L/Sergt Grose C., wife and family, who are embarking for India per the *Lancashire* on the 14th February. We wish them farewell and bon voyage, and express our regret that they are not embarking in a freightship or proceeding to Karachi as was anticipated.

Postings.—Signalman Passey from No. 1 Company to Headquarters (we extend the usual welcome). L/Corpl Morris (50 gallons) from Headquarters to No. 1 Company.

Acknowledgment.—To Daphne in Egypt: Thanks for letter. Will reply very soon. Trudge.

Conclusion.—Cheerio until next month! We breathe freely until the 10th March, when we will again hear " What about those WIRE notes?" TWOHEADS.

No. 1 Company.

The last batch of furlough personnel having returned, the Company is again back to normal. Life is uneventful except for those lucky enough to be selected to represent the Company on the senior n.c.o.s drill course. It is regretted that a casualty has occurred on this, our orderly room sergeant having felt the need of a spot of furlough.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Skitt, Corpl Penny, L/Corporal Denbow, Signalmen Murdock and Adamson.

Departures.—Signalmen Collins and Smith G. T. and Drivers Hudson and McMurray to the Army Reserve. F/S/Sgt Townley, L/Sergt Grose and Sigmn Smith J. to India.

Marriages.—Corpl Clackett to Miss E. M. Grimmer at Gillingham. Sigmn Robertson to Miss A. Judge at Hartlepool.

The Retort Courteous.—The following letter has been received.

" To THE WIRE Correspondent, No. 1 Company.

" Sir.—May I take this opportunity, through the medium of your valuable column, of publicly thanking ' Twoheads ' of your H.Q. for his encouraging and truthful remarks which appeared in January's issue of our Journal.

" Whilst admitting that I *am* good, I must also sing the praises of such a benevolent scribe who has found that he actually has the time to spare to give me such well earned publicity.

" He calls himself ' Twoheads '—a very fitting title, as is the size 7½ hat which he wears ; or do you think he doesn't like asking the S.M. for a hair-cut chit?

" I must also mention that this gentleman spent a considerable time in the place where one's pay roll takes a decided ' creditable ' turn, but he endured the pain and agony. ' Why?' (in his modest manner) he asks, ' who could do my job?' ' No one ' is the reply—that is, not until someone has been on an advanced cook's course, when they might understand the returns. Others say he has forgotten how to put on breeches and doesn't wish to learn again. But whatever the real reason, I can assure everyone that he has at last bottled his pride and called in the aid of a *draughtsman* to get his 1933 Part II.s up to date.

" As to his question ' How did the Army get on before I enlisted?' my reply is ' Were not you in it?'

" Thanking you,

" (Signed) A. (LIVER) JACKSON.

" Aldershot, 23/1/34."

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No. 2 Company.

General.—Everyone is happy now that the troubles and worries of annual furlough are over, and at present many n.c.o.s and men are disappearing under their thinking caps in an endeavour to earn (?) more ackers. Perhaps the recent increase in marriages is the cause of this will to work, for the price of food is still dear—12/6 per bottle, unless, of course, you know a canny Scot.

The n.c.o.s and men who are not on individual training are out to make closer friendship with the inhabitants of the stables ; and under the able management of L/Sergts Donahue and Bishop and Corpl Elmes, the newly formed "A" and "B" rides are doing as well as can be expected. These 'prentice jockeys seem quite keen on riding ; in fact, one of them has tried every horse in the ride in order to get one made to measure, but he still falls off. It is a pity that L/Corpl Frost is not here, or he would tell us how he managed it " over there."

The time is drawing near when two Sections of this Company will move out of Mons Barracks to join their R.A. Brigades. The unit camp is again to be at Thursley, and I can visualise the happy times that I shall have in doing nothing.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Spong is welcomed to the fold, and we hope that his stay will be long and happy. He is to take the place of C.S.M. Harris, who is bound for the golden shores of Palestine in April.

Corpl Greatorex arrived from the Depot S.T.C. ; Signalmen Ramsden, Baker, Phillips, Redgrave, Browne, Dalrymple, Grant and Rosbotham from E Company ; and Sigmn Thirkell from F Company. We extend the glad hand to all of them.

Departures.—Quite a number of lance-corporals are on the last lap into civvy street and have joined the ranks of those who " have that something that others have not." L/Corpls Pacey and Scott wend their weary way to and from the A.V.T.C. Aldershot, and L/Corpl Frost to A.V.T.C. Hounslow, while L/Corpl Goring goes one better and is now enjoying an outside course. Sigmn Mellor has left us for civvy street on leave pending.

Sport.—Though we are but a small Company, we are still as enthusiastic as ever in sport. In the near future No. 2 Company will become known as the nursery for the Army's best footballers. Of course, we admit that we are good *now*, and at an early date I hope to be given the delightful job of writing " We won this and we won that," etc.

Our rugby team is a little inexperienced at present, but we managed to put up an excellent show against No. 1 Company in

a friendly match. A number of our team played their first game and they kept up a good standard, though we were beaten by 11—6 points.

Football and hockey are progressing along the same lines. We regret that the inter-Company competitions are not yet played so that we might have added some more trophies to the Company collection. However, we shall have to wait until next month.

Tail-Piece.—What group does a grocer's assistant belong to?
J.C.

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Hales A. from 5th Divl Signals, 9/1/34. Sergts Williams H. and McKee from No. 1 Company. Signalmen Barrow, Coldicott, Ketteringham, Linton, Sheldon, Willis and Vine from India, 13/1/34. Signalmen Grieve, Cass, Thackeray, Breach, Bradley, Pratt and Spencer from S.T.C. We hope their stay with us will be a happy one.

Departures.—Sergt Udale A. to No. 1 Company. Corporal Nicholls to Depot Battalion to become a D.I. L/Corpl Bellinger, Signalmen Lyons, Marson, Slater, Taylor R., Tucker and Walker T. to India per the *Nevasa*, and L/Cpl Thomas, Signalmen Bratt, Price, Sims, Porter, Marchant, McGawley and Fox per the *Lancashire*. To the Army Reserve: Sigmn Trueman 28/12/33, Signalman Haines 4/1/34, Sigmn Cooper 22/1/34.

Discharges.—Driver Mackett N. discharged under K.R. 370 (x) 1928, confirmed for 29/1/34.

Marriages.—The following are the official marriages. There are quite a number of people in the Company who are rather shy in coming forward. However, here's to the happiness of Corpls Smith G. and Camin F. and Sigmn Price G.

Births.—To Corporal and Mrs. Dale a son, George Sydney, 20/12/33.

Appointments.—U/L/Corpl Webster R. appointed paid L/Cpl on the Corps roster w.e.f. 3/1/34.

Trade Tests.—Signalmen Holmes H., Parkin and Rose passed trade test as B.ii. on 21/12/33.

Sports Notes.—If you turn to the Sports section you will find our notes written by Baron the Second. THREECOY.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

Of All The (?)—You've met 'em and I've met 'em. Well, here's another one to add to the long list. Last month I sent a bit of news to Egyptsigs. Please cancel. After much discussion between the British and Egyptian Governments, a suitable transfer fee could not be agreed upon, so C.Q.M.S. Hartley will not be catching the boat in April. Dry your eyes, Egyptsigs. Esprit de corps: your loss is the Training Battalion's gain, if he gets even that far. I have my doubts, because I believe the Mayor of Aldershot considers him a public institution and refuses to let him go.

Staff Increase.—Sigmn Macken arrived from India. He thinks he has landed in a snip job. Haw! haw! haw! We extend to him a hearty welcome, spiced with just a touch of self-interest because his arrival helps the night duties out a bit; at least, it will when he returns from leave.

Service Abroad.—Steve admits to Jock E. that he certainly has been "jammy."

Fish, Queer, and Others.—Someone once said "Even old soldiers are youthful," and judging by the ardour displayed by everyone round here in collecting cigarette cards, the joker who said that was right. Perhaps he was an old soldier and needed some excuse to cover his collection. Anyhow, round here the craze for collecting fish cards has affected all alike—high and low, fat and thin, weak and strong; it seems more infectious than the 'flu. In odd corners you can hear them whispering "'Ave you got 21 and 38? if so, I'll swop you 22 and 39 for them." Later you find these fanatical collectors gathered together, proudly displaying their latest gains.

The competitive spirit has entered even into this craze, and many are the speculations and terrific the betting as to who will gain the honour of being the first to get a set. These collectors forget everything in their ardour; even a very dignified sergeant (under the guise of collecting for his child, a girl of three) snoops for fish cards, and even sinks so low as to commune with Sigmn A. on the luck of Sigmn B. in obtaining a pike and a flounder in one swoop, and the misfortunes of Corpl Z, who was hot on the trail of an unknown specimen and almost had it in his grasp when a lorry ran over it and spoilt it.

The strangest thing of all in this collecting craze is that a Yorkshire electrician has the largest collection, and yet one never sees him in corners bartering. It is suggested (maybe incorrectly) that, being very friendly with the commissionaire, he has been sneaking inside the gaff after each house to give the floor the once over.

All this goes to prove that fish, whether they walk or swim, have an uncanny attraction for young and old.

Stop Press.—Since the foregoing was penned, the race has been won. The honour went to a Welshman who doesn't even smoke the particular brand of fags which give the fish cards. That's fate!

Hopes.—That on his elevation to the dizzy heights Lofty Burch will cast aside all memories of that hectic night of long ago at the Cosy Café. Even now I cannot pass the place without blushing, and have not yet plucked up enough courage to enter its portals. That episode was, I am sure, the real cause of Arthur leaving the Army.

Promotions and Appointments.—Whatanope! AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

It is a pity that this office is not sited with a southern aspect. If that were the case, it is quite possible that I could dwell upon the beauties of the afternoon sunshine and these notes would be brightened thereby. Spring appears to have visited us early this year, and sounds of happiness—associated with all the best sellers in connection with spring—are carried gently through the open window before which I write. Human endeavour, however, has decreed—through the ill-siting of this building—that I sit in the shadows and can but watch the mellow sunshine upon wall and roof-top.

To write of breezes and of budding trees, to dwell gently upon the soft caress of Nature, or to pass lightly—like a chastened cloud before the summer sun—over the joys and delights so manifest with this season of the year is, to-day, the exception rather than the rule. But amid this erudite reading world comes to me a singular power which I employ to the utmost. Knowing full well how very very few ever read these burbling sentences, I may write, jot down or think of such simple things, rejoicing meanwhile that no interference or contradiction will ever mar my sweet full life.

Bless you, dear laddies! now read on and enjoy freely the mass of detail that is bound to follow.

Departures.—Lieut. J. T. Addenbrooke, our Section officer, has left us for India. The good wishes of the unit for success go with him to his new station. Sergt Bloodworth has also departed in the same direction and to the self-same place. While we regret losing such a fine cricketer and hockey player, we can find time to congratulate his new unit on obtaining the services of such a talented exponent.

L/Corpl Higgins (more generally known as Maskee) and Sigmn Haggart have both wended their way to civil life. The unit bade them an enthusiastic farewell and confirm their send-off in print.

Arrivals.—There appear to be several new faces within our midst. They have joined us from overseas. We cannot remember them all by name at this point, but we wish them well and trust their stay will be enjoyable and all that! After all, I do not suppose for one minute that they want to be welcomed in print as well as in the barrack room. It's easier in the latter!

Spots of Bother.—Technical training is now drawing to a close. Thankful sighs are heaved by those unfortunates who do not revel in the joys of electrical theories and the principles of applied mechanics. Anyway, I know nothing about such deep subjects, so I can hardly commiserate with them. That such condolence is due to them appears obvious when one views their drawn looks and superb diagrams.

Spots of Joy.—Congratulations to Sigmn Lewin C. on being awarded his second class educational certificate. Good huntin', you know, and the next fence is labelled "first."

The 1st A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E. are holding their next social dance on the 16th February. We hope to see the same jolly crowd take the floor, and would appreciate the wives and intended wives of that jolly crowd gracing the proceedings again.

Just Spots.—I still muse in the shadows and my spirit droops accordingly. If anyone has anything at all funny for publication, they are at liberty to come along and see me some time. If it still looks funny in the shadows, it should be a riot! At your service always. B.A.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The second period of individual training is still running strongly, with the addition of a unit M.T. course (for those who require excitement) and a D.R. course.

So far the M.T. course is well in the lead as regards thrills. Their motto is "Thrills and plenty of 'em," it seems, from the number of accident reports we have had to deal with lately.

The two best thrills were provided by our Tich, who thoroughly earned the soubriquet of "Stunt" before his name. He is the essence of coolness and thoroughly keen. On a convoy run the n.c.o. sitting beside Tich in the front of a six-wheeler was suddenly startled by many fearful bumps, rendings, crashings and tearings. Match-wood and glass splinters flew in all directions, and then, just as suddenly, the noise ceased and the lorry continued the even tenor of its way. The non-com. asked Tich what all the row meant, and Tich coolly replied "Tut! tut! my dear chap. That was only a skid. We have to get used to them." On his return to barracks Tich was told to make out an accident report, and to his pals he complained bitterly. "I dunno what all the blinkin' fuss is about. Be different if I'd caused some damage. I only went through Wool station to see what time it was!"

To understand the other thrill you must know that Tich, if anything, is thoroughly regimental; and I am sorry to say this fact has very nearly caused his downfall in more ways than one. Just as Tich was about to rocket the old lorry round a corner, he spied an officer walking towards him on the other side of the road, and through force of habit Tich took one hand off the steering wheel and smartly saluted. He counted to himself, "One, two, three, down,"—and he was! down in a ditch at the side of the road. Well! well! They say the Army is a hard school.

Christmas Tree Party.—This seems a trifle unseasonable, but nevertheless the party was enjoyed very much by the kiddies *and* the grown-ups. It was held in the Tidworth Garrison lecture hall on the 17th January, and the decorative effect was splendid. Naturally, the Christmas tree itself was the piece de resistance, being gaily lit with coloured lamps, and the numerous presents on it for the boys and girls seemed to be the main objects of attention.

A chute had been erected in the body of the hall, and this proved a great success. The kiddies—and, I noticed, one or two grown-ups also—took advantage of this novelty whilst the late-comers were arriving. Even Father Christmas himself appreciated it, as it was down the chute that he made his dramatic entry later in the evening.

The next item on the programme was tea, and the N.A.A.F.I. are certainly to be congratulated on their catering—they left nothing to be desired in this department.

A bran dip for the ladies followed, and each one received a very useful present from the tub. One impertinent young man tried his hand at being a lady, but needless to say he didn't get his present. For the stage show a wizard-cum-conjuror-cum-ventriloquist entertained us magnificently. It was a real good show and it was enjoyed by everyone present. Honestly, I've seen worse turns at what had been reputed quite good shows. The dumbfounded expressions of the children when he picked pieces of money from their persons were good to watch. One boy, though, was quite peeved at the wizard's allusion to the average Boy Scout's dirty knees—you see, the youngster happened to be a Boy Scout himself!

The marionettes tickled the children's fancies, too, and all were sorry when the show came to an end.

Father Christmas, ably portrayed by C.Q.M.S. Taplin R., rather frightened the smaller tots at first, but when he gave each of them a present he turned out to be quite a nice old chap indeed.

At the close of the party C.S.M. Hopkins paid well merited tribute to the kindness and attention that Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sykes had shown the unit during their stay with us. All ranks, and especially the married families, greatly appreciated this and wished them every possible success in the future.

Lieut.-Col. Sykes suitably replied with a few brief and well chosen words, and so a very entertaining and well spent afternoon came to an end.

Our thanks are due to all concerned for the hard work and ingenuity put into the show and for a very enjoyable time.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We extend a very hearty welcome to Major C. P. Prescot on his posting to this unit to take over command. We all sincerely hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

We also welcome to the fold the following n.c.o.s and men, and hope that they, too, will enjoy their stay with us. Sergeant Moss P. H. from the Army Technical School (Boys) Chepstow, on 24/1/34. R.Q.M.S. Smart A. E. from the Southern Command Signal Company, Salisbury, on 5/2/34. It is fortunate that we knew him well before, as he is due to leave us very soon—he has been warned for service in Egypt on 14/4/34. Sergt Winteringham R. G., L/Corpl Galbraith A. and Signalmen Reeves, Burke and Ryder ex the *Nevasa* from India on 6/2/34. L/Corporal Fletcher J. and Sigmn Cooter R. ex the *Somersetshire* from India on 12/2/34. L/Sergt York A. M. from the Training Battalion on 19/2/34.

Heard at the Races.—Scene: start of the inter-Section cross-country run. Time: 2 p.m. Bill: "What's that card that bloke's wearin' round 'is neck, 'Arry?" 'Arry: "That's his P.P., son, just in case he is a bit late finishing."

Departures.—2/Lieut G. E. G. Brown to 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, on 23/1/34. All ranks join in wishing him the best of luck in his new station.

Corpl Michie J. and Sigmn Dart A. to civilian life on 1/2/34 and 16/1/34 respectively. May the best of luck always attend your efforts. Don't forget to call round this way with the old suit case, Mick; you'll do a roaring trade.

Signalmen Wills A. and Rowse W. to F Troop, Cavalry Divl Signals, on 10/2/34.

L/Corpls Sheridan M. and Honeyborne H., Signalmen Gedney W., Douglas S., Angier B., Fowler A., Hotchkiss J. and Foreman A. E. to India per the *Lancashire* on 14/2/34. Good lads, all! We were very sorry to see them go, as our unit humorist, the unit strong man, and one of our best soccer players are numbered amongst them. Look you! A Corps Signals, India: in Fowler yon have an asset to any football team, and in L/Corpl (Paddy) Sheridan—well! if you particularly want to win a hockey match, and you have little or no thought for yourselves or your opponents, just give Paddy a stick (broom variety, if possible; but a hockey stick will do at a pinch) and watch results.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Hamilton C. and L/Corporal Mulholland F. on qualifying as assistant instructors in wireless on No. 12 n.c.o.s Royal Signals wireless course at the School of Signals.

To Sigmn Clay W. on passing the trade test for op. signals B.ii.

To U/L/Corpl Allen C. on being appointed to paid status w.e.f. 18/1/34.

To Signalmen Hubbard F. and Legg J. on getting their feet on the bottom rung of the ladder w.e.f. 8/2/34 and 16/2/34 respectively.

To L/Sergt Southwell F. on his marriage to Miss Catherine Scott at Portsmouth on 3/2/34. Oh, dear! when will this marriage tangle cease? The lads will have no kind and gentle hands to tuck them up o' nights, soon.

To L/Sergt Neal H. on obtaining a pass at an M/T course at Feltham.

To Sigmn Woolley R. on passing a trade test as clerk C.iii.(b.) R.A.P.C. on 26/1/34.

Corporals Mess Smoker.—This smoker was given to bid farewell to L/Corpl (Harry, can carrier) Wells on the occasion of his discharge after twenty-one years service, and to L/Corporals Sheridan M. and Honeyborne H., who have since sailed for service in India.

The 3rd Divl Signals Corporals Mess were invited, and they turned up in full strength; and we sincerely hope they enjoyed themselves—and the games tournament.

Really, it was like a family reunion, as on all sides one could hear such remarks as "Do you remember old so-and-so, etc." and "When I was in India. . . ." Old Harry was regaling the junior members with items of interest (?) of the Service in the old days, till somebody gave him a piece of paper and a pencil and asked him to draw the circuit of the whole thing, so that we could understand it better.

Songs were rendered by old hands (?) and Paddy, and taking everything and everybody all round, we had a very nice time.

All the Mess join in wishing all three the best of everything and all that they wish for themselves in the future. We shall miss them, and we hope that they will not forget us—especially that corner bed.

Our thanks are due to our very popular P.M.C. for such a successful smoker and for the hard work and time he put in. The menu cards were particularly appropriate. Were they his work, too? He must have worked very hard.

Obituary.—Orders clerk (pro tem): "Did this chap take the unexhumed portion of the day's rations with him, sergeant?" Orderly room sergeant: "No, idiot; they haven't been dug up yet."

The End.—As the monkey said when he bit off the tip of his tail. RUSTY.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Introduction.—This will come as a shock to old E Troopites, so may it be a pleasant one and revive old and happy memories. Needless to say, now that we have staged a come back, we hope to be more regular in future.

General.—Individual training of operators is still proceeding under the able guidance of Sergt Sayers, and the dirt track team are training with A.F.V. Signals.

Danny Boy and Joe have completed a top overhaul of our Morris fleet, and soon our model driver operators will be showing their masts in sundry highways and byways of this delightful district.

L/Corpl Richardson brought fresh honours to this Troop on his return from an instructors M.T. course at Feltham on the 24th January. "The outstanding man on the course" was the compliment paid to him. With such a mechanised Troop as ours, such an able n.c.o. is of inestimable value.

Musical (?)—Indian readers, please note that Tom Sayers' famous dance band is carrying on its traditional successes.

Bisley (Local).—On the 1st February we were at home on the miniature shooting range to a team from B Squadron 4/7th Dragoon Guards. Teams of twelve competed, and the result was a win for B Squadron by 22 points out of a possible 1140.

We are running weekly meetings now on the 4/7th Dragoon Guards indoor range, and soon we hope to regain our pre-Christmas accuracy. The belief of one individual in the bull finding qualities of a lucky charm is pathetic to watch.

Foreign.—If the circulation of these notes extends to Darkest Africa, maybe Sergt Wright (Shiner) late of this Troop, could get "through" once in a while.

Anticipation.—On the 3rd March we hope to renew the pleasure of meeting D Troop at Aldershot on the football and hockey fields. Future notes will give the results: we in our modesty cannot prophesy.

Arrivals.—Corpl Coram from India on the 6th February—very welcome indeed, as junior n.c.o.s are at a premium at present. Sigmn Halliday from the Training Battalion on the 15th January. E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The Troop have settled down to the second period of individual training, and the newcomers are now able to obtain some practical working experience. The M.A. cars are being used for short traffic schemes. These are a popular innovation and should prove a success if only from the point of practical training value.

An n.c.o.s driving course has also been introduced. Sergeant Archer, L/Sergt Williams and Corpl Penny may now be observed tearing round the countryside, traversing the highways and byways at a nimble five to the detriment of pedestrians in general and gearboxes in particular.

Edgar—a great statesman but an indifferent soldier, to quote an authority—is at present languishing in dock, having had the misfortune to develop tonsilitis. The whole Troop, up to and including the coalman, wish him a speedy recovery.

Departures.—Nil.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Allen C. on attaining paid status, and to U/L/Corpl Hubbard F. on reaching that rank.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Wills A. and Rowse W. have arrived from A.F.V. Signals. We extend the glad hand and trust that their stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Troop Cameos: No. 2.—W.A. the Bird of Prey! Oscillates at high frequency when called upon to buy the daily break. Armorial bearings: two half-crowns (proper) surrounded by a field of oysters, the whole being clamped tightly in a vice. Hobbies: cycling and spending. The "bargain" is shortly going to stud in order that the breed may not become extinct. Proud possessor of a bunker superhet! His cheerful countenance when parting with the spondulicks is one of the bright features of an otherwise drab existence. Owns extensive estates in Shipton Bellinger, and may be daily observed sweeping majestically over hill and dale, mounted on his rusty steed.

A.F.V. Signals Christmas Tree.—This function, held on the 17th January at the Garrison lecture hall, Tidworth, was without the slightest doubt the huge success that it deserved to be—thanks to the efforts of the committee who took upon themselves the difficult task of organising the function.

The efforts of the entertainers were wonderfully good, and a number of the guests were to be observed frantically tearing their hair in order to ascertain whether any coins had been overlooked. The general remark—natural under the circumstances—was "I wish I could do that one!" Our thanks are due to the C.O. and officers for a wonderful show, and we cannot help but say "Roll on, the next!"

Our worthy F-of-S., C.Q.M.S. R. Taplin, was called upon to return the urn, i.e. perform the duties of Father Christmas. There is absolutely no truth in the rumour that W.A.'s gum boots were subject to a depreciation of 30 per cent. on account of the impersonation (hollow groans from Shipton Bellinger!)

Agony.—The Rut would like to know what has happened to the scribe of the Shanghai Signal Section. Surely the shroffs are not intercepting the outward mails? Shades of 'Aggis Bowie and old Ropey! P.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

All ranks learnt with deep regret of the sudden death, on the 9th February, of General Sir Percy P. de B. Radcliffe, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command. The C.S.O. (Colonel Bradley) conveyed the sympathy of the Corps to Lady Radcliffe, and a wreath was sent for the funeral, the military part of which took place in Salisbury on the 14th February.

The past month has been an uneventful one for the unit except for fairly continuous sporting activities dealt with elsewhere.

In the cross-country world we have made a good start by winning the Garrison cup for the seventh year in succession. It has been decided, with the permission of the authorities concerned, to retain the cup as a record of continuous success and to present a new but similar one for future Garrison competition.

It is a long hark back to Christmas, but it was only on the 24th January that the annual tea party for married families was held. The party commenced with a movie show in the Garrison theatre, which provided good fun and entertainment for all. Tea was served in the Garrison Institute, and once again an excellent meal was provided. About ninety grown-ups sat down, and the children could hardly be counted. Altogether some two hundred persons had a very good tea. The most important part in the piece came next. Adjourning to the theatre, all the children (flushed with excitement and expectation) saw the curtains of the stage draw apart and a heavily laden Christmas tree appear. Father Christmas came upon the scene and gave each child a present. Games were then indulged in, and after three cheers had been given for the hosts—the officers of the unit—the party broke up.

In the Garrison Hockey League all three Companies survive and it looks as if we may have an all-Signals final. Recent arrivals from India are proving their worth on the hockey field, and on his first appearance L/Corpl Thomas contributed largely to No. 2 Company's win in the second round of the Garrison cup.

On Friday 9th February a team comprising all ranks participated in a games tournament in Salisbury against the local branch of the O.C.A. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and we look forward to giving them their revenge (or the chance of it!) here later on.

In the Garrison Company knock-out billiards contest, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies survived the first round at the expense of the 1st Light Battery and 48th Field Battery respectively; but the sergeants, in their Inter-Mess League, lost to the Sappers by 3—5 games. C.Q.M.S. Yates was badly missed, but it is hoped that Sergt Brooke will more than fill his place.

Miscellaneous.—We read recently "It is notified for information that No. —— L/Corpl ——, late of this unit, having completed a course of plumbing at the A.V.T.C., has obtained employment as a male nurse in a mental hospital"—not, as might have been expected, as a bricklayer!

"Love in a Condenser" (being an extract from an E. and M. paper): "The protons want balancing but, having no conducting path, find it hard to steal their mates. Therefore they nick them from inside the plates and go on right through the insulator to the other plate, thus causing a great strain between the plates."

Agony.—To Hong Kong: Badgy S. would be interested to know the identity of Tich, as there are a good many of that ilk in the Corps.

Advice.—It's as well to warn your girl friend that, when posting one of her best billets doux imprinted with "S.W.A.K.," etc., she should not forget to insert your name above the Company address. Your Company commander should be spared *some* things! BULFORD.

Arrivals.—The undermentioned arrived from India's sunny clime to face the rigours of Bulford's frost: C.S.M. Eyres, L/Corporals Roberts C. G., Burrell H., Kay J., Thomas L. and Pape J., Signalmen Robinson F., Andrew C., Edwards E., Giles A., Goold E., Hickson E., Newbury C., Bridle E., Dutton D., Legge J., Sidney A., Butler J., Entwhistle S., Robertson G. and Wellard A.

The following are welcomed from the Training Battalion with the hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one:—L/Sergt Brooke J., Signalmen Sellars E., Brown D., Balls W., Connolly D., Goff N., McCann M., Moon T., Darwent G., Carlyon R. and Brooke C.

To the Depot Battalion we extend our thanks for L/Sergt Luck and Sigmn Smith R.

Departures.—The following have left us to sizzle on India's sunbaked soil: Sergts O'Connor D., Waldron D. and Laing J., Corporals Vollans L. and Moore J., Signalmen Smith S., Quinn J., Whitehouse H., Hutton T., Corfield F., Ganner A., Mounsey J., O'Rourke P. and Hampton G.

L/Corpl Clasper J. has departed to Egypt; Sigmn Barsley to Aden; Q.M.S. Walker C. and Signalmen Shuttleworth F. and Middleton E. to China; L/Corpl Morton A. and Sigmn Currie W. to Malaya; and Corpl Woodbury W. to Ceylon. We wish them the best of everything in their new homes.

The undermentioned have decided that they have given of their best to the Army and are offering what is left to the civilian world from the Reserve: L/Corpl Ward G., Signalmen Goodwin G., Matthews J., Bridle E., Rawlence E. and Marples G., and Driver Whitwood. C.Q.M.S. Reade has definitely decided that he has given enough to the Army in twenty-one years and has taken his discharge. We wish them all luck and cushy jobs.

The following have left us for units as shown: Sigmn Roberts T. to the Training Battalion. Driver Smith R. to the Depot Battalion. Sigmn Pilkington J. to R.A.P.C. at Hounslow. L/Cpl Chambers J. to Eastern Command Signal Company. Corporal Strickland W. to the 1st Divl Signals.

The undermentioned have departed to vocational courses preparatory to leaving for civvy street: Corporals Wilcock H. and Phipson L., Signalmen Snelson H., Patton A. and Stanger A.

Marriages.—The following have taken the plunge, and we wish them all that they would like us to wish them. L/Corporal Pape J. W. and Miss Mildred Wood at Leeds. Sigmn Hutton T. and Miss Rosemary Wilkinson at Stokesbury. Sigmn Etheridge and Miss Joan Marie MacFarlane at New Windsor. L/Corpl West G. and Miss Dorothy Ellen Maude Hines at Romford. Sigmn Matchett H. and Miss Margerita Helena di Paolo at Darlington.

Births.—The following increases in strength have been notified to these headquarters, and we extend our sincere condolences—sorry! congratulations. To Sigmn and Mrs. A. Hudson a daughter, Phyllis Jean, 13/1/34. To L/Corporal and Mrs. L. Shorrocks a son, Gerald Bernard, 16/1/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. C. Garret a daughter, Jean Elizabeth, 18/1/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. Worsfold a son, Geoffrey Edward; to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Reade a daughter, Elizabeth Anne; to Corpl and Mrs. R. Davey a son, Peter Ernest—all on 27/1/34.

Appointments.—We congratulate the undermentioned on attaining the ranks shown: Sergt Smith A. to be C.Q.M.S. w.e.f. 23/10/33. Sigmn Fenton J. to be U/L/Corpl w.e.f. 28/1/34.

Extensions.—The undermentioned have let their hope overrun their experience and have decided to stay longer with us: Sigmn Matchett to complete eight years with the Colours. Sergt Barlow to complete twenty-one years man's service.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Most of the Company are still occupied in endeavouring to get higher trade rates. It will be quite a treat when we resume normal work and Section training. The last fortnight has been a most uncomfortable one—nothing but shifting barrack rooms and cleaning paint from one's khaki. It is rumoured that there is to be a smoker for the painters on the day they finish.

The Inspector of Physical Training came to watch the unit undergoing the trained soldiers tables. We have been busy passing out men for their standard tests.

Courses.—The following have attended courses. L/Sergeant Tanner R., M.T. driving and maintenance at Feltham. Corporal Hunt and L/Corpl Park, fire fighting at Aldershot. Sigmn Leebrick, hygiene.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporal Gillott on getting the pay, and to U/L/Corpls Hubbard and Holland on their appointment.

Sport.—The Company hockey team survived the second round of the Garrison inter-Company knock-out competition by defeating C Company 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers. The draw for the third round has not yet been made.

A and M Sections were drawn against each other in the inter-Section soccer knock-out. M were a trifle too good for A and easily defeated them.

The Company cross-country team represented the unit in the Garrison cross-country race, but I am afraid they were not good enough to come in the first three.

Departures.—Sergt Turner, L/Corpl Tupper and Sigmn Lyons to India. Corpl Ives to A.F.V. Signals.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Sullings and Webb from the S.T.C. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Our theme song for the past month has been "Wet paint" and "Sing me a low-down tune"—but not on the polished floors. We are now living in the Ritz style: newly painted walls and polished floors. There has been a great improvement in the barrack rooms, and everyone is "all for it."

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the Company, and hope their stay will be a happy one. From the Training Battalion, Signalmen Sanger, Slater, Saxby and Spalding. From No. 1 Company, Signalmen Nisbett, Smith P., Hade and Croften. From S.T.C. old soldier Watson.

Departures.—Our best wishes and good luck to Sergt Cozens and Signalmen Clarke and Warren, who have left us for India. L/Corpl Burdett (Sahib) to the other side of the street (No. 1 Company).

Sport.—We have little to report this month. The Company is at present preparing for the physical training pass-off, and there is every indication that we shall have a good average.

Sigmn Walker has entered for the Army boxing championships, and we wish him every success.

The following have been chosen to represent the unit in the Garrison inter-unit cross-country race: L/Corporal Russell (team captain), Signalmen Cotton, Bakes and Wilson.

Our hockey game with the Lancashire Fusiliers in the inter-Company knock-out has been scratched after many telephone calls.

MUSHM.

No. 3 Company.

General.—" Mind the paint!" is the latest cry, for all huts in Reed Hall Camp are being painted inside and out, and those which are finished look very nice indeed. In due course the floors of all barrack rooms are to be stained and polished, but what they will look like after a week's rain remains to be seen. Perhaps some kind barrack master will issue cocoanut matting for the centre of each barrack room, to take the tread.

Individual training is still in full swing, and now that the Trade Board is only a month away, that extra portion of grey matter is coming to the fore. All candidates are confident that they will pass their respective trade tests.

We were recently inspected by the Inspector of Physical Training from the War Office.

Drafts.—The following are leaving us on the 13th February for India, and we wish them the best of luck in their new stations. Sigmn Dunaway A. to 1st Indian Divl Signals. Signalmen Tracey A. and Rainford R. to 3rd Indian Divl Signals.

Arrivals.—We welcome L/Corporal Howard J. from India and Sigmn Watt W. from No. 1 Company, and hope they will enjoy their stay in the Company.

Departures.—We have said goodbye to the following and wish them the best of luck and employment. Signalman Walker J. to School of Signals. Signalmen Wheeler, Salter and Thompson and Driver Foster to civvy street. May you keep your situation, Tommy, for years to come, and may we soon hear of your plunge! To Syd, Solly and Bill: May you soon find a good job. Sigmn Hunt A. to A.V.T.C. Aldershot on a course of electrical welding.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Training.—During the month of January Captain Jennings, M.C., gave a series of tactical lectures to the w.o.s and n.c.o.s of the unit. At the end of these lectures the class was divided into four syndicates for a tactical exercise without troops. The results of the exercise showed that a keen interest was taken by the w.o.s and n.c.o.s, and their thanks are due to Captain Jennings for the clear manner in which he delivered the lectures.

The commanding officer is holding a tactical exercise without troops, and again the class has been formed into syndicates composed of the subalterns of the unit with a certain number of n.c.o.s.

Sport.—Full notes on sport will be found in the appropriate portion of THE WIRE, but we cannot pass on without expressing our disappointment at our hockey team being beaten by the 1st Battn D.L.I. Of course, one cannot expect a team to win every time, especially when its opponents are of such a high class as the D.L.I. In this match it must be admitted that the better team won, and as sportsmen we express the wish that they may go far in the Army cup.

General.—An outbreak of measles has been the cause of many of our married quarters being placed out of bounds. In most cases the isolation of the head of the family has meant duty rosters being affected; and some gardens have accordingly had more attention than would otherwise have been the case.

Corporals Room.—The corporals of the unit have held a dance and a social evening since the last publication of THE WIRE, and according to remarks overheard they were a great success. Those who attended them had two thoroughly enjoyable evenings.

We have lost two members of the Mess this month: Corporals Hart and Wilkins.

Corpl Hart, who has been with this unit since its return from the Rhine, has been n.c.o. i/c M.T. in No. 1 Company for some considerable time. There may be a chance for someone else to obtain a prize in the unit garden competition now that he has left us. I think I am not far wrong when I say that Corpl Hart has never been out of the prizes (mostly firsts) since the inception of the competition.

Corpl Wilkins recently attended a drill course at the Depot Battalion, Catterick. The result he obtained is apparent, as he has been posted to the cadre of the Depot Battalion as a drill instructor.

Sergeants Mess.—A games evening, with the members of the Scarborough R.F.C. as opponents, was held during the month—and a right enjoyable evening it was. Billiards, snooker, darts, dominoes and solo whist were played, as well as arm exercises. The latter were not too prominent, though.

At the last Mess meeting the cup (with replica) in respect of the Mess 1933 rifle competition was presented to the winner, R.S.M. McIntosh; and the cue and case in respect of the winter billiards handicap was presented to the winner, Sergt Newman R.

We extend the hand of friendship to Sergt Dunningham, who has joined us from the School of Signals. May his stay as our O.R.S. be a lengthy and happy one.

The fortnightly social evenings of the Mess have been resumed, and have met with success. The members and their friends have thoroughly enjoyed the songs of Sergt Sergeant and the wit of Sergt Wilmot.

All members of the Mess wish Sergt Shepheard the best in his new sphere. He has taken his discharge and has obtained employment with a local Wireless Relay Company. He has been with the unit since its return from the Rhine and has seen many changes, including those who have left us on discharge, and now his turn has arrived. Again, Tiffy, we wish you and your family a happy and prosperous future.

Arrivals.—No. 1 Company: From India, Sergeant Nicholson, L/Corpls Jackson and McDonald, Signalmen Deaville, Garton, Peck, Handley and Newton. From the Training Battalion, Signalmen Bateman, Greaves, McBeth, McDermott, Hall and Heald. From School of Signals, Sergt Dunningham.

No. 2 Company: From the Training Battalion, Signalmen Bristow, Williams and Vielch.

No. 3 Company: From India, L/Corporal Hill and Signalman Costigan.

It is hoped that the above will enjoy their tour of duty with us, and that the climate will not be too severe for those who have joined us from warmer stations. Those from the Training Battalion will, no doubt, find it a change from the moors of Catterick to the promenades of Scarborough.

Departures.—The following have left us for the warmer climes of India. No. 1 Company: L/Corporals Wright, Faraday and Watts, Signalmen Bowen, Geddes and Palmer. No. 2 Company: Sigmn Smith. No. 3 Company: Signalmen Gillie, Skirving and Rees.

Signalmen Hewson and McCormack will soon have left us for the Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Discharge and Transfer to Army Reserve.—Goodbye has been said to the following, who have left us for civilian life: Sgt Shepheard, Signalmen Bryant, Wray, France and Ferguson. May the change be not too severe, and may their future be all that they themselves wish.

Sigmn Wilson L. has left us for the A.V.T.C. Chisledon to fit himself more efficiently for civilian life. It is hoped that, at the termination of the course, he will have obtained a wide knowledge of the trade he intends to follow when his engagement with the Colours terminates.

Courses.—The following have rejoined the unit after having attended with success the courses shown. Sergt Rose A., anti-gas. L/Sergt Toogood, M.T. at R.A.S.C. Depot, Feltham. L/Cpl Longworth, pay duties. Signalmen McKellop and Williams, Creed teleprinter apparatus, G.P.O. Sigmn Coole, cookery.

The following are attending courses as shown, and we wish them success when the time arrives to test the knowledge gained whilst undergoing the course. L/Sergt Clarke, education. Corpl Wright, M.T. at R.A.S.C. Feltham. Sigmn Dixon, cookery.

Salutations.—To C.Q.M.S. Millross and L/Corporals (unpaid) Johnson A. W. and Webber G. on attaining those ranks.

Birth.—To the wife of L/Corpl Brunton-Douglas a son, James Allen.

[*Continued on page 118*]



UNITS ABROAD



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Saturday 20th January.

General.—Our best wishes go with Brigadier and Mrs. Clementi Smith on his vacating the appointment of Commandant, S.T.C. (India) and S.O.-in-Chief. The Brigadier has completed thirty-six years service, and we hope to see him every year at the annual re-union at Aldershot.

Major G. L. G. Pollard and Captain W. C. V. Galwey are also leaving us for new stations. They go to 1st Indian Divl Signals and Peshawar District Signals respectively.

The residents of Jubbulpore had a very unpleasant experience on the 15th January in the form of violent earth tremors. Although other parts of India have been seriously affected, we are pleased to say that Jubbulpore escaped with little damage.

The S.T.C. (India) mounted sports were held on Thursday 4th January and proved to be as popular an attraction as ever. The programme consisted of jumping, tent-pegging, musical ride and despatch riders' motor cycle display. The latter event, this year, was performed by I.O.R.s. They gave an excellent performance, and great credit is due to L/Sergt McMillan for having trained the team so well.

A Company.

This month we have said goodbye to seventeen B.O.R.s who have left India for Blighty per the *Dorsetshire*. We wish some of them the best of luck in their new units; and to those re-entering civilian life, prosperity in their future years.

A glad welcome is extended to Corpl Connolly and Signalmen Purdue and Tyler, and we hope they will spend a happy tour with this unit.

Sergt Shiner has left us for Army Headquarters, while L/Sergt Ellison has gone on a course with the I.A.S.C. at Chaklala for three months, with a view to transferring to that body.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Chandler and L/Sergt Baker on their eighteen years undetected crime; also to our winners of the S.T.C. (India) individual championships.

Entertainments.—Christmas morning: 11 a.m. Scene: the new Company football ground and its opening ceremony, a comic football match.

Prior to the kick-off we were entertained with a selection of music by Roger (Tich) Rayner and his band. In between the items of this powerful music, two weird persons (presumably T.T.s) were propounding their views on alcoholic liquors, much to the discredit of their " beaks," for they certainly appeared to be enjoying the morning after the night before.

The kick-off was duly performed by the Right Hon. Lady Doall (Mrs. Fishwick) accompanied by her desirable Admiral Donowt (Sergt Deamon). Unfortunately, in kicking off, the ball proved too heavy for her ladyship, and in taking the all important kick she sprained her ankle; nevertheless, the life-savers were there to render the necessary aid.

One bright n.c.o. (no names, no Bramsinghs) was heard to remark that, to enable him to select a good rugger team for the coming season, he is going to provide the Company with fancy dresses and a ball and leave 'em to it.

The bearer did exceptionally well in tips, and rumours are abroad that as a result he is going on leave next Christmas. Now, Jock, how did you do it? So much for the football match.

An excellent Christmas dinner was provided, which must have caused our cook (good old Fulham!) many wakeful nights. As usual, the old custom of w.o.s and senior n.c.o.s waiting at table was observed. We were visited during the dinner by the Brigadier and officers of the unit. The compliments of the season having been paid, these were suitably replied to by a member of the Company. In his remarks he told us that 1934 looked very promising, with one exception—we are losing our Brigadier. As regards the disposal of the dainty morsels provided, nothing need be said. In the evening an impromptu smoking concert proved very successful, the majority of the Company being in attendance. This wound up a very happy and enjoyable Christmas Day.

On Boxing Day a good number, accompanied by the O.C., went for a picnic to Happy Valley, leaving barracks about 9 a.m. Good fun was enjoyed during the day, swimming and sun bathing being freely indulged in. The party returned early in the evening, tired but happy. It was particularly noticed that the individuals already nominated for repatriation had certainly remembered that handsome men are slightly sun-burned.

On Wednesday, the 27th, we held a coster ball, and according to outside information it has been voted the best dance in Jubland for some years. Dancing was from 9 p.m. to 1.30 a.m., with a cabaret show in between. A prize given by the O.C. for the best coster dress was carried off by Tommy Greig and 'is barrer.

The cabaret show was a huge success, and encores were the rule of the evening. The following were heard and seen, to many rounds of applause. Captain Ellis (15th Lancers) and his brother-ventriloquist; Mrs. Ellis, eccentric dancer; Mrs. Marshall, song; Captain Galwey, humorous song; Mr. Bhagot and Mrs. Fishwick, coster's honeymoon; Corpl Appleby, song; and last, but not least, Mrs. Nicholls and her dancing troupe.

The hall was decorated for the occasion, and barrels, boxes and bags of straw were used in lieu of Hyde Park benches. Again we were honoured by the presence of our Brigadier and officers, and one glance at them was sufficient to see that they were greatly impressed.

The evening ended all too quickly—everyone was sorry when the last dance was proclaimed; but we are hoping to have another just as successful in the near future.

On Monday 15th January we bade farewell, in the form of a costume dance, to many of our old acquaintances who are sailing for the Motherland on the 20th. This function was well supported and was certainly another great hit. On this occasion dancing took place from 8.30 p.m. until 1 a.m. and, as usual, much regret was felt when the last dance terminated a fine evening. In bidding farewell to the people who are leaving us, C.S.M. Price was particularly grieved that we were losing such a fine set of fellows—everyone a trier. It is certainly a case of our loss—home unit's gain.

Sergeants Mess.

The Christmas festivities being over, we have once again settled down to normal routine. The holiday programme commenced with a Christmas tree for the kiddies on the 23rd December. During the afternoon they were entertained by an Indian magician, who gave an excellent show. Immediately after, tea was served on the lawn. After tea, Sergt Mackie and L/Sergts Baker and Matthews amused them with a comic act entitled "The Schoolroom." Pa and ma seemed as much amused as the kiddies were. Father Christmas (Captain L. B. Nicholls) duly arrived and the children then received their toys, etc. The evening was devoted to dancing.

Christmas Day in the Mess was very quiet owing to other attractions in the unit. In the evening, all the single members were entertained by the married ones at their quarters, and judging by the remarks next morning, everybody had a good time.

The Mess Christmas dinner was held on Boxing Day, followed by a dance, both of " whish " were voted by all to be a great success.

[*Continued on page 112*]

"Every Picture Tells a Story"—or "A Story Without Words."



These four photographs have been received from Peshawar District Signals, India, without any accompanying notes or title lines





In the absence of such information, much is left to the reader's imagination. The first three, however, seem to have some connection with a big "do"—probably at Christmas



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

[*Continued from page 109.*]

The Mess once again retain the cup—sergeants v. the officers—after a series of encounters in hockey, football, shooting, tennis and cricket. Competition was keen throughout. Hockey and football having resulted in a draw in each case, and the shooting being won by the sergeants and the tennis by the officers, every one was keyed up for the cricket match. This was played on Thursday 17th January, and our officers entertained us to lunch and tea. We eventually won the game. Mr. " Bye " made the top score on our side, and Captain Scott had us on our toes by hitting fours in rapid succession. However, Spud (our sticky finger expert) saved the situation by catching him from a regular wallop. During lunch, one was always hearing " Try a drop of this ; its quite *harmless*." However, the cup is still ours.

On Tuesday 16th January a dance was given by the Mess as a farewell to Brigadier and Mrs. Clementi Smith. During the interval the Brigadier was presented with the first prize (a " Jimmy " statuette) for the old soldiers' race held at the S.T.C.(I) individual championships. During his speech R.S.M. Harrison said that although the Brigadier was vacating his appointment in India, he felt sure it would not be the last time we should see him because " once Signals always Signals." The Brigadier, in replying, said he hoped it would not be the last time we should see him, and that when we did see him in the future, we were not to say " Oh! there's the Brigadier " and walk to the other end of the room, but go up and speak to him, because he will always be delighted to meet old members of the Corps. We feel that as the Brigadier is so popular and widely known throughout the Corps, we should like to pass on that information to all who know him.

We Want to Know.—Have the corporals seen the Younger cup? Who pulled the brick down? Who told Mick that he had a strong resemblance to Father Time? BRAM-MACK.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Monday 8th January.

General.—The festive season is now over and things have once more settled down to normal routine. A few days' good sport was witnessed and enjoyed by most of the unit. A good programme of events was arranged, the principal being :—

Friday 22nd December—Sergeants Mess Christmas draw.
Saturday 23rd—Inter-Company hockey, British and Indian ; children's Christmas tree.
Monday 25th—B.O.R.s dinner.
Tuesday 26th—Donkey polo ; Corporals Mess dinner and dance.
Wednesday 27th—Sergeants Mess dinner and dance.
Thursday 28th—B.O.R.s whist drive and dance.
Friday 29th—B.O.R.s tennis " at home."

The Sergeants Mess Christmas draw passed off very well. The junior n.c.o.s being invited, a goodly crowd gathered together and an enjoyable evening was spent, there being no blanks in the draw—everybody received a prize of some sort, although the luck seemed to stick to a few.

The children's Christmas tree was a great success. The fun started early in the afternoon with camel rides for the kiddies and was kept going until teatime. The renowned Nobby and partner caused much fun in their old rôle of clowns, and the dharzi (tailor) was given plenty of work the next day in attaching new seats to trousers worn out on the slide. Father Christmas arrived in great style on a sledge which was tastefully decorated by coloured electric lights. The presents were then distributed and the children retired to dreamland, tired but happy.

The B.O.R.s dinner passed off in great style, the dining hall being even better decorated than in previous years—the credit for which is due to the committee, most of whom were by that time en route for U.K. The toast to the officers having been given, the C.O. replied with a few appropriate remarks. The process of feeding the inner man was then commenced, with the senior n.c.o.s carrying out their annual mess orderly duties in great style. Dinner having been served, the senior n.c.o.s retired to join their families or the Mess, and the other ranks were left to carry on by themselves.

On Boxing Day some excellent sport was witnessed in the paddock during the annual contest for the donkey polo cup, which was eventually won by the I.O.R.s of No. 1 Company, who beat the B.O.R.s of No. 2 Company by 5—1 goals. Some good fun was witnessed, and although goals were few, falls were plentiful. One regrettable accident occurred when Sigmn Harrison was kicked by a mule. He was later admitted to hospital with a fractured jaw.

This was followed in the evening by the junior n.c.o.s' dinner and dance. The dinner was excellent and was provided in the corporals room. A great number of the junior n.c.o.s of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were invited as a gesture of welcome to the station. After dinner the pipers played the whole of the diners over to the regimental theatre, where the dance was held. This proved a great success and an enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

Sergeants Mess Dinner and Dance.—This will probably be reported by the scribe of the Sergeants Mess, so I shall simply say that a jolly fine evening was spent by everyone present.

All Ranks Whist Drive and Dance.—This was a brilliant success, and great credit is due to the committee and helpers for putting on such a good show. It is sincerely hoped that this will now become a weekly function. The music was rendered by the Royal Signals jazz band, who had all they could do to give all the encores called for.

All Ranks Tennis At Home.—This was run as a Sunningdale tournament, and some very good tennis was witnessed during the afternoon, the winners of the finals being Lieut. N. Minshall and Sigmn King D., and Signalmen Bundy and McDougall.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Sergeants Nichols and Coles and nineteen B.O.R.s, who arrived from U.K. on the 16th December ; also to Sergeant Mills from 2nd Div. Signals, Quetta. It is hoped that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Sergt Ellerton-Long was posted to us from 2nd Div. but proceeded on U.K. leave before joining the unit.

Departures.—All best wishes go with the draft of thirty-three B.O.R.s who left us for new spheres of activities in the U.K., and we hope that they will be as successful in their new units as they were here. They certainly gave the new arrivals something to think about at the smoker and dance held to bid them adieu and bon voyage.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Archbold on attaining that rank. ONEDIV.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Friday 2nd February.

General.—The effects of Christmas having worn off, everyone is settling down once more to unit training, technical training, riding schools, staff parades, and last, but not least, sports.

At the Sialkot mounted sports the Troop made themselves felt by taking first place with the best trained Troop horse, and just missed first place with the best trained Section.

We are now preparing for Signals Week, and expect to go one step further with the football than we did in Signals Week '32. The hockey team, in spite of the depletion caused through home drafts, are capable of giving any team in the district a good game, as will be witnessed by the Sports Notes.

Courses.—Corporal Birchall and L/Corpl Brown to the 1st Battalion Dorset Regiment for a local course in musketry.

Arrivals.—A welcome to Sergt Lawman from Cherat, Sigmn Marshall from B Corps, Sigmn Mackie from Kohat, Sigmn McKenzie from Quetta, Sigmn Rork from Peshawar, and Signalmen Wright, Fisher and Simbler from the United Kingdom. The grooming strength is returning to normal, making it possible for the staff-employed to get some rest.

Departures.—L/Corpl Grafton, Signalmen Younie, Robertson G., Linington and Reeves—the last named to Brighton and the others elsewhere in the United Kingdom. Don't forget, Paddy, the football and hockey teams are waiting for the next trooper.

Education.—We take off our hats to Signalmen Walbridge, Marshall T. and O'Connell for passing in subjects towards their first class certificate of education. There is plenty of time yet to complete the good work, and there will be more about firsts in March.

Promotions and Appointments.—At last something is being done, and we congratulate Corpl Milne, L/Corpl Bruton and U/L/Corporals Eady and Donovan on their respective promotions.

Staff Employments.—L/Corpl Adamson, sinking jumps.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Kenny, our orderly room sergeant, on winning the hammer throwing event at the Lahore District athletic meeting. He is still training, with an eye on the Olympic Games.

Hopes.—As this is my first effort, I do not anticipate a big sale of copies of THE WIRE. I hope, in future—with a little more experience—to make our contribution from the Troop interesting and informative to old Troopites. KHANA.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Tuesday 6th February.

Arrivals.—Captains W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., and T. A. R. Scott from the S.T.C. (India). Lieut E. P. Blake, Sergts Quick P., O'Connor D. and Lowrie J., and Sigmn Geddes J. from the United Kingdom.

Departures.—Captain J. F. Charlesworth to 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. Signalmen Borrett F. and Darnell G. to the Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat (B Corps Signals). Signalmen Pratt L. and Strutt E. to the S.T.C.(I).

Theme Song of J Section.—" Leave me alone ; let me wander."

Confectionery.—Sigmn Chadderton W. would like a vocational course on this in 1936. He even signed on to complete eight years for a piece of cake.

Literary—There are quite a number of fellows in this unit who call themselves " du-homes "—meaning, of course, that they hope to be repatriated in 1934/35. One of these had an epistle from ex-Sigmn Hill R. G. A., who whilst here could even beat the Americans for bluff, etc. If he is not Mayor of Waddon (not marked in Phillips' Atlas) by now, it is not his fault. Anyway, here are a few excerpts from a letter the " du-homes " sent to him this week (in January's WIRE, re-addressed to him) :

MESSAGE FORM.

Special instructions—Delayed ; no boat yet ; 261 days to go.
To Merg, alias Busty, Swede, Doctor, B-r-r-r-r-r.
From the Waiting Men.
Oct/1934 [6th Feb. 34] Yours to " Dinty."

Owing to losing all our money on Webbie's racehorses, we are sending this by wire.

We understand that you are in the Prison Services, and would very much like to know what you got caught for. Tich reckons that you are in for seven, Bill for fifteen, Chippy dinkie-doo, Dinty all-the-fours, and Smudger clickety-click ; but, no doubt, before you finish your time you will reach the top of the house. We doubt whether you will get *another* medal for " bravery and devotion to duty " - - - . - -

We are anxious to know a few things about the journey home and the subsequent happenings in the big cantonment. Here they are :

1 How many guards does it run on the way home?
2 Who ran the housie-housie?
3 How much hush money was paid to the ship's R.S.M.?
4 What was the total income for the voyage?
5 Do the Customs look through one's kit?
6 Can they be squared?
7 How long does one have to wait before disembarkation ?
8 By which rail route is one taken to Catterick, and how long does it take ?
9 Are the No. 5's in the Y.M.C.A. still the same size, or have they also been " cut " ?
10 Do the Depot keep you long before the actual discharge ?
11 Who is the best dharzi?
12 What happened to Crystal Palace when they met the Arsenal in the Cup ?

Now that we have given you these questions to think over, Smudger is having a go at your native language. " Over to you," . . . . . .

'Ow be, Merrrg? Dinty told I as 'ow 'e 'erd from yo, and tells oi as 'ow your 'amlet 'as bin ruined by one o' them airy-planes. Oi looked in t'paper only larst Toosday an' there it be —garn!

Young 'Arry 'Awke, 'im as keeps t'farrrm at back of t'Dog and Bacon, 'as garn away along with Widder Webb. Some says as 'ow 'e's a getting married, but oi ain't thinking same as they be. This young genneration fair gives oi the creeps, it do.

Parson was 'ere to see oi day afore yesterday and arsked arter 'e. Oi told 'e that yo was 'aving many pints in t'owd " Pig and Whistle " down at back of Mother Mott's orrrchard. Yo ort to 'ave seen 'e larff!

Me gout is atroublin me agin—oi shall 'ave to try this Osaka the kids are tarking abart, and support German industry.

Oi 'ave written wot oi saw in paper t'other day abart yo returning to the village.

THE RETURN OF MERG HILL TO OUR SWEDE-BASHING VILLAGE.

All of the village band (he left his piano behind) met the Frontiersman (complete with medal ribbon) at the railway halt with the farm cart kindly lent by Farmer Hill, senior. The village spinsters danced around the maypole during the afternoon, whilst the locals played croquet in Mrs. Wattle's meadow. A delightful evening was spent in the " Du-drop Inn," and it was noted with delight that the celebrity had not lost his skill at darts or shoving the old halfpenny. He told the proud villagers that he often used to play darts whilst bullets were flying around him at Nowshera Post (now Fort Milward). The hamlet think that, with his help, they will be able at last to beat their rivals of the " Dog and Bacon " at Thames Ditton. The farm cart (again so generously loaned by Farmer Hill, senior) was brought into use for depositing the too-merry members of the party at their respective caves. It is stated on good authority that Mr. Hill will give a lecture to the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides on " Soldiering on the N.W. Frontier of India." We are expecting even bigger things from him when he competes in the ploughing competition and flower and vegetable exhibition at the Agricultural Hall (Farmer Williams has kindly offered his cowshed again for this purpose).

. . . . . .

Now that Smudger has piped down, here is a poetical effort :—

Old Merg to the burgh has gone—
In the turnip field you will find him ;
His corduroys he has girded on,
With his hay fork slung behind him.
—(*with apologies to Thomas Moore*)

And yet another effort :

Under the village wurzel bush
Our gallant Merg did lie,
Dreaming of those happy days
He spent at Ghalanai.

He thought of things that he had done,
And of actions brave and bold,
And battles fierce that had been won,
And the Mohmands he did hold.

When the wars were over
And the columns did return,
At the game of housie-housie
Lakhs of pice he sure did earn.

But now those happy days are o'er
And to civvy street he's gone ;
Of our gallant Merg we'll hear no more,
But memories dear will linger on.

A go at mathematics by one of the " du-homes " :—

2 turnips	1 swede
1 swede	1 wurzel
3 wurzels	6 mangolds
10 mangolds	1 cabbage patch
2 cabbage patches ...	1 turnip field
1½ turnip fields	1 burgh (Waddon, near Croydon)

This is all from your everloving Waiting Men,

XXXXXX

Births.—To L/Sergt and Mrs. E. Tudor a girl, Hazel, 28/1/34.

Palestine Press.—Wrinkle would like to hear from Cado of cross-country fame.

Bill Mitch of this unit desires loving epistles from one Alf Brunt, believed to be scrounging in Colchester. (Australian papers, please copy.) MIIM.

Nowshera Detachment.

Chitral Lines, 21st January.

General.—Nothing much of interest has happened during the last month, except, of course, the passing of Christmas and the dawning of another year. With the latter come as a matter of form the time-worn expressions "Only another such and such a time to do" and "Roll on, Ock!" I suppose one must get a bit excited when the time to leave India's coral strand draws near, but those people who keep saying these things must surely be as tired of saying them as we are of hearing them.

Seeing that Christmas comes but once a year, it behoves us to look back and briefly review what took place. Things were very quiet at Nowshera, with one or two exceptions. One person had evidently dined not wisely but too well, seeing that he was discovered on the hockey ground at two o'clock in the morning, trying to play hockey with one of the canine members of the Detachment.

On Boxing morning the Detachment, less those with the feeling of the morning after the night before, turned out for a mounted paper chase. On the whole it was a complete success, and all concerned enjoyed themselves. There were, however, two rather amusing misunderstandings. In the first case, it appears that horse and rider had different ideas as to which direction to take, and both carried out those ideas—whereat they parted company (I might as well say for good). In the second case, the horse evidently let its imagination run wild, or had that seasonable feeling, and thought that a large thorn tree was either a mirage or that he had sprouted wings and trees were no obstacle. Suffice it to say that the rider found himself in the midst of the said tree, the fruit of which savagely punctured his outer skin and wounded his pride. The remarks he passed on that noble animal during the remainder of the day were not very complimentary! However, mistakes have a nasty fault of happening at the wrong time—and that was one of them.

Anothing interesting item of the month was the annual musketry. The locals were under the impression that it was another flag day, and had it not been for the fact that the bullets were a bit dangerous, they would have come and given a shout for Gandhi. Still, all's well that ends well; and as nobody managed to get shot, everything in the garden was lovely.

Sport.—On the 29th December the Detachment hockey team went to Peshawar and played Peshawar District Signals, and although the latter will not admit it, they were rather surprised. After an extremely good game we were very unfortunate to lose by the narrow margin of 1—2 goals. First blood came for Peshawar towards the end of the first half, but the Detachment equalised from the bully off. Both teams had a good share of the remainder of the play, but in the last two minutes Peshawar scored an excellent goal from a pass from the right wing.

We are hoping to get Peshawar to visit us for the next game, and then the result may be reversed; at least, we hope so.

Our football team have not functioned again, and the last time the cricket team did—well, they didn't! REARGUARD.

WESTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Greetings.—We wish all units at home and abroad all the best in 1934. This greeting is rather belated, but none the less sincere.

Departures.—We have to record the departure of Lieut. A. J. G. McNair, our O.C., on the 4th November 1933, for the home establishment. We hope, sir, that your month's privilege leave more than made up for your monastic existence in the Zhob, and acclimatised you for that trip up north to attend the refresher course at the School of Signals, Catterick. Now that you are attached to the Dismounted Wing, we hope that you will make a special point of sending us the very best in the way of B.O.R.s during the next trooping season.

The best of luck to Corpl Beazley and Signalmen Knight and Tobin, who also departed on the same date. Watch where they settle.

Arrivals.—We welcomed to this Section our new O.C., Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn (from the 1st Indian Divisional Signals) on the 17th October last. We know your talent, sir, and are eager to give you full support.

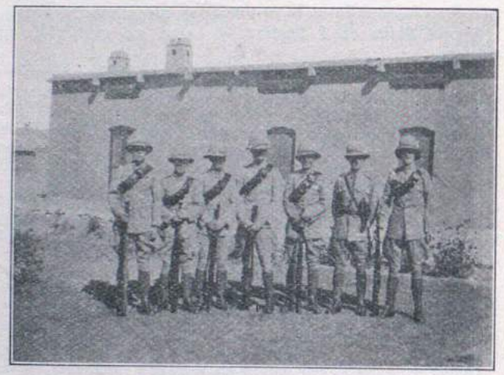
Sigmn Donnelly from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, on permanent posting, and Sigmn Cotton from six months payment furlough in the U.K.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Kenneally on obtaining his A.ii. rating at Quetta last September.

Education.—The Section is in the throes of a spasm of learning. Corpl Todd has two classes: the firsts and the juveniles. It is rumoured that both classes will bring "fruit" for the teacher.

Musketry.—The annual course was fired on the 4th and 5th January. The local shepherds were given due warning to remove their flocks from the district. Kenneally and L/Corporal Burke tied for the O.C.'s one and only five chip note. The lowest score entailed a round of drinks, and Sigmn Jamieson awaited demands with a bottle of Eno's (no takers!)

Technical.—It is rumoured that three operators are going to Twodiv. for upgrading. They have been advised to take a driver's hook and a tin of Propert's along (what about it, Harry?)



The Initial Church Parade of Zhob Signals.

Festivities.—

'Twas Christmas Day in the Workhouse,
And in Loralai as well.
Alas! strange things did happen,
Of which I now will tell.

Sixteen men and a barrel of beer,
Some bottles of spirits (once filled)
A table well laden with bags of good cheer,
And a smoker when hunger was stilled.

When the lads got a thorra merry,
A-carolling they did go.
Oft they received the berry,
But they wandered on in the snow.

Alas! I can't finish in verse,
For their antics got very much worse.
Poetic licence would fail, did I use it—
And to go on would abuse it.

One event in the holidays stands out: our New Year Eve fancy dress dance. The lines were "electrified" for the event (same principle as adopted in the Upper Topa power house by Nobby Hall, late of 1st Indian Divsigs fame) and the costumes would have done credit to Andre Charlot's revue. The C.Q.M.S. turned up as "One of the Forty Thieves," but was turned away as the disguise was not considered original. The prizes were naturally kept in the Section, the men's going to Sigmn Nabarro as a midget bull-fighter (minus bull) and the ladies' to Miss Joyce Pout as Mickey Mouse. The latter was well deserved, as we found the Section cat shaking her.

All the officers and ladies in the station attended (the O.C. being the only confirmed bachelor) and so great was the crush that the stores had to be used for the function. It is not yet known how many bars of "Quartermaster's Erasmic" are missing. The music was provided by a radiogram kindly lent by Sergeant Merry of Area Headquarters, and it is not certain whether the music was more "canned" than the listeners.

At midnight most people saw *two* New Years in. The "do" finished at 2 a.m. (uncertain) and strange to relate, no one was missing the next morning.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Pout and Mrs. Cooper for the provision of excellent refreshments, and to Sergt Merry for his pick-up.



There's a wee toon in hills
Where we show off our frills,
Where dogs have litters
And we have fitters.
But the above takes some beating—
I'm sure he's been cheating.
So, Knite, Tobin and Beaz,
What dae ya think of his bonny wee knees?

There's a wee toon called Loralee,
Where the above bonny laddie
Thinks a fitter is he.
But, I'm sorry to say, his wee
Kilt doesn't cover his knees:
So roll on till we see
Knite, Tobin and Beaz.

—*Salaams frae Geordie.*

Inspections.—Several have taken place of late. Here are details of the more important ones.

December 8th—Inspection of H.Q. Zhob Signal Section by Lieut.-General Sir Torquhil G. Matheson, K.C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C.-in-Chief Western Command. He expressed his satisfaction, remarking on the great improvement of things in general, particularly the turn-out of the B.O.R.s, as compared with his previous visit.

January 11th—Annual technical inspection of the unit by the officiating Chief Signal Officer Western Command, Lieut.-Colonel R. V. Montgomery, M.C., accompanied by Major J. A. Pocock. As usual, all ranks came up to scratch and produced a slap-up show for the occasion.

Re-Engagements.—Sigmn Knight R. D. to complete twenty-one years.

Extensions of Service (in India)—Sigmn Cotton for a further tour of twelve months. Only just in time, old boy!

Things We Want to Know.—Who greeted the New Year with "Well, this year, chaps"?
Whose slogan is "Friend or Foe"?
How long will it take Charbi to get down to 10 st. 8 lb.?
Who is the B.O.R. who forgot to take his Mothersill with him when he motored to Quetta via Spereragha in the O.C.'s new Chev. Six?
The extent of disappointment experienced by a certain B.O.R. (with the ever-green ribbon up for the first time) who offered a free drink to a colonel of the Indian Cavalry (D.S.O., M.V.O., M.C.) in celebration of the great event?

Late Arrival.—Christmas card from Catterick with icicles on it.

PAWINDAH.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Ignoring the fact that we don't suppose that anyone missed them, as per formula we apologise for the absence of notes during the past two months.

Nothing exciting happens. Old man malaria has closed down for the season, only to be displaced by inspection fever (that would have been a good excuse for the said absence of notes, but I didn't think of it in time), and about the only difference as regards sweat is no quinine.

Everyone comes to see how uncomfortable we are in the old lines, and then they try to persuade the powers that be to allot many crores of rupees to build us new barracks. Up to the time of writing the cash seems to be winning, as it refuses to be allotted.

Lieut. McNair has left us for Catterick, and the Detachment wish him all the very best. His new unit is requested not to ask how he enjoyed his three months privilege leave.

Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn has now taken over command of the unit, and we wish him an enjoyable tour in the Zhob.



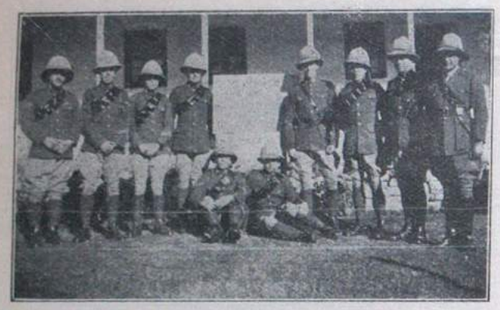
Boxing Day (1933) at Fort Sandeman.

Here's hoping that everyone had as good a Yuletide as we did. At least, we are told that we had a good one, and I would not disbelieve it for a minute. The festivities opened with carol singing round the Messes. Unfortunately we only managed two, and by the time we left the second it was easily Christmas Day. We have a slight idea that the Gurkha officers looked after us so well that we did not sing any more. The favourite carol was "Poor little Willie."

The usual hockey and soccer matches with the officers of the station took place, and the latter saw us off good and strong. Of course, they want to play us again; but if we do, we'll show 'em next time!

After much cleaning and sorting round, we managed to survive the C.S.O.'s inspection, and one hopes that everything went off satisfactorily.

The Army commander (an old Coldstreamer) inspected the Detachment and complimented all ranks on the high standard of arms drill attained. This, of course, is only natural. If anyone should have their doubts about it, they should refer to the "List of Precedence" in the Army List.



After the G.O.C.'s Inspection, December 1933.

Obituary.—Our hopes for the Beetham cup. After gathering together a team of internationals, they all proceeded to get fever. The local murderer would not allow Watson to play, and Murray spent three days in trying to shake off a relapse. We lost to the Zhob Militia by 1—3 in the first round, despite the gallant efforts of a much depleted team. If Lieut. McNair had not turned out, after much persuasion, we would only have been able to field ten men. Old-timer Knight played like a hero at left half, but we think that he missed the moral support of the other old-timer, who was suffering from lumbago and Anno Domini and had to be content with running up and down the line, waving a flag. The cup eventually went to the 1/8th Gurkhas after some exciting games.

Although we are frightfully pushed, we hope that all Signals had a rattling good Christmas, and we wish them luck and a'l good things in 1934.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Smith J. C. and Goodhand from Quetta. The latter has already left us for Hindubagh. Corpl Bartlett and Sigmn Fortes from Loralai.

Departures.—L/Corpl Smith and Signalmen Smith E. E. and Goodhand to Hindubagh. Corpl Francis to the B.M.H. Quetta, for an operation owing to acute mastoidal suppuration (all ranks of the Detachment wish him a speedy recovery and better health in 1934).

Sport.—Not much to report. We still get hockey and soccer, and with the help of two or three officers we manage to pretty well hold our own. We still hold the Baird soccer cup—but only because it has not been played for again. I am afraid I could not see my way clear to laying very long odds on us when it is. However, here's to the best on the 2nd February, when we play the 7th Light Cavalry at Loralai.

Agony.—If anyone laid odds that Tubby would not cancel his leave, they've lost.

To Old Soldier (believed to be at 1st Div. Blighty): Chhe pice off the wamp. Jim still pushing 'em. Come back to the fold and shut the shutters. Young 'Un. APOZAI.

Hindubagh Detachment.

General.—Owing to the fact that the scribe of this Section is still suffering from the after-effects of Christmas (so he says) I am trying my hand at journalism for the first time (obviously).

Arrivals.—L/Corporal Smith and Signalmen Smith E. E. and Goodhand from Fort Sandeman. Sigmn Nabarro from Loralai, complete with Stebbinger H.I. course and (in addition) two inches of snow and one pair of hockey boots.

Sport.—Since our arrival we have only played four games of hockey with "A" Company of the 5/7th Rajputs.

Inspections.—The Chief Signal Officer, accompanied by Major Pocock and Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn (the Area Signal Officer) inspected the Detachment. Everything was up to the usual standard, and we hope that all concerned were impressed.

Departures.—About a dozen Records (trust).

Voilà tout. H.D.B.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Babina Camp, 24th January.

General.—

Where hangs the ice o'er corrugated brink,
Pause there awhile, nor shave, but calmly think ;
And when the sergeant-major from his boiling kettle turns,
Pinch that, and do not shrink.

It is cold—or it was—and everybody looked askance at the water every morning, save one or two who, having shaved the night before, washed their hands, wiped their faces, and walked away.

We are in the very midst of our exercises, but are looking for the time when these notes appear in print and we are back in our bungalows.

A good start gave us heart at Meerut Cantonment station: a splash of rain to show us what we might expect. From then on and right up to now, however, the weather has been extremely kind—with extremes of its kind.

Apart from the glimpse into the ice age (and, of course, the earthquake which dropped numbers 7 and 8 on the 10 line mag.) —apart from little things like that, nothing happens to mar our heavenly existence, and we fight battles and win wars with our usual nonchalance: the same nonchalance that we use for washing.

Arrivals.—On leaving the railway station on the morning of the 12th inst. we took into our train fourteen new arrivals from England who had come along from Karachi: Signalmen Costin, Cowley, Davis, Dickens, Fry R., Fry J., Floyde, Gibson, Hirst, Jenkins, Partridge, Spurs, Stevenson and Crellin. They all said they were tickled to death to step right out of one train into another, and that they were ever so excited about going on manœuvres (they didn't know about the ice-age, either).

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corpl Edwards, who has been appointed thus.

Departures.—Nil, but there may be some later on.

Agony.—Trying to shave at 30° below with a ten knot gale blowing. PETE.

No. 2 Company.

No. 2 Company, consisting mainly of K Section, arrived in Babina on the 12th January. Up to the present, the weather has been kind to us and is ideal for camp and schemes. The remaining Sections of No. 2 Company, who (with the exception of G) have been scheming in Jhansi and Raksa, arrived at Babina a few days ago, and an enjoyable evening was spent in talking over "what we had done."

F Section.—Owing to Signalman Bovill meeting with a rather serious accident this Section have been severely handicapped, but the combined efforts of the remainder have enabled them to keep the flag flying.

G Section.—According to their opinion they have been having a very enjoyable camp and doing bags of work. Their messing has been considerably improved by the combined efforts of three of their number with shooting abilities.

L Section.—This Section have been longest at camp and would be quite happy if their period could be extended. Reports show that they have been doing very good work and that camp is a home from home for them. Having no trumpeters, 440 sings reveille for them with varied results.

E Section.—As usual, E have been hard at it ; at least, Badgy says they have—and he never lies.

K Section.—Like the rest, this Section have been doing their share and enjoying life. No. 1 sets have played an important part in the Section schemes, with good results.

J Section.—Missing!

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Monday 29th January.

Promotions and Appointments.—
C.Q.M.S. Deyermond to be C.S.M. w.e.f. 24/12/33.
Corpl Ball to be L/Sergeant w.e.f. 8/12/33.
L/Corpl Tredgett to be Corporal w.e.f. 23/12/33.
U/L/Corpl Trout to be L/Corporal (paid) w.e.f. 14/12/33.

Re-Musterings.—Driver Watson G. re-mustered in the rank of Signalman.

Postings.—L/Corpl Frarey from No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, to No. 1 Company.

Extensions of Service.—Signalmen Thomas R., Griffiths and Jeffers to complete eight years with the Colours.

Birth.—To the wife of Corpl Murray a daughter, Doreen Iris, at the Military Families Hospital, Abbassia, 20/1/34.

No. 1 Company.

Headquarters Section.

There is not much news this month, as nothing seems to have happened.

Our Section has been enlarged by the arrival of L/Corpl Frarey from No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, and we all extend him a hearty welcome. He made straight for the dark room when he got here, and is now very firmly established.



Does anyone in Sarafand know who Tommy is, and also the meaning of that mystic word "Rabbits "? Replies should be addressed to Bob.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Deyermond H. and L/Sergt Ball T. on their respective promotion and appointment.

Agony.—Will '9385 Copeman C. send a line to Bill, '386? What about it, Ossie? No. 1 Company Egypt Signals will find me.

What about a line from you, Hoot? We would like to know how the beer tastes, and what Catterick is like in the winter. PORKY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Excluding rumours, January has been a quiet month. The rumours have disturbed everything, because everybody is talking of when we get our Q.M., when we get our R.S.M. and when we get our R.Q.M.S.

Command manœuvres have been put forward this year. Detachments have already left barracks, and soon the greater part of the Company will be out. The whole are expected back by the end of next month or very early in March.

This arrangement has brought forward the annual inspection, which is expected very early in March, and so—for the first time in living memory—the Company will be wearing winter dress on that occasion.

The Red Devil.—The item of interest this month is an affair which has been christened "the Red Devil." It is reputed to be a two-stroke contraption, but it looks like a mechanised alarm clock and it sounds like a super-express pile driver. It appears to possess all the necessary qualifications to render it liable for a full licence, and we should jolly well think so, too, as it possesses many other things as well—cable keeps the tank (non-saddle) above the wheels, airline keeps the frame below the seat, good luck keeps the handle bars in front, and hard neck keeps the whole thing on the roads ; but only brute force keeps the wheels revolving. When it does start it sounds like thousands of hydraulic road drills working in discord, and when it gives the final kick on stopping it sounds like a broadside from the *Nelson*. It has yet to make its maiden voyage outside Signal Barracks, as the owner seems to be having some difficulty with those things which should go up and down, in and out, and under and over, or whatever they should do. A few days ago, when it was by the forge "ticking over," we thought it was "knocking," but later discovered the noise came from the forge where the smiths were at work! When asked if he would sell it, the owner said "Do you think I could?" The owner, by the way, is one who used to enter the Blood Tub ring to the cries of "Good old Jessie boy!"

Signals Gymkhana.—A full report on the Signals gymkhana will appear in the next issue of THE WIRE.

Corporals Mess.

Little of note has happened during last month—no social or sporting events to be recorded. Many members have been away for various camps, and by the time these notes are published the Mess will be empty except for a few details—the rest being away on Command manœuvres.

After waiting many months to publish this paragraph, the Mess are at last able to congratulate the following on their recent promotions. Corporal Tommy Ball to L/Sergeant. L/Corporal Tredgett to Corporal. U/L/Corpl Trout to paid rank.

The Mess welcome Mrs. Shaw as a new honorary member, she having recently arrived from England. I must apologise for not welcoming this lady last month, but I was not certain of her arrival. More of these arrivals later, so I understand that anyone with a rusty cycle to sell should report at the Corporals Mess.

Many ex-members of the Mess will be pleased to hear that, through the medium of these notes, the writer had a most interesting letter from ex-Corpl Wally Theirrin, who is comfortably setttled in good employment in Bournemouth. I will not give his address or ex-members may decide to visit him, and Bournemouth hates to be painted red.

I must apologise for the lack of interest in these notes, but we keep up our record of "nothing ever happens."

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

What ho, soaks! Once again I have to batter my otherwise harmless and idle typewriter in producing copious notes for your entertainment. Well, you're going to be lucky this month—only a very little to wade through. So pull up your socks, gird up your loins, set your teeth firmly, and read on—or not: as you please.

Golf.—If any of you happen to be enthusiasts in the noble art of golf, "goff" or "gowf," it may interest you to learn that our local club is going great guns. The membership is close on the fifty mark, including several people from outside units.

It is indeed a heart-rending spectacle to see some of our members, whose zeal exceeds their prowess, struggling gamely round the course. A ten yards drive is nothing to them. And when the gods smile on them and one of their healthy swipes *does* send the ball hurtling greenwards, their air of half-suppressed elation is very pretty to watch. Actually, though, we don't do at all badly, and in the afternoons especially the air resounds with cries of "Fore!" and the shrill whine of whistling balls.

The monthly tournament is still very popular, and some quite decent golf may be seen—decent for *this* course, that is ; it is noted for its choice selection of cart ruts, mole hills, morasses, bogs, barbed-wire entanglements, ploughed fields and yawning chasms, rather than for open fairways and baize-like greens.

However, we all enjoy the eternal unexpectedness and the glorious uncertainty of the game, so I suppose that's all that matters. For any further information on the subject see "The Heart of a Goof" by P. G. Wodehouse.

Employment.—The Iraq Petroleum Company have secured the valuable services of our Mr. Holt (the one and only Tusky) and

he left us to take up his duties as an electrician on the 25th January. This confirms my theory that it is better to be born lucky than rich.

The British section of the Palestine Police is to be enriched (?) by the addition of Comrade Pritchard, who hopes to join their ranks as a "copper" some time in March next. I am unable to confirm the rumour that the Police are establishing a Royal Signals branch, but it seems very likely.

Promotions.—We heartily congratulate Corpl Gay H. E. on attaining that rank. One more splinter towards that baton, Harry.

Education.—The following learned members of our unit qualified in the last examination for the first class certificate of education as shown. Sergt Jones D., all subjects ("D" in maths). Sigmn Percival, map reading and maths ("D" in maths, 90%). Corpl Storey, maths. L/Corpl Furze, English. Corpl Dowie, maths, geography and map reading. The quarterbloke has indented for an outsize in hats for all the above. London papers, please copy.

Repatriation (lovely word!)—It is definitely announced that the boat leaves Haifa for Southampton on the 13th April. All the lads are on an intensive jew's course in consequence. I suppose that's why they're all smoking pipes now. (What they save on fags they spend on matches—this is called economy).

Special Item.—A certain n.c.o., whose identity I will conceal (?) under the nom-de-plume of Frederick Augustus Smythe, has pestered me for months to put his name in THE WIRE. I hope he's satisfied now. It is also rumoured that this same gentleman has hopes of joining the great majority shortly after his arrival in England—you know what I mean: "Do you, Frederick Augustus, take this woman?" etc. Poor old Gus! They all go this way as soon as they get home, so why worry? And what about Ibn Gus?

Finis.—Thank heavens! H.H.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 5th February.

There is very little news to report this month. Day succeeds day without much of general interest happening.

Our commanding officer (Captain House) has, however, had a very strenuous six weeks, as besides performing his normal duties of C.S.O., O.C. Section, etc., he has also been acting as staff captain at Fortress Headquarters during an especially busy period. He is now back amongst his flock, with the addition of several grey hairs.

Our new arrivals have now settled down for a five years stay, and will no doubt relieve the time-ex men very efficiently when those unfortunates at last depart from these shores to their several homes.

Four very lucky individuals have this week gone cruising with the destroyers: two to Lisbon and two to Algiers. It is to be hoped that they don't want to transfer to the Navy altogether on their return, although a few days work in the stokehold or chipping decks might have a damping effect on their enthusiasm in that sphere of employment. Whilst on the subject of destroyers, we were very sorry last month to lose some of our old friends on H.M.S. *Shamrock* who departed for home on completion of their tour of duty. Fortunately many old faces still remain to grace our canteen at the end of each month.

Q.M.S. and Mrs. Harris arrived back in the Section on the 16th January after ten weeks holiday at home. We were very pleased to welcome them back, and hope they thoroughly enjoyed themselves at home. A project was on foot to present them with an illustrated address of welcome as they set foot on these shores, but, like many other projects, this fell through at the last minute.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Clewlow on the birth of their daughter, Betty Elizabeth Anne, on the 22nd January.

Although Gibraltar weather is usually very mild and warm in the winter, we are now passing through a very arctic spell—no doubt brought by the Home Fleet from England. H.M.S. *Hood* and H.M.S. *Renown* look very imposing as they lie in the harbour, attended by hordes of destroyers, submarines and other strange craft.

Two distinguished visitors to Gibraltar during January were Princess Helena Victoria and Princess Marie Louise, who were cruising on the Canadian-Pacific liner *Duchess of Richmond*.

The trooping season is now drawing to an end for another year, and we only await the arrival of Corpl Parry from U.K. to complete our batch of new arrivals. We hope he will be an asset to our football team, which will be in need of some new blood on the departure of our retiring members. C.H.P.

HOME STATIONS —*Continued from page 108*

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—We are just completing the annual furlough season, and one hears whoops of joy as one man proceeds on leave and quite the reverse when someone returns from it.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corpl Healey on his promotion, and to L/Corpl Castell on receiving pay for his stripe.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Clarke from 4th Divl Signals. L/Corporal Dickenson from Aldershot. Signalmen Hunter, Melville and Cassidy from the Training Battalion. Sigmn McCormick from Scarborough. We wish them all a pleasant stay.

Marriages.—We congratulate Sigmn Murray on his marriage. Yes, that's the only one this month.

Inter-Section Moves.—L/Corporal Dickenson from Belfast to Omagh. L/Corpl Castell from Omagh to Belfast. Sigmn Swetnam from Belfast to Ballykinler. Sigmn Hedley from Ballykinler to Belfast. There are rumours that Corpl Healey is shortly to be posted to England.

Technical.—Sergeant Goodman is performing the duty of instructor to the annual infantry wireless course. Howlers have been frequent, but the best one to hand is a new law by that scientist Hommes.

Sigmn Hayes, an ex-Indian operator, listens in quite a lot on short wave, and he heard one station on the 20 metre amateur band that he believes to be owned by someone in the Signals (call sign S.U.1F.B. working E.A.3B.W.) on Sunday 11/2/34. He would like to hear from the owner.

Oddities.—Should K.R.s be revised? At least two worthy operators believe that they should, so that when one gets C.B. for being late for a mere breakfast with an attached unit, one should not be put to the inconvenience of losing a civvy pass. Never mind; we managed to do quite a number of things in uniform in days of yore.

One of the orderly room scribes has suggested that each individual unit should have a separate marching anthem. When asked which one we should have, he replied (without even a blush) "The Wedding March."

Conclusion.—That's the best we can do until next month.

HEC ME.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 91. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.



Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1

The training programme for 1934 is now in full swing, and several new features have been introduced to make the work more interesting. Arrangements have been made for the unit to learn something of the task of other Air Defence units such as the Engineers and Gunners, particularly in respect of the work in which we co-operate. We have already had a most instructive and interesting talk about searchlights, sound locators and plotters from an officer of the Royal Engineers (T.A.) and we are looking forward to similar talks on other subjects in the future. It is hoped that an appreciation of the work of others will make our own particular jobs more interesting.

The operating classes are also making good progress, and we hope that the results at camp will show that the class work has been brought to fruition.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals.

(Middlesex Yeomanry)

Duke of York's H.Q., Chelsea, S.W.

General.—Whilst apologising for the long absence of notes, I will make no excuse. It suffices to say that I, Scarnose, have been induced to take the position of scribe once again—this time with the aid of Phil and Jacrob.

I should like to remind all readers in the unit that notes for THE WIRE are always welcome, and that a box will be shortly placed in the men's recreation room for that purpose.

Individual Training.—The permanent staff have been very busy since annual training in converting two light Morris delivery vans into wireless tenders (miniature gin palaces); and I must say that they have made very good jobs of them. We are now able to use them every week-end, and there is a waiting list of names of personnel eager for the privilege of manning the vans. Usually, one van proceeds north and the other to the south of London, and the practice in tuning, receiving and transmitting is so good that communication is invariably established dead on the agreed time.

During the summer we hope to get some very pleasant and interesting week-ends, and at the Trade Boards next year the ratings should show a considerable increase.

Annual Training.—It has now been definitely decided that we shall again grace Michelgrove, near Worthing, on the same spot that we occupied once before, so that at any rate we shall waste no time in locating our surroundings. The only drawback (so they tell me) is that it's rather a long walk back from Worthing in the early hours of the morning.

O.C.A.—The Middlesex Yeomanry O.C.A., who meet and dine regularly at headquarters on the first Monday in each month, have challenged the serving members to a games tournament on the 5th March. One thing we can be sure of: the canteen funds will certainly benefit.

Social News.—Dances are held once a month, and although those present by no means represent the total strength of the regiment, we all thoroughly enjoy ourselves.

Of course, the annual prize distribution, concert and dance is *the* social event of the season, and I am indebted to Phil (who is something in the journalistic world) for the following account of this function.

ANNUAL PRIZEGIVING.—Lord Fitzalan of Derwent, who was the last Viceroy of Ireland (and, as he himself recalled, adjutant of this regiment about forty-five years ago) distributed the prizes and regimental trophies at the annual prize-giving, concert and dance, held on Wednesday 10th January.

It was, as usual, a happy occasion, and—perhaps because of the fine mild weather; perhaps on account of the surprising number of recruits since camp—the company was more numerous than usual. One must, however, record the usual little grouse at the leisurely delay in beginning the proceedings. At the official time of opening there were probably not a score of people in the building apart from the regimental orchestra (a welcome innovation at camp last year) who took the platform with praiseworthy promptness and just waited.

During the next hour a steady procession of members and their ladies walked over the red carpet up the stairs to the bright and cheery drill hall of our immediate neighbours and good friends the Ack-Acks (Anti-Aircraft Brigades, R.A., T.A.). The ladies wore their prettiest frocks, and among the men one saw a gratifying number of the soldier-like regimental blues.

The table bearing the rich collection which awaited distribution was surrounded by admiring groups, for the regiment has its share of handsome cups and the individual prizes were well varied and of unmistakable quality. In due course the band played a rousing opening number, and then Miss Gladys Glover and Mr. Geoffrey Arnott entertained us with some brisk highly personal back-chat; after which Mr. Robb Wilton convulsed us with his character monologues, notably one concerning the Foreign Legion —"Marseillaise," please!

The prizes were then distributed to the accompaniment of hearty roars, which varied in volume according to the numbers present of the Troops which the winners represented. Afterwards Lord Fitzalan said a few words, congratulating the regiment on what he was good enough to describe as its high standard of efficiency, as well as on its increased recruiting; and he went on to recall some of his experiences during the five years that he was adjutant, and the times when as a strictly Yeomanry unit the regiment camped on Sandown racecourse and used the grand stand as a mess.

The company then broke up for the refreshment interval, during which, in the messes and in the recreation room, wives and sisters and cousins of members were introduced and re-introduced to one another, and many pleasant little groups took supper together. At the same time the several cups, large and small, won in stern competition at camp and newly received, were duly filled to the brim with honest liquor and passed round among those who had helped to win them. In one case the liquor seemed to be not so honest, for a certain Troop sergeant was seen compounding it from a selection of loud-coloured bottles, and some who drank of the fearful mixture reeled back with eyes rolling and hands at their throats!

Dancing to music by the regimental orchestra followed, and one most unusual feature of the three or four Paul Jones items ought to induce a larger number of ladies to come next year: there were men—several men—left over at every round! Not that these male wallflowers were entirely dismayed—there was always the bar and good company to be found—but there it was.

Soon after eleven o'clock the company began to slip away for last trains and omnibuses, and by midnight another jolly regimental occasion was to all intents and purposes gone.

SCARNOSE.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester, 16.

A special course for operators was held at these headquarters from the 3rd to the 11th February. The course was for junior

n.c.o.s and other men considered suitable as candidates for promotion, and so it served to maintain keenness in a quarter where such a quality is specially required. About fifty n.c.o.s and men attended, and instruction was given by various specialist members of the unit. The officer i/c was Lieut. E. H. W. Banner. The result has more than compensated for the work entailed, and has proved that we possess a fine supply of good material to mould into n.c.o.s worthy of the Corps.

A unit hot-pot supper was held on Saturday 27th January. In past years it has been customary for each Company to have its own evening for a supper, but this time it was decided to have a " monstre " affair, every member of the unit being invited to attend and bring a friend—a likely recruit preferred. The result was that some three hundred and sixty sat down to a goodly feast of real Lancashire hot-pot and had a jolly evening.

Our C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley) was present with the other officers of the unit, and in a brief speech he welcomed the night of such a happy party, and hoped it was an augury of a successful training year. Applause (genuine, we hope) greeted his remarks on the efficiency of the waiters ; he said he was sure they were all pleased to see the sergeants doing a spot of work at last! An entertainment arranged by R.Q.M.S. J. McVittie followed and was much appreciated by all present.

The feeling of good fellowship and camaraderie which permeated this gathering, just as it did at the prize distribution some weeks ago, speaks well for the future of the unit, as one has the impression of being not just a member but one of a large family in which understanding is by no means a negative quality. When all members of a family know and understand each other it is easy to handle them, and in the Terriers, with so many varied civilian interests and temperaments, understanding acts as a kind of lubrication which helps the machinery of organisation to run smoothly.

Warning.—Powdered pumice should not be left lying about. From information received, the wife of a member mistook some powdered pumice for flour and used it for pastry and gravy thickening, with the result that we nearly lost the said member. We are looking forward to a very interesting lecture on " The effects of cooked pumice on the human system." KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—I am glad to receive the outstanding dinner report for inclusion in this month's notes. It was an extremely successful and homely event and speaks well for the spirit which obtains in that Company, considering that it is more than 50 per cent. strong in recruits. One could not help noticing the esteem in which the permanent staff is held, as was evidenced by the ovation given to Sergt Stone G. E., the local P.S.I.

The general training and recreation of the unit progresses, and all ranks are awaiting the results of the Divisional boxing tournament at Dorchester at the end of the month.

A successful and instructive officers' week-end exercise was held in the Basingstoke district on the 24/25th January, and its successor in the Honiton district at the end of February is being eagerly anticipated. MERCURY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

The children's Christmas party was held on the 20th January and it proved a roaring success. C.S.M. Hoare made an ideal Father Christmas ; in fact, I think he was made for the part. We were glad that the parents, too, enjoyed their little presents as well as the children. C.S.M. and Mrs. Purseglove thoroughly deserved the loud cheers so heartily given by the children for the hard work they had put in, but I know they were very happy to have been able to provide such happiness for all concerned.

The officers of this Company held a dance at the South-Western Hotel on the 26th January. This, too, was a great success, and the scene was brilliant with the colour of the mess kit of officers of all units within a very wide area. This effort has, I am sure, enhanced the name of the unit in this district. We were very pleased to welcome our commanding officer (Colonel The Lord Basing) and our adjutant (Captain J. R. Patten, M.C.) together with representatives of No. 3 Company.

An n.c.o.s exercise was held on the 10/11th February, and it proved very instructive. Our thanks are due to the adjutant for the helpful information he gave.

It is with regret that I have to report another old friend having reached the age limit, which necessitates his retirement: Sergeant Cleverley G. D. (our George). He has had a long and meritorious career, having served as a Volunteer and Territorial for a period of thirty-three years. Never mind, George! you will always be welcome here, and we know that you will still belong to us, even though not officially. Well done! PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

The annual dinner this year was held in our drill hall on Saturday 20th January, and it was undoubtedly the most ambitious one in the history of the Company. Among the sixteen official guests were the Mayor of Plymouth (E. Stanley Leatherby, Esq., J.P.), the Chief Constable (W. C. Johnson, Esq.) the commanding officer (Colonel The Lord Basing), Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (our previous commanding officer), the Postmaster of Plymouth (D. Laws, Esq.), Major Western, O.B.E., T.D. (a previous Company commander), Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. (our adjutant), Captain D. Paton (Staff-Captain, Wessex Division), Lieut. W. H. Scorer (O.C. No. 1 Company), and representatives of the Headquarters staff, No. 1 Company and local units. In addition there were a hundred and twenty n.c.o.s and men of the Company present. The function, indeed, was a very happy reflection of the enthusiasm which exists in Plymouth.

Responding to the toast of " Our Guests," the Mayor remarked that Plymothians were justly proud of the Territorial Army. In addition to its military value, it trained men to be citizens of the very best type.

Captain W. J. L. Cornelius, who presided, in proposing " The Commanding Officer," expressed delight at the presence of Col. The Lord Basing, and drew attention to the progress in training and recreation during last year and the large number of recruits.

Colonel The Lord Basing, in reply, said that the report on last year's camp was the best he had seen since he had been in the unit.

L/Corpl Prout E. A. C. H. was presented by the Mayor with a miniature of the Coley cup awarded to the most efficient signalman in the Company during the year.

The proceedings were enlivened by songs old and new from various members of the Company, community singing, and dialect stories by Major Western in his usual inimitable style.

Altogether a very enjoyable evening!

Sport.—In our return boxing contest with the 4/5th D.C.L.I. at Saltash, we were again beaten by four events to two. The winners were Signalmen Ferrand and Smith. We have great hopes of these two winning their weights at the Divisional tournament at Dorchester this month. Sigmn Ferrand is a very fine boxer and deserves great credit for the manner in which he has trained our team throughout the winter months.

En Passant.—Join the Blanket Club. " Why are you wearing a uniform coat under a civilian one? You have a top coat, haven't you?" " Yessir." " Well, why aren't you wearing it?" " I couldn't very well, sir. You see, they want that at home for the bed." THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and No. 11 Air Squadron Signal Section (S.R.)

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6

Training.—We are now embarked on the second half of the winter training programme, and are glad to report that the members of the newly formed paid operators class show considerable enthusiasm and progress.

Unfortunately, the parade ranks of Nos. 1 and 3 Companies are sadly depleted owing to the formation of this class, and we would urge all members of the unit to come along each week. In addition, we would ask each man to bring along a potential recruit—the more the merrier. Let us all put our backs into the job before annual training and bring the unit up to strength.

Easter Training.—All members of the unit who are able to attend Easter training (details are published on the Company notice boards) should hand in their names early.

Rifle Club.—The results of the " own handicap " and Bell medal shoots are not yet to hand. We understand that owing to the annual armoury inspection it has been found necessary to extend the qualifying period for another week.

The postal shoot with the 44th Divisional Train R.A.S.C. is now in progress. This shoot was inaugurated last year, and it is hoped that it will become an annual fixture. We are not going to discuss last year's shoot, except to say that we hope to repeat the dose!

Dancing.—The unit dances are being held as per published programme and are thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. In particular, the New Year's Eve dance was a huge success. The unit dance band has performed nobly—there's nothing like a spot of competition to put the dots on the quavers!

Gossip.—We understand that each member of the Cable Section has been issued with either a bicycle or a Roll's Royce under the new mechanised scheme. Cable sergeant's lament: "Where, and oh! where, are my naughty boys to-night?"

We wonder whether the air of Nottingham and Newcastle is proving agreeable? NOTBYWIT.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters and No. 1 (Derby) Company.

We agree. So do the C.O. and adjutant. The trouble is "D"——"H"ard. Yesterday, we were elated : to-day, deflated. All along of this 'ere new establishment. Recruits were coming in very rapidly, and in our mind's eye we saw an end to our deficiency of about thirty. Now we are saddled with the onus of providing the personnel of D (and H) Section.

There is also the small matter of training this Section, camp, and our first Divisional communication efforts in mind. Oh! the overtime we see staring at us. Perhaps it is better not to think of such things.

The recently completed n.c.o.s course succeeded in whetting the appetites of the candidates, who all wanted more of it. That is as it should be, and we are pleased with the results. The P.S.I.s also had a course under the C.R.O.

We now recruit for the Regular Army, having been presented with a nice new rosette and allotted a less nice and older beat. It happened that Derby County (a football team) was (or were) at home to West Brom' on the same day that we went initially into recruiting. The scene was at a nearby recreation ground, and the two smartly turned out P.S.I.s were waiting for something to turn up. It did! Four small boys, flushed from the efforts of cheering their school eleven (or so) on to a narrow defeat, and seeking diversion, turned their attention elsewhere.

First boy: " Luk hat is 'at " (they did).
Second boy: " Hi, mister! is yo's from West Brum?"
P.S.I.s (chorus): " G-r-r-r."
Boys (chorus): " Yo's'll lose to-day—wait till Duncan gets at yer."

And so, after having very much the better of the argument, the P.S.I.s hurried off home.

Later on in the day, one of the victors (above) was out on his second jaunt (persevere and prosper) and met further adventure. Followed for some time by a little boy with a pretty wit (boy, we mean) he looked down enquiringly. The said boy, as politely as may be (and preparing to run): " Hoi! who's yo votin' for?" Well, we go recruiting only once a week, so our prestige remains high until next Saturday.

In the meantime we have something useful to do. Weapon training, technical training, and searching for D Section is enough for any self-respecting Terrier.

A muscle building factory is soon to start. Sergt Field will be in the chair, and we hope to get many ladies here. [Should have put this sentence under the heading of " Propaganda," but I don't believe in headings.]

A rumour comes from Nottingham to the effect that a certain n.c.o. has been presented with a dead-"beat" something or other.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

The n.c.o.'s course, as noted in last month's notes, has proved most successful, and though it has not reached a conclusion at the time of penning these notes, we venture to say it has been most interesting and beneficial.

The adjutant's lectures on the tactical handling of Signal Sections have been particularly interesting, and all who attended are loud in their praise of the efforts which must have been made in making this, generally a dull subject, one of the brightest and best of the course.

With the winter courses almost over, attention can be turned to musketry and general training, operating, signal clerk's duties, etc. It is hoped that every n.c.o. and man will attend for drills, and so help to fit the Company for this year's annual camp and maintain the very good reputation of the unit.

It would be impossible to close these notes without some reference to our annual dinner, held at the Welbeck Hotel on Saturday 27th January. " It was indeed a good show " is the opinion of not only the writer, but of all who attended. Chief among the officer guests were Lieut.-Col. L. C. and Major B. H. Brewill, both of a neighbouring unit (the Robin Hoods), Lieut.-Colonel Foinette of the R.A.O.C., and Major Darby of the 44th H.C. Divisional Signals.

After a very enjoyable meal and the preliminary toasts, which it is pleasant to record were accorded all due ceremony, everyone settled down to enjoy a pleasant time. Speeches were few, but good. Our C.O. (Colonel G. J. Underwood) was very congratulatory in remarking on our successes of the past year, and he hoped we should reap even more in this and future years. Messrs. J. Street and company entertained us admirably with songs and monologues, etc., and the time for handshakes and departure came all too soon.

We Want to Know.—If the best place to keep a location list isn't in one's pocket? Who is the n.c.o. who must warm the inside of his overcoat before venturing out into the night? SIGSNGM.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6

General.—Individual training and the special (paid) courses are still going merrily on. We are sorry, however, that owing to the smallness of the training grant allotted to us this year, we shall not be able to put this training to practical use at Easter as was hoped. Thank goodness, though, there are enough ha'pence available to permit us having a T.E.W.T. on the 24th and 25th February. More about this next month.

Officers.—The officers held their monthly dinner on the 1st February and a very pleasant evening was spent. The officers of the Rutlish School cadet contingent were the guests of the evening. After dinner, games of cock fighting and " Are you there, Bill?" were played. The C.O. and other notables showed they were old hands at the former, but the latter game was reserved for the younger members of the Mess, who appeared to enjoy receiving a good crack on the head.

Sergeants Mess.—On the 20th January the Mess dinner was held in the drill hall at our headquarters. In every respect it certainly constituted a record. Nearly a hundred and thirty members and friends sat down and enjoyed an excellent dinner, followed by a really first class concert.

We were specially pleased to have with us Brevet-Colonel W. F. Bruce, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. London District) and Lieut.-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., who (in turn, and in that order) have commanded our unit since its formation ; also Major H. E. Lewis, M.C., and Major J. G. T. Hiley, a past and the present commanding officer of the S.R. units attached to us. On the other hand, we were very disappointed that we did not have a Mess representative from the 1st Divisional Signals and A Corps Signals.

The installation of a microphone gave tone (in more senses than one) to the speeches, of which there only a few—thank goodness! During his oration our president proudly remarked that, with such a gathering as this, he could well imagine our having to hold a future Mess dinner in the Olympia. (Immense imagination!)

During the evening presentations were made to ex-R.S.M. J. Stockwell and ex-Sergeant W. Dormon.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of Sigmn Day G. V. of No. 1 Air Wing Signal Section, S.R., which occurred on the 24th January. A wreath was sent on behalf of all ranks of the T.A. and S.R. units.

Social.—Our St. Valentine's ball on 14th February was quite a success. A jolly time was spent by everyone. Don't forget our dance fixtures for March—an ordinary dance on the 3rd and a

St. Patrick's ball on the 17th. Come along and shake a leg.

Shooting.—The miniature rifle competition between this unit and H Station Special Constabulary for the Vigers cup was fired on the 15th February. For the first time since the institution of this competition, the trophy was won by this unit. The scores were: 47th Divisional Signals 416 points, H Station 384.

EFFEMA.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

General.—The month has been one of great activity in the unit. The classes for candidates who are to sit for a local Trade Board in March are exceptionally well attended, and the interest shown in them seems to be growing with the knowledge acquired at the lectures. Indeed, on drill nights the drill hall rather reminds one of the inside of an ant hill.

Training.—Quite apart from the individual technical instruction, there have been lectures and demonstrations with models given by the adjutant, Captain L. W. Schneider, touching upon the working of the various branches of Divisional Signals in the field. On these occasions, in addition to a full attendance of officers and n.c.o.s of this unit, there has been a large number of officers present from practically all the R.A. Brigades and Infantry Battalions in the Division.

The first event, on the 30th January, included the trial of a minor case at a Company orderly room, in two acts. The first, in which Private Keane and Captain Coffin were the chief characters, was designed to show how *not* to do it, and the large assembly was moved to much laughter by the hilarious doings of a gambling sergeant-major, a love-sick clerk and a none-too-intelligent C.O.—not to mention the villain of the piece, C.S.M. Keane. The second act was played in a more serious vein, and the trial—on a charge of having been absent without leave—went off without hitch, notwithstanding the fact that the barrack-room barrister (Sergt Ashurst) a leading figure in the first act, was entirely absent. The whole of the play was very well carried out by the P.S.I.s, and it was very instructive. The evening was rounded off by a lecture on organisation and intercommunication of Divisional Signals in the field.

On the 6th February, before a similar audience, the adjutant explained the working and signal tactics of an Infantry Brigade Signal Section, emphasising his points by the movement of models, and ending in a delightful way with an air raid and bombing of an important crossing which set the hammer and jumper arms on fire, the infantry being left to put it out. The exploding of the bomb made the ash drop from more than one cigar.

Divisional War Games.—Divisional tactical exercises without troops have been held in the barracks each Sunday. These have been attended by about fifty officers from units in the Division. They commenced with a reconnaissance over the country proper, where the various moves were worked out, the game being completed back in barracks by use of the indoor communication. Major-General G. H. N. Jackson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 49th Division, was present on each occasion, and on the 4th February the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, General Sir Alexander Wardrop, K.C.B., C.M.G., visited the barracks while the game was in progress. The drill hall floor was laid out to scale to represent the country over which the battle was fought.

Regimental Signallers Course.—A living-in course of instruction in visual signalling for regimental signallers in the Division commenced on the 5th February, and was carried on for the following fifteen days. There were twenty-two signallers drawn from various Battalions and R.A. Brigades in the Division, under the instruction of Corpl Badham A., quartered in the drill hall (the hall of a thousand-and-one uses, all at once).

Social.—The w.o.s and sergeants' annual ball was held on the 26th January and was a great success. Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., hon. colonel of the unit, was present with Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., who is acting commander of the unit during the absence from England of Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren.

Massed Bands.—The largest audience of the season heard a particularly fine concert on Sunday 11th February by the massed bands of the Yorkshire Hussars and this unit, under the joint batons of Mr. R. S. Kitchen and Mr. L. A. Wright. The affair was followed by a concert in the canteen. This was a more intimate gathering, and the opinion was expressed that the old canteen had never been so full since Armistice night.

Agony.—Who was asked to conduct a ladies' orchestra? To whom does the term "What a man!" refer? I'll give you three guesses, with a pair of diamond studded spurs (big jinglers) for a prize.

Our Old Commander.—Our officers were pleased, on the 13th February, to welcome our old 49th Divisional commander, Major-General Sir Neville Cameron, K.C.B., C.M.G., who paid a visit to the mess before proceeding to the annual dinner of the Scottish Regimental Association in Yorkshire.

Summer Week-End Camps.—In the minutes of the Waterworks Committee of the Leeds Corporation, which were adopted at a meeting of the City Council on the 7th February, appears the following:—"A letter was submitted to the committee from the C.O. 49th Divisional Signals, asking if a suitable site on the committee's estates is available for week-end camps during the summer for training purposes. It was resolved that a site adjoining the Arthington pumping station be offered for the purpose, subject to arrangements satisfactory to the committee being made as to rental and conditions of occupation."

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Training.—Winter training has been extended until the end of February and is being attended very satisfactorily. The visit of the adjutant to classify or re-muster us is being eagerly looked forward to. We welcome to the Company the undermentioned recruits and hope they have a good time whilst serving as Territorial soldiers with us: Signalmen Haddaway W., Clews J., Bunn G. A., Evans T., Robinson R., Smith W., Wilson A. G., Morley A., Harris E. R., Mace J. A., Keating J., Cox C. P., and Burton A.

The undermentioned have just returned from a week's cookery course at Headquarters, Darlington, where I understand they did very well indeed: Signalmen Haddaway W. and Fagg A. V. They have been replaced with Signalmen Walby F. and Lester W. C., who also have gone for a week's course.

Change of Command.—We are sorry to lose the services of Major T. T. J. Sheffield, who has handed over the command of the Company to Lieut. C. C. Fairweather. I hope the Lieutenant will have a very successful and happy time with us.

Boxing.—First of all I would like to offer No. 3 Company of Gateshead our congratulations on winning the Dent cup. To the team from No. 2 Company, who although beaten into last place were not disgraced on their exhibition, I offer most sincere congratulations on the very plucky show they put up. If we improve on the same basis the Dent cup is going to have a different home in the future. Good show, No. 1! congratulations on being runners-up.

Annual Ball.—Our annual ball, held in the Lytton Street drill hall on Friday 29th January was an excellent show, being very favourably commented on by everyone who attended.

Social events are now beginning to recede into the background owing to the approach of summer training. Three outstanding events yet to take place are being eagerly looked forward to, as these meetings are enjoyed very much by us: S.M.R.C. shoot, No. 2 Company v. No. 1, and No. 2 Company v. I.C.I. Billingham.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Winter Course.—This has now come to an end. The test has been held, and everyone now awaits the result.

Boxing.—Most of our news for this month is under this heading. First of all, we won the Dent cup inter-Company competition—a very close thing, but ours at last! Our friendly contest with the 6th Battn. Northumberland Fusiliers came next, and although we lost this, it was by a small margin of two points. Full particulars of these two contests will be found under the Sports Notes.

Divisional Tournament.—We hope to do well in this event, as we have a complete team of six officers and eight other ranks. This in itself is something of which to be proud.

New Arrival.—We welcome to our midst Mr. A. G. McDonald, attached to us from the 44th Divisional Signals (T.A.).

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

The winter creases are being ironed out of our khaki. The new season's recruits have already started their foot drill, and the remainder of us will resume training on the first Tuesday in April.

The n.c.o.s are attending refresher classes and should be well prepared to instruct their various Sections when the time comes. They will find that a large number of the men who were green Signals last season have now developed remarkably as operators, having benefited technically (and financially) as a result of the voluntary winter classes and sixty-hour courses.

The few recruits who have recently joined us have brought us up to full establishment, and we hope for a 100 per cent. attendance at annual training in camp this year. Roll on!

Promotion.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Bremner C. H. (No. 1 Company) on his promotion to that rank vice C.S.M. Andrews C. F., M.B.E., who was discharged on his own request during January.

Annual Company Dance.—Phew! Fully three hundred people attended No. 1 Company's dance on Friday 9th February, and despite the crush everyone seemed very happy indeed, including the harassed committee. This was the last dance of a splendid season; hence the full house.

You May Laugh.—Medical officer (to man suffering with abdominal pains, employed on washing up dishes in camp): "How are your bowels this morning, Johnson?" Johnson: "Oh! they're all right, sir, but I'm two plates short." [N.B.: Johnson was a Fifer, to whom bowls and bowels are bools.]

LANKA MK. II.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—At last we seem to have the truth about the place of camp for 1934. By the time these notes appear in print, no doubt, the news will be official. I expect many members of the unit will renew old acquaintances at St. Andrew's. It is rather curious that many of this Company who have been to St. Andrew's for past camps think it is too "toppy nose" for ordinary Territorials to have a decent time, while others think it is the best place in Scotland for a camp. I suppose it would be a job to please everyone.

Entertainments.—On Friday 16th February we are holding our annual whist drive, supper and dance. We hope to have a record crowd in attendance. Information has been received that representatives from Aberdeen and Stirling will attend. No doubt, they will have an enjoyable evening.

Courses.—The second course is proceeding satisfactorily. Good progress is being shown, and the next Trade Board is being looked forward to with a fair amount of confidence.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals and S.R. Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

The commendable enterprise shown by the sports organisers is beginning to bear fruit. No less commendable has been the response from all ranks.

The football club project has been enthusiastically received, and first class equipment has been provided. Ground and league arrangements are well in hand. We look forward confidently to good results in the ring, cross-country and on the track. Considerable talent has been unearthed. In our ranks there are talented boxers, and we are fortunate to have in our midst cross-country and track men of note. 1934 may well be a record sporting year for the Lowland Signals.

Lieut.-Colonel Robertson.—The recently announced promotion of Major J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., is one which has given much satisfaction to ourselves and also to Colonel Robertson's many friends in Territorial and Supplementary Reserve circles in Glasgow and Scotland. His meteoric advancement in the Corps has been remarkable. Joining the Lowland Signal units as a driver in 1913, he has passed through every grade and is a master of Signal organisation and practice. Driver, lineman or operator—Colonel Robertson is equally at home in any position on the cable or air line waggon. He saw much active service during the Great War. Proceeding to France with the 8th Division in 1914, he remained on the Western Front until December 1917, and after a training period in the United Kingdom he returned to France in 1918 as a commissioned officer. Colonel Robertson was awarded the distinguished conduct medal for gallantry at Neuve Chapelle in March 1915 and was mentioned in despatches.

It is believed that Colonel Robertson is one the youngest men in the Corps to hold the rank, and this useful combination of youth and experience augurs well for our future well-being and efficiency. The success of the Glasgow S.R. units can be almost wholly attributed to Colonel Robertson. He did much for recruiting, especially at a difficult post-war period when the formation of new units presented no small problem. Combining friendliness with firmness, Colonel Robertson is respected by all ranks. As an officer and friend his efforts on our behalf have been ceaseless. A man of great sympathy and understanding, his advice and guidance have at all times proved invaluable.

No one need wonder that we hail our new chief with acclamation. We look forward to a period of mutual co-operation and prosperity under a leader whose name is a guarantee of integrity and efficiency.

Awards.—We have to congratulate Corporal Strachan A. and L/Cpl Osborne J. on being awarded the efficiency medal (Militia). These are the first awards of the Militia medal to our S.R. units, and there could not have been two more worthy recipients than the n.c.o.s concerned, who have rendered yeoman service and well merit the distinction.

Officers Mess Dinner.—The annual dinner of the Officers Mess, one of the most outstanding events of the officers' social year, was held at these Headquarters on the 2nd February. The guests included Lord Provost Alexander B. Swan, Major-General Sir Walter Maxwell Scott, Bart., C.B., D.S.O., Colonel Snatt (Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command) and other distinguished people.

Sergeants Mess.—The whist drive and dance held on the 26th January proved an outstanding success. There was a merry company of over two hundred. Dull care took wings, and sparkling music and lightsome steps made us happy. The congenial atmosphere of the large lecture hall was productive of gaiety and high spirits, and the cosy Mess lounge, with its aspect of comfort and ease, rang with laughter and merriment. A wonderfully carefree event! When will the entertainments committee repeat this pleasant interlude?

Braw, Braw Lad.—The promotion of Sergt Ritchie S. to be Pipe-Major has proved most popular. Kilted and plaided in the tartan of the Lowland Signals, Pipe-Major Ritchie presents a splendid figure in the garb of the Gael. An outstanding exponent of Scotland's national musical instrument, with a wide experience of military pipe band work, Pipe-Major Ritchie is undoubtedly well equipped for his new post.

Riding School.—The pursuit of the equestrian cult, always an attractive phase in our scheme of general training, commenced on the 18th January. The enthusiasm of the youngsters is giving encouragement and added zest to the instructors, and everything points to a most successful course.

The Eighth Wonder.—The land overflowed, not with milk and honey, but with hops and barley. Atkinson of the medal, careful conserver of bawbees, banged saxpence!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—We are glad to report that the instructional classes held on Mondays and Fridays are being well attended, and great enthusiasm is shown by all attending them. The training consists of four classes for operators, two for linemen, and one for I.C. drivers, under the supervision of the P.S.I.s. There is also a class for instrument repairers under the adjutant. For the first hour on Monday evenings all classes are taught operating. At the end of the course it is hoped that many will be able to swell their banking account with higher trade ratings.

Shooting.—Our air rifle team suffered their first defeat of the season in the semi-final of the Dewar cup, when they were beaten by only three points by the Gasworks. (Hard luck, Woodyatt!) Up to date they hold the top position in the league table and should win a few trophies this year.

An inter-Section air rifle competition was completed this month. J Section being the winners with an average of 27.8. D Section were second with 27.1. and E third with 26.7. The main object of this competition was to give everyone a chance of learning to shoot with the air rifle, and the competition proved to be great training for all who took part.

The Company teams are putting in some good practice on the miniature range for the Webber cup. The first round will be competed on the 19th February (see next month's notes).

Social.—The w.o.s and n.c.o.s were entertained to a games tournament with the local branch of the British Legion at Taffswell on Wednesday 31st January. This function was well attended by our members and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several of our members thought they were young soldiers again while exchanging drinks with some of the old Boer war veterans, and all are looking forward to the return match at Park Street.

On Wednesday 14th February the w.o.s and n.c.o.s entertained the United Services Mess to a games tournament at Park Street. This function is always looked forward to by our members, and everyone appeared to enjoy it. A fine spread for supper was arranged by the entertainments committee under their able leader, Sergt Baxter H. P. After supper Mr. Jones, president of the United Services Mess, gave a welcome to R.S.M. McCormick, and one of our members (a certain quartermaster) made a fine speech concerning the only time he was ever well soaked and how and where it occurred (shame!) Then up spake another old warrior (enlisted 1885) and said it gave him great pleasure to spend an evening with the younger generation of to-day. Needless to say, all went home well satisfied (if not well oiled) that they had spent a jolly good evening.

Editor.—Dear Editor. The ribbon on our typewriter having been changed, we hope the printers can now read our " original " copies. [They can. Thanks!—The Printers.] THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

General.—Our dance committee are now satisfied because of the well attended dances we run. Besides being first rate, they show results expected for the work and time put in.

The same committee were pleased at the success which attended the Company annual dinner held this year at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.15, on the 2nd February. We had sixty-one members sitting down to the chicken, and to quote the officer commanding (who was our guest of honour) " it was very pleasing to note the almost 100 per cent. array of uniform present." A very enjoyable evening—the committee again carrying away nearly all the bouquets.

Sigmn Clarke H. P. was heartily congratulated on having won the Company efficiency cup, and then congratulated again and again as it was passed round (sometimes it was full, of course!) L/Corpl Hooker J. and Signalmen Scott A. and Trayler J. each received a silver pencil as consolation for being runners-up.

Boxing.—As forecast, No. 1 Company won the unit boxing team cup, and as promised this was filled (and emptied!) We have received very sporting congratulations from other Companies with due modesty, for we hope that the cup has now found its proper resting place for a good long time.

Although we produced only one unit champion and one runner-up (Driver King winning the fly weight and Sigmn Marden running-up in the lights) the whole team fought extremely well and earned the congratulations of all. Special mention goes to Driver Fullalove H. E., who secured the best loser's prize. It's worth having, too!

In the Essex young soldiers boxing competition, the unit lost the team cup. Yes! we were very unlucky in so doing. Firstly, the team had to fight with one man short owing (it is said) to somebody's birthday!—Signalman Johnstone going to the scales over weighted! Secondly, our star boxer Sigmn Barnes was disqualified in the third round of his fight, after looking all over a good winner. Barnes, who is one of the cleanest of boxers, was adjudged to have hit with his wrist, but our sympathy goes out to him because whatever he did was entirely unintentional, and he would have undoubtedly won. His bad luck was also the unit's, for six points were lost and there were only four between us and the eventual winners, the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment—to whom we offer our heartiest congratulations on taking away the team cup.

Sigmn Taylor, of No. 2 Company, gave us a perfect exhibition of how to win by using the straight left, and much more will be heard of this lad because he is made of the right stuff. Hard lines, the team! but there is another chance coming off at Brentwood soon, when we anticipate more success.

Training.—The paid evening classes commenced on Monday 5th February, the attendance being gratifying—but not gratifying enough. We have in No. 1 Company a few men who could easily obtain their Group E, but are prevented by various reasons from coming and getting it. This is a pity, for these same few are quite capable of doing the work required. What about making that special effort? Anyway, a most interesting evening's programme is gone through, and it is agreed unanimously that it is quite uplifting. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—Our paid evening classes commenced on the 5th February, and as usual we hope to have a bumper attendance throughout the course and at the annual Trade Board.

Linemen have forsaken the cable for the key, and we really hope to be able to provide plenty of operators for annual training. On this subject more will be forthcoming in our next month's notes, when we can really see how we are shaping.

Boxing.—Congratulations to No. 1 Company on lifting the coveted pot. Well done, No. 1! We are congratulating ourselves on being runners-up. Well done, us!

Our thanks and congratulations are due to Messrs. Barnes, Johnson and Taylor on their work for the Company; also to Sigmn Gordon (no fight, but it wasn't your fault: I know you were thirsting for blood; anyway, you put us up two points).

Here's a bouquet, all to himself, for Sigmn Pexton, for coming out of the ring on his feet. Thanks for the effort, Pexton. Better luck next time.

Several of our small but vigorous boxing team have been selected to represent the unit in the Essex young soldiers team competition and also in the 54th Divisional championships. The results in the former event were not so good as we had hoped. However, here they are.

Sigmn Taylor J. won the final of the light weights. Well done, Taylor! Sigmn Gordon E. lost in the final of the feather weights. Hard lines! better luck next time. Sigmn Barnes C. was unfortunate in losing to his opponent in the third round, but he has the satisfaction, however, of knowing that he put up a really stirring and clever exhibition of scientific fighting which was fully appreciated by an enthusiastic audience. Really very hard luck, Barnes! You gave them their money's worth, anyhow.

We were again unlucky in having a really good " gorilla " available who was, however, kept on his chain owing to the fact that he had mysteriously tipped the scales at two pounds over the correct weight. I wonder if he's applying to Messrs. Meux or to Mann and Crossman's for compensation? Perhaps a little more exercise at the dart board is necessary.

Enthusiast.—The recruit of this unit who, when asked what his daily rate of pay was, replied " I'm sorry! I don't know, but it doesn't really matter." TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—By the time these notes appear, paid classes will be well on their way. We have four in full swing, and we hope to get the majority of the men through the Trade Board in May. To make more interest, a competition is being run between "A" and "B" squads. The winners will be the squad with the best eight on the lines of the D.C. test, and they will be presented with the cross-flags shield to be held for one year, and the best eight of the winning squad will each receive a prize. This should cause keen competition between squads and at the same time raise the standard of signalling.

Children's Party.—Some people say " Unlucky thirteen." I am sure all our members' children thought otherwise when they attended the above party on the 13th January. Some hundred and twenty mothers and children sat down to tea at 4 p.m., and

[*Continued on page* 132]



D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—There is not much to report in this game. We have played one or two civilian clubs and the games have been enjoyed. Against North Cowton A.F.C. we had a sporting game and won by 3—1. Our lads were made very welcome, and are looking forward to more of these fixtures. We play Richmond A.F.C. on the 17th February, and it is hoped to arrange further games with other teams to keep our men in trim.

Another inter-hut competition has commenced. These are very popular and great keenness is shown in the games. A prize is awarded to the winning hut by our O.C.

Rugger.—We are due to play E Company in the Mackworth trophy in the near future, and have hopes of " putting it across them." An account of the game will be given in the next issue. Congratulations to Mr. Linton on being selected to play for Catterick Garrison.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

January 1934.

Association Football.—We are at last the proud winners of the Mackworth football trophy. This is the first time we have been successful since 1924. We are not quite sure, but we think we can safely say that it is the first time that as a Boys Company we have managed to win the football trophy outright.

Last month's notes included the semi-final tie with the School of Signals. We beat them in an exciting replay with a score of 5—2. The whole team played well in this game, but the outstanding feature was the excellent play of Corporal Boy Adcock. He certainly had a good day.

In the final we met and beat the Mounted Wing after a very thrilling game. The whole team played exceptionally well, although the defence was not quite settled for at least the first twenty minutes of the game. At half time we were leading by 2—1. On the resumption our forwards went straight through and scored, but the Mounted Wing soon fought back and reduced the lead. Our forwards again became inspired and brought the score to 4—2, only to see the Mounted Wing score two quick goals: 4—4 and only one minute to go! Our forwards forced a corner, which was taken by Bennett. We had the good luck to see the ball go straight into the Mounted Wing goal, and they were left with no time to reduce this fortunate lead. Sergeant Harrison and Sigmn Bennett were outstanding. A photograph of our successful team is published herewith.

Cross-Country—We have had quite a good year in this branch, and for our successes we have to thank those who appear in the photograph accompanying these notes.

Both the football and the cross-country teams deserve a hearty " Well done!"

The two photographs were taken by Avison's Studio of Catterick Camp.

February.

Rugby.—F Company v. Stoneyhurst College Second XV. at Stoneyhurst on 31st January. Lost by 3—25. Although 2/Lieut Williams scored our only try in the first minute or so, Stoneyhurst very soon proved that they were a very formidable side, with a good deal more all-round experience than we possess. The fact that they only scored eight points in the second half showed that our team put up a very plucky fight right to the end. The



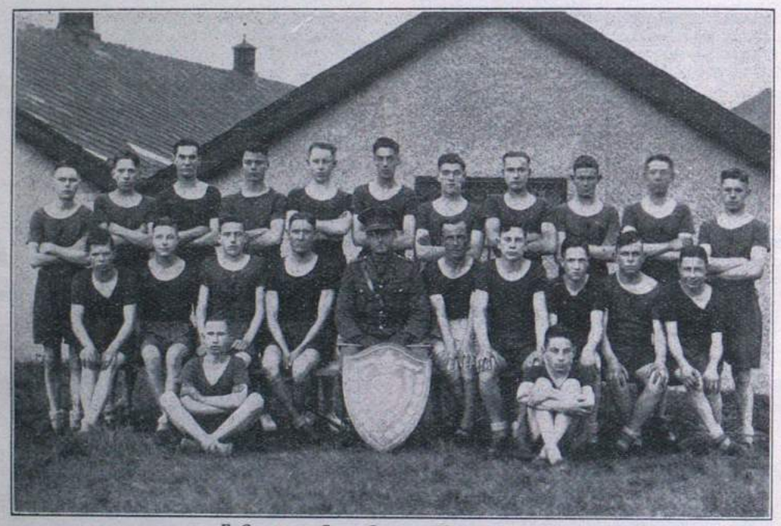
F Company Football Team, 1933-34.

team was transported the eighty miles in five officers' cars. Everyone enjoyed the kind hospitality which Stoneyhurst always show us on our visits.

F Company Colts v. Richmond School Colts, at home on 1st February. Lost by 3—10. Having beaten Richmond Colts by a large margin in the previous match, we left out some of our giants, but the School increased the strength of their team correspondingly. The game was therefore much more even. Westbrooke, scrum-half, scored our only try.

Fourth Round, Boys Army Cup.—"A" team of F Company boys met the Military College of Science at Woolwich on the 20th January. The weather conditions being ideal, a good game was anticipated. The College fielded a much bigger side, but we were nothing daunted as we had been practising with heavier teams.

Played opened with both teams working hard. After three minutes a good short passing movement on the left and a centre by Fry gave Bennett an opportunity which he was not slow in taking. Thus we drew first blood. Play continued evenly for eight minutes, when Bennett received from Garfield and, after eluding three defenders, sent in a hard low drive well out of the goalkeeper's reach. Shortly after the line-up a mishap occurred; the ball burst throught fright and was carried off to be replaced by another. A little later we were awarded a penalty which Bennett failed to convert. Fast and even exchanges continued through the half, the College being conspicuous by their good headwork. Interval: Royal Signals 2, Military College of Science 0.



F Company Cross-Country Team, 1933-34.

Both teams started the second half strongly, and there being little to choose between them, play was mainly in mid-field. After ten minutes play a movement on the College right resulted in a long drop shot by the winger which Lancashire (Gordon Harker) failed to reach. After this the College pressed even harder, trying desperately to get the equaliser, but too much individual play spoilt their chances. Our backs worked very hard and the inside forwards dropped back to relieve the pressure. After many fruitless raids, started by Bennett, the whistle blew for time and heralded our advent into the fifth round. Score: Royal Signals boys 2, Military College of Science 1.

Fifth Round, Boys Army Cup.—This match, played at Bovington Camp, Dorset, on the 7th February, will no doubt be remembered by quite a number in the future. It also qualified "A" team for the semi-final, in which we expect to meet one of the teams from Chepstow.

The match started at 2.15 p.m. prompt. The Tanks won the toss and, fortunately for us, took advantage of the slight slope of the ground with the wind at their backs. We kicked off before three or four hundred spectators, who by the way were a very sporting crowd. We started off somewhat haphazardly, all the team feeling a trifle lost. The Tanks were not slow to take advantage of this and a good centre from their right wing, after a minute's play, was bundled into our goal by two of their forwards who were unfortunately not marked. However, we were not discouraged, and good play on either side ensued, Kendall playing splendid football on the right wing and McQuade being very energetic. Our defence played up well against the threatening Tank wingers. Bennett could not get going until ten minutes from half-time, when a fine left wing movement ended in a good centre (by Fry) which he banged into the Tank goal without the goalie having a chance. Thus we drew level and all parts of the machine got moving together, and but for the excellent display of the Tanks goalkeeper, more goals would have been netted before the interval.

The second half saw us at our best, a Tank wing spurt being cleared by King to the centre, then straight down the centre between the backs. One of the Tanks backs became flustered and passed back to his goalkeeper, but not quickly enough, for McQuade dashed in between them and tapped the ball into the corner of the net to give us the lead. This discouraged the Tanks for a time, but they played up well on the right wing. Bennett took a long dropping shot at the Tanks goal from forty yards out, the goalie having the sun in his eyes. The ball hit the cross-bar and bounced down just in front of the goalkeeper, who cleared. Shortly afterwards Bennett got through between the backs. The goalkeeper, taking his only chance, came running out. Bennett endeavoured to get the ball over his head, but it just hit the upright and went out of play. Half-way through the second half Kendall and Bennett drew the opposing defence to the right wing near the corner, and after a great tussle Bennett centred from the corner line for McQuade to head into the net. The Tanks tried desperately to score, and Lancashire gave the spectators a breathless time by his first-time kicks at shots at our goal. However, he had his eyes down and extra large boots, and could do no wrong; he made some spectacular saves. Two or three corners were put behind by the Tanks right winger, or they might have scored again. Several tussles occurred just outside our penalty area, but we always got the ball away. Gandhi (Garfield) nearly disappeared from view from a rebound off the big Tank centre half, but he was up and at it again and eventually managed to make a good tackle, catching the centre half on the wrong foot. But for the Tanks goalkeeper, who played splendidly, we should have had more goals. Result: Royal Signals boys 3, Depot R.T.C. 1.

Team—Lancashire; Beenham (captain) and King L.; MacDonald, Adcock and Humphreys; Kendall, Bennett, McQuade, Garfield and Fry. Reserve, Edwards.

Our team are working much better together, and great events are hoped for, of which we may be able to say more next time. Many thanks for their sporting display.

Cross-Country.—Congratulations to the following on their achievements in the third Garrison run (six miles) on the 6th February.

	In Run	In T.B. Team
L/Corpl Blades ...	19th	1st
L/Corpl Boy Verlander ...	20th	2nd
Boy Terrey	28th	3rd
Boy Craig	78th	8th

Stop Press: Rugby.—A memorable event occurred on Scotton ground on the 12th February, when Ampleforth Colts were beaten by F Company boys team with a score of 11—0 points. F Company team was the same (except for one player) as was beaten by Ampleforth Colts by 22—0 earlier in the season.

The improvement in the standard of rugger was most marked throughout the whole team. The forwards got the ball nearly every time, giving no openings to the formidable Ampleforth three-quarters. Our three-quarters' passing was much improved, while the halves played a fine game, Shergold scoring two tries. Piddington converted one, the score being 8—0 points at half time. Piddington scored a brilliant penalty from near the touch line in the second half. The tackling was good throughout, though Harrison, Offord and Terrey were conspicuous throughout in this respect.

Team—Back, Verlander; three-quarters, Willis, Offord, Piddington (captain) and Smith J.; halves, Harrison and Shergold; forwards, Luscombe, Terrey, Moore, Alcock, Smith R., Sheppard, Parker and King V.

Boxing.—Training has been in full swing for the Stoneyhurst match and for the boys going to Chepstow. We are greatly indebted to Sergt Brewster of E Company, who (though not one of our members) has given up three evenings a week to train our boxers. Although all will be over by the time these notes are in print, we wish them luck.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 3 Company.

Hullo, everybody! this is No. 3 Company's monthly sportlight. All old Three-ites will be very pleased to hear that this little Company is still "Cock o' the Walk" so far as sport is concerned. Oh, yes! and One and Two Companies might just as well commence to clean up their hockey, football, rugby, and running trophies, as if things carry on as they are doing, well! they will be losing them in the very near future. Perhaps they have already been "swiped."

Hockey.—We will take this first. "L" Section are to be congratulated on winning the inter-Section hockey competition. Their first match was with "B" Cable Section: cushy meat. I wonder where all those touch drivers were that day. It was just a case of scientific skill versus brute force, and the latter just didn't have a chance. The result proved a win for "L" Section, the score being 3—1.

The next opponents for "L" turned out to be "K" Section; and, boy, didn't feelings run high on that day! "K" and "L" had simply been itching to get at each other for months past, but somehow or other the match was always mysteriously being put off (Sigmn Dickerson?) Anyway, there was no getting away from it now, and so they fought it out. "L" Section were by far the favourites before the match commenced and were backed freely. The match hadn't been in progress five minutes before the crowd realised that "K" were out to make a grand scrap of it; and did they? Hockey sticks were thrown sky-high, rugby tackles were frequent occurrences, livers flew all over the field, and so did a few of the players. It seemed as if "L" would never penetrate that seething mass of humanity (Sigmn Parkin, I think it was). Still, once again skill outwitted force and "L" won by the skin of their teeth, i.e. 1—0. Of course, according to Sigmn Tich Copestake, they should have got more. "Oh, yes, they should have done, but they didn't," say all K-ites.

"L" Section, having now qualified for the final, met "A" Section. This was a very good clean game, Sigmn Davies ("L" Section) scoring the only goal of the match. This placed "L" Section on top so far as hockey was concerned, and they are apparently still unbeatable (willing to take on all newcomers).

Cross-Country Running.—There has so far been one inter-Company run—the result being, naturally, a win for this Company. Sigmn Copestake and Driver Groom are to be congratulated on their really fine performances. All there is left to say is that we are quite confident of walking away with the cross-country shield. Oh, we have already got it, eh? Well, anyhow, we are quite confident that it isn't going to walk away from us. No, sir, not just yet.

Football.—Inter-Section final: "K" Section v. "A." This was definitely the match of the season. It was played on Friday 19th January, and had been for the last month or so eagerly looked forward to by everybody in general. The weather was good and the spectators large, numerically. I had great difficulty in securing a seat, but on mentioning "THE WIRE" I was immediately escorted to a field-side bench especially reserved for the Press. Many notabilities were present; let me see, Trevor Nigwall of *The Impress* on my left, and Captain Wakelam on my right giving a running commentary on the match to radio listeners.

K Section, led by their captain, George Dickerson (who had just returned from a very successful tour of the London clubs) lined up. The game commenced in fine spirit, and a few minutes passed without any unusual barracking. Then K Section got warm; team play will out, y'know. Down the field they ran (the forwards, I mean) the marble passing from Robo to McGowan, back to Dicko—ah! McGowan has it. . . Bravo, Paddy! what a beautiful goal. "This was football, this was" (with apologies to Shell).

They were at it again, K the unconquerable swarming down the field: marvellous passing, speed and skill. With such a fine combination, what could they do but score?—which they promptly did again. The crowd roared its appreciation of such football, and team captain Dickerson acknowledged accordingly. Again and again K repeated their attack, and again and again they scored. A Section evidently gave up the ghost and eventually, when the final whistle blew, K Section had scored eight goals against nil.

The crowd broke past the Mons Police and, rushing on to the field, carried the victors shoulder high to the dressing room (Mons Repose). I immediately dashed round to interview the skipper, but he was overcome and refused to see anyone. However, Robertson (the valiant inside left) gave me to understand that the secret of their success was hard work, hard beans, and plenty of sugar in the morning's "gun fodder." This win placed K Section on a pedestal so far as football was concerned. Well done, K!

Our Company football team has, up to the time of going to press, proved unbeatable. In a recent match against No. 1 Company (inter-Company competition) Three Company won by 6—0. McGowan is to be congratulated on scoring five of these goals, the sixth being obtained by Reardon of Wales (it takes a couple of foreigners to do it every time).

Other wins I will leave over until next time, as we are getting rather cramped for space. Needless to say, those mentioned above are only a few of our many triumphs.

No doubt, after reading these notes, many of the old Threeites serving in foreign lands beneath a broiling sun will proudly boast that they once belonged to this little Company with old Robo, old Dicko, old Paddy McGowan, and old uncle Rasputin, and all.

[If Baron the Second will kindly use an extra sheet of paper next time and type his notes with open spaces between the lines, both the Editor and the Printer will appreciate such assistance in their labours.]

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

Inter-Section Competition.—During the winter period, to give everybody a chance to play games, the unit has been split up into sections and an inter-section competition has been arranged. The games played are football, rugby, hockey, basket ball and a couple of cross-country runs. The teams competing are drawn from Headquarters, combined Tank Signal Sections, and E Troop. Up to the time of going to press the results are as follows.

Cross-country—	Average.	Points
1 E. Troop	41	3
2 Tank Signal Section	42.2	2
3 Headquarters	42.5	1

From the results you can see how close the race was.

Rugby—H.Q. v. T.S.S. drew at 3 points each.

Netball—H.Q. v. T.S.S. won by 8—0 goals. Believe me, the H.Q. team is pretty to watch.

Unit Association Football.—From the following results you can see how drafts and postings affect a decent team. Of late we seem to have been the strongest team but one in the Garrison League—we hold the others up! Still, we live in hopes of discovering likely talent to replace losses. Results:—

v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards drew at 2—2
v. R.A.M.C. won by 6—4
v. 16/5th Lancers won by 3—2
v. Wilts County Hospital Staff lost by 3—6
v. 11th Hussars lost by 3—5
v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. lost by 2—5
v. 9th Lancers won by 4—3
v. 1st Battalion R.W.F. lost by 0—3
v. 2nd Battalion Loyal Regiment lost by 3—4
v. Tidworth Stable Lads won by 7—1
v. Royal Welch Band won by 7—0
v. R.A.O.C. lost by 0—9
v. R.A.M.C. lost by 1—7
v. R.W.F. lost by 1—3
v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. lost by 1—5
v. 2nd Loyals lost by 1—8

Hockey.—In this branch of sport we have done much better, having won six matches, drawn three and lost two so far this season. We are due to play the 4/7th D.G.s in the second round of the Garrison hockey cup tournament, and of that more anon. Results:—

v. 16/5th Lancers won by 4—2
v. R.A.F. Station, Boscombe Down, lost by 1—5
v. R.W.F. won by 3—2
v. Loyals won by 5—4
v. K.O.Y.L.I. lost by 1—3
v. 9th Lancers drew at 1—1
v. Salisbury Theological College won by 4—1
v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards won by 2—0
v. Royal Engineers, 3rd Division, lost by 3—9
v. R.A.F. Station, Boscombe Down, won by 3—2
v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. drew at 1—1
v. 16/5th Lancers drew at 1—1

Rugby.—Gradually this game is taking more hold on the unit than has been the case in previous years. Results:—

v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. lost by 0—14
v. R.W.F. lost by 3—6
v. 3rd Divl Signals lost by 0—15
v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. drew at 0—0
v. R.A.O.C. drew at 3—3

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

A cross-country run in the competition for Signals units in the Garrison was held on the 22nd January. It is said that in an endeavour to keep warm on this particularly cold day, E Troop won by the narrow margin of one point.

Football.—Troop football matches have been scarce so far this year, principally due to the clashing of other games. Several members have, however, been playing regularly in the Tidworth Signals team in the Garrison League.

Hockey.—The bad state of the ground has prevented us from playing until the 7th February (D Troop, please note). A.F.V. Signals then kindly offered to field a scratch team to give us a little practice. The game was fast as far as the ground would permit, but A.F.V. proved far superior to our struggling band and the score of 7—2 in their favour was—well, not too bad. As one of their players remarked after the game, "Quite a good show, E Troop; you are bound to improve by playing against better teams." Gertcha!

On the 12th February we met our old adversaries of F Troop and won by 3—2. The game was sharply contested and provided several thrilling scrimmages in front of each goalmouth. Our goalie, L/Corpl Palmer (fresh from his month of bliss) proved that he was no chicken in defending his hen coop, and he gave a thrilling demonstration to the younger players of the way to repel invaders.

Rugby.—This game is a stranger to the Troop, but on the 5th February, at the invitation of A.F.V. Signals, we fielded a fifteen just to see what could be done. Our lads put up a game show during the first half, ably coached by the referee, Captain C. W. Knight.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Rugby.—Fortunes have varied. Casualties and leave have had their effect, but we have our eye on the Cobb-Nicholls cup for next year. The team continues to play hard, with a little bit more devil than before. It is still difficult to persuade outsides to pass the ball. It is invidious to mention names where all have given of their best, but Signalmen Thomas and Mills set an example of what hard-working, quiet and thorough forwards should do. Signalmen MacKenzie and Hopcroft retain their dash. What the outsides really want is much more practice—a difficult thing to get. Results:—

v. R.A.F. Upavon won by 11—3
v. R.A.F. Old Sarum lost by 3—13
v. Royal Welch Fusiliers lost by 3—8
v. R.A.F. Boscombe Down, drew at 0—0
v. 6th Medium Brigade won by 10—5

Football.—v. 16/5th Lancers. This match was played at Tidworth in ideal weather. We started off in real style and from a penalty soon took the lead. The forwards were going great guns and for a time showed a definite superiority. After about twenty minutes the centre half obtained the ball and with a brilliant pass to the centre forward helped to net another goal for us. From now on we missed numerous chances and definitely "faded away," finishing up with losing by 2—4.

v. 11th Hussars. Played at Bulford: a game that we really should have won. For pretty play our lads took the bun, but the Hussars took equal points with us because our men were too pretty and forgot they had wing forwards. Result: a draw of 4—4 goals.

v. 2nd Field Brigade R.A. If ever we should have won a match, it was this one. We were definitely superior as a team. Owing to sickness we had to alter the team, which appeared to be upset thereby. The result of 6—2 against us does not show the abilities of the team, for by long passing the Gunners had six definite break-aways and scored from each.

v. R.A.F. Andover. This was our first home match for a month, and great hopes were entertained of a win. In the first few minutes an unusual penalty was awarded us (the back kicked to the goalkeeper, who fumbled and dropped the ball, so the back calmly picked it up and replaced it). Drysdale took the shot but failed to net. In the second half our team were really superior and penned the R.A.F. in their goal area, but failed to score. With fifteen minutes to go our goalkeeper Sigmn Kime was injured, and although he pluckily tried to carry on he was eventually compelled to retire. On the reshuffle of the team, Beard went inside left and scored what was described as one of the finest goals seen in Bulford for a long while. With only five minutes to go our lads went all out, but no further score materialised and we lost by 1—2.

Although we have not shone this season, our team are to be complimented on their sportsmanship. Although on the losing side in most cases, they play the right game and never ease up. Next year we should undoubtedly have a good team and will hope for a different story in results.

In the Garrison League No. 1 Company beat No. 3 by 6—1 and the 76th Battery by 6—3. No. 2 Company lost to the 71st Battery by 0—4.

Cross-Country.—The team started serious training in January. It was felt that in previous years the season may have been too long, thereby causing staleness by the date of the Army championships. This year we have a considerable number of new runners, all of whom are showing promise. As yet, however, it is early to forecast the real strength of the team. Amongst the newcomers Whichelow, Petrie, Mudge, Pew and others are showing signs of giving some of our previous runners a hard fight for places in the final team. Price of A.F.V. Signals is also a new dark horse who has already shown very good form. The following runs have so far taken place.

27th January. Triangular match at Aldershot between the Aldershot Command Harriers, Cambridge University and ourselves. This was only a training run for us, yet we were reasonably close to Cambridge. Page showed some of his real form and won the race, although Sergt Sutherland, who was not counting, finished first.

10th February. South of the Thames championship. The team were not yet trained up to their form and the race was treated as a training run. Page, however, came in tenth out of some two hundred and seventy runners.

13th February: Bulford Garrison Championships. Five teams took part. We did not count any of our twelve men who ran in the South of the Thames on the 10th February. We secured the first eight places, and our twelth man finished sixteenth. So we won the cup for the seventh year in succession.

The S.P.A. championships take place on the 20th February, the Southern Command championships on the 1st March, and the Army championships on the 20th March.

Hockey.—With the exception of the Army cup matches, little can be said. The team continue to keep up their success in friendly matches.

13/1/34 v. 1st Survey Company R.A. won by 5—0
16/1/34 v. 9th Lancers (Army cup) won by 4—1
17/1/34 v. R.A.F. Old Sarum won by 7—1
19/1/34 v. 9th Field Brigade R.A. won by 7—0
23/1/34 v. The Loyal Regiment, won by 5—3
24/1/34 v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. won by 2—0
27/1/34 v. R.A.F. Boscombe, won by 2—1
2/2/34 v. K.O.Y.L.I. (Army cup) lost by 1—2

We defeated the 9th Lancers from Tidworth in the second round of the Army cup by four goals to one. Our team seemed rather slow until the Lancers took the lead in the second half, when we succeeded in bringing out some of our form; but the Lancers certainly showed us that we were not going to have a run-away. We lost to the K.O.Y.L.I. in the next round by one goal to two, after extra time. It was said that we were certain to win this match, but, as usual, the unexpected happened. The K.O.Y.L.I. adapted their play to the state of the ground, and on the day's play they thoroughly deserved their victory.

In the first round of the Garrison cup No. 1 Company defeated the R.A.S.C. "A" team by sixteen goals to nil. Our goalkeeper Sigmn Cook stayed between the sticks to get frozen with the cold. Nos. 2 and 3 Companies entered the second round with a bye.

In the second round No. 1 Company defeated the 56th Field Company R.E. by three goals to one. It was a fight to the finish. No. 2 Company defeated the 17th Field Company R.E. by nine goals to nil. Little can be said about the match except that it was a good effort when one takes into consideration that it was their first game of the season. No. 3 Company defeated the 71st Battery R.A. by three goals to nil. Both teams put up a good fight, but No. 3 Company lost a lot of chances. The main point is that all Companies still live to play in the third round.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Rugby.—v. 27th Field Brigade R.A. Won by 9—3. This was a scrappy game on the whole. Though the forwards made some excellent dribbles, the tight scrums were bad. The three-quarters wasted many opportunities by running across, but the wings, Walker and Haines (who scored two of the tries) made most of their chances.

v. R.A.F. Felixstowe. Lost by 9—15. R.A.F. scored first, and a very even game followed until the last five minutes, when the R.A.F. right wing ran through twice. The forwards played well in attack, particularly in the loose, but were slow in getting back in defence. Tries were scored by Woodward (after a good run) Haines and Webb.

v. Old Westcliffians. Lost by 6—9. This was the best game the team have played for some time. The forwards really got going, McPherson, Evans and Galbraith leading several good rushes. The three-quarters also made several promising moves. Haines scored from one of these, and Larkin scored our other try by a kick ahead and follow up all on his own. Old Westcliffians broke through once to score in spite of a fine tackle by C.S.M. Nash. Their remaining points came from two penalty goals.

v. Ipswich. Won by 8—6. L/Corpl Steel gave us a lead in the first few minutes by getting the defence on the wrong foot and running through untouched. L/Corpl Galbraith converted this try. The pack did magnificent work in the first half, uphill, against much heavier opponents and scored another try far out. In the second half there was a general slackening off, which allowed Ipswich to score a try and a penalty goal in quick succession. After good work by the forwards Larkin took the game back into the Ipswich '25, but in the last ten minutes Ipswich were again attacking. However, they threw away two good openings by dropping at goal.

v. R.A.F. Martlesham. Lost by 3—9. Our forwards, again, were good in attack but slow in defence. Our try came from a forward rush from our own '25, Haines touching down. The R.A.F. quickly replied with a try which we just failed to hold up. The second half was even except for two brilliant cuts through by the R.A.F. fly half, both of which produced a try.

v. K.S.L.I. Lost by 3—21. The first half, with the K.S.L.I. leading by a goal and a drop goal to a try (scored by Haines), was close enough, though several openings failed in reaching their line through lack of support. In the second half, bad tackling and failure of the forwards (except L/Corpl Price) to get back in defence allowed the K.S.L.I. to score much too easily.

"A" Fifteen v. Ipswich "A." Won by 11—3. Our visitors opened the scoring with an unconverted try. Almost immediately, however, good work by the forwards resulted in Williams touching down. The kick at goal failed. In the second half, although we were playing two men short for twenty minutes, Webb scored under the posts, and almost immediately L/Corpl Price picked up in the loose and went over for a try which was converted.

Hockey.—During the last month the following games have been played.

13/1/34 v. Braintree Hockey Club, won by 5—1
20/1/34 v. Chelmsford Y.M.C.A. won by 4—1
25/1/34 Second Eleven v. Colchester Thursday Second Eleven drew at 3—3
3/2/34 v. Clacton, won by 3—1
7/2/34 v. Waterloo House, won by 3—1
8/2/34 v. Colchester Thursday, drew at 3—3
10/2/34 "A" Team v. Sudbury, lost by 1—3

Soccer.—Since the publication of our last notes, the following matches have taken place.

FIRST ELEVEN.

20/1/34 v. Brightlingsea (home) E. & S.B. League, won by 6—1
25/1/34 v. 2nd Battn. The Middlesex Regiment (Garrison No. 1 ground) preliminary round Pearson charity cup, won by 3—0
27/1/34 v. 2nd Battn. The Middlesex Regiment (away) E. and S.B. League, won by 5—0
3/2/34 v. Colchester Town (home) E. and S.B. League, won by 6—0
10/2/34 v. Colchester Town (away) E. and S.B. League, won by 3—0
13/2/34 v. 1st Battn Lancashire Fusiliers (Garrison No. 1 ground) Garrison cup, won by 1—0

SECOND ELEVEN.

18/1/34 v. Casuals (away) Thursday League, won by 5—3
25/1/34 v. Casuals (home) Thursday League, won by 5—1
1/2/34 v. Thursday Juniors (home) Thursday League, won by 2—1

The foregoing results indicate that once again we are placing a workmanlike combination in the field. If we maintain the consistency shown during the last month, we have quite a good chance of lifting one or two trophies before saying adieu to Essex football.

We have reached the semi-finals of the Pearson charity, the Essex Press and the Braintree Hospital cups, whilst we still await

the result of the second replay of Chelmsford v. Romford for the name of our opponents in the second round of the East Anglian cup. Our forwards are in goal-getting mood, and a glance above will show that our defence are giving very little away.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Soccer.—No doubt, many ex-5th Divites at home and abroad are watching with interest the progress of this unit's representatives in senior and junior football, since they have made themselves a formidable opposition to be feared in Scarborough and district.

My last report showed the First Eleven as the only league team to be undefeated in six games (league fixtures) and the Second Eleven with but one defeat in seven games. Well, readers, the good work still goes on with league engagements, but of cup ties I have a sad story to relate in a later paragraph.

The First Eleven, at Pickering Town, did reasonably well in bringing away a point with them—as well as a memento of that town in the form of "mother earth." Ground conditions were deplorable in midfield, and only the stamina of the team forced a draw after a two goals deficit just after the second "45" started. In meeting Hunmanby F.C. on the Barracks ground, the First Eleven further improved their position in the league by gaining a victory by 3—2 goals. This was an exceptionally hard game, won in the closing stages—again after a two goals deficit. Sure proof that the team can fight back.

I have tarried long enough for the report on local cup competitions, so here is the sad story. 'Tis a story without words. 'Nuff said.

Third round Challenge Bowl—Signals v. Filey Town, lost by 1—4 (after replay)
Third round Hospital Cup—Signals v. Scarborough Juniors, lost by 0—6
Second round League Cup—Signals v. West Leigh F.C. lost by 2—3
Third round Scarborough and District Cup—Signals v. Junior Imps F.C. lost by 0—4

The Reserves performing in Division II. have been carrying all before them, the most notable victory being that by 2—1 goals when opposed to Filey Town Reserves. Football as served up by Filey this season is as near to professional standard as could be desired, no fewer than four of their members doing duty with Halifax Town Reserves (Midland League) on numerous occasions. We have much for which to thank the Filey Club in providing such sporting and enjoyable meetings.

I am going to be optimistic enough to predict a share of the spoils when the First Eleven engage Filey in league fixtures. I have to look far back to find the team that came away from Filey with both points. On our own ground, undoubtedly the best in Scarborough, I think the odd goal in our favour will give the Signals a brace of points.

Turning to the Reserves again, another good win over Scalby F.C., this time by 3—2 goals, has certainly consolidated the league position. Scalby are a hefty side who, if my memory serves me right, were runners-up last season. In conclusion of my notes on the Second Eleven, I must say a few words on their fine achievement in registering a 5—1 victory at the expense of West Leigh F.C. on their venue. Readers may recall when this club dismissed the First Eleven from the League cup. Well done, the Reserves!

Below will be found the league tables of both Divisions compiled up to and including 3rd February. These will not show the results obtained in our favour versus Hunmanby F.C. and West Leigh, both matches being played on the 10th of the month.

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Division I.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals	Pts
Whitby	9	6	1	2	43—13	14
Imps	10	6	2	2	35—13	14
Signals	7	4	0	3	21— 6	11
Filey	6	4	1	1	28—13	9
Pickering	8	2	3	3	30—23	7
Hunmanby	6	2	4	0	19—15	4
Kirby	9	1	7	1	26—43	3
North Cliff	7	0	7	0	3—70	0

Division II.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals	Pts
Scarborough Juniors	13	11	1	1	74—16	23
Snainton	15	11	4	0	48—39	22
Filey II.	13	9	2	2	50—22	20
Scalby	12	8	3	1	60—19	17
Signals II.	10	7	1	2	31—22	16
West Leigh	12	6	3	3	44—39	15
Gristhorpe	16	6	8	2	49—50	14
Imps II.	12	6	5	1	44—25	13
Forge Valley	14	6	8	0	43—54	12
Oriel	11	5	5	1	41—32	11
Y.M.C.A.	15	2	11	2	23—92	6
Sherburn	13	0	10	3	17—61	3
St. Peter's	17	0	15	2	31—94	2

Inter-Section Knock Out Shield.—In this competition First Eleven players are not allowed to compete, in order to foster greater interest amongst n.c.o.s and men not up to the standard of regimental soccer and also to increase the percentage of men engaged (may I say) in recreational training. This, of course, is a prelude to the Inter-Company League, commencing after the Sections have "battled." Companies, no doubt, will be on the look-out for hidden talent. The play for the first round resulted in K Section going into the hat for the second round after defeating J Section by two goals to love. Here are the results to date of the second round encounters.

No. 4 Artillery Signal Section 7, A Section 4
No. 3 Artillery Signal Section 2, L Section 5
B Cable Section v. D, and K v. M have yet to be played.

A series of sports fixtures has been arranged with Scarborough College, commencing on Wednesday 14th February with soccer. Hockey and rugby will follow at convenient dates.

In conclusion, I crave a little further space from our Editor to express to the 4th Div. the regrets of soccer fans by the seaside. Hard luck, lads! better fortune next season. Congratulations to Sigmn Cord (ex-5th Div. goalie) on gaining recognition in the upper circles in China.

Rugby.—First round Yorkshire Cup: 5th Divl Signals v. Scarborough. The 5th Div., having beaten Bridlington in the preliminary stage of the cup, met Scarborough in the first round on the 20th January. This was the first occasion on which these two teams have met, and Scarborough (last year's finalists, who incidentally beat the 2nd Battn Gloucester Regiment in the semi-final) proved just too good on the day.

The teams were—Scarborough: P. D. Outwin, G. A. C. Jones, C. O. Rice, J. A. Boyle, W. Milner, C. R. Francis, J. E. Standeven, G. Rowe, J. Guthrie, W. E. Scholefield, P. Porter, J. Jaram, S. Harrison, A. H. Bradley. Signals: L/Corpl Wright H. R., Signalmen Anthony E. and Cooper A., L/Corpls Watts S. and Farmer N. D., Signalmen Beaumont C., Sant H., Stowers G., Parry L., Tumilty J., McTernan J., Harrop C. and Russell C., L/Corpl Webber G., Sigmn Kettlewell L.

Seven hundred spectators saw Scarborough begin well and nearly score in the opening minute when the left wing got moving. Boyle, however, was just beaten to the touch down. Scarborough continued the aggressive and a knock on by Wright at full back endangered our line. Guthrie then had an opportunity of giving Scarborough an early lead from a free kick but was just wide of the posts from well out. The game was being contested keenly and vigorously.

The Signals, after a period of defence, took play to the Scarborough half, Outwin having to clear with a touch kick. Most of the play was between the forwards, who went at it hammer and tongs, but the spectators were thrilled by a beautiful handling movement on the part of the Scarborough backs. Standeven secured from the scrum and "dummied" two men before transferring, and the ball travelled right across the line before Jones was forced out near the line. Watts relieved with a touch kick.

Shortly after this the Signals began a determined onslaught and the Scarborough defence experienced several anxious moments when we were awarded a free kick inside the "25" line. Stowers was entrusted with the kick and his effort was not far wide. Several scrums and line outs took place in Scarborough's territory, but Outwin with an elusive run and a good kick relieved the situation and Standeven, by cleverly making touch on two or three occasions, took Scarborough within a few yards of our line.

A concerted rush by the Town forwards was frustrated by Stowers, who beat Scholefield to the touch down when it looked as if a score would result. A passing movement by our backs relieved the danger, and Cooper at right centre was prominent. The Signals again went up field, but Scarborough gradually forced their way down again, the fine heeling of the forwards in scrums being a feature of the movement. It was this attack which led to Scarborough taking the lead five minutes from the interval. After hard work between the forwards near our line, Francis (the Scarborough stand-off half) kicked over the line and, following up, fell on the ball for a good try. Guthrie added the extra points with a well directed kick.

Mid-field play took place until the interval. It was thought that the crowd was a record for the ground. Half-time scores were: Scarborough 5 points, Signals nil.

Harrop resumed at the interval with a bandaged broken finger. Scarborough commenced promisingly and Guthrie, from the half way line, hit the upright with a free kick. Shortly afterwards Scarborough looked as if they would increase their lead when Standeven burst away from a scrum. His pass was missed and Anthony, our right winger, gained possession and raced down. With only Outwin to beat, he kicked over the full back's head and lost the ball in the race for possession. Thereafter the Div. began to fight tooth and nail to reduce arrears and only a free kick saved Scarborough's line from falling.

Immediately after this Jones made a fine run for Scarborough and this led to another try by the Town team. From a scrum Standeven gave to Francis, who (anticipating the pass) took it at full speed to go over for his second try of the match. Guthrie failed with the kick. Stimulated by this reverse our men improved, and Farmer ran brilliantly three-quarters the length of the field and gave to Cooper, who was grassed by Outwin when racing for the line. At the other end Scarborough were awarded a free kick and it looked odds on Guthrie converting, but he failed to sufficiently balloon the ball. Scarborough continued to press and Standeven gained ground by touch kicking. Milner then secured and passed out to his backs, who transferred one to another until Jones, receiving on the right wing, dashed over for a well earned try. Guthrie again failed with the kick.

The indomitable spirit of our men was deservedly rewarded after a lot of hard endeavour on their part. Farmer, taking advantage of a defensive error, followed up and dribbled over. It was a good try and Cooper improved upon it from the kick. This score was followed by stirring play near our line. Scarborough set up such a hot attack that it had the spectators in a fever of excitement as attempt after attempt to get over the line was frustrated by our defence, who fought valiantly for every yard of ground.

Eventually a fine solo effort on the part of Watts relieved the danger. We were now playing a man short, Harrop having to leave the field. Two minutes before the final whistle Scarborough made the issue certain when Guthrie, taking a free kick from a fairly difficult angle, landed a penalty goal. Scarborough on the day's play deserved to win.

Final scores: Scarborough 14 points (one goal, one penalty goal, two tries), Signals 5 (one goal).

5th Divisional Signals v. Bramley Old Boys.—We were unfortunate in not being able to field a representative side for our attractive fixture with Bramley Old Boys at Bramley on the 3rd February. With four second team forwards in the pack, a forward and a second team three-quarter in the back division, and our scrum half moved to full back, the team were badly disorganised and could never really get settled down. The home team were always just the better side, but had our backs marked their opposite numbers more closely the score would never have reached double figures. As it was the Old Boys ran out fairly easy winners by 28—4 points. Cooper dropped a clever goal for us mid-way through the second half.

The Second Fifteen have had two games during the past month with the following results:—20th January v. York "A" lost by 0—9 points. 27th January v. Bridlington "A" lost by 0—8 points.

We must congratulate the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals on getting L/Corpl Watts, a real good centre three-quarter, and S.T.C. Jubbulpore on getting the services of L/Corpl Wright, who has for the past three seasons been our full back. Both these players should easily find a place in their unit's team. We shall miss them.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore

A Company.

Football.—We drew with R Battery R.A. at 2—2 and 0—0 and lost by 0—1; and beat Attached Section by 2—0 and lost by 0—1. "B" team beat Brigade H.Q. by 1—0 and lost by 0—1; and lost to R.A.M.C. by 1—3. Attached Section drew with Brigade H.Q. at 2—2 and 1—1; and beat U Battery Second Eleven by 4—0.

In the Younger cup competition the Officers drew with the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess at 3—3.

Hockey.—A Company beat B by 3—1 and drew at 1—1. In the Younger cup competition the Officers drew with the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess at 1—1.

Cricket.—The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess beat the Signalmen by 28 runs—87 to 59.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football Results—
Jan. 1—v. G Battery R.H.A. won by 2—1
Jan. 8—v. C Company Dorset Regiment won by 3—2
Jan. 25—v. Battn Dorset Regiment lost by 1—3
Jan. 27—v. G Battery R.H.A. drew at 0—0

Rugby Result—
Jan. 12—v. 13/18th Hussars drew at 10—10

Hockey Results—
Jan. 3—v. Cantonment Club won by 3—1
Jan. 5—v. H.Q. 13/18th Hussars won by 3—2
Jan. 7—v. C Company Dorset Regiment won by 6—0
Jan. 12—v. 10/16th Punjabi Regiment won by 2—1
Jan. 20—v. 10/16th Punjabi Regiment won by 4—1
Jan. 22—v. M.T. Section won by 3—1
Jan. 24—v. Cantonment Club lost by 1—5
Jan. 30—v. M.T. Section won by 2—0

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Cricket.—R.E. and Royal Signals v. Combined Medicals. The above match was played on the Rawalpindi Club ground on the 14th December. Lieut.-Colonel Drayson won the toss and decided to field first.

The first wicket fell before a run had been scored, but then Major Thompson and P. R. Sutar became associated and runs came at a fast pace until Major Thompson was run out for a well played 24. Lunch then intervened with the score at 168 for four wickets. After lunch Lieut.-Colonel Drayson and Sergt Richards played havoc with the remaining batsmen, and the last six wickets fell for the addition of nine runs.

R.E. and Royal Signals started disastrously, four wickets being down for 21 runs. Lieut.-Colonel Drayson and Sergt Askew then became associated and the score was taken to 187 before the former was bowled for a magnificent 91. Sergt Askew continued to play sparkling cricket and retired when his score had reached 101. The innings was declared closed at 245 for seven wickets.

The next match was between Royal Signals and I.S.S.C. (Chaklala) on the latter's ground. There was nothing outstanding to note. Royal Signals lost by seven wickets. Sergt Askew batted brilliantly for 93, while Lieut.-Colonel Drayson took six wickets for 41 and Sergt Richards four for 59.

Christmas Week Sports.—Hockey: No. 1 Company v. No. 2. Play was very fast and interesting during the first ten minutes of the game, each goalkeeper being tested in turn. Eventually No. 1 Company gained the upper hand and broke away, forcing a short corner from which Sigmn Simcox scored a good goal. This was quickly followed by another from L/Corpl Nicklen. No. 2 Company then scored two quick goals, and at half time the score was two all. End to end play followed the restart, from which No. 1 Company managed to score two goals and No. 2 one, and the final whistle blew with the score standing at No. 1 Company 4, No. 2 Company 3.

No. 2 Company were not satisfied with the result, and a return match was played. This resulted in another win for No. 1 Company by 3—1 goals.

Six-a-Side Football Contest.—Some very interesting games were witnessed in this tournament. Twelve teams were entered, and in the final match J Section beat the U.K. draft by 8—1.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Several more football matches have been played since our last contribution to this section of THE WIRE, and it will be noticed from the results below that we are winning more often. We hope soon to be invincible, and when that day comes we shall invite "A" Company 2nd R.W.F. to a match—and beat them by 6—0! Results to date are shown herewith.

v. "A" Squadron R.A.F. won by 4—0 (friendly)
v. H.M.S. *Ardent*, won by 5—1 (friendly)
v. H.M.S. *Cormorant*, won by 5—2 (friendly)
v. "A" Company 2nd R.W.F. lost by 1—6 ("B" League)
v. "A" Company R.W.F. lost by 1—4 (inter-Company cup)
v. H.M.S. *Cormorant*, won by 4—0 (friendly)

During the next few weeks four of our best players will be away on destroyer cruises, so we shall have to depend more on our new arrivals to fill the gap. We therefore look forward to some interesting games.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals, London.

Boxing.—Two officers and four other ranks of the unit competed in the Middlesex Boxing Group finals held at the drill hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow (in respect of the Middlesex units) and at the drill hall, Horsham (for Sussex units). The following results were obtained.

2/Lieuts. Angell and Hayes walked over and in consequence qualified for the Divisional finals. 2/Lieut Hayes fought a special three round contest with Sigmn Newton and won on points.

Bantam weight—Sigmn Coppard beat Corpl George (4th Royal Sussex Regiment) on points, and qualified for the Divisional finals at Chelsea by beating Driver Vinall (Royal Engineers), again on points.

Feather weights—Sigmn Douglas was runner-up in this class.

Light weights—Sigmn Webb beat Pte Gasson (4th Royal Sussex Regiment) on points, but in the qualifying round he had to retire in the third round after putting his opponent (Driver Freeman, Royal Engineers) down three times. It is understood that Sigmn Webb may be asked to fight in the finals at Chelsea owing to Driver Freeman being unable to attend. Sigmn McKenzie was awarded the best loser's prize in the light weight class.

The boxing team was only recently formed, and much credit is reflected on Sergt Brown, who trained the competitors from unit headquarters, and on the individual members, by this excellent performance.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Soldiers in the Ring.—Gateshead unit win trophy from Darlington. Gateshead (34 points) won the 50th Divisional Signals boxing competition for the Dent cup at the Elm Grove drill hall, Darlington, who had held the cup during the past two years, was second with 31 points, and Middlesbrough third with 23.

Fly—Sigmn Gamesby (Middlesbrough) beat Sigmn Flynn (Gateshead)

Bantam—Sigmn Raine (Darlington) beat Signalman Robinson (Middlesbrough). Sigmn Gullon (Gateshead) beat Signalman Cummings (Darlington)

Feather—Sigmn Connelly (Gateshead) beat Sigmn Humphreys (Darlington). Sigmn McGuiggan (Gateshead) beat Signalman Burton (Middlesbrough)

Light—Sigmn Longstaff (Darlington) beat Signalman McCartney (Gateshead). Corpl Neill (Darlington) beat Sigmn R. McCartney (Gateshead)

Welter—Lieut. Smith (Middlesbrough) beat Sigmn Degnan (Darlington). Sigmn Tullock (Gateshead) beat Sigmn Longstaff (Darlington)

Middle—Sigmn Peart (Darlington) beat Signalman Nicholson (Gateshead)

Light heavy—Lieut. Kirkaldy (Gateshead) beat L/Corpl Olsen (Middlesbrough)

FOUGHT AN EXTRA ROUND.—The 6th Northumberland Fusiliers (T.A.) defeated the 50th Divl Signals by 17—15 points in a boxing tournament at the St. George's drill hall, Newcastle, when plenty of thrills were provided. In a feather weight contest Signalman Humphreys was disqualified in the second round and the fight awarded to Fusilier Mitchell; while in a light weight bout between Sigmn Longstaff P. and Fusilier Morning the judges disagreed, and an extra round was fought, the verdict eventually being given to the Fusilier.

Fly weights—Marshall (N.F.) beat Flynn (Signals) on points. Patrick J. (N.F.) beat Raine (Signals) on points

Bantam weights—McGuiggan (Signals) beat Gullon W. (N.F.) on points. Cummings (Signals) beat Harris (N.F.) on points

Middle weights—Lieut. J. R. S. Osborne (Signals) beat Lieut. S. G. Marsh (N.F.) on points

Feather weights—Craig (N.F.) beat Connolly (Signals) by a knock-out in the third round. Mitchell (N.F.) beat Humphreys (Signals), the latter being disqualified in the third round

Light weights—Neill (Signals) beat Midgley (N.F.) on points. Morning (N.F.) beat Longstaff P. (Signals) on points

Welter weights—Reid (N.F.) beat Longstaff D. (Signals) by a knock-out in the third round. Keating (Signals) beat Patrick N. (N.F.) on points.

TERRITORIAL NOTES—*Continued from page 124*

from then on until 7.30 there was not one moment when the children did not enjoy themselves. Tea, followed by a conjuror, cinema and dancing troupe of children, made a very enjoyable evening. Intermediate moments were filled by the two clowns, C.S.M. Cooley and the other fellow, who acted quite naturally and made a good show. The grand finale was the entry of Father Christmas, who gave each child a present from the well illuminated Christmas tree. The whole turn-out was good, and the committee (including Signalmen Jones and Warren, who, being unemployed, came along during the day to help) are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Annual Dinner.—The annual Company dinner took place in Garon's Banqueting Hall on the 22nd January, and a right good evening it was. The top table included His Worship the Mayor of Southend (Councillor H. E. Frith, J.P.), Colonel M. E. Mascall, D.S.O., O.B.E. (commanding R.A. Shoeburyness), Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D. (our C.O.) and other distinguished guests. In the chair was our Company commander, Captain J. P. Tweedie Smith. After dinner, speeches were the order of the day, but these were helped along by some very good entertainment from local artistes. I am sure everyone had an enjoyable evening. In any case, I am sure our R.S.M. did: evidently he believes in "What I hold, I have."

Inter-Boxing.—The contest for the inter-Company cup was held at Stratford on the 23rd January and some very good bouts were witnessed. We must congratulate No. 1 Company on taking the cup from us. They put up a good show, but next year we hope to save them the trouble of cleaning it. Well done, Onecoy!

S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

General.—There is nothing much to report this month. As we have the decorators in, all training is being carried on under difficulties.

A paid evening trade class begins shortly, and we anticipate a rush of the fellows to try and master the intricate knowledge of instruments and Morse.

Social.—We are holding another of our celebrated sausage and mash suppers some time during the next month. We have got in touch with numerous ex-Signals in the town, including the Mayor, and we hope that this supper will be the forerunner of many of these little re-unions. In next month's notes I hope to give the names of the old Signals who were present, in the hope that it may enable some of their pals to get in touch with them.

Auspicious Occasions.—Rumour has it that our O.C. (2/Lieut F. M. Greaves) is shortly to wed: in fact, the date is said to be the 1st March. The best of luck, sir! and may your troubles come singly.

Congratulations.—The Detachment offer their congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Ernie Hancock on the arrival of the son and heir.

BEDFORDIAN.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XV.—No. 170 APRIL, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

It is with much regret that we announce the death of Mr. James McBride Robbins, secretary of the R.E. Old Comrades Association, at 9 a.m. on Friday 23rd February, after a prolonged illness. Our deep sympathy is extended to his widow and family in their hour of sorrow, and to our Parent Association in the loss of an old and much respected servant and friend.

❀ ❀ ❀

The finals of the Army and Territorial Army individual boxing championships at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday 9th March provided the large crowd of spectators with some spirited and plucky fighting, although the class of boxing shown by other rank contestants was noticeably poor compared with previous years.

The bout of the evening—and undoubtedly the best boxing display—was the welter weight contest between Sergt-Instructor Wigmore (Army Physical Training Staff) and L/Corpl Spears (2nd Battn Dorset Regiment), when Wigmore regained the title by knocking out his opponent in the second round. (L/Sergt Peters, the previous holder, did not defend his title, having left the Army and turned professional.) Wigmore has now been coaching and fighting for at least ten years. He was faced on this occasion by a young, powerfully built and aggressive opponent who put up a very plucky show, but a well-timed right to the jaw, followed by a quick succession of punches, left Spears in such a dazed condition that the second attending him stopped his man from taking further punishment by throwing in the towel.

Royal Signals (T.A.) were represented in the light weights by Sigmn McGuiggan J. (50th Divl Signals), who was beaten on points by Private Brown J. (9th Middlesex Regiment), and Sigmn McLean W. (51st Divl Signals) who knocked out his opponent Fusilier Reid R. (6th Northumberland Fusiliers) in the second round.

Bombardier Billy Wells, Jimmy Wilde and Len Harvey were amongst the ringside spectators.

❀ ❀ ❀

Royal Signals Golf Meeting, 1934.—The Corps Golf Meeting has been in abeyance for several years. In future, however, the Committee of the Officers' Games Club have decided to hold an annual two-day Meeting alternately in the North and South of England. Particulars of the first Meeting, which is to be held at Brancepath Castle Golf Course on the 17th and 18th April, have already appeared in THE WIRE, and further information can be obtained on application to Captain M. Duke, Royal Signals Officers Mess, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

Brancepath is a first class course and a very pleasant one to play over. This year, since the Meeting is in the North, it is hoped that every Northern golfer will make an effort to attend; and, of course, the more competitors who come from the South, the better. The dates of the Meeting have been chosen to suit Southern golfers who are likely to compete in the Army Meeting at St. Andrew's. It is especially hoped that officers on leave from abroad, retired officers, and officers of the T.A. and Supplementary Reserve will try to make this Meeting truly representative of the Corps.

Next year's Meeting will be somewhere in the South of England, and so on from year to year.

❀ ❀ ❀

Aldershot Re-union of Royal Signals Old Comrades.—We regret an error under this heading in last month's Editorials. The Aldershot Branch of the Signals Association will be "at home" to all Royal Signals Old Comrades on **Saturday and Sunday, 21st and 22nd July**—*not* the 28th and 29th, as previously stated.

❀ ❀ ❀

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—The Annual Dinner of the Royal Signals Dinner Club will be held on the 27th June 1934 at the Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W.1, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from Mr. S. Garland, c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

❀ ❀ ❀

The attention of our wireless operator readers who are contemplating discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve is drawn to the Correspondence column on page 136 of this issue, and the letter from The British Radio Engineering College, 179 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9. Those wishing to take advantage of the facilities offered, or requiring any further information on this subject, should communicate with the General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

❀ ❀ ❀

Ex-Indian Military Telegraphists—The ninth Annual Dinner and Concert will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday 7th April at The Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, London, E.C. Brig.-General H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., will preside. Tickets (price 5/6 inclusive) may be obtained on application to the hon. secretary, Mr. G. A. Watson, 30 Lichfield Road, East Ham, London, E.

❀ ❀ ❀

We have frequently called the attention of our readers, and particularly those who are nearing the end of their service, to the many advantages obtained by undergoing a course of training at one of the Army Vocational Training Centres. That the courses *are* advantageous is illustrated by the many letters which filter through this office; and the following extract is yet another instance of a man well satisfied with his tutors and also the subsequent employment to which he was nominated.

"I am very pleased with my job, and have been given every assistance with my work. Thanks to the skill and learning I acquired through Mr. Inman, I can confidently say I can hold my own. My pay is very good, and on a full week of 56 hours (including overtime and bonus) I am well within the £4 limit. I consider myself an extremely lucky fellow in getting a job like this, and wish to thank you and everybody at the Centre for the help and assistance afforded me, not forgetting the instruction I received.

"Yours faithfully, G.S., ex-Signalman, R.Signals."

[See also Signals Association Notes opposite and on page 136 for further examples.—ED.].

❀ ❀ ❀

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition).—A revised and up-to-date edition of the above publication is now on sale at this office; price 1/- per copy (post free at home and abroad). Will unit representatives and individuals requiring copies kindly submit their orders as soon as possible?

❀ ❀ ❀

Good Business!—The following item recently appeared on the notice board of a well-known unit. It requires no further comment.

NOTICE: "WIRE" NOTES.—Ninety-five per cent. of the personnel of the unit purchase THE WIRE monthly, and then find there is nothing in the Magazine about —— District Signals. The fault is not the Editor's; it is ours! To remedy that fault, a Committee has been formed to put —— District Signals in the forefront of WIRE notes. All ranks are therefore requested to bring forward to the undermentioned any photographs of general interest, anecdotes or topical subjects by the —— of each month. "Agony" paragraphs are discouraged. (Signed) ——

[Now we *shall* get some news.—ED.]

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of "The Wire," 1933.—A limited number of copies of the 1933 bound volume is still available to those requiring them. Price 8/- per copy (post free at home and abroad).

THE EDITOR.

Corps News—Officers

We much regret that, owing to the indisposition of the compiler of such details, the information usually published under this heading cannot be given this month.—ED.

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Signals Association Notes

The attention of Hon. Branch Secretaries to home serving Units is drawn to the following letter, which has just been received from India. Will those concerned kindly co-operate in this matter by reporting fully on all Association members and/or WIRE subscribers proceeding on draft, so that our representatives abroad may be in a position to adjust their records with the minimum amount of labour?

"Rawalpindi, India, 8th February 1934.

"The General Secretary, Signals Association.

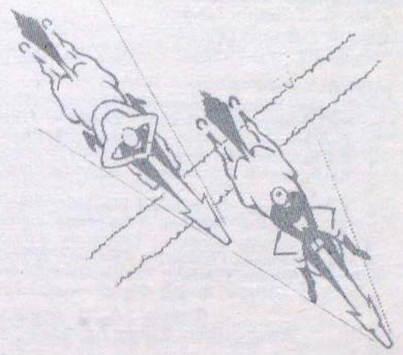
"Dear Sir.—Two drafts, each of twenty-one men, have just been posted to this unit from the United Kingdom, and up to date only thirteen have been reported by the usual Casualty Reports. Even those do not give full particulars as to whether the British other ranks concerned are WIRE subscribers or not, but simply state that 'Subscriptions are paid to December 1933.' Could you very kindly bring this to the notice of all Branch Secretaries, and thereby assist us in keeping a correct nominal roll of our members? Yours sincerely —— Hon. Branch Secretary."

❀ ❀ ❀

Apropos the article in the March issue of our Corps Magazine entitled "I'm Telling You" and the author's reference to Army vocational training. The following letters from two ex-Signals trainees at the Aldershot Vocational Training Centre fully justify the friendly advice given in "Dutchy" Holland's contribution, and serve to illustrate the possibilities resulting from a course of vocational instruction.

"Birmingham, 26/1/34.

"Dear Sir.—In reply to your letter of the 11th inst., I am delighted to say that I am now employed with Messrs. Chance Brothers, having started to-day. I interviewed Mr. Williams on



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the Saturday following receipt of your letter. He informed me that they only kept one plumber and a mate, and therefore he could not offer much in that line, but he took my particulars and promised me employment in some line in the near future. Then, at what I thought was the end of the interview, he suddenly said 'Wait a minute, S——. I like the look of you.' He got on the phone to the chief of the electrical side of the Aerial and Marine Lighthouse Department. That resulted in an interview with the latter and the promise of a job which materialised to-day.

"I started to-day on the making of portable traffic signals which, with other lighting devices, are completed in the shop from raw materials, so it will be interesting work. My wages are £2/4/0 a week, with a promise of a rise in six months. Should I pick up the work quickly, I will get the full rate of £3/15/0 within eighteen months. I think you will agree that the prospects are very bright. I have been told that I must count myself very fortunate in getting into the best and most particular Firm in the Midlands.

"Finally, may I thank you for your efforts on my behalf, without which such a happy ending would never have been possible. Would you kindly inform my instructors?

"Yours gratefully, G.L.S., ex-N.C.O., R.Signals."

"Barrow-in-Furness, 22/2/34.

"Dear Sir.—I received your information regarding my transfer to the Army Reserve. I should have been on piecework to-day, starting a new week, but they need someone for timework to replace me because a pieceworker cannot waste time in tacking. It is grand experience for a newcomer at such a big yard as Vickers', and a good timeworker gets all angles to weld. I have my wife here, and am getting on fine and hope to do even better in the near future. I hope to make Barrow my home. I thank one and all for helping me to obtain such good employment, and I wish all at the Centre the best of luck.

"Yours faithfully, R.M., ex-Signalman, R.Signals."

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Ex-Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Corporation Worker
3	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
4	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
5	Ex-Signalman, Edinburgh	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Barman
8	Ex-Signalman, North Acton	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, Deptford	Porter
10	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Mechanic
11	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Mechanic
14	Ex-N.C.O., London	Porter
15	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Bus Conductor
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
17	Ex-N.C.O., Ipswich	P.T. Instructor
18	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
22	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Chauffeur-Valet
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
27	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Joiner
28	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Clerk
29	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Printer
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
32	Ex-N.C.O. London	Batman, Officers Mess

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTION from:—
Mr. C. T. Smith, London.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—
Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth.	Domestic difficulties.	£1 grant
2	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbro'.	Domestic difficulties.	£4 loan
3	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties.	£1/10/0 grant
4	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham.	Domestic difficulties.	£3 grant
5	Ex-Signalman, Cumberland.	Domestic difficulties.	£2/10/0 grant
6	Ex-Signalman, Plymouth.	Domestic difficulties.	£2 grant
7	Ex-Signalman, Swindon.	Temporary difficulties.	£2 grant
8	Ex-Signalman, London.	Temporary difficulties.	£2 grant
9	Ex-Signalman, Plymouth.	Domestic difficulties.	£3 grant
10	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow.	Temporary difficulties.	£1 refunded to Glasgow Branch Signals Association.

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

Correspondence.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham.
15th March 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the April 1934 WIRE.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll.

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 4/5/29.

C. ANGUS, Lieut.
for Colonel i/c R.Signals Records.

The British Radio Engineering College,
179 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9
6th March 1934.

The Secretary, Signals Association,
95 Belgrave London, S.W.1.

Dear Sir.—With reference to my conversation with you on the telephone to-day, I beg to send you herewith a prospectus of the above College, from which you will see that we train students in radio engineering, i.e. the theory and practice of broadcast receivers.

The course of instruction is strictly vocational, to enable students at the end of the course to obtain a situation in the Radio industry, with our assistance. During the past six months we have placed nearly fifty students in good positions.

We are weekly receiving applications for trained men, and our difficulty now is to get a sufficient number of students to fill the vacancies which *will* most assuredly arise—particularly as this is the slack time of the year—in this particular trade.

We are now training students specially for one of the largest Companies, and our fear is that we shall not be able to meet the demands for trained men for this one Company alone.

It occurred to us that you might have quite a number of men who would be only too pleased to take a course of instruction with us, with the assurance of a post—provided, of course, they passed our tests satisfactorily.

The course is nine weeks and three hours per day—not thirteen weeks and 1½ hours per day, as stated in the prospectus. The fee is £10/10/0 only.

Should this matter be of interest to you, the writer would be pleased to call and see you.

I remain, yours faithfully,

pp. THE BRITISH RADIO ENGINEERING COLLEGE,
James H. Webb.

- Plain Tales -

Conversation Piece.—I was wondering what to write about for April when all of a sudden it struck me that the 1st April falls on a Saturday this year.

Uncle Alfred: The 1st of April is on a Sunday.

Well, Sunday, then. Make me a liar for one day, wouldn't you? Fact is, the bottom corner of my calendar has been torn off. That's one more thing I've got against the N.A.A.F.I. After all I have done for them, they might have given me one of their cardboard ones.

Uncle Alf: What have you done for them?

What have I done? Why, my dear boy, I've—well, I can't tell you off-hand, but that's neither here nor there, as the girl said——.

Uncle Alf: Remember where you are.

Oh, blow you! I won't tell you what I was going to say about April, now.

* * * *

What's in a Name?—It is a great pity, but once again I am compelled to emphasise the fact that "Barleux" does not, and never was intended to, rhyme with "car l'eau." It goes well with Cayeux. Monchy Cayeux is a small village on the Somme. Open the windows. In 1916 we watched the remnants of the village being further rearranged by German h.e. A most interesting sight. We sympathised with a Frenchwoman and her two daughters, gave them our day's rations and, being ourselves, discovered that the elder girl's name was Aline. I was fascinated (as usual) by Aline's pronunciation of my name: it was undoubtedly "Barleux." And that, my children, was how we brought the ship into Virginia Water.

* * * *

Serious Thought Department.—"To-day is the harvest of yesterday and the seed time of to-morrow." You would scarcely credit that I thought of that all by myself. No, I thought not. Well, no matter. How true it is that to-day we either suffer or enjoy the fruits of our past actions. Profound thought. Even truer, or as who should say, more true it is that what we do to-day will assuredly—but, hang it all, anyone would think we were getting a penny a word for this. Study the case of Signalman Warthog (that wasn't his name, but who cares?) who employed all his spare time and a lot of Government time in the improvement of his knowledge. Handicapped by an indifferent education, he yet possessed the intelligence to appreciate the advantages of a good education. By sheer hard work and will power he acquired his "first" and, later, his "special." When Warthog (what a name!) enlisted, he had the educational qualifications necessary for an appointment as night watchman. Shortly after leaving the Service, he secured a post with a firm of chemical manufacturers. To-day, and of course to-morrow, Warthog (that's not *really* his name) is holding down a job worth £7 a week. His prospects are rosy.

On the day you put your uniform away for the last time, I want you to recall these words. "To-day is the harvest of yesterday." The other part will not matter then because you will be too darned busy reaping the harvest to bother about to-morrow's seeds. Another staggering article next year, entitled "A stitch in time saves nine." The way I just coin these phrases makes my face go red.

* * * *

Is To-day Your Birthday?—I'll bet you didn't know that I had made a study of the stars. I got a half blue at Borstal for horoscoping when I told the Governor his fortune. It was like this here. Eh? All right. Some other time, perhaps.

To start with, you are changeful and callous. Very popular with yourself and pretty good company all alone. You are admired from a distance: the further, the better. Beware of a dark man; and while I think of it, beware of a fair man as well. Beware of women. Beware of the steam roller. Take no risks this year. If you do, it will be risky. In money matters you will have luck, though it is all bad. Do not start anything new, and to be on the safe side don't bother to finish anything you have already started. The luck will be with you for the first part of the year, after which it will either remain with you or vanish. This depends on how things turn out. (Can't catch me.) To-day for all readers: Think carefully. What have you done with the C.R.A.?

This does not really apply to people whose birthdays are celebrated to-day. I got the stars a bit mixed after the O.C.A. dance at Salisbury, and so far as I can ascertain the reading given is for yesterday. Can't alter it now. Ha! I see a fair woman in the distance. Coming this way. I'll be seeing yer.

* * * *

Loud Pedal On.—Talking about Salisbury reminds me that Tom Sayers and his cabaret band (advt.) put over a fine show at the Cadena Café on the night of the 23rd February. This was the occasion of the Salisbury O.C.A. annual dance. I *could* tell you what a topping show this was, but you might think I was biassed. Old supporters of the band (including the well remembered Tich of Nerbudda days) will want to know about the individuals.

Tom Sayers, pianist and arranger. Carries no instruments about. Uses the keys for ash trays. Favourite recreation, cross-country running and bashing George Mitchell, tenor sax and clarinet—a good solid man. Plays hockey in his sleep and cheeks everyone, including Bob Barlow, alto and soprano saxes, vocalist, business manager. Does things with a top hat kindly loaned by Fan No. 1, Jim Adcock, who keeps wanting his hat back. Ron Softly, trumpet, and how. Strict t.t. Still thinks Scotland is a hill station. Jack Chambers, banjo, guitar (if he had one) and librarian. Recreations, feed-major and marriage. Last, and very nearly least, Sailor Hawthorne, sometimes called a drummer, but more often—all right, we'll leave that out. Has most to carry. Chief fault: never served in India. Favourite film star, King Kong. Always waiting for his credits to come through. That's the lot.

Best band in Bulford and, so far as I can see, Salisbury. Too expensive for the Garrison Institute. Tom Sayers and his cabaret band (advt.)

* * * *

A Lot of Money.—Why is it that people always want to rush off on a tour of the world as soon as they click for a fortune? A class of aspirants to educational honours were resolved unanimously that a world tour was clearly indicated immediately they came into £10,000. Ninety per cent. of them have never seen the British Isles. With six months leave and a paltry £500, Great Britain will unfold itself.

Uncle Alf: How do you know?

Ha! Ha! (louder). Am I not even now slowly recovering from some of Great Britain's unfolding? Ask Tim Foley what happened when the front steps of the Golden Lion at Stirling unfolded. I have thousands of ideas with regard to the disposal of £10,000. For instance—or to make it look better, par example—the purchase of the alleged garden in front of a guard room would give me infinite pleasure. With my quick brain I at once conceive the idea of stocking it with fifty large cats. The brain still sparking brilliantly, I pay an old friend of mine five—no, dammit! ten pounds a week to persevere with the cultivation of flower beds. Pretty snappy idea, what? Well, perhaps not so snappy when he sees me, but I can always say I mean the guard room at Jubbulpore. Can't catch me. I must go into this question. I still seem to have an awful lot left.

£10,000. Tck! tck! I should be certain to get ideas above my station to start with, and that would be a great pity.

* * * *

Case Pending.—The sun shone brilliantly through the eucalyptus trees at Mortlake.

Uncle Alf: There are no eucalyptus trees at Mortlake.

Well, Putney, then. Anyway, Ukann Larfe passed a weary hand across his eyes and straightened his back at the sound of heavy footsteps. "Oh! it's you, is it?"

Inspector Faceache strode up with a happy smile, his pockets jingling with handcuffs, truncheons and things. "I came along to see what you were doing. What *are* you doing, Ukann?"

Ukann Larfe became very earnest. "See all these canoes, Facey? They belong to a man further up on the other side. I'm bashing holes in the bottom of all of 'em."

"Great Scott! but why?"

"Well, why not?"

"Yes," said the Inspector, thoughtfully. "I see your point."

"So long, Facey," said Ukann, bending once more to his work.

"But look here, old boy. We've got to get down to the business of being detectives. We've got to find clues and finger-prints and things."

Ukann Larfe pulled a small violin from his breast pocket and injected a handful of morphine into his leg. "Listen, Facey," he said. "I've got a whole boxful of clues and plaster casts up at the house. We can use them when we like."

It seems incredible that during the next six, or it may have been seven seconds, so much could have happened. A large chunk of damp turf hurtled through the air, took the Inspector on the chin and bowled him into the bottom of a canoe. Ukann Larfe opened his mouth to call for help and promptly accepted turf No. 2. It clung to his teeth lovingly.

A sweet voice called from behind the mango trees: "O-ooh. Uky darling."

Uncle Alf: There are no mango trees at Putney.

Well, Teddington, then. Hermione Larfe rode up on a bicycle and threw a kiss to her husband. "I say, Mr. Faceache."

"Yes, madam?" said the Inspector, distantly—about ten feet.

"Barleux wants you up at the office."

"Something doing at last?"

"I'll say so. The Plugger broke into Charlton Towers last night, stole three hundred feet of rubber hose, and wrapped it round the police station."

The two detectives dragged Hermione from her car—

Uncle Alf: You said she came on a bicycle.

Well, she had the bicycle inside the car, I think. Anyway, they threw her into the river. See?

Uncle Alf: Why?

Dash it all! Why not? Things are coming to a pretty pass if a bloke can't throw his wife into a river. BARLEUX.

Indian General Service Medal, 1908, with Clasp "N.W.F. 1930—31."

The following information is republished for general information.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS

BY MAJOR G. L. POLLARD, M.B.E., R.SIGNALS
(Officiating) Commanding 1st Indian Divl Signals, Rawalpindi.

Issue No. 8. PART II. Dated February, 1934.

British Officers.

1 **Medals**—The undermentioned are awarded the Indian General Service Medal, 1908, with Clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31." Those already in possession of the Medal are awarded the Clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31." Authority: I.A.O. 496 of 1933.

Lieut. P. R. Hyde, R.Signals
Lieut. F. R. B. Moore, R.Signals
Lieut. G. W. Roney-Dougal, R.Signals
Lieut. J. C. Hardy, R.Signals
Lieut. J. N. Barker, R.Signals
Lieut. G. F. Houghton, R.Signals
Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart, R.Signals

British Other Ranks.

1 **Medals**—The undermentioned are awarded the Indian General Service Medal, 1908, with Clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31." Those already in possession of the Medal are awarded the Clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31." Authority: I.A.O. 496 of 1933.

2318134 Sigmn Allen A. H.
5878420 Sigmn Althorpe J. A.
2316588 L/Corpl Amos F.
2316856 L/Corpl Appleby A.
1055284 L/Corpl Appleton C.
3127436 Sigmn Appleton G.
2318952 Sigmn Arnott J. S.
18561158 Sigmn Atkin W.
7817576 Corpl Baker E. D.
2317600 Sigmn Banister E.
2318768 Sigmn Banks E. R.
2316349 L/Corpl Barron A. D.
2316920 Sigmn Bartlett F. H.
2558796 Sigmn Bethell J.
2316703 Sigmn Blackwood H.
2308534 Corpl Blakeman L.
2312479 Corpl Blower J. T.
4340434 Sigmn Bourner A. E.

British Other Ranks—continued.

2561632 Sigmn Brereton A. B.
2316946 L/Corpl Brooks J. T.
2312704 Sergt Brown H. C.
2318079 Sigmn Bulman H. W.
2316112 L/Corpl Burdett I. M.
2310593 L/Sergt Cadell T. O.
2309946 Sigmn Chester F.
5101400 Sigmn Chetwood R.
2316021 L/Corpl Clarke G. H.
2317232 L/Corpl Clayton G. H.
4115362 Sigmn Costello J. J.
2313018 L/Corpl Cowell W. A.
2317475 Sigmn Crewe A.
743840 Sigmn Davy A. E.
6538759 Sigmn De Courcy T. H.
2316766 Sigmn Dickinson E.
2316439 L/Corpl Dodd D. W.
5101218 L/Corpl Dolan J. W.
7144292 Sigmn Donovan J.
311950 Sergt Draper F.
6687743 L/Corpl Drewell A.
2318861 Sigmn Duckett L. L.
2318030 Sigmn Duffy P. J.
5769250 Sigmn Ebbage F.
2316845 Sigmn Edginton W.
23c9429 L/Sergt Foley P.
2316361 Sigmn French H.
2316650 Sigmn Frost W. R.
774937 Sigmn Froud F. T. B.
2316293 Sigmn Fullick W. L.
2316906 Sigmn Gibbs F. S.
2315918 Sigmn Gibbs S. G.
2314000 L/Sergt Gordon S. E.
2318853 Sigmn Graham J.
2317636 Sigmn Gurney K.
2316812 Sigmn Hall R. J.
2316372 Sigmn Harrison L. C.
2317558 Sigmn Homer G. C.
2318263 Sigmn Hughes J.
2306830 L/Sergt Hunt J. N.
4684825 Sigmn Jackson J.
5102698 Sigmn Jarrett W. R.
2318403 Sigmn Johnson E. A.
2318742 Sigmn Jones C.
2318063 L/Corpl Jones J. W.
23.8746 Sigmn Kelly T.
768835 Sigmn Kennard H. L.
2316098 Sigmn Kirkman J. D.
2317616 Sigmn Lamb J.
7734004 L/Corpl Lambert E. D.
2319028 Sigmn Lawley R.
1850279 C.Q.M.S. Lawson A. H.
4257493 L/Corpl Le Cocq H. T.
5823043 Sigmn Locke C. R.
2318544 Sigmn Lutwyche N.
2318749 Sigmn Macken W.
1042634 Sergt Madeley T.
2309612 Sigmn May J. H. L.
6189251 Sergt McCormick R. R.
2313068 Corpl McCullogh N.
2313638 Sigmn McDougall D.
6973326 Sigmn McMullen N.
2318195 Sigmn Meakin E. A. G.
2317981 Sigmn Metcalfe
4908246 Sigmn Millett H.
5246492 Sigmn Millichip W.
2318720 Sigmn Millman A. E.
2316940 Sigmn Molyneux
1055437 L/Corpl Mulholland
2315751 Sigmn Nicklen A.
2319005 Sigmn Norris L. G. M.
2317149 Sigmn Patrick F. J.
2309615 L/Sergt Perry G.
2316008 Sigmn Perry G. T.
2313950 Sigmn Powner P. F.
2316587 L/Corpl Price W. C.
2316861 Sigmn Reed H. G.
2318896 Sigmn Renton A. C.
6195900 Sigmn Riseam E. C.
2316569 Sigmn Robinson C. E.
2215073 Sigmn Sanderson W. S.
2318904 Sigmn Sandy R. C.
2316636 L/Corpl Scratcher J.
2316088 L/Corpl Seeley A. G.
6196004 Sigmn Sharpe C. W.
2310961 Corpl Smith G. F. V.
2304247 L/Sergt Smith J. W.
5764741 Sergt Smith W. S.
5493272 Sigmn Stamp E. J.
7870669 Corpl Stevens H. J.
755038 Sigmn Sutherland
2314366 Sigmn Taylor-Smith S.
2318915 Sigmn Thorp A. A.
2317501 Sigmn Walker A. R.
2318803 Sigmn Walker H.
2317501 Sigmn Walker L. G.
2316343 Sigmn Wall W. M.
2317781 Sigmn Warren J.
2318940 Sigmn Whitelaw H.
1041873 Corpl Whybrow A.
3765084 Sigmn Williams G. C.
4684716 Sigmn Williams N.
2558951 Corpl Wills G. P.
2318212 Sigmn Wilson G.
2318101 Sigmn Wood A.
2316620 Sigmn Wyse C.
2315724 Corpl Yalden W. M.
2315263 Corpl Yorke A. M.

(Signed) R. W. MORGAN, Captain, R.Signals,
Adjutant, 1st Indian Divisional Signals

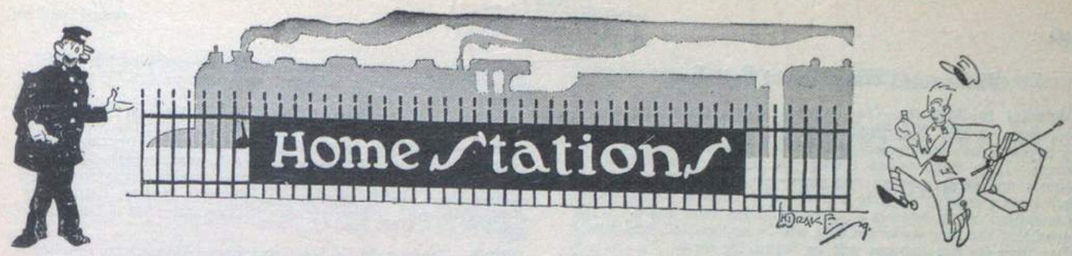
Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 136.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Obituary.—I deeply regret to announce the death, on the 28th February, of the wife of C.S.M. Bale. The funeral on the 3rd March was a very impressive ceremony, and the number of all ranks present was a sincere tribute and some indication of the sympathy which the unit feels on this occasion. Condolences sound feeble and often tautological, but since it is emotionally impossible to do otherwise, they are extended to the C.S.M.

Apologia.—(The man is always apologising, bless his little heart!) I have just returned from leave, so forgive any bitter note in this month's ditto but plural. To Fr-nc-s: Apologies, old horse. Of course, you would not.

Quotation.—"There you are: even blokes with their first didn't know Aston Villa were going to win." I think this damns our educational system pretty thoroughly. Won't Bertie Russell be pleased!

Harmony Corner.—A. Williams and W. Jenkins are now U/L/Corpls (among other things). I know of many things to say, but space, etc., forbids. Bill is a cycle pusher and the latter a W/T wallah. Suffit?

Corpl (Tom) Cooley has suddenly become possessed of (or by) a daughter, one Eileen Bridget. Only one short of twins, Tom. Best wishes! Colonial papers, please copy.

Musical Corner.—You may have heard the navvy's definition of an anthem: "Bill, pass me; Bill, pass me; pass me; pass me. . . ." Here is the latest variation (in vino and so on): "You will put; you; you; you; you will put; you will put; you will put out; you will put out; you will put out that light; you will; you will; you will; you will put out; you; you; you; you will put out that; you will put out that; you will."

New Books.—

"The Rationalism of Impulse" .....W. Fox.
"Famine in Modern Times" .....G. Lamb.
"The Feline World" .....J. Hood.
"Per Ardua ad Nauseum" .....R. Sanderson.
"Irish F.A. Year Book, 1934" .....W. Moore.
"Advanced Etiquette" .....J. Boyland.

Fun.—Hearing Blank (four years service) arguing with Dash (3¾ years service) as to who is the better man, and seeing the aloof sneer of Thistlestonehaugh (22 years service). As Brutus remarked somewhere, "I said an older soldier, not a better." A short head; three lengths between second and third; who hung the monkey?; two minutes from sea; market day, Friday; e. and o.e.

More Music.—The Royal Signals (bless them!) Band gave a concert on Sunday 4th March. The humming which "standard classics" evoked may prove that England is *not* unmusical. Perhaps!

The concert was very well attended, and the applause seemed to indicate that the programme erred on the side of brevity. Several extras were played, and the contrast between them and the preceding items was at times a little remarkable, while the "Largo" and "Spring Song" are not really happy with a military band. But this is to be captious.

Might I plead for some Wagner and one or two Purcell songs? Are these latter suitable for cornet or clarinet solos?

The Imperial Players gave a concert in the unit institute, but as I was spiritually searching for the Hag of the Caucasus, I cannot truthfully tell you much about it. Bung ho!

Stop Press.—I know lots of things of very great interest have happened in the last month, but I cannot summon up any enthusiasm for them, somehow. Very curious! Write to the orderly room for details. They've got them all somewhere.

POSTLETHWAITE.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Obituary.—Mrs. Bale, the wife of our C.S.M., died on the 28th February in the Catterick Military Hospital. It is difficult to find words for this paragraph. We all know C.S.M. Bale very well: he has proved a good friend to many in the Wing. His loss is terrific. It is difficult to say much without appearing affected, but I would like to offer him the sincere condolences of the entire Wing.

Plain Speech.—Owing to an unprecedented demand, I publish (sez you.—ED.) the following very official statement: "A spade is a spade."

This Month's Great Thought.—Spring is at last here. Sales of hair oil, flannels, soap and other unmentionables increase. "La femme est toute naturelle. Quand elle a. . ." as M. France has said. They sometimes forget that. To the fore, my very precious. . . . ones. But the ripe figs won't keep. Ripe figs won't keep. They forget that. Ripe figs won't keep. We spring clean. Write Thos. Cook for details of conducted tours round the newly decorated stables. Very well! I will change the subject.

Things Perceived.—Coiffure à l'Alaska. (Good for you, Fudge. Three distinct sneers and one look of bewilderment.) Fish on Thursday (heil, Mess wallah!) The silent wireless. M. Dekobra's literary popularity. (Shades of –l–n–r Gl–n.)

Promotions.—H. Ferguson and F. Dakin to be U/L/Corporals (heard that one before? too bad!) They may select their prize from the following: A gummed label, a sleeveless errand, two geraniums, a gramophone, a cycle lamp, a g.s. wagon, a meat pie, a hockey stick, a box of chocolates, a Lesbian ape, the collected works of T. F. Powys, a small war, an S.O. pen, Lorna Doone, an Army List, a motor cycle tyre, a back door, a partridge, a tube of shaving soap, a Wagner overture, a ten mile walk, a calendar, a severe reprimand, a chimney sweep, a hunting crop, twenty cigarettes, an old sock, a ticket for the Chelsea Arts ball, a dust bin, a used penny stamp, an empty barrack room, an incident, a golliwog, Chloë, a pound of flour, three blue pigeons, a special thesis, Old Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all. Applications to the Company office (in triplicate) with certificate of intended wife's character. Good boys, all.

Arrivals and Departures.—Many as the sands, etc. To and from India, courses, home units, and the great outdoors. My compliments, welcome or condolences, as may be necessary.

Good Deeds.—L/Corpl Glynn qualified at S.T.C. equitation course. Whoops, Paddy! Alvey and Oliver also become (on paper) C.ii. farriers. I don't know much about farriers. Sounds a dirty job, anyhow; iron and nails, and great heat; too much for one—me. Some people can be happy among the rather unhygienic horses. Whoops to you also, Alvey and Oliver.

BAXTER.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Special to Recruits.—You wanted to see something about yourselves in this Magazine. Don't be disappointed. Please try to realise how many men pass through this wing during each month. I am sure no one among you wants a list of Smiths, Browns and Jones, etc., a mile long—do you? No doubt we shall hear a sigh of relief in a number of barrack rooms when Dismounted Wing appears in these columns once more. It is hoped that the new scribe's efforts will be appreciated, and a use other than for fire lighting will be found for them.

Postings.—Our usual crop of recruits have finished their training on the square and proceeded to the Mounted Wing and the Training Battalion. Complete with "collar dogs," etc., they enter our N.A.A.F.I. again, a self-conscious look of pride radiating from their countenances.

No. 44 Squad, under L/Corpl Stares, passed off on 10/2/34. Sigmn Williams F. T. winning the C.O.'s whip as the smartest man.

No. 45 Squad, under L/Corpl Deegan, passed off on 16/2/34. Sigmn Patient won the whip and also a medal for weapon training. Driver Sier won a medal for P.T. and Sigmn Batty a silver spoon for weapon training.

No. 46 Squad, under L/Cpl Chadwick, passed off on 16/2/34. Sigmn Williams F. winning the whip.

Obituary.—All ranks of the Dismounted Wing express their deepest sympathy with C.S.M. Bale (Mounted Wing) in his sad bereavement.

Congratulations.—To Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young and 2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson on playing for the Northern and Scottish Commands XV. against the Army at Catterick on 31/1/34. To our senior drill instructor, C.S.M. Noonan, on his return from the Guards Depot, Caterham, where he upheld the high standard of drill that is always set by the Dismounted Wing.

Safety First!—What about the two recruits who drew 10/- on pay parade and then endeavoured to convince the pay bloke that it was too much? What a hope, with J- - Ly- - h in charge!

Personal (very).—An addition to Postlethwaite's new books: "Hobbies and Spare Time Occupations," by D. Instructor. By the way, our Corporals Mess has a new motto this month: "Roll away! roll away!" For their sake, I hope we have no recruits who are interested in tennis.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Lieut. A. McNair, L/Sergt Chadney, Corpls Spearpoint and Litchfield, and L/Corpl Evans from India. Corpl Wilkins from 5th Div., Corpl Nicholls from 2nd Div., and L/Corpl Rose from 1st Div. (complete with whiskers, ginger, waxed, drill instructors, for the use of). Shades of L/Sergt Stickley!

Departures.—We are sorry to lose 2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson on posting to the 1st Div. Corporal Lewis to the Training Battalion (that laugh!) L/Corpl Hopwood to India. L/Corpl McConnell to A.V.T.C. Hounslow. Corpl Perkins H. to 5th Div. Scarborough. A local hostelry will just about manage to survive without his support. It is said that the United Bus Company are presenting him with a replica of the No. 30 service for his long and regular patronage.

Agony.—Some people call this the jew's mail. However, here it is. To Dalla, somewhere in the 4th Div.: There's nowt on the stocks yet. What are we going to do for a ship? Taylor.

Finis.—Thank the Lord! If anyone has anything at all funny for publication, let them come up'n see me some time.

ELPEE.

Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion.

We held a whist drive and dance on the 23rd February and, by the hounds of heaven, it was a wow! Talk of sheer joi de vivre and eau de cologne! Seriously, though, it was a very fine affair and was generally voted the best held for years. I don't want to start an acrimonious discussion, but the R.S.M. won first prize in the whist drive.

Obituary.—Mrs. Bale's death was a very severe shock to us all. She was extremely popular with all members, and the news created a sense of great personal loss. She took a very keen interest in the Mess and had become so identified with it that her absence will cause a gap which will not easily be filled. The entire Mess extend their deepest sympathy to C.S.M. Bale.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Slum Clearance.—Great improvements are being carried out in the vicinity of "Q" Lines, known to some people as Sleepy Valley. Fatigue parties are clearing the ground surrounding the quarters from weeds, stones, rubbish, milk bottles, spare parts of Morgans, etc., and we are now looking more like a Lido every day.

Birth.—Congratulations to Corpl Lee (Norman) on the birth of a son and heir, Ian Norman, on 23rd February.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the fold and trust their stay with us will be long and pleasant. Sergt Merritt from F Company; Sergt Dickson from 2nd Divl Signals for work in "Q" Branch; and Corpls Smith and Worsley from 5th Divisional Signals. Corpl Smith has taken over the cookhouse, and judging by the results obtained so far he has started well. Corporal Worsley is, I believe, an asset to the shooting team.

Departures.—L/Corpl Watkiss (our n.c.o. i/c cookhouse) has discarded his clogs and cook's clothing for a civilian suit. We trust he will do well in civilian life, and that he will obtain that policeman's job in the near future.

L/Corpl Morgan to 2nd Divl Signals on the 2nd March, and L/Sergt Dicker to 5th Divl Signals on the 5th.

"Orders is Orders."—The orders for sentries on guard say that "All suspicious persons seen in the lines will be challenged, ordered to halt and sent to the guard room." One sentry, last week, carried out this order to the letter. Ordered to patrol the Q.M. buildings at 12.30 a.m., he reported back to the guard room, accompanied by four N.A.A.F.I. ladies. We trust that the guard commander made the necessary explanation to the ladies.

The Weekly Grouse.—Heard in "Q" Lines about 9 a.m. every Monday: "Hey, corporal! what about some coal for a change? I have made a path with the dust you have been leaving me for the past year." We do not envy the job of the n.c.o. i/c coal fatigue. I say "coal," but—well!

The Song of the Moment.—"Open wide them pearly gates," as the dental officer will be saying to-morrow on our annual inspection.

E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

Foreword.—I suppose someone wants to know what is happening up at this end of the globe—which I believe is to all operators what they term Alma Mater. What a start, eh! Anyway, to all those interested, E Company are still here. According to various reports, moans and enquiries, it is still also the hardest worked arm of the T.B.

February's weather up here was glorious. One could look at the pictures in the papers of sunny Australia, Monte Carlo, etc., without that "wish I was there" feeling. We had an occasional frost and a fall of snow, but on the whole it was really splendid. Lately, the rain has come in and spoilt things to a certain extent.

Departures.—It has already been shown what a busy Company this is; and being the birthplace of many future Marconis and others, the numbers who have passed through are too numerous to mention. (After all, the Editor is entitled to a half day the same as I am, because we earn it.) Anyway, here are a few of the important ones.

To the land of civvies, dole queues and breakfasts in bed, the following proceeded. Sigmn Kirtley, one of our cooks, on a fortnight's leave pending his ticket. Sigmn Houghton, who suddenly arrived back from leave and the next day went and bought his ticket. Sigmn Harvey, who was given his ticket because he was not supposed to be in the Army.

Inter-Company and unit postings are more complicated. A few of the old hands have left us. Corpl Rigden has proceeded to Scarborough—the lucky blighter! So far nothing has been heard of him, but he only left this morning. I believe he has arrived there o.k. Sigmn Young departed for Colchester last week and left me two odd collar badges. I know it was him because he gave me a whip to square things up, so watch yourselves, you Colchester people—you have "the lot" in him. Besides these two, there are millions of others, and if you want their names see Part II.s in the office.

Everywhere I go in this camp, someone says "Give my best to him and her, it and those," and they even chase me down to Richmond; so I'm telling you fellows who have left us lately that everyone in this Company send their very best and hope that you still go on doing famously. Now perhaps I'll be able to get a bit of peace! Mind you, I don't mind this, but I hate to have it for break and after-dinner sweets, so in future you who leave must take your "bests" with you when you leave.

Arrivals.—Two stalwart helpers (or spokes in the wheel, shall I say) arrived from Colchester two days ago, but so far nothing has been heard from them.

Various men have arrived from the Depot to increase their knowledge as far as the Morse code is concerned. These are also too many to tabulate, so I'll save myself a job and just say you'll be seeing them when they are ready for units. However, the Company welcome them and invite them to take anything they like from the lecture rooms, parade grounds and mess rooms—in their heads and not in kit bags or mugs. This doesn't imply that the globe over the order board should be broken to-morrow night.

Sigmn McKend was pushed on to us from D Company and we also welcome him with that true Eddy spirit, "get in the wash-up," but we hope that his stay with us will be quite normal. I wonder if he wishes as he washes!

Courses.—Sigmn Gibson arrived back from Aldershot with a cook's certificate to verify that he was a very good one and that he would be suitable for sergeant-cook. Congratulations and thousands of "Well dones!" have greeted him, and in an interview yesterday he told me that he is thinking of cooking for the stage providing I draw the curtains.

Corpl Chesters went to Woolwich to learn all about a wireless set which I'm told could speak for itself. He tells me he had a very good time, and hopes shortly to produce a set that will be able to argue with the one that taught him all he knows now. Figure it out; I did.

Corpl Holden, who has left this Company but is still knocking about, "fire fought" in Aldershot at the beginning of this month, and I believe he came away fully aware of his abilities—or so I'm told in the Institute.

Sports.—The Company congratulate the Boys football team and all connected with it on the splendid show they have given in attaining their place in the semi-final of the Boys Army football cup. We wish them all the very best, and if lemons can win a match, let's hope their funds can stand as much as ours.

We have lost a few notable players. Sigmn Young, cricketer and billiard player and also indoor sport specialist, is now in Colchester and, we hope, doing his best at them. It is rumoured that he played ping-pong for teas in the canteen, so now you know his strong point. Corpl Holden, now in F Company, was one of our notable rugger players. Corpl Rigden, owing to his hours of work, never had a chance to prove his worth as a hockey player up here, but we hope to hear of him being cheered by the 5th Div. folk. Several other men of the Company who represented the team, such as Cox and Harris, etc., we hear, are in their respective football teams. We wish them all the very best of luck, and to Tich Rigden, let's hope it doesn't bounce just as you strike.

The Band and Cadre football team have had some splendid victories *and* defeats lately. They have played Aske Hall at home and away, with teas included, which is more interesting. Their manager tells me that they may have a smack at the Arsenal soon, but of course he could only mean on the coupons.

Nothing really startling has happened as far as inter-Company matches are concerned, but we hope (or they do) to be able to arrange some really good matches.

The other morning, when I was out on my five o'clock run, who should I meet but the boxers, and it looked to me as though they were training for something. I'm right; it is the Catterick Garrison inter-unit knock-out novices boxing competition. To-morrow we (or I should say, they) fight the 20th Field Brigade R.A. in the first round. I spoke to their trainer, and he said to me that he was quite confident of winning, so the only thing left is to wish them power and good judgment till the finish.

Shooting.—We are pleased to say that Eddy proved its superiority in the Mackworth trophy shooting. We congratulate the "B" team on winning all matches, in most cases by a large margin. The scores returned in matches have been satisfactory,

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and in one or two cases have shown a great improvement throughout the season. Sigmn Heald is to be congratulated on a very fine average throughout, and Sigmn McConnell-Wood on his "possible" against the Mounted Wing. The "A" team, though not quite so fortunate in the matter of wins, have done extraordinarily well, losing only to the Mounted Wing, with whom we now tie for first place. We have still to fire against the School.

We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. Thorpe, who is converted to the use of peep sight and sling and is proving himself really useful. We also wish to thank Lieutenant Saunders and 2/Lieutenant Dutton for their keenness and support throughout, which, together with the untiring efforts of the rest of the team, have helped to make a very successful season.

In the Training Battalion rifle meeting L/Corpl Thompson won *The News of the World* certificate. He also fired for the Training Battalion in *The News of the World* competition, in which he equalled Sergt Miles of D Company with a score of 197.

Marriages.—The Cadre "grocers," Sugar and Butter (i.e. Sigmn Cheney and Driver Butterworth) were married this month: Sigmn Cheney to Miss Alice Watson at Richmond, and Driver Butterworth to Miss Nora Green at Hornby. We wish them both the very best in their "new walk of life" (as Barnaby Rudge said); and when they are fathers, may the price of Glaxo be lower than it is to-day.

Births.—Gosh! give the lads a chance: they haven't got over their sample yet. Up to the time of going to press we have no casualties, but I hear there is a new hippo in the New York Zoo. Anyway, this column being of a personal nature, I shall leave it to someone else to go and find out.

Agony.—The Company lines have been painted and the floors scrubbed, and the N.A.A.F.I. girls caged in. Looks lovely and smells sweet and all that, but if you had seen some of the moves! Any removal company would have been jealous.

To Dillo, Scarborough: There's a fellow up here who says you married his girl. Watch your step (stop). Hawk-Eye.

To Small Roberts, Peshawar, India: How's my Flossie? Did you take her out for her Christmas tonga ride? No lies, now. Big Roberts.

Heard on signing of accounts for the month. Recruit in debt: "That's o.k. N.A.A.F.I. rebate for this month will put me square." (The pay bloke is still trying to work it out.)

Will T.P. (somewhere in Ponky) please drop a line to J.T.C. (of E Company fame) and help repair a broken heart? W.R.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Little worthy of note has occurred this month, unless the abundance of rain and snow may be termed as exceptional. I think ex-Catterickites will say a hearty "No." There are some persons who must like it—judge for yourselves: our C.C. has extended to complete twelve years. Perhaps he wants to tell the personnel in his next station all about Catterick.

Spring drills are in the offing. I believe we can safely say that the majority of persons hope that is where they will stay.

Boys' Club.—The Club is now a home from home. We have had the painters in, and we must admit that the appearance is greatly improved. Rumour has it that we are also having some new curtains installed; also, the radiogram is under repair.

All-in Rugger.—A game of all-in rugger was organised between the workshops personnel and the operator boys after the style of the game last year. The goals were situated on two hills over the moors, at least three-quarters of a mile apart. What fun! It was a pity that the n.c.o.s remembered the match of last year and stood down so that the boys could enjoy themselves! The boys would have been more in their element had some of the cadre played. It is grand when one is allowed to pinch the rear and hide the head in a nice pool of water: at least, when one is not the *victim*. The workshops had the best of the tussle but failed to score. There was very little interest in scoring; I think there was more in wiping off old scores. Nevertheless, the game was enjoyed by all, even those who were half pulverised or had their shirts ripped off their backs in the scrummages.

"A" Team.—We were wrong in our presumptions in our last notes. We will therefore repeat what we said to Aldershot Signals. Our "A" team have reached the semi-final round of the Boys Army cup, and as no doubt you will already know by the display of advertisements, etc., they play a team from the Boys Training School, Chepstow. Roll up and cheer for us, as you know that support helps no end. I think we can rely on you.

Arrivals.—The following personnel have arrived during the past month: Corpl Holden from E Company, Sigmn Adcock from 5th Divl Signals, and Sigmn Donnelly from D Company. All the n.c.o.s welcome Corpl Holden: another one on the duty roster.

Departures.—Sergt Merritt left us for D Company and Sigmn McKend proceeded to E Company. They are still in Catterick, and I am sure they will keep up their connection with our Company. Sigmn Smith A. F. proceeded to A Corps Signals, where we hope he will enjoy his soldiering.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Arrivals.—From Training Battalion, Catterick: Corpl Edwards F., Signalmen Smith A., Cooper R., Moore A., Bond D., Conroy A., Douglas-Beveridge J., Glover S., Lapthorne J., Weech C. and Baldwin S. From India: L/Corpls Coker E., Dockerell H. and Robson J., Signalmen Brooks E., Strudwick H., Sayer C., Allen A., Harvey S., Smith T., Westmore H., Cheetham A., Ellison A. From Jamaica: L/Sergt Minchin.

Departures.—To Depot Battalion: Sigmn Lamb G. To India: Sergt Quick P., L/Corpls Harris P., Small A. A. and Small N. F. H., Signalmen Atkins A., Barney C., Dunne J., Meacham W., Morris C., Scott P., Smith F. and Yaxley R. To Palestine: Sergt Webster H. M. and L/Sergt Smith C. O. To Malaya: Signalmen Brown J., Cave J. and Foster W. C.

Extensions of Service.—Corporal Barlow and Sigmn Drury to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Marriage.—Sigmn Ross A. to Miss Ethel Dench at Aldershot on the 20th October 1933.

Re-Engagements.—L/Sergt Millen and Sigmn Pearce W. to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Transfers to the Army Reserve.—The following have left on transfer to the Army Reserve: L/Corporals Clark W. W. and Rawlins W., Signalmen Meeson R., Dickson R., Akhurst A., Brown T. F., Lawrence J. and Squibbs. W.A.J.

No. 2 Company.

General.—No doubt, everybody would like me to apologise for the absence of notes last month; but knowing you all as I do and knowing you know me, I know it's no (phew!) good trying to rake up any excuses. At present business is brisk. Results of the Trade Board are eagerly awaited by many, and several have visions of untold wealth. Meanwhile, small schemes are in progress to enable the operators to get used to the sets and to actual working. Valuable information is being gained by the senior n.c.o.s with regard to superintendents' duties, whilst the junior n.c.o.s are dividing an hour each morning between musketry and drill.

Garages.—Everything in the garden is lovely, we hope. Driving instruction has ceased and the new drivers have been allotted cars. It is a gruelling business teaching others to drive, but judging from what I've heard, I imagine it is also a hair-raising one. Nevertheless, the new men have settled down to their allotted tasks, and we anticipate doing even better than last year.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Smith A., Conroy, Cooper and Moore from the Training Battalion, and Sergeants Shilton, Trayner and Bridge from Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Departures.—Oscar: where to, nobody knows; maybe China. L/Corpl Clark W. W. to Army Reserve (what would Charley Boy say if he knew about a certain lady's cycle?) Also twenty of the lads to Nos. 1 and 3 Companies.

Tittle Tattle.—Tosh, eyeing his rooti gong "turning to the left by numbers."

Instructor: "How many kinds of fouling are there?" Pupil: "Ankle tapping, kicking and sticks."

Could any kind person tell me what became of the old wavelengths when they were changed some time ago, and whether they are expendables?

Driver: "Where's the repair outfit, corporal?" Very much harassed n.c.o.: "Being repaired."

Agony.—Chota, N.I.S.C.: Congratulations on "splice" after all these years. D. and H.

Marriages.—Poverty corner's loss is another's gain. Corporal Shillitto J. to —— (?) Good hunting, Jack! DIXIE.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—In the spring a young n.c.o.'s fancy may not turn to thoughts of drill courses; nevertheless, one can become resigned even to drill *and* musketry courses. On the whole, life is very quiet—the calm before Section training—and consequently I am left with nothing to write about.

The only bright spot in the month was the detail given out by a Company sergeant-major, who said on parade: "*Everyone* will be on church parade to-morrow. Those other ranks who have no great coats will borrow from those men who are not on parade."

At the end of the month Unit Headquarters will move from No. 3 Company to No. 1. "Ave atque vale." W.F.K.

No. 1 Company.

This month opened with the commencement of the third period of individual training. The officers and senior n.c.o.s are undergoing an intensive course in all branches of signal work associated with "A" W/T, "D" operating and maintenance, and No. 1 Artillery Signal Sections; whilst the operators are engaged in manipulation practice and the linemen in maintenance duties, under the supervision of the junior n.c.o.s. In addition, those who have won recognition as operator-drivers are partly employed on M.T. maintenance.

M Section are occupied in fully overhauling vehicles, instruments and stores generally, in preparation for the forthcoming training season.

The D.R. Section are engaged mainly with a contingent of brand-new B.S.A. Twins and further training of despatch riders.

General.—In keeping with our claim to be soldiers as well as tradesmen, we practise the movements associated with Company drill twice weekly under the adjutant. Further to this, the junior n.c.o.s are being moulded into musketry instructors and indulge in poky drill on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Monday and Wednesday afternoons are devoted to recreational training, for a report of which I must refer the reader to our Sports Notes.

Honours List.—We congratulate the undermentioned on obtaining their respective awards: Lieut. W. J. S. Gray, Corporal Stevens H. and Signalmen Marks C., Metcalfe R., Wafer J. and Woodison W., Indian general service medal. Sigmn Wood F., long service and good conduct medal.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Signalmen Johanson W., Petrie T., Peter D. and Robinson R. from the Training Battalion, Catterick, 10/3/34.

Departures.—We bid adieu to Corpl Yalden and Sigmn Smith S. B. on transfer to Army Reserve. DODGER J.J.

No. 2 Company.

It Happened Last Month.—Drivers continued driving drill, operators did their stuff on mounted V/T and map reading, and linemen managed technical training as well as learning to drive (H.T.) under our C.S.M.; whilst a certain n.c.o. managed a love letter with 2d. on the telephone.

It's Happening Now.—We are very busy preparing for the D.D.V.S.'s annual inspection, so grooming and stable cleaning are the order; but the aforesaid n.c.o. still manages his 2d. worth. [Late press: all oke—I mean, the inspection.]

Medals: I.G.S.—Quite de rigeur nowadays, after the presentation on Sunday 11th March to a number of n.c.o.s and men.

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But the tales they tell of how they won them are still old and commonplace ; if I hear a new one, I will pass it on. By the way, *he* borrowed 2d. last night.

Casualties.—Owing to the shortage of murders, suicides and fatal accidents this month—probably because Easter leave is so near—one n.c.o. flung away his freedom and ended his Don Juan activities by the purchase of a thin gold band, his signature on the dotted line and a pass for seven days, just to make life interesting. At present he hopes that his missus won't read these notes or find out what C.R.A. means, for he is none other Dodger E.E.

Congratulations.—To No. 3 Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop on again winning the Royal Signals (Meerut) sports cup, and to No. 11 on his jumping performance. Give him an extra lump of " cheeney," Payne. Was he wearing his ammos? Trim.

Sports.—All sports have been played with the utmost fervour and effort. The end of this month will see the completion of all Cobb trophy games, and complete league tables, together with notes on these games, will appear next month.

Tailpiece.—*He* had 2d. worth this morning and is going to see *her* to-night, so look out for another casualty.

DODGER E.E.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—

To Pay has gone another bloke ;
He's hot stuff, so all is oke—
Real mustard—we can't help feeling
He's modest, his virtues all concealing.

On Docs he was a master man.
Records are mourning all they can
The loss of one who knew his stuff,
Now gone to Pay—a bit of rough.

Now we shall see what he can do—
Credits only for one or two.
But, still, we think there's many a slip
Betwixt the cup and the jolly old lip.

As will be deduced from the small poetical effort above, a change has taken place in the offices.

L/Corpl Trudgett has now deserted us less fortunate mortals and taken over the pice department of this unit.

L/Corpl Hart has manfully decided to wrestle with documents (will Records please note and have mercy?)

L/Corpl Morgan (to whom we extend the right hand of fellowship and the left hand for the cleaning kit) has gone to (no! tut, tut! not there) the petrol department, and no doubt in a very short time he will be able to inform us how it is possible to get five gallons in a three gallon tank—a matter of supervision, mainly, we believe.

Corpl Kneller has assumed control of the orderly room, and is carrying on in that masterly and efficient manner which was so apparent in his ancestors at Waterloo (and London Bridge).

Arrivals.—The undermentioned have joined us during the month (greetings to both): F/Sergt Walmsley J. from the Depot Battalion, and L/Corpl Morgan W. from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—F/S/Sergt Townley V. and L/Sergeant Grose C. W., who prefer India to Aldershot (?)

Births.—Pending.

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. Pearson C. and Corpl Butler C., who paraded on Sunday 10th March and received a token to mark eighteen years good conduct. We congratulate them on getting their L.S. and G.C. medals.

Week-End Visitors.—We entertained the 56th Divl Signals (T.A.) during a week-end last month. By " entertained " we mean that they spent Saturday night with us and went on a short scheme on Sunday. Although their stay was short, they agreed that they enjoyed it.

Things that Puzzle Us.—Since when have equipment regulations made allowances for left-handed rifle buckets?

Conclusion.—Twoheads, having had to resign the post of correspondent owing to pressure of work caused by his new appointment, leaves us to finish off. BONCELESS.

No. 2 Company.

General.—That terrible disease of sweating has broken out in this Company, and eminent physicians trace the cause of it to bobbing. Barrack Room 34 West is truly in a state of great expectancy (and bobbing), and one or more of that outstanding clique may constantly be heard engaged in flowery speech with the Company clerk. I wonder what it all means? In spite of the fact that one man (one and a half, from a side view) has already signed on for another two years, one cannot deny that this business is horribly disturbing, even though the standard of cleanliness is slowly improving. Even our pet crooner is attempting to croon decently.

Draft.—Another wee batch has left this Company for India. Sergt Bishop and Signalmen Lloyd, Nobbs and McDowell departed on the last boat, though we have had no indication from them as to whether they arrived o.k. or otherwise. What about using that pen, Mac?

Wanted.—A portable gramophone in exchange for Sunday afternoon lecturer. This lecturer is one of the latest (soldiers) and is guaranteed to repeat each Sunday afternoon that which we heard the previous week. Brighton is such a nice place!

Agony.—Ready and Fry (late of the Lloyd, Nobbs, Ready and Fry combine) would like to hear from the other two partners.

J.C.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

General.—News is certainly very scarce this month. Apart from erecting a 72 ft. mast in the front garden amidst the continuous yells of " Mind the daffs!" and the shadow of pokey drill in the very near future, things have gone along very sweetly. But within a few weeks we should be a positive hive of industry, as all the masts are coming down for a spring clean and the stays are being insulated every few feet. It was worked out that some eight hundred or so bindings would be required for this job, and all the attestation sheets of the staff were examined to see if they had long enough to serve to do the work. However, the C.O. calculated that if so many men worked *twelve* hours a day, the job would be finished in . . . . hospital. Steve, hearing of this intended spring clean, suddenly remembered that he may have forgotten how to drive a lorry, so he put in for an M.T. course. The first day he sprained his back, or leg, and for a few days was walking around like Lon Chaney in " The Hunchback of Notre Dame " ; but after being massaged by the superintendent with Sloan's liniment for a couple of days, he decided that the normal pain was not so unpleasant.

Medals.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Hartley on getting his medal for eighteen years undetected crime. I wonder if he feels very virtuous.

Football.—Austin is spoiling for an argument, so if anyone thinks that Pompey haven't a chance of winning the cup, please write and tell him so ; but don't blame me if you strike a bad patch. He has completely worn us all out, and when Pompey are mentioned nowadays, all bar the operator on duty file out to quiet corners.

Gardening.—The urge of spring has brought all the gardeners to their plots of mother earth to once more wrestle with kutch grass and wire worms, and armed with packets of Woolworth's seeds, upon which are displayed pictures of vegetables so large and strong that it is doubtful if any allotment would hold even one of the specimens. Whilst I am on the subject of gardening, and being only an onlooker, it struck me that different people have different ways of doing the same job. So, to gain some information, I am penning a few questions.

(1) How many real gardeners could mistake delphiniums for weeds?

(2) Whether it is true that the best time to plant prize carnation cuttings is when the frost is on them and in them? and if a week on the office table, followed by a week in a pail of water, really improves the ultimate flower—if any?

(3) Whether the bulbs of narcissi planted in rings, that are not showing yet, were planted upside down? and, should they appear in Australia, whose flowers are they? PADRE.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The individual training period has now come to an end, and the trials and tribulations suffered during that period are but memories. The upgrading classes are still at it, though, and those undergoing the course are looked upon with envious eyes (?).

Our source of entertainment for these last few weeks has also come to an end—no prizes given for solving its identity—leaving a void in our daily routine that will be hard to fill. Still, we have at least our memories to fall back on.

One incident, I'm sure, will still be remembered for a while yet. This is known to the lads of the village as " The tale of the great high jump," or " Did he falter?" It happened this way. The M.T. course (there! I've given the game away) were out for blood—or at least, they were on a cross-country run, and one of the lorries was negotiating a rather steep incline with a sheer drop on one side—a proper " edge o' beyond " kind of place. The driver, it appears, was enjoying himself very much (?) and when he reached the summit of the climb he proceeded to take the switchback that followed in grand style—and pace. But the sergeant sitting next to the driver wasn't so sure that he was enjoying himself, and he very clearly explained afterwards: " I thought I'd better jump out to give the driver more room in which to steer the darn thing." Oh yeah! But leaving the filter in to purify the petrol, when filling up from the pump, isn't done in the best of circles—especially when the engine gets hot and catches fire. Now, that *did* need some explaining.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome to the unit the following, and hope their stay with us will be a long and a happy one. Sigmn Barber A. from F Troop—back to the fold, but for how long? Signalmen Johnson W. and Linton J. from the Training Battalion on 20/3/34.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Legg J. on attaining the dizzy height of U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 16/2/34. You'll have to play ping pong better than you do at present if you want to get the ackers for it, y'know. To L/Corpl Allen C. H. and his better half on the addition to the family of a daughter, Joan Margaret, at Tidworth on 22/2/34.

Departures.—L/Corpl Wells H. C. and Signalmen Parry W. N., Lane B., Craigs J. and Carney L. to civvy street. All our best wishes go with them and may success attend their efforts in their new fields of activity.

L/Sergt Southwell F. on posting to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. Sigmn Rawcliffe J. to the A.V.T.C. Hounslow for preparation for civvy street (best of luck, Baldy!) Signalmen Smith E. and Twitchen W. to Malaya Signal Section on 24/2/34 (both are very good lads—our loss is your gain, Malaya). L/Corpl Fletcher J. to F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals on 13/3/34.

Snooks.—Snooks, the office cat, has drawn quite a good team in the Sweep. If she wins, she'll have milk for the rest of her life ; and if I get broke—well! it's hard luck on Snooks.

RUSTY.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Saturday 3rd March was devoted to shipping coal to Newcastle—sorry! I mean visiting the 'Shot on pleasure bent. It was the day we had set aside to show D Troop how hockey and football should be played ; so, full of enthusiasm—it was too early for anything else—we set off from Tidworth at 11 a.m., thirty strong plus two outriders.

At Basingstoke a short halt was made to take in provisions. Incidentally, we passed one outrider who had apparently outridden himself. It is surprising, when the lads are in mufti, what attractions they can find in a town. Have you heard the one about the waitress who took an hour to hook a fish and fry it? No! Well, three really good lads can testify to this.

All aboard again—still thirty strong, though some declared that they felt like two men—we journeyed on to Aldershot, the soldier's dream of home, old friends long lost come to life again, and new friendships quickly made in that spirit best known in the Army.

The football team were the first to take the field, and after battling in turn against the wind D Troop emerged the winners of a great game by 4—3. The score suggests a tight tussle, and it was, too, but played in the best of spirits. In the hockey we were a wee bit outclassed. I am glad now that I did not publish a forecast last month.

At 5 p.m. we were the guests at a truly regal spread in the canteen. Even the girls in blue showed a pleasing countenance at so many happy faces.

What happened during the evening and up to the time we were boarding the bus to return home, I cannot say. If I were to tell all I heard afterwards—well, you wouldn't believe me. The return journey—still thirty strong—was notable for some really amusing dialogue by Bluff, Bluff and more Bluff, portraying the bizarre qualities of some of the civilian population of the town.

The outridden outrider before mentioned in these notes finished his journey home, but on his second string. We hope he will be out of hospital soon. So ended a really pleasant day.

In this M.T. age the usual manifestations of spring are passed unnoticed. In lieu thereof we have a heterogenous mass of motor-cycles and—well, I hesitate to place the riders under the same heading. One thing they have in common: the spirit of spring and a desire to find a lonely spot where they can sit—and pick flowers. Our despatch riders—I mean *the* D.R.s as distinct from the amateur riders—have finished, with regrets, their period of training with A.F.V. Signals. One of them had an unusual experience towards the end of a long day's run. His motor-cycle gave up the ghost about seven miles from home. With the resource for which our D.R.s are noted, he diagnosed the trouble almost immediately. Engine locked solid, and the remedy simple: call at the nearest police station and phone through for the breakdown wagon. Simple, wasn't it? But, then, it was getting late and Amesbury is not a bad little town, and at the police station (he said) they made him very welcome.

On the 13th March we said good-bye to nearly half of our Morris Minor R/T fleet, handing them over to D Troop. It is said, though the news is quite unofficial as yet, that we are to experiment with the Thought-o-phone, which is merely another step forward in our scientific Army. The advantage of this type of communication is that the thoughts of the originator are not broadcast over a wide area.

Believe It or Not.—Quartermasters, it is said, are genial people and always willing to help a lame dog over a stile ; but sometimes a cloud appears over their usually unruffled brow, and the cause—well, listen.

Troop sergeant (to young soldier): " Parade at 6 p.m. to-night with this haversack clean."

Y.S. (to Q.M.): " The Troop sergeant has checked me for my haversack and I have got to parade with it to-night, clean. Have you a good one you can lend me?"

Q.M. (to Y.S.): " **?————?**."

Y.S. (to Q.M.): " If you cannot lend me one, will you swap this for something not quite so dirty?"

[*Curtain.*]

Even our reintroduction to THE WIRE led to some caustic wit. The lad in the stores was commenting on the fact that it was the first time he had seen our name in print. The lad in the office, rising to the occasion, replied " I was writing WIRE notes before you nipped." Boiled down to facts, there is a difference in service of two years between them.

Open-air dancing has been tried on two occasions. Actually, it is not known by that name: it is commonly styled netball. Specially picked teams of five, noted for their grace and stamina, glided and danced, elfin-like, about the court to the music of a whistleo. The referee was most kind, and bumping, tackling, biting and kicking or any rough play were barred in this genteel game.

Society Column.—The consummation of love. At last our dapper dandy Darb has reached the goal (or at least, one of them) of his desires. The dreams of long ago, and the days and nights when he suffered hardships gladly, comforted by the thoughts that his loved one's last dear letter was carried over his heart, or under his pillow, have come to a successful climax. Yes, he is married now. The knot was tied on the 10th March at Harrow.

Dadda Vost has a boy nearly as big as himself!

The office boy has three weeks to live.

Arrivals and Departures.—Signalmen Elkington and McCutcheon from T.B. on the 5th March. Sigmn Baker to the Army Reserve on the 8th March. He has opened up a business on his own in Herne Bay, and I believe he will be willing to employ, as an errand boy, any hard-working lad leaving the Troop shortly.

There's nuffink more, as Ferdi would say. E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to L/Corpl Fletcher and Signalmen Kennard and Clark, who have arrived from India via A.F.V. Signals.

Departures.—Sigmn Barber to A.F.V. Signals prior to transfer to the Army Reserve. Our best wishes go with him, and we trust that he will soon settle down in his new sphere—after landing a cushy job.

Congratulations.—To the members of the Troop who were selected to represent R.H.Q. in the inter-Squadron cross-country run. Signalmen Dempsey, Cardew, Fleckney and Harmer acquitted themselves remarkably well—more especially Dempsey, who, despite the fact that he had recently been discharged from hospital with a poisoned knee, finished eighth in the regimental and second in the Squadron placings.

Nobology.—Several members of the Troop are sweating on the top line for the upgrading stakes, and several stars are in an ascendancy. Thus, we have three distinct and definite classes: nobologists, cheesologists and canologists. The classification is at present difficult, but it may be simplified in a few weeks time.

Troop Cameos: No. 3.—J.A.G., coxswain of the Troop lifeboat. Truly a person of much unction. Founder of the Tread Society and last serving member of the great treacle swindle. First saw the light of day in the year 1915. His birth occasioned an emergency meeting of the South Shields Watch Committee. Educated at Ludgershall Grammar School, from whence he has graduated to the Garrison Adults. Sponsor of the famous classic: "I can't give you anything but love, Baby!"—and doesn't. Permanent address, Liver Lodge, Co. Durham. Serpents in the Zoological Gardens have been known to raise their hats when he passed. Shades of L.V!

Sayings of the Great.—"I see no ships, sir!"

Cogito Ergo Sum.—Benjamin, our tame cynic, has evolved a complete reformation of the authorised military abbreviations. By means of the Faulkner theorum, we are able to reduce "petroleum, grade 3, gallons 10" to terms of "gas, gls. 10."

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl and Mrs. Allen on the birth of a daughter, Jean Margaret, at Tidworth on 22/2/34.

To Harry the Pawz on the occasion of his enlistment into the ranks of the Rolls razorites. R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Most of our news this month belongs to the realm of sport and will be found in the appropriate place.

We are just completing the second period of individual training. Easter will give us a short break, after which we have a refresher course for those who have missed individual training to date, and also embark seriously on musketry and the beginning of Section training.

At the moment Bulford is distinctly breezy, but not even the most ardent sun worshipper can grudge the recent rain, for which everybody and everything have been panting.

Our two new tennis courts have just been finished, after hard work on the part of those detailed for the job. They look good, and we hope they will be appreciated as they should be.

It may interest some of those whose hands were hardened in the course of its construction to learn that the Pimple has at last been completely turfed, and it only awaits the ordinary processes of nature to make it a first class and very handy sports ground.

A special word of praise is due to our cross-country runners, whose performance during training made it possible for us to enter two teams in the S.P.A. race. They secured first and third places, but had they been somewhat reshuffled there is little doubt we should have been first and second. We take off our hats to our runners. BULFORD.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Captain J. A. I. Watts, who has joined the unit from India.

We also welcome the following from India, and hope that the rigours of Bulford's climate will not prove too great a contrast for them: L/Corpl Robinson G. and Signalmen Hickson E. and Smithers R.

The Training Battalion sent us Signalmen Smith, McLoughlan, White J., Davenport H., Hutley D., Iles J., Packman D., Rankin W. and Ruxton F.

We welcome L/Sergt Southwell from A.F.V. Signals and Sigmn Everitt from 5th Divisional Signals.

Departures.—It was with much regret that we said farewell to the following, and we hope their new stations will be as enjoyable as they wish them to be. L/Corpl Laurie to India. Sigmn Gray to Malaya. Sigmn Luff to the Depot Battn. Sigmn Morrison W. to the School of Signals. C.S.M. Tilford V. and Signalmen Matchett B. and Robinson W. to 5th Divl Signals. Signalmen Matthews, McKitterick, Kings R. and Hughes F., and Driver Crewes F., to the Army Reserve.

Transfer.—Sigmn Pilkington J. has left us for a probationary course with the Pay Corps.

Extensions.—According to a certain clerk in this unit, extension of service is symbolic of the triumph of hope over experience, but evidently the following do not agree. Signalmen Bramley J., Mitchell G. and Manser A. have certified their willingness to complete twelve years soldiering.

Marriages and Births.—Unfortunately, we are not able to record any of the former this month, and can only boast of one of the latter. We congratulate Sigmn and Mrs. R. Dow on the birth of a son, Michael Jones.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Individual training is drawing to a close, and a goodly portion of the Company are dreaming of those extra pence. Next week will show whether or not those dreams are justified.

Section training starts on the 19th March, and the new ratings will have ample opportunity of showing their paces.

Arrivals.—Newcomers, of course, are always welcome, and we extend a cordial greeting to the following who have joined us: From India, Captain Clapp, M.B.E., Signalmen Blackburn, Davies and Crichton. From the S.T.C., Signalmen Cox, Hammerton, Madder, Anderson, Wiggins, Hart and Young. May their stay be a long and pleasant one.

Departures.—2/Lieut. Daniel to No. 2 Company. Signalmen Reeve and Game to civvy street (we wish them all the best in their new life). Sigmn French to Malaya. Sigmn Bland to the S.T.C.

Sport.—The Company are still keeping their end up in this sphere of activity, and with a little luck we hope to win the Garrison inter-Company hockey tournament. Sports results will be found under the respective headings. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—In taking over from my fellow scribe (who has gone to Catterick to twist the troops) I will use every endeavour to make these notes interesting and as informative as possible for old members of the Company, who no doubt read the Magazine.

We are now preparing for Section training, with the result that our staff-employed are greasing their boots.

E Section will be leaving us shortly for Shorncliffe, while others are hoping on.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Shillaker A. and Smith C. from Training Battalion. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Driver Read to Aldershot on a farrier's course. Sigmn Melhuish to No. 1 Company. Signalmen Smale and Wilson to Catterick.

Sport.—In the inter-Section football E beat M by 2—0, and F were beaten at hockey by B by 10—1, and are now playing with shovels.

Advertisements.—One typewriter in good working order; takes three copies but no original; may be seen lying on the office floor; price 2/-. Also some coloured cards, ideal for stables. Apply to the C.S.M.

Agony.—Who is the gentleman who boils eggs in a kettle and produces warts?

Will Sigmn Ekin (ex-4th Div.) please communicate with Joe? HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The individual training period is due to finish on Friday 25th March.

The Trade Board commenced during the past week, and up to our going to press there are some good results—and the usual howlers. I hope to give some good final results in my notes next month.

The unit riding course was passed off by the commanding officer, and the two men from this Company came fourth and seventh respectively out of a ride of sixteen. Well done, you two roughs! Congratulations to Sigmn Morton of No. 2 Company, who came out on top of the ride and was presented with a suitable memento.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company the following, who joined us during the past month (may their stay be long and pleasant): 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead and Sigmn Walker H. from India. Signalmen Barnett A., Todd A. and Woodley S. from the Training Battalion. LSergt Penn G. from the Western Command Signal Company.

Departures.—Sigmn Banister E. to the Army Reserve, having completed a course at the Army Vocational Training Centre. May your course help you to get a good job!

We are saying goodbye to Sigmn McKechnie A. on the 14th March. He is leaving us for a sunnier climate—Palestine. Good luck, Mac!

Appointments.—Congratulations to Sigmn Haynes R. on his appointment as U/L/Corporal. Sorry I'm late with the news, Curly, but better late than never. THREECOY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Training.—The second term of individual training having been completed, the results are now anxiously awaited by the personnel who sat at the upgrading tests. The third and last term of individual training is in progress, and most (if not all) of the unit will have had the opportunity of progressing in their trades.

Two refresher courses for n.c.o.s have been held by the adjutant during the past month. The programme dealt with nearly everything an n.c.o. requires, and benefit has been derived by those undergoing the courses.

A number of the other ranks of the unit have been on intensified educational training. Sergeant-Instructor Bissett of the A.E.C. has been allotted to the unit, and it is hoped that on the publication of results of the first class and special education examinations, his efforts to assist candidates will prove to have been successful.

The personnel of No. 2 Company are in the throes of musketry training. The break in the weather has somewhat interfered with the firing of the classification tests, but it is hoped that the final scores will be satisfactory.

Sport.—Our two soccer elevens are still keeping well to the fore, but as there is a Sports section in THE WIRE I had better not take up space in this portion with such affairs.

Decorations.—The decorating party of the unit are now showing results for their labours. D and K Section barrack rooms have been completely redecorated—and what a difference! Whoever is responsible for the colour scheme well deserves the thanks expressed by the occupants for making these rooms more congenial for them. It is certainly pleasant to enter them now, for their transformation is so apparent.

Sergeants Mess.—A farewell dinner was given to our R.S.M., who was about to leave for a tour of duty in India. After the usual toasts and speeches, the remainder of the evening was devoted to songs, etc., and the wives of the members were invited. During the course of the evening R.Q.M.S. Bevan (with more words than I can pen) bade farewell to R.S.M. and Mrs. McIntosh, the R.S.M. duly replying with well chosen phrases.

During their stay of about three and a half years with us, both R.S.M. and Mrs. McIntosh have been well liked by all with whom they have come in contact. Mr. McIntosh's position as R.S.M. did not at all times seem to fit in with the personal ideas of his subordinates, yet after a moment's thought the soundness of the R.S.M. could be seen and valued.

Once again the onus of putting into words the wishes of the personnel of the unit falls upon my shoulders, and it is really with regret that it has become necessary to say good-bye to Mr. McIntosh and his family. May their stay in India be a very happy one! A hearty shake of the hand will be given by all of the 5th Divl Signals on acquaintance being renewed.

A large number of the Mess journeyed to Scarborough railway station to say the final good-bye, and again to express the wish that Mr. McIntosh and family will have an enjoyable journey to and stay in their new station.

A dance was held in the unit gymnasium, and although a snow storm was raging, the attendance was satisfactory. The unit dance band played with their usual vigour and sentiment, and all voted it a good band. The guests included Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Wemyss, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Hitchcock, Captain and Mrs. Scott, Lieutenant Ponsonby, and 2/Lieutenants Stevenson, Boddam-Whetham and Roberton. Sergeant Wilmot most ably carried out the duties of M.C. The dance was voted a great success by all present.

Departures.—R.S.M. McIntosh and family have left us for India. Other departures since my last notes are L/Corpl Guy E., Signalmen Haslock R. N. and Steele R., and Driver Simnett P. C. to Army Reserve. Corporals Smith W. A. and Worsley, and Signalmen Adcock and Pescod to the Training Battalion, S.T.C. Sigmn Everitt D. G. to 3rd Divl Signals. Sigmn Hart T. H. to 4th Divl Signals.

To those who have left us for other units, the wish is expressed that they will enjoy their stay in their new stations. To those who have left us on expiration of Colour service, may they soon find employment if it was not already assured on leaving the Service, and may success attend them in the future. To all the above I hope that their stay with the 5th Divl Signals will remain in their minds; and should they at any future date meet any of us, I trust they will not forget that we shall be very pleased to know of their welfare and achievements.

Arrivals.—L/Corporal Chapman C. A. from India. L/Sergt Dicker, Corporals Rigden and Perkins, and Signalmen Smith C. M., Gray, Ellison, Thomas, McBeth, Wathen, Harrod G., Last G. and Sorfleet from the S.T.C. Sigmn Robertson W. E. from 3rd Divisional Signals.

Courses.—Sigmn Holland R. L. obtained a satisfactory report on attending No. 90 selected cook's course.

Salutations.—To Sergeant Morris W. J. on attaining that rank. To the undermentioned on being awarded the Indian general service medal with North-West Frontier clasp, 1930/31: C.S.M. Waller, Sergeant Lindsay, L/Sergt Toogood, Corporals Smith W. A. and Wybrow, L/Corporals Coles, Crawford, Macey, Powner, Heighton, Pike and Wall M. H., and Signalmen Dillon and Howland.

Marriages.—The following marriages have taken place during the month. Sigmn Russell C. J. to Joyce Madeline Feast at Scarborough on 21/2/34. Sigmn Cooper W. J. to Kathleen May Hicks at Scarborough on 28/2/34. Sigmn Ackley C. to Ada Elizabeth Nicholson at Scarborough on 6/3/34. That their future may be of the best is the wish expressed by their comrades in the unit.

Death.—I regret that this heading has to be inserted this month, and the sympathy of all is expressed to L/Corpl and Mrs. Brunton-Douglas J. A. in the loss of their son and heir James Allan.

Births.—I am pleased to notify unto the wife of C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Anderson a son, and unto the wife of L/Sergt Pinkstone a daughter.

Agony.—To our pet madman: 2320462 China Signals would like to hear from you. Jazz.

Latest from Smithfield.—There must have been some "misteaks" this month! No stakes have been issued, but sossidges are very much in evidence.

We Want to Know.—Whether the presence of the Post Office wireless expert around the Scalby side of Scarborough was necessitated by the interference of Emma Jane See's short wave set?

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—There has been a reorganisation of our wireless communications, and we suddenly found ourselves with a real line circuit. Now the new chimneys are completed, we are once again messing on our own.

Promotions.—Nary a wan!

Marriages.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Whilding and Sigmn Turner on their respective marriages. Quarter, that was a sly move.

Inter-Section Moves.—L/Corpl Clarke to Dunree from Belfast on temporary duty. Sigmn Jones from Dunree to Belfast. Sigmn Burnett from Londonderry to Belfast.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Hewson has joined us from the 5th Divl Signals, and we hope he will enjoy his stay.

Corpl Healey left us on the 4th March for 2nd Divl Signals. We wish him the best of everything in his new unit.

Pot-Pot.—There is something we would like to know: What is a 10 inch cordless exchange? These were last used in 1923, according to one correspondent. (Yes, it may have been in the wilds of Ireland.)

The Sweepstake draw takes place soon, and judging from the ambitions of the Company, there won't be a Section in Belfast after the 23rd March.

Local scene between two chefs. Chef No. 1: "I tell you, you can fry smoked 'addick.'". Sanitary wallah: "Na ya canna." Chef: "Well, but it's got it in this 'ere book." Result: the Company had indigestion.

Have you heard that our inimitable 'Enery 'All turned out for voluntary hockey practice? or that our old sweat Paddy served with the Army of *Occupization* in the Black Sea?

Scotch Mail.—To Simmo: Letters received; am awaiting Indin address. 73's Mick. Corporal Masters: How about a line? Burnett. Skiff: How's Spile? Paddy.

Conclusion.—I am seriously thinking of taking a course with the Regent Institute. These notes are—well, you can see for yourself!

HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, 7th March.

As forecast by Pip in the February WIRE, Sigmn Mallett F. M. was married to Miss Bridget Wilson at Surbiton on the 14th February. Our congratulations to both. May you get all you wish.

To L/Corpl Wright F. (ex-3 Company 1st D/S) we extend a cead mille falte on his arrival in relief of L/Corpl Statham H. W., who has gone to India. Since his arrival L/Corpl Wright has taken on for the other four years of his first twelve.

U/L/Corpl Spong F. G. (brother of Charlie Harry) was appointed to that rank on 16/1/34. Congratulations, Fred! but remember what happened to Squarehead.

As I was told last night, some people are always being mentioned in THE WIRE. Sigmn Mallett again sneaks in with a blue paper for Sarafand. Don't stay too long, Fred. If you get brown, anything might happen.

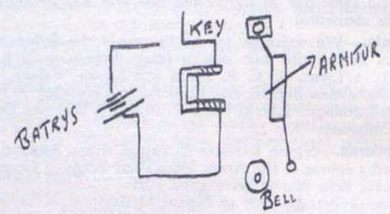
Work here of late has been very heavy for the linemen (and operators "off watch"). Nearly the whole of Spike and Bere Islands has been excavated within the last four or five months. Among other jobs was a trench chiselled the length of the concrete pier; and by the time it was finished, we knew everyone on Spike by their boots or shoes. N.B.: Lofty must have known something, sneaking off as he did. Talking about the pier, old members of the Section may be interested to know that the new pierhead shows signs of completion in 1938. I have not seen a Sapper in weeks.

Did you hear about our radiogram? The P.R.I. purchased one for the Garrison and had it installed in ye old Felix roome by the expert Sergt Morley. Some people like dancing to a gramophone; others don't—who cares? During the evening sessions of the N.A.A.F.I. Sigmn Parker gives a record and radio programme to the locals. He and Sergeant Morley are both rapidly approaching the Stone standard; but, Pip, that signature tune of yours!

There is nothing really exciting in the sports report, for some of the H.Q. stalwarts have left the station and the Y.M.C.A. cup has been handed over to the 19th (H) Battery R.A. for safe keeping. The least said about soccer, the better. Up to the time of compiling these notes H.Q. are doing a little better than usual, for they have picked up a point that the 8th Battery must have mislaid. Scores have been reduced from 13—0 to 5—4 against, to say nothing of the aforementioned draw of 2—2 against the 8th Battery.

The following is a copy of a test paper set for the regimental signallers, with the answers of one of the "brilliants."

Q.: Draw a simple "trembler bell" circuit and explain its action.



A.: Press key and will cause the corent to pass into the magnet then the magnet draws the armiture to it thus sounding the bell release key and the magnet looses its power.

Q.: What is the modern theory on the construction of matter?

A.: Electrons form round the nucleuse forming moleculeus and atoms. These atoms form substances the more atoms the harder the substance therefor forming conductors.

Q.: What are the tests for a D.iii?

A.: (*a*) Buzzer test press key buzz should be herd in both recievers faults dirty key contacts. (*b*) Reciever test press pressle switch then releace it and click should be herd in both recievers. (*c*) Micraphone test blow into micraphone ruserling noisers should be herd in reciever blow gently into anset. (*d*) Condenser test short secuit CL and L or E buss should be herd but not so loud if buss can not be herd can not do anything with it normally used for P.O. lines.

So now we know all about it.

Bullet Thomas (ex-LV) heartily congratulates Fruity Boy (Enos) on his promotion. He also sends his best wishes to Billy and Mabs MacBrunton of Liverpool, Dover and Aldershot, on their addition to the clan.

Pip wants words from 2321810 Deakin A. E., while Tiffy Richardson would like to hear from Clubfoot Eley. What about it, you people? the postage is the same as for England.

LANKA MK. IV.

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Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

We congratulate our athletic team on winning once more the Fazal Din cup. Owing to the reduced numbers of this unit, it was only sheer determination that brought us to the fore. Well done, A! Don't forget next year. We also congratulate R.Q.M.S. Tank and L/Corpl Cooper on their appointments, and Sigmn Hull on obtaining his first class certificate of education. Yet more congratulations to Sergeant Marchant on the arrival of a daughter.

Sergt Bramwell has volunteered for another five years in this country. Atta boy!

Our best wishes to Sergt Mackie on the occasion of his marriage to Mrs. Hannah Cullen on 4/1/34. You might have let us into the secret, though, Mack.

F (Boys) Company.

After ten months of concentrated training, the boys have just had a break of eight days in the country. As their homes are so far away, no leave could be arranged for them this year, and the camping period came as a welcome change from barrack life.

Excitement was at such a pitch that in the early morning before marching out, the boys were up at four o'clock beating a drum outside their instructor's quarters! At last, at 07.30 hours on the 5th February, they were off.

The first camp on Monday, near Pisan Hari Temple, was pitched in record time and looked very spic and span. The afternoon was spent on a practical map reading expedition to the Temple heights, which entailed a little rock climbing.

Early on Tuesday morning camp was struck, and Sergt Bramwell joined us in time for the march. He could not come out on the first day. This march of eight miles was the longest along the hard high road and was carried out like a Company of Guardsmen. On nearing the new camp site at Manegaon, the Company deployed and after a careful fire and movement operation the hill was carried with a vigorous and effective charge. The ground here was on the side of a hill and very stony. It was quickly cleared and a neat perimeter marked out, leaving what looked like a well kept lawn.



The Milkman's Pony (with a load on).

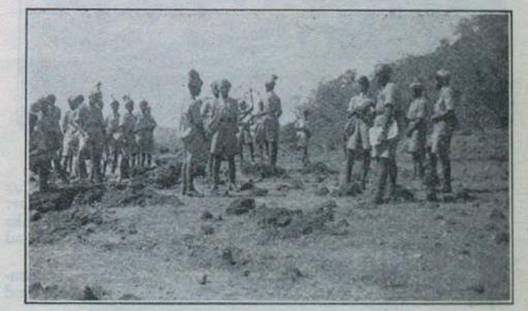
Next day, Wednesday, haversack rations were taken out and an expedition was made to the wooded heights to the west. The first stage in the day's events was a reconnaissance of a village about three miles away and a decision to capture it; and an entirely successful timed attack was carried out. It was all the more interesting as all the approaches were thickly wooded and the going was stony. A further exploration to the west was then made, and rations were disposed of in an exceedingly pleasant grassy valley.

After lunch twenty boys, under Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah, were sent back to take up a defensive position across a valley between two well defined hills, with a gap of about five hundred yards. The remaining ten had then to try to work their way through the defenders and get back to camp without being caught. The odds seemed against the defence as the growth was so thick, but actually only two boys succeeded in getting home in reasonable time. Of the remainder, two found themselves stuck with no chance of avoiding capture, two were very late, and the remainder (including Sergt Bramwell and the O.C.) were brought in as prisoners. The O.C. lost his topee in a bush when making a gallant dash for it. This was impounded at once, and he was forced to capitulate. It was a very tired Company that retired to rest that night.

Next day, Thursday, camp was moved again, and the march was carried out mostly across country. The next camping ground was rather like the last, but twice as stony and backed by a small wood. A lesson in barricading was given here with the aid of sticks and log lines; and quite a good imitation of a double-apron barbed wire entanglement was produced.

On Friday another haversack ration expedition was made, ending with a dash for home similar to that on Wednesday. This time the ten smallest boys were the winners. The defence had everything in their favour, but it is feared that the highly delighted small boys who were found in camp on our return hadn't quite stuck to the rules! However, it was good fun and good training, too.

On Saturday we moved on again, this time towards home, and found a very nice little camp under some shady trees.



Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah gives the Boys a short talk.

In each camp we put up a deck tennis and volley ball nets, and no matter how hard the day, the evenings saw games going with a swing. Each evening we had a sing-song, and our poet Naik Bachan Singh had the day's events ready in verse for the whole camp to sing.

Sunday was spent with games and a walk down to the Nerbudda river to see if there were any crocodiles about. Sunday night was extremely quiet—everyone was thinking of going back to barracks and daily routine to-morrow!



Some of the Boys on Daily Inspection.

On Monday we struck camp for the last time and took the road for home. The Nerbudda river had to be crossed by ferry, but on our side the water was too shallow for the ferry boat to come over, so we took off our boots and puttees and waded across to the boat. Spirits recovered somewhat on the march, and the art of singing to marching time was quite perfect by the time barracks were reached.

On Monday evening, as a sort of grand finale, Captain Clapp (our late O.C.) entertained the boys and their instructors to a games competition in his bungalow grounds. This was something entirely novel to the boys, and it was amazing how they gripped the idea in each of the seventeen different competitions. The zest displayed in such a business as fishing out boot buttons with bent pins was worth watching. Altogether the week went well, and everyone came back looking fitter than ever.



A Group photographed in Camp.

Departures.—Captain C. D. Clapp, who has been with us since the Company was first formed on the 1st April last year, has now become adjutant of the Training Battalion. All ranks wish him the best of luck in his new appointment, and are glad that he is still here to watch the Company as it progresses.

Arrivals.—Captain R. Maguire has arrived to take over command of the Company, and we hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Sport.—The boys played their first outside hockey match against C Recruits Company, and after a hard-fought game they managed to draw. This was very satisfactory considering there were one or two battalion players in the C Company side.

Old Friends.—Jacko: The boys wish you all the best, and are continually asking about you " ap bahut bara admi hain "—and by the way, that kirich is still in the bunk, complete with wheel.

BRAM-KHAN-SINGH-RAO.

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NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Thursday 8th February.

General.—The month has been very quiet owing to so many of the Sections being away on Brigade training and concentration camps and only a few being left behind.

G Section have rejoined the unit after a spell of five months away, having joined their Brigade at Abbottabad direct from the Mohmand Bajur operations, but the personnel look fit and well.

D Section have once more proceeded to Hassan Abdul on the Northern Command concentration (neutral Signals, this time). This is the second spell they have had at that health resort. When speaking of D Section we refer to the old H (operating) Section—its name having been changed owing to the re-organisation of the unit, the introduction of No. 1 wireless sets for Infantry Brigade Sections, and the disbanding of the old D Pack Cable Section.

Entertainments.—The prediction that the weekly whist drive and dance would be revived in the unit has at last come true, and a couple of very pleasant evenings have been spent together by a large number of the unit, and a few prizes carried away by the lucky ones. This is a good move on the social side, but it would be a good idea to run these events in conjunction with the O.C.A., which would help to foster the aims of the Association, and incidentally we might be able to send home a little help for a good cause.

A whist drive and dance in aid of the Girl Guides and Blue Birds was run in the Ordnance Club by Lieut.-Quartermaster P. E. Nolan, ably assisted by a large number of the unit. This proved a huge success, over sixty prizes being given away, all of which had been presented by the tradesmen of Rawalpindi. Even the Ordnance Club, the largest building of its kind in Pindi, was scarcely large enough to accommodate the huge attendance. Dancing during the early part of the evening was a bit uncomfortable, but things improved as the night drew to a close. A nice sum of money was handed over to the two organisations.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new C.O., Major G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E. We hope his sojourn with us will be a long and happy one, and that at the end of his tour he will be able to say the same as his predecessor did a few days ago.

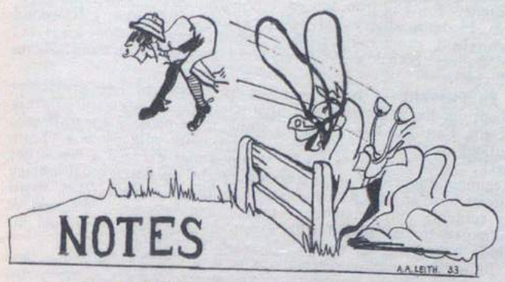
To the second draft of twenty-one B.O.R.s from U.K. we extend the glad mitt and say " Keep smiling! the first five years are the worst."

Departures.—Lieut.-Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., to privilege leave before taking up his new duties. We wish him every success in his fresh sphere of activities, and are glad to think that he will still be able to keep a fatherly eye on the unit.

Corporal Clarke R. M. to 3rd Indian Divl Signals on posting. Sigmn Redding to the Experimental Wireless Section, Cherat. Sergt Hall J. G. and nine B.O.R.s to U.K. We wish all a happy sojourn with their new units.

Agony.—To Nobby: Don't forget the old firm. Smudger.

ONEDIV.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Sunday 25th February.

Christmas arrived and went in a spirit of good will and good cheer, and may indirectly have been responsible for many of the good resolutions which were made for the New Year.

As is usual in a unit of rather limited numbers, almost everyone was occupied in making some contribution or other to the entertainment during Christmas week. The various committees are much to be congratulated on the excellent results of their labours; and last, but by no means least, the members of the Sergeants Mess deserve much credit for an excellent party which they organised for the children of the married families in the unit.

The unit has been passing through a period of intensive collective training, which has manifested itself in the form of inter-regimental schemes in which the headquarters of the Brigade and the Signal Troop took part on one side. On some occasions we have been called upon to provide communication for both sides, but generally we have thrown in our lot with Southland—a victorious if somewhat unscrupulous State.

Although, generally speaking, little was required of us in the way of communication (the pace at which we move and the élan with which we fight in this part of the world have to be seen to be believed) nevertheless, when required, we delivered the goods without fail. On one occasion a gallant charge by the Troop to the rescue of the Brigade commander (in imminent danger of capture) provided a squadron of a certain cavalry regiment with food for thought, and served to show that we can rise to an occasion and turn our hands to most things.

A satisfactory aspect of the training in the unit is the number of B.O.R.s who are volunteering for study for higher educational certificates. It is to be hoped that their efforts will meet with the success they deserve.

Horticulture, although not a subject for military study, is one of interest to most of us, especially as our lines are comparatively recently laid out and afford abundant scope for any latent talent in this direction. In spite of the lack of irrigation water—a handicap which is always with us—much has been done, and a vegetable garden of real value is now in a flourishing state.

During the past month Lieut. F. R. B. Moore and Sigmn Boughton E. have departed for the U.K., and Signalmen Webb E. and Warwick have arrived from Karachi and Quetta respectively.

Turning to the field of sport, the Troop have shown much activity and achieved considerable success. The results obtained, as follows, were most gratifying.

Nowshera Horse Show—3rd in handy hunter; 2nd in best trained Troop horse.
P.V.H. Hunter Trials—1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th.
20th Lancers Sports—1st and 2nd in open jumping.

In the case of the P.V.H. Hunter Trials, to quote *The Civil and Military Gazette*, " 1st Cavalry Signals again swept the board." All those who took part and put in serious training for these events deserve every praise and credit.

The Troop annual mounted sports were held recently, and an extraordinarily good show was put up by all competitors. The Squadron shield went to the Wireless Troop, who captured 28 of the possible 49 points. Visual Troop followed up with 15 and Headquarters managed to scrape 6 on the board. Other results were as follows:—

Whip driver—1st Sigmn Roshin Din, 2nd Sigmn Mohd Yakub.
Best trained Troop horse (British)—1st L/Cpl Bale, 2nd Sigmn Strong.
Best trained Troop horse (Indian)—1st Naik Mohd Zaman, 2nd Sigmn Ali Bahadur.
Jumping, B.O.R.s—1st Sigmn Strong, 2nd Sigmn Perkins.
Jumping, I.O.R.s—1st Havildar Haider Khan, 2nd Naik Kalandar Khan.
V.C. race—1st Havildar Haider Khan, 2nd L/Naik Mohd Yasin.
Tug-of-war—W/T Troop (Sergt Minns' team)
Inter-Section competition—1st No. 7 W/T Section, 2nd R.H. Visual Section.
Eve handicap—1st Mrs. Madeley, 2nd Mrs. Minns.
Old soldiers race—1st Sergt Peters, 2nd Captain J. J. Duvivier.

As regards other forms of sport, the Troop has done well and more than held its own against the much larger units in the station. We have faithfully maintained our policy of having a " go " at everything.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Monday 26th February.

We are at it again, and first the Troop welcome Lieut. K. C. O. Bastyan from B Corps Signals, who has relieved Lieut. L. D. M. Patterson as Troop officer.

Apart from reconnaissance schemes, which have taken the place of Brigade training this year, sports seem to have been the dominant feature this month. Jumping for points towards the Morgan cup took place, and the V/T came out best with Arab, Doctor and Camel, ridden respectively by Sergt Standen, L/Corpl Adamson and Sigmn Suleman Khan. The relay race has also been run off, and the W/T team (Sergt Shardlow, Corpl Gratwicke, Signalmen McDonald and Fateh Khan) won this.

Headquarters are now trying to devise some means of showing their abilities, and a six-a-side cricket match has been suggested. Unfortunately, sergeant-major, cricket does not appear in the rules.

Arrivals.—Still they come, and we welcome Signalmen Clayton S. from 1st Divl Signals, Bass J. from Kohat, and Mitchell R. from Karachi.

Departures.—Sigmn James W. to U.K. We are now applying to the F.A. for a relief. There will be more departures early next month. Sergt Shardlow and family, Sergt Conyers, Corpl Stanley and family, and Sigmn McLeod are all going by the " October " boat. L/Sergeant Scott also leaves for a six months break.



Corporal Kenny H.



Signalman Adamson L.

U.K. draft per the *Nevasa* on 16/1/34: Sigmn Babs Adamson begs to announce that he was the official kan-karrier on the day of reckoning. Geordie Adamson had a better excuse.

Sports.—In the recent Sialkot Olympic sports, Corpl Kenny H. and Sigmn Adamson shared the prizes between them. Pip says he could have thrown the hammer further, but he lost it and had to rest content with a mere 115 feet. He now goes to Delhi with the Punjab Olympic team to compete against the other Provinces.

Courses.—L/Corpl Bruton and Sigmn Simbler to B.M. Hospital on first aid, sanitation and water duties.

Staff Employment.—L/Corpl Adamson, still sinking jumps.

KHANA.



H.L.G.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Monday 5th March.

Arrivals.—See Mabel. One typewriter.

Departures.—Corporal Phillp P. to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut—our dead loss, as he is an excellent clerk and all-round sportsman. Still, we may get some WIRE notes from that part of India now, eh, Pip?

Taken from "The Wire" of a Hundred Years Ago.—"Peshawar District Signals, having performed such invaluable work in Frontier operations for the past ten years, have now been excused further inspections and parades."

. . . . . .

"As the promotions and appointments have been so quick during the last two years, and are still likely to be so, the 1834 edition of the Corps Promotion Roster will not be published until very late in the year."

. . . . . .

"The whole block of Nelson Lines married quarters in Peshawar being empty, it is proposed to build a temporary theatre, skating rink and gambling hell there, for the amusement of those guarding Britain's interests on this far-flung Frontier of ours."

Earthquakes.—During the period 22nd/26th February a series of tremors affected us from Khyber Barracks to Ewart Lines. The seismic effects made the whole building shake to its foundations, which by the way are sprung (or were, in Queen Victoria's time, anyway). These tremors must have proved magnetic to the human frame, as several B.O.R.s seemed in a permanent ague, thus producing shouts of that well known character known as "shaky." Still, I have every reason to believe that the C.S.O.'s annual technical inspection passed quite peacefully, so why worry?

Photographs.—One of the four photos published on the centre pages of last month's WIRE showed the Peshawar District Signals hockey team, runners-up in the Peshawar District Hot Weather League. Reading from left to right—Back row: Signalmen Gladwin, Hodgson, Barry and Roberts, Corporal Coaten, L/Corporal Whitefield. Front row: L/Corpl Smith, Sigmn Blaikie, Lieut. T. W. Boileau, Signalmen Williams and Lambert C. In front, Sigmn Mitchell.

En Passant.—I have heard many people of late grumbling about our Regimental Journal, that its average contents are mostly of the Part II. Order type. I think they possess an audacious outlook on the affair, or what is known more vulgarly as a "brass neck." For curiosity's sake I obtained and perused a few other Regimental Journals, and except for bright and intellectual literary efforts here and there, I honestly consider that THE WIRE—both in contents and production—takes some beating. We are all supposed to be imbued with esprit de corps, which should include interest in the Corps Magazine, I imagine.

How many unit representatives receive help in compiling their notes, to swell the unit news or to interest readers at home and abroad? As a matter of fact, there are units who do not seem to have a WIRE correspondent at all, and even notes of the Part II. variety would be welcome from such so that fellows could keep in touch with each other. You know what I mean. "Eh! dekko, so-and-so's got a 'tape'" or "So-and-so has got caught at last."

This Month's Great Thought.—The best workman prefers to be judged by his work rather than by what he has to say about it.

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. Stainer H., Sergt Cheesman C. and L/Sergt Clevett A., M.M., on receiving the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity.

The Last Word.—Congratulations to the Signals Association on finding so many situations for ex-Signals during the past few months.

Nowshera Detachment.

Chitral Lines, 3rd March.

Life in Nowshera having stood still during the last month, news is somewhat scarcer than hair on bald heads. Echo answers "Whose heads?"

Arrivals.—The 1934-35 repatriation list. Judging by the number of people who wanted to see the aforementioned document, the Army in India must be expecting to go home in the near future. One good old maxim to remember when dealing with such uncertain subjects is "Blessed is he that expecteth nothing."

Esprit de Corps.—The following is an extract from *The Gunner*, the monthly journal of the Royal Artillery. "We are full of pride to relate that we are still fighters in the Army football cup, our last battle taking place at Colchester on the 30th November, when we passed into the fourth round by defeating the 4th Divl Signals by 1—0. The game was clean, tense and exciting. The wonderful reception given us by the disciples of Mercury proves that the spirit of good fellowship is still very much alive in the Army to-day." Hard luck on losing, 4th Div.! Congratulations on playing an excellent game and upholding the name of the Corps.

Ode to Nowshera.—

N stands for the Nice girls we all hope to find.
O for the Overtime this Section brings to mind.
W for the Weather Blighty left behind.
S for the Sapheads old King Sol never blinds.
H for the Horses he-men cannot grind.
E for Equipment, never too kind.
R for the Raspberries issued without any rind.
A for the Area we all have to climb. F.S.

Free Advice.—Sound suggestions for the occasion when one has a lady friend of the expensive type to entertain, and has no filthy lucre wherewith to accomplish the aforesaid ambition, are forwarded free on application. Seeing that they are offered by a valued member of the community, they should be well worth trying.

Naked Lights.—Or two way communication by Simplex and Duplex. A rumour to the effect that all bare spots were, where possible, to have a flash painted on them caused some anxiety in two members of this Detachment.

Finale.—By the time next month's notes are due, this Detachment will most probably have been broken up and scattered to the four winds—Peshawar, Landi Kotal, Topa and sundry other abodes—and this will be my last humble contribution to these pages, at least for some time. Yes, I plainly heard many sighs of relief!

REARGUARD.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—Here we are again! Did you think that Kohat had been engulfed when the devastating earthquake shook the States of Bihar and Orissa to their foundations? Well, your fears are unfounded, gentle reader. Kohat is once more to the fore.

Since our last notes were published, several interesting events have transpired. Some old faces are seen no more, and several new ones are here to brighten (or dull) our outlook. However, we are not pessimists, by any means: hence these notes. We have lost and gained a C.S.M., as will be seen from the Sergeants Mess notes.

We extend the glad mitt to C.S.M. Spracklen, L/Sergt Bryant, Corpl Benson, L/Corpls Shirley, Bow and Shufflebotham, Signalmen Moore, Robertson, MacMahon, Fordham, Faulder, Hayes, James, McLaren, Oram, Thain, Cooper, Hobden, Kelly, King, Leach, Turvey, Richmond and Robson. Sigmn Bass J. had a very short stay with us—just long enough to go with K Section to Kasaur on Section training—and was then reposted to Sialkot.

Several bright lads have added to their educational qualifications, and the "Q" staff are well (?) employed in the afternoons—Schoolie making extra sure that they get their firsts. To the casual observer they all look very (?) intelligent (in the afternoons). However, our best wishes go with them in their endeavours.

The cook orderly—an excellent fellow—knows a good thing, but I am afraid he cannot see this particular good thing. Here he is, enjoying hard (?) earned repose after an extremely strenuous day among steam, smoke and smells.



The unit's comediénne Cos likes to be high up. Do any Edinburghites remember him? "Scotland for ever!" says Cos, even when up the pole.



Every unit having a comediénne must have a comedian. This unit has one, but I have left his special feature till next month in order to make room for our juggler (?) What a posish! Heavy going, Mac, eh!



Corporals Mess.

Training has left us quiet, but the married (but not quartered) quartet have certainly kept the Mess lively in their own way—of course, staid married men and all that. Still, led by Tubby Benson, several manage a walk round the circle at 4 p.m. daily—just a constitutional, by the way—and a quiet bridge rubber afterwards, and so to bed.

By the time these notes appear we shall have said goodbye to those members who are homeward bound this year, and probably, over a few glasses, will have won numerous wars again. However, a full budget of events will appear in the next number.

Sergeants Mess.

We have been silent but are not extinct. We have been going on as ever, cosily making the most of Kohat as a station. New faces come along, wondering what this grim Frontier will be like; but they very soon realise, as they settle round the oval table (which so many know) or get comfy in the fine quarters here, that Kohat is not too bad after all.

Our mess was entirely redecorated for the winter, and one's own "blues" seem to be dispelled by the pleasant blendings of Skittles' light and dark blue theme (consult Ivan Hallibut and Company for interiors).

The King of the Kurram has again ascended the throne in the person of Alfie, who joined us early in the training season (Edinburgh papers, please copy). His Majesty is somewhat subdued by the fact that Mrs. Cos, too, will shortly be in residence at the palace.

Not quite so many functions have been held this season, because a surfeit of training has taken many of our members into the "blue" for long periods. The usual "vagabond" dance, with a hot chip and tater barrer, kept up our reputation for novelty. Weekly whist drives have been going along very well throughout the winter.

We have just launched into the station tennis tournament, and after a very pleasant afternoon we lost to the S. and D. Club by four games in 76. Our scratch pair, Bricky Wall and Fred Jones, played bravely, but though winning in sets, the margin of games was not ours. L/Sergt Starling brought home the gentlemen's singles cup after a gruelling final tussle with a player of the R.A.F.

C.S.M. and Mrs. Eyres and family have left us for home, and C.S.M. Spracklen has taken over the reins. "Daddy" will be missed by most of us, and in presenting him with a canteen of cutlery we wished him a happy and rosy future. We are looking forward to glowing tales of a small poultry farm where contented

chickens cluck merrily in sheer pride at their own prolific egg-laying powers.

Bill Bryant has joined us recently, and with his new Voigtlander camera is determined to make things snappy. The hundred and thirty miles hike on the manœuvres with which he was greeted gave him plenty of scope.

Sergt and Mrs. Howard and Sergt and Mrs. Wall and family leave us this spring for U.K. furlough. L/Sergeant and Mrs. Thomas are due home.

Some will be interested but sorry to know that a well-known mess member—Tich, an old unit mascot and a great-hearted little dog—has passed out for good and aye. He walked away to die and now lies in a warrior's unknown grave.

Entertainment.—Until the recent advent of the talkies there was little in the station in the way of entertainment beyond an occasional dance or whist drive. This being the only British unit in the district, apart from the R.A.F., we have largely to depend on the attendance of people outside the unit to make any show a success, especially financially.

The winter season is the only available time to run a few dances, as then the memsahibs are down from the hills, and of course the weather is more suitable for dancing. Even with our regular memsahib dancers present the ratio of partners is easily four to one in favour of the males, and the competition for favours is very keen. Such competition leads to what we know as " booking up " dances. Some of the fair partners get puzzled over things. " Is this the fourth dance from now? If it is, and it happens to be a waltz, I am engaged ; but you can have the sixth if you are here first." It is not true, however, that one lady dances with the holder of a ticket which she has issued previously. It is not quite so complicated as that, yet.

To make a bright spot between two manœuvre exercises, a dance was held at the S. and D. Club, billed as a veterans' ball in honour of the warriors returning from an eleven days exercise, during which they had the privilege (?) of campaigning in the snow—and this is India! In view of this fact, the poster also read " Guaranteed cure for frost-bite, chilblains, Kohat korns and Kurram kancar." It may have been this most appalling statement that made the veterans turn up to a man, but I can assure you that they really did forget all about their hardships and aching limbs (ask the two who had the bottle of gin). With Corpl Jones leading, our well known jazz band played their best, and even Tich Price on the drums frequently forgot his bottle. Bill Page on the sax, ably assisted by McCann, did not complain of careering crochets or quivering quavers. Gasson's violin bow almost tempted me to sing " Horsey, keep your tail up!" because that was what it resembled. Stress on the violin and tense on the piano, Corpl Jones assures me, are most vital factors in time and syncopation.

Much Ado about Nothing.

Goodbye to All That.—Somewhere on the N.W. Frontier of India is a man who, twelve months ago, sat before a roaring fire in Catterick and described the conditions of No Man's Land—" ten feet of snow," etc. Was it twelve months or twelve years since he struggled up to the Depot in a glorious north-east blizzard, cursing the fates in general and the climatic conditions of Catterick in particular? Was it such a short time ago that he had such a hectic time with the can-carrying corporals, rearing raw recruits, remedying the trials and tribulations of hoary old Mess members, and listening to the latest scandal from the Battalion C.I.D.?

Times have changed! Memory is a fickle jade. Catterick and all things Catterickish belong to the past. At present the man who was once of Catterick and is now of the N.W.F. is sitting in the shade of a verandah, admiring the Old Lady's Nose, over towards the Tirah, rearing her probiscus 4000 odd feet into the blue of the Indian sky.

The chief stoker is stoking up with a vengeance—so early in the year, too. They told him—and by " they " I mean those very old soldiers who have been out here longer—that three months hence all Anglo-Indians, Indian-Anglos, or Anglos in India (I'm getting a little mixed with my Pushtu and Urdu) will be issued with perspiring pans, punkahs and pyjamas, to enable them to counteract the blast from the blasting furnace. (Yes, I nearly said it.) It is then, so they say, that memories of Catterick will come back with a rush. Thoughts of early morning stables, ten degrees below zero, the slush and cold of the rifle butts on the square, the numbed fingers of the flag waggers of the T.B., and the handkerchief drill of those undergoing a course of 'flu, will then be nectar to the man who is to become an Indianised Anglo.

Until then, let him be content with this perfect English summer weather. Let his memories of the years in Catterick intermingle with the thoughts of the years he has to spend out here. You gave him a wonderful time, Catterick, and he thanks you. He will never be posted there again, and at the moment he is in no hurry to be. You see, it's early February, and he's had some.

TIM.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

General.—I was going to say that the unit had now settled down for a period after the finish of the unit camp at Hab Chauki, but everybody became absorbed in the Corps' chances in the Western Command boxing championships and no little work was necessary in making these effective. That it was a success is without doubt, and the consequence is that a goodly number have pushed off to Rawalpindi to watch our team make a bid for the all-India team championships. I would refer you to the Sports Notes for full details.

The unit camp was evidently a success. It was short, and distinguished this year by the presence of the unit draughtsman. The latter gentleman will pardon my giving prominence to his presence there, but I did say that it was distinguished—and no one but he could have related so effectively the story of the lineman who, in returning to camp from a "fault," commandeered a camel for the journey.

The boxing and rugger tournaments have naturally brought us several visitors, and the Unit Club has been doing big business. Thanks to several ladies, we have been able to make Sunday afternoons times to be looked forward to, and it's a marvel how the club tables have stood the weight of the spreads laid on them. An exceptionally high standard of " tip-it " was attained at these functions. Other people showed how gracefully they could accept the prize of a pair of socks at an impromptu whist drive (it was unfortunate that a certain lance-corporal playing as a lady—and what a lady!—should have won the corresponding article of ladies' hosiery).

Then there was the open golf tournament. This title, I regret to say, passed into the keeping of two representatives of 2nd Indian Divl Signals. It should be stressed that the club champion, although paying his entrance fee, did not compete—the reason for that being closely associated with the absence of the unit's WIRE notes last month. A Corps were the other finalists, but (much as I dislike to say it) it's a wonder how half of their combination got into the club, let alone the golf championship. Still, I congratulate 2nd Div. on winning ; but as their next appearance in the event is doubtful, we can only give them the privilege of calling themselves champions while domiciled in Karachi, and our assurance that a trophy for this event actually exists.

Retirement.—This month we lose Major E. Humphries, M.C., D.C.M., I.S.C. (S.L.) who proceeds to the United Kingdom on leave pending retirement. His experience of the country and the work of the Corps will be greatly missed. We wish him goodbye and an enjoyable retirement, and we shall always remember him with affection as " Pop."

Inspections.—There has been an orgy of these lately. The G.O.C. Western Command, the A.D.V.S. and the D.A.D. S. and T., amongst others, have been particularly pleased with what they have seen. Anyone arriving in the unit will have to allow for our look of superiority.

Agony Column.—2nd Indian Divl Signals: A recent visitor from your unit has spoken to me, deploring your lack of WIRE notes. I agree with him, and if I may be pardoned for making a suggestion, I would say appoint L/Corpl Lewis L. as your correspondent. If he's as good at notes as he is at writing to me, you should be well advertised.

L/Corpl Lewis L.: I trust you don't get the job referred to above, but it's a moot point as to who should write first. Must it be me?

L/Corpl Blades T., Training Battalion, Catterick: How are you? Do you remember C.S.M. Hole of the Royal Sussex Regiment? He recalls you and would like a line. Address it to 2nd Battn Royal Sussex Regiment, Napier Barracks, Karachi. I've given him your address. Bridge.

S.W.B.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Monday 5th March.

General.—Since the commencement of the New Year steps have been taken to enliven the monotonous surroundings and life in the Zhob, for which we most gratefully thank our commanding officer (Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn), whose whole heart is set on the comfort of the Section.

During a period of three months several alterations have taken place, while others are nearing completion. One of the outstanding features is the complete renovation of the Institute, which now has a large room suitably constructed and very well decorated for a dance hall, in which we held the opening dance of the season on Saturday 24th February. This proved a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The permanent fittings for electric lighting were very successfully installed by the fitters. I would like to mention that ours is the only electric supply in Loralai, so that we have something to be proud of in this respect.

In future a dance will be held once a month, and we hope to hold some other social events once a week. I hope next month's notes will contain some definite news on this subject. Although we do not possess a dance band for these occasions, we are suitably provided with good music by the radio-gramophone. Brigadier J. C. McKenna, D.S.O., Commander Zhob Independent Brigade Area, has very kindly presented the Section with a wireless set, which will take a very prominent place in the Institute.

Everything possible is being done to "better" Loralai, so that individuals who are likely to have the opportunity of serving in the Zhob can look forward to a very bright and happy sojourn here.



The Section Football Team for the semi-final of the Baird Tournament.

Departures.—To 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, on 2/3/34, L/Corpl Malvern H., U/L/Corpl Smith H., Signalmen Lapsley T., Murray J. and Stolliday F. Sigmn Kenneally J. is to follow at a later date. We wish them all the best of luck in their new station.

To U.K. on six months payment furlough, on 14/3/34, L/Cpl Burke W. and Signalmen Smith E. E. and Nabarro D. Bon voyage!

Arrivals.—From 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, on 2/3/34, Signalmen Franks H. and Johnson P. to Detachment, Fort Sandeman ; L/Corpl McCann R. and Sigmn McAra L. to Detachment, Hindubagh ; and Sigmn Taylor A. to Headquarters, Loralai. We extend a welcoming hand to all of them.

Hindubagh.—We regret the absence of notes this month, but hope that readers will be amply rewarded when the reliefs have taken place. We hope that a WIRE aspirant will come to the fore.

BLOS.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Having struggled through the Brigadier's inspection (and being complimented) we are more or less back to normal routine again, but with more inspections reported for the near future.

At present we have the Devons staying here, en route for Razmak. This is the first time so many white troops (and white knees) have been seen in Sandeman.

The Section is very much depleted, three men being in Loralai to make up our team for the Baird cup, leaving us with only six in mess.

Arrivals.—One barrel of Steel and Coulson's.

Departures.—One barrel of Steel and Coulson's. L/Corporal Malvern and Signalmen Murray and Stolliday to Loralai on temporary duty. Certain people are leaving us for Quetta at the beginning of March, having finished their tour of ease. Presently they will be answering to the old old call of " Feed away."

Overheard.—One person singing " I'm happy when I'm hiking." He is evidently getting in some secret training.

Congratulations.—We compliment the football team on successfully getting over the first round of the Baird cup. The Gurkhas won't be so easy, Jim.

Things We Want to Know.—If Derby County can really play football? Can J.C. really play a uke? or is he just leading us up the alley path?

Scotch Express.—To Swycher, from Cohen: Am I to blame? To Vic (Gib): Wot about the old girls, Cadie? Darkie.

EASTERN COMMAND.. .....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Thursday 22nd February.

General.—A glorious conclusion to our exercises came in the form of rain. Strolling about in the early morning, one can study these things—and we did. When it was all over, we shook ourselves and carried on.

The rail party left Babina on the 29th January with the horses, wagons, etc., arriving in Meerut the following day.

The road party, who left on the 30th, arrived in Meerut on the 4th February. They feasted themselves merrily on the results of the shikar. So well did the gunmen acquit themselves on this occasion that they were almost capable of living on the country.

One lorry, more energetic than the rest, in a vain endeavour to get home jumped a bridge and sank peacefully into a nullah. It was heard to murmur " I am going back by rail," but it didn't.

We are back again in our Meerut home ;
We have fought our wars and won ;
And Part I. Orders, the grim recorders,
They tell of the good work done.

The scribes are using indelible ink
To tell of our deeds of war ;
But we slyly wink and wisely think
Of the training that lies in store.

Equitation courses. Riders of the plains. Big strong silent hemen gazing into space and going where they are looking. Revolvers and rifles wavering unsympathetically in the breeze. The barrack square crammed with drilling men—by Company, by Section, by squads ad infinitum—until we see three junior n.c.o.s drilling one man. Visions of the coming season. Next month we will tell you some true life stories, like this one. One bloke was accosted by another bloke delivering a message. Bloke one (accosted) took the message, entered it, handed it back, and then driected bloke two to a third bloke.

When we came back from Jhansi we settled down to unit sports. There was not much time, but we put up a good show. Our despatch riders gave quite a thrilling display in a clever entertainment which showed some good riding. Our tent pegging team took four pegs on their first run down, but evidently were

too modest to do it a second time. The distribution of prizes was a surprise to lots of people, for these included a splendid lot of medals which were well worth winning.

Departure.—Sigmn Huddlestone C. to Rawalpindi.

Arrival.—Corpl Clarke from Rawalpindi.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Peace has been declared, and we have left Jhansi, the surrounding countryside and tents for the more comfortable bungalows at Meerut. Congratulations from the powers that be assure us that, in spite of the large percentage of our number who experienced a camp in India for the first time, our reputation was kept up as in previous years.

The next move on our very varied programme is to Kailana for the hot weather season. All ranks who intend to capture that elusive higher rating are busily dusting Vol. V.s and gazing at the innards of D.iii's, Fullerphones, etc., with intense interest.

Captain M. C. Bennett has now taken the place of Major A. Beatson-Bell as Company commander; and although we seem unable to keep a Company commander very long, we hope he may prove the exception to the rule and that his stay may be long and pleasant.

Departures.—Lieut. Morris has left us for Muttra (lucky Muttra! your gain is our loss). Sigmn Traill to the S.T.C. (now you can wear someone else's tennis court away).

Bush Mail.—Too numerous to mention individually, but what about those promises?

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

February, 1934.

I must apologise, first of all, for the absence of notes from last month's issue. Now for a really original excuse. Sorry! all those I can think of are time worn; and not possessing a fertile brain, the apology must stand for itself.

Last month's news items, however, will probably interest old members of the Section (both mechanical and horse-drawn). All right, Ginger; we know all about it.

We proceeded to camp by road again this year—not as a Section, but as part of the Brigade column—and arrived at Babina (two hundred miles) seven days later. The practice camp, from a Gunner point of view, was quite successful, but the Section, who were not overworked, were really very glad when it was over, as the weather, even for January, was unbelievably cold—so cold, in fact, that a certain tough guy (self praise) only washed once a day.

A Night of Gladness.—The Section binge—which is the annual Christmas whoopee for the boys—had to be postponed this year owing to our presence being required at camp so early, and was held instead as a farewell party to our O.C. (who was leaving us for Meerut) on the 10th February.

It was a fête day, really, as we started off in the morning, finishing the inter-Group championship (sports and athletics), and as "A" and "B" Groups were neck and neck, it was keenly contested and enjoyed by most. Up to the present "A" lead "B" by one point, the deciding game (hockey against H.Q.) not having been played yet.

The binge itself was voted a success by all, and, not wishing to throw any bouquets or buckets, we'll leave it at that.

Dinner was served a few minutes after 8 p.m., and (heaven help the superstitious) thirteen sat down to enjoy it. After-dinner speeches were given by almost everyone who was capable, and even by some who weren't—from which we learned that I.B. Sections *used* to march a minimum of 450 miles a month!

From a social point of view the outstanding success was the P.B.O., who gave us (with the aid of a certain co-ed) a most marvellous display of a *real* apache dance, followed closely by the silent band, the only discord being the occasional bumping of the drum. The barmaid couldn't get on the job, as her partner wanted her for the Jarrow hop.

At one-thirty a.m. the boys were "taken home" and tucked in after an almost perfect day.

Heard at the Binge.—"That's very appropriate music for the occasion." (Answer) "Yes, it is. But what is it?"

Geordie: "That was a rotten fox-trot." P.B.O.: "Was it a fox-trot? No wonder it was rotten: I was waltzing."

Departures.—Our late Section officer, Lieut L. de M. Thuillier, after a stay of eighteen months, has left us for Meerut, and so we lose an enthusiastic all-round sportsman whose motto "Deeds, not words" was appreciated by all ranks. We are sorry to see him go. Good luck in your new Section, sir; and we won't forget that condemnation board.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieut. J. D. L. Morris, who has taken over as O.C. We hope your stay will be a long and pleasant one, sir.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Parkinson on attaining that rank, and also being granted six months Blighty leave. To Signalman Glaxo Clavering on becoming eligible for proficiency pay, and on his snaky performance under the ladder at the potted sports.

TICH.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

General.—An apology is due for the absence of notes during the past few months. No excuse is made other than the old one: lack of material.

The Troop has lost quite a number of its old members, but has gained new ones and still carries on the good work.

Since the publication of our last notes annual camp has come and gone; also the Brigade Commander's annual Part II. inspection. Our camp took place at Dilaura, some twenty miles outside Meerut, and with the assistance of Lieut. J. R. Beeton and two despatch riders of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, very useful work was carried out, much upon the lines of former years.

The improvements made in the Troop lines and around the jumping area were favourably commented upon by the Brigade Commander and the Chief Signal Officer on their respective inspections.

During the Eastern Command exercises held at Jhansi in January, three of our despatch riders were loaned to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals and earned the usual kind words which are always spoken after manœuvres.

During the last few weeks Corpl Lourie has been training horses for the jumping competitions in the Royal Signals (Meerut) annual sports and the Imperial Delhi Horse Show.

Sergt Jeffers continues to instruct attached infantry personnel in short-wave W/T duties, and Sergt Percy has had a spot of duty as Sergeants Mess caterer.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Captain M. Duncan from the U.K. and wish him success while in command of the Troop. Signalmen Waistell F. and Sneddon W. arrived from the U.K.; also Sigmn Griffiths A. from 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Signalman Meese C. from Quetta, and Corpl Phillp P. from Peshawar.

Departures.—We regret to record the departure of Captain F. P. L. Gray, who has been our C.O. for the past two years. We wish him the best in his new unit at home.

Marriages.—We congratulate Sigmn Giles D. on his recent marriage to Miss Kathleen Englebright.

We Want to Know.—Who broke the lemonade bottle at Alwar?

Agony.—Simmo, 2nd Div. Sigs.: See Sports Notes and "look what we've done."

G.E.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 10/1/34.

[Received too late for the March issue]

General.—Another year started with some chaps saying "Roll on, eight weeks," some saying "Roll on a year," and others—well, we're all saying "Roll on." It seems to be the slogan out here. By this time the *Neuralia* will have left England again to dump 'em down and pick 'em up, but I'm not interested unless there's to be a "farewell and welcome" dinner like last year's. Six likely lads are probably leaving us by the next boat, and we'll be sorry to see them go, though it will certainly give the new maskee draft a chance to tell someone what China was like when they came out. Personally, I daren't say a word about China when any of the pioneers are around, or I hear a voice murmuring "When I went to the opening of the Central in '29. . . ." etc.

Christmas, 1933.—Christmas went off with the usual bang and everyone seemed to enjoy it. About seventy men sat down to dinner, the large number consisting of Signals, Medicals and details. The catering was done by the N.A.A.F.I. and they put up a jolly good show. We were visited by our C.S.O. (Major Bagnold) the O.C. (Captain Henderson) and Lieut. Lyddon—and did they do their stuff with the menus? I think I heard Lieut. Lyddon saying that he fully understood why Garbo shuns publicity; signing one's name about seventy times isn't too sweet. Fitz said a few words on behalf of the details and then we retired to the reading room, but not to read. This room was decorated by a hard-working committee consisting of Corpl Pope, L/Corpl Cross, Sigmn Drake and Pte Casson (R.A.M.C.).

The accompanying snap shows a bit of the decoration, but as the photographer was, like many others, a bit "that way," forgive the alignment. Another snap was taken of the lads after dinner, but as relatives sometimes read THE WIRE I have been asked not to send it. The Christmas spirit was visible (and audible) well into the night and next day, and many strange sights were seen. Going out at night I passed the unit flagpole. Half way up was a figure crying "Kong is loose!"—and only the linemen climb poles.



Further down the road, in a Chinese laundry, was another well known figure assisting the native staff to iron a pair of (?). The grand old lad of the F.E.C. did a nifty dance with many encores until someone put him out of his misery. It's a good job Christmas comes but once a year.

New Year went off rather quietly as the unit Scotsman, Jock Cord, was in bed resting before the big game on New Year's Day, when he represented the Rest versus Chinese for the Governor's cup. The Rest won by 2—1. Jock kept his end up well. On the 8th January he played in an inter-port trial game, but as the inter-port team is not yet out, we can only hope for the best. Night duties are now worth doing, as two spring beds, complete with mattresses, have been provided for the duty ops. I can imagine a few old China hands saying "Now, when I was at C.H.Q. . . . ."

This month's cartoon shows one of our "hams" doing his stuff and hoping for big things. The amateur station VS6AX was opened by L/Corpl Emary on the 1st January, and is still going very strong. Others in the band (amateur) are Signalmen Shove, Erridge and Fielding (sleeping partner). Stations or countries worked to date are America, Borneo, Manila, Australia and China. Sorry! I nearly forgot H.M.S. *Wren*, North Wall, H.K.

By Special Request.—Who is the lonely figure who hangs around the Y.M.C.A. these nights? and why lonely?

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl (Ropey) Cross on being paid for it w.e.f. 4/10/33. To Sigmn Verlander, ABY, for the night of 7th January.



A Few Scraps.—Who is longing for the summer nights and a walk around in shorts?

Who is well in the running for the title of Section stop out? (No names, but Kong is on the loose.)

Our Em goes American. He actually said "A three tube radio."

Look to your laurels, Dilley; Oliver is here.

Where was ex-Trooper (the long-nosed?) on Christmas Eve?

Which bed is Dilley's winter blanket on at present?

Are married men the worst? (See Wandaplug. No offence.)

Till next time.

MATA HARI.

Wednesday 7th February.

General.—To put it mildly, nothing doing. I seem to find less to write about each month. Another year will find me with only the "Agonies" to submit. However, here goes.

Ah! The weather to the rescue. It has been really fine; no rain since way back. All the homegoing draft are basking in the sun, acquiring that sunburned tint which the ladies love and which all handsome men have, though even this sun can't accomplish miracles. We say goodbye to six pioneers on the 23rd: F-of-S Potts, Corpl Huggins and Signalmen Convey, Bryce, Scott and McLoughlan. I had hoped to include an account of the farewell and welcome dinner, but to-day I heard that the *Neuralia* is encountering heavy monsoons between here and Singapore and will not be here until the 12th.

The Div. that secures Bryce and Convey will get two good sportsmen. Sigmn Scott is due for discharge. The hockey team are praying for some good players on this trooper. At present the team is in a bad way. Signalmen Martin and Dilley are on the injured list, and we're losing Bryce and Convey—so here's hoping.

On the 28th January the hockey team visited Macao, the Portuguese colony near Hong Kong. The trip up was glorious, lounging on deck in the sun. Now I know why these pleasure cruises are so popular. We arrived at Macao at 1 p.m., being met at the boat by Lieut. Da Costa (Portuguese Army) who took us to the Hotel Riviera for tiffin. There were fourteen items on the menu, but Lieut. Lyddon accomplished a miracle and got the team away after the fourth course. The game was a good one, played before a crowd of about 1500; they "go a bundle" on their hockey at Macao. The roar that went up when Macao scored their first goal would have done credit to a Highbury crowd. In the first half we played our right back at centre forward, and at half time we were four goals down. For the second half he was moved back; the defence rolled up their sleeves and only let one goal get through, the final score being 5—0 for Macao, a great surprise for everyone. L/Corpl Cross in goal played a great game, as did the two backs and the centre half. Macao are unbeaten to date, and they are expected to give the Hong Kong inter-port

team a good game when they meet, so our result was quite gratifying. We returned to Hong Kong by the 4 p.m. boat, arriving back at eight o'clock after a very enjoyable day. The team included L/Corpl Cross ; Signalmen Martin and Whitehead ; Signalmen Austen and Convey and Corporal Pope ; Signalmen Higginbottom, Short and Bryce, Lieut. Lyddon, Sigmn Larking.

Here's a bit of news for old Hong Kong lads. After six false alarms, the Alhambra has opened at last and has not caved in up to our writing.

The unit are now in the throes of preparation for the G.O.C.'s visit. Military figures can be seen about the barracks, and the storeman is complaining about chaps waking him up at 5 a.m. to draw their rifles. The barrack room floors are regaining their old shine, and many a dirty laugh goes up as someone steps on the mat and slithers along the floor, finishing up in the coal tub. Great disappointment has been felt because the people we would like to see slip do not oblige us. Still, a bit more polish might do it. Roll on, 3rd March! then we can relax again. I forget, after that comes "Sigs! Sigs! Pick up thi' musket!" and tall stories of "when I got a first at Scarborough."

The Trade Board has delivered its judgment, and congratulations are due to the following: Sigmn Lomax, draughtsman C.i. ; Signalmen Mills and Shove, o.s. B.i. ; Signalmen Farrell, Erridge and Higginbottom, o.s. B.ii. ; Signalmen Jones, Henshaw and Short, lineman C.ii. ; and Sigmn Philips (Flip) despatch rider D.iii. Better luck next time to those who failed.

A True Story.—A signalman of this unit asked the C.Q.M.S. for a job, as he hadn't done anything for a fortnight. It's useless telling you who it was—I wouldn't be believed ; and besides, I'm tired of spelling his name.

Congratulations.—To Rance Carter, Shanghai, on getting that snip job. We always knew you had "it."

Casualties.—Sigmn Dilley, hockey ; Sigmn Drake, football ; Sigmn Martin, sugar and Y.M. suppers.

In Memoriam.—Gone: our sports secretary, Sigmn Convey. We'll never get another like him—he says so himself.

Agonies.—Nil: and the dollar at 1/6! Must be the new ratings not being used to the extra pay.

That's all till next time. MATA HARI.

Jamaica Signal Section.

Up Park Camp, 24th February.

General.—I must apologise for the recent absence of notes from this unit.

Members of the Section enjoyed a very good evening at the R.E. O.C.A. farewell dance and social, to which we were kindly invited.

On the 8th February the troopship *Dorsetshire* arrived here with the 1st Battalion Manchester Regiment, who relieved the 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

Departures.—L/Sergt Minchin and Sigmn Smither left us for U.K. We wish them the best.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Davis and Sigmn Macnamara from Sheerness and 1st Div. Signals respectively. May their stay seem as long as ours does to us.

Birth.—To C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) and Mrs. Tilford a son on the 24th January 1933.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Smither on obtaining the special certificate of education, and to Sigmn Dearden on passing in English and maths towards his first, at examinations held in October 1933.

Moves.—Sigmn Turton decided that he would like a bit of peace (?), so to get away from the bright lights of Kingston he has taken up residence in Port Royal.

"Jamaica—land of summer sunshine—land of romantic moonlight nights beneath tropical palms—the only place where one can get a cool and stimulating drink to make one's sea bath a pleasure." Such is an advertisement that appeared in the local paper. I wonder how many ex-Sectionites agree with this version of Jamaica.

Agony.—Will Sigmn Attewell, believed to be in Malta, please correspond with Sigmn Turton of this Section? JAMCAN.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 8th March.

Once more the pen (or rather, the typewriter) must be taken up and Gibraltar Signal Section news broadcast to the outermost limits of our far-flung Empire.

Stations at home can now look out for four travellers from the Rock, as on the 25th March we are sending to the U.K. L/Sergt Betts, L/Corpl Cook and Signalmen Burton and Pope—all of whom, with their wide knowledge of the world and extensive globe trotting, will no doubt be a great asset to any unit.

Those signalmen mentioned in our last notes as fortunate enough to proceed on cruises to Lisbon and Algiers have now returned to Gibraltar. They have much to relate regarding the happy times they had. Perhaps, with a little persuasion, we may have their experiences in *note* form for next month's publication. We may say, however, that Signalmen Pendlebury and Waller, by forming part of a winning crew in a whaler race held at Algiers, appear to be getting ready for our summer sport.

During the past month a combined exercise with the Home Fleet and the Garrison was successfully carried out. While this entailed a lot of hard work for certain members of the Section, the success attending it was appreciated by all.

As the weather gets warmer our thoughts turn once more to swimming, and soon, I hope, we shall be revelling in the clear waters of the Bay. Anyone interested in swimming would certainly enjoy a stay at Gib. Summer excursions are also arranged to many places round the Bay.

Agony.—Has Bulford run out of stamps? TICKEY.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be C.Q.M.S.

2308114	Sergeant Dowie F.	1/ 1/34	15

To be Sergeant.

2312237	L/Sergeant Child C.	8/12/33	27
1423167	L/Sergeant Morris W.	1/ 1/34	27

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2315877	Corporal Parkinson R.	15/11/33	33
2314252	Corporal Pearsall F.	15/11/33	33
2307321	Corporal O'Flannagan M.	1/ 1/34	34

To be Corporal.

3903614	L/Corporal Trew J.	1/11/33	50
2306651	L/Corporal Bevans S.	2/11/33	50
2316216	L/Corporal Milne J.	15/11/33	50
2315411	L/Corporal Bishop J.	15/11/33	50
2316728	L/Corporal Broom R.	25/11/33	50
2314292	L/Corporal Willcocks C.	24/12/33	50

To be Staff-Sergeant (Farrier)

2314076	Sergeant (Farrier) Jagger F.	1/12/33	12

Discharged.

2306401	C.Q.M.S. Reade A.	6/ 2/34	15
*1857264	C.Q.M.S. Warner H.	7/ 2/34	73
1857097	Sergeant Shepheard G.	21/ 2/34	24
*1866669	Sergeant Dunn P.	2/ 3/34	73
2311031	Corporal Harbottle F.	9/ 2/34	41
1850454	L/Corporal Wells H.	5/ 3/34	50

Transferred to Army Educational Corps.

2316500	L/Sergeant Sell G.	3/ 9/33	33

* *Special Roster (India)*



42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester 16.

Our annual ball took place on Saturday 17th February, and a very large number of dancers took the floor. The music was provided by our own band under the baton of Mr. E. T. Grundey, and judging by the happy faces of the dancers, the Signals Band can hold its own with any hereabouts. Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley (our C.O.) and other officers of the unit and their ladies were present, so the 1934 ball was quite a family affair. Carnival novelties were distributed, and it is surprising how a paper cap can change a serious-minded person into a budding Harold Lloyd.

The first pre-camp week-end training was held on the 24th/25th February. Classes were organised early on Saturday afternoon and continued until tea-time, being resumed on Sunday. The Trade Board class held under the direction of Lieut. Banner a few weeks ago was continued and polished up ready for the Trade Board.

On the 10th/11th March a Trade Board was held. Up to the time of writing the results have not been published, but from information received there should be some alterations to be made on the pay rolls before camp.

Heard this one? R.S.M. (parading recruit for C.O.): "This man was a chef at a well-known London restaurant, sir." C.O.: "Well, if he can cook a joint, he ought to be able to solder a joint—what?" KYM.

Officers Mess.—On Tuesday 22nd February a dinner was given in the mess to Major-General Sir Hugh Elles, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O., our new Divisional commander. This was to have been in the nature of a welcome on his appointment to command the Division. However, we found that General Elles was to leave us on taking up a new appointment, so the dinner was both a welcome and a farewell.

Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., A.M.I.E.E. (our old C.O.) in a few well chosen words, welcomed General Elles to the mess. General Elles made a short speech in reply and said he was sorry to be leaving us so soon, but this was due to unforeseen circumstances over which he had no control.

Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Whitehead (O.C. 6/7th Battn Manchester Regiment) replied for the guests and said they all appreciated very much the splendid feeling existing between the P.B.I. and Signals. Colonel Whitehead being one of our stalwarts on many occasions, his words were very much appreciated by all.

The "colour party" fell in and did their stuff, and were inspected by General Elles. "Jimmy" was escorted to his pedestal to the strains of his signature tune "On Ilkla Moor baht 'at."

We are hoping to welcome new faces to the mess in the near future. Several budding young folk are in the offing.

We are all looking forward to camp at Scarborough and to meeting the 5th Div., of whom we have heard such a lot.

THOMAS.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The chief event during the past month has been the Divisional boxing tournament at Dorchester on the 24th February. The unit were unable to produce a full team of eight, but six entries were submitted. Unfortunately, two were scratched at the last moment—one through sickness and the other through being 2 lbs. overweight. However, the four who took part acquitted themselves well in the circumstances and collected sixteen points prior to the semi-finals. Up to that point we were third on the list, but at the close of the meeting we had dropped to eighth place out of thirteen. For a first venture of this kind for the entrants, we feel proud of our representatives, and hope that on the next occasion a full team will be prepared to take the ring and add still more points. The trainer of the three Plymouth men deserves great credit for his work, as he had very little time at his disposal.

The tension which existed prior to the trade tests has gone, and anxiety regarding the results has taken its place. More anon when these are published, and with them one hopes to reap the benefit of the knowledge gained from the recent classes of instruction for all ranks.

A hearty welcome is extended to the two gentlemen who have just been gazetted to this unit for duty with No. 1 Company at Exeter. May their stay with us be a long and happy one.

MERCURY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

The date for the preparation of WIRE notes comes round far too quickly ; in fact, quicker than the news in Southampton. I wonder why? The training goes on apace, and if not brilliant, it is at least steady and sure. This, I think, is all to the good.

The operators' test took place on Sunday 4th March, and the "culprits" are awaiting the verdict with that patience that is shown by all the stoics of Southampton.

The course for linemen is now in full swing ; and again we hope the Trade Board in April will have plenty to do, and that our pay list at camp will show a number of increases in pay.

The social side of our life goes on with our weekly whist drives, dart competition, push-halfpenny championship, and badminton.

Musketry is also taking up quite a lot of our time, in order that the poor shots may have a chance to qualify for their bounty this year.

This appears to be all that I can find for this month, as really outstanding events are not happening at present ; so until next month, nuff said. PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

Mention is made elsewhere of this Company's share in the good show put up by the unit team in the Divisional boxing championships, but a word of praise is due to Sigmn Ferrand, who has so ably trained the team and has done so much to rouse enthusiasm for the sport in Plymouth. We can prophesy with some authority that the results will continue to improve.

An amusing evening was spent at the drill hall on Monday 12th March, when a cinema entertainment was given by a well known tobacco firm. The opportunity was taken to give relatives and friends of the Company a "close up" of our quarters.

We wish Mr. P. W. Shaw the very best of luck in London. We shall miss him greatly, but hope to see him often on vacation. We suspect his heart is still in Plymouth. THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, S.W.6

General.—We are pleased to report that the individual training and the special paid courses are still being well maintained. Recruiting, too, seems to be looking up a bit lately, but we can do with a few more likely lads.

We told you last month that we were having a T.E.W.T. Well, we've had it, and it certainly was a most interesting and instructional affair. Thirty-eight officers and n.c.o.s took part and enjoyed a most "loverly war." The battle raged around the Sevenoaks district. On the 24th February we managed, after

a furious scrap, to drive the enemy well to the north of Tonbridge. Next morning we regained contact with the foe, but he was too much for us for a while and held us up for a couple of hours or so. Then at 12.30 hrs. we made our attack and drove the enemy back. The last we heard of him was that he was retiring in confusion, pursued by the attacking troops, across the frontier. We were so bucked with our success that we boarded our transport and climbed to the giddy height of about 600 feet to have a look back over the country where we had been scrapping. Unfortunately we finished up in a cloud, and that's all we *could* see! However, the answers given to the set questions, which were put to each syndicate during the different phases of the attack, were most interesting in their variations from each other and in comparison with the Directing Staff's solutions.

We are having a week-end training on the 17th/18th March. I'll tell you more next month.

On the 19th February Captain F. W. Nicholls, O.B.E., R.Signals, gave an extremely interesting lecture on wireless interception to all ranks of this unit and a large number of officers from other units of the 47th Division. There is no doubt that those present were deeply impressed, but we are at a loss to know how to avoid all the possible " giveaways " except by scrapping wireless altogether!

Sergeants Mess.—On Friday 23rd February we played a return games tournament with Messrs. Moss Brothers at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's Lane. A very enjoyable evening was spent, play at various games being continuous on three floors from 7.30 until eleven o'clock. Moss's were the winners by 19—17 points.

Agony.—Toby wants to know what has happened to the 55th West Lancs. Divl Signals, as he hasn't seen any notes for a very long time.

Social.—Our dance on the 3rd March was fairly well attended, but not by as many as we would wish. We are, however, hoping to have a bumper crowd on St. Patrick's Day, which by the way is also Boat Race day. Don't forget our dance dates on the 14th and 28th April.

Sport.—We are still plodding on with our football, and last Saturday, 10th March, we put up a pretty good show in beating the Upton F.C. by 10—1 goals. EFFEMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.

General.—In spite of the absence of our notes for some months past, that period has been by no means uneventful. During the close season there have been a number of social events in connection with the various Messes, and in all cases great success is reported. The Signals dances now enjoy an excellent reputation in Hall Green, and there is never any difficulty in filling the drill hall on a dance night. The matter of support from our own members still leaves something to be desired, but transport difficulties have a great deal to answer for this.

At the time of writing Company training is just commencing. Great strides are being made in recruiting, and at present there are already almost thirty enlistments, which is a considerable improvement on last year. Camp this year is to be at Bulford—a prospect which perhaps appeals more to those who have been there than to the novice.

Departures and Arrivals.—Everybody in the unit has been sorry to part with two valuable and highly popular P.S. instructors in C.S.M. Laing and Sergt Sergeant, who completed their tour of duty early in the year. Both of them were greatly liked by everyone from the officers downwards, and their ungrudgingly given services, both on and off duty, will be greatly missed. Their places have been taken by Sergts Foley and Tinsley, to whom we extend a hearty welcome. We hope their stay with us will be a long and a happy one.

Congratulations are due to C.S.M. Bardoe on his promotion to that rank, and on the receipt of the long service and Indian general service medals. Honours have been thick upon him lately!

Sergeants Mess.—On Saturday 10th March the w.o.s and sergeants were entertained to dinner by the officers.

After the loyal toast R.S.M. Rowe, in a short speech, thanked the C.O. and officers for their kind hospitality, and pointed out the opportunity which this annual function provided for officers and sergeants to meet and get to know each other, and how this was conducive to better team work. He then commented upon the promising recruiting returns up to date, and went on very gravely to suggest that if every sergeant were to undertake to bring in three recruits and every officer five, the unit would quickly have to open a waiting list. Finally, referring to the contests which were to follow the repast, he exhorted the Sergeants Mess (amidst great laughter) to play the game, but to win by hook or by crook!

In responding, the C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth) thanked the R.S.M. for his speech and addressed a few words of appreciation to the permanent staff, coupling them in particular with the adjutant, Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C., whom everyone will be glad to hear has been able to obtain a further two years extension. He remarked that the unit had now been completely mechanised and the last of the horses were being disposed of. To some, this would be a matter of sad regret ; to others, perhaps less so. At any rate, he felt that the spirit of Colonel Keeling would be with us for a long time yet, and the O.C. Cable Section, after supper every night at camp, would go round the transport lines to see that the shackles were on the correct rear wheel! He then presented medals to C.Q.M.S. Galpin (T.A. efficiency) and C.S.M. Bardoe (long service and I.G.S.).

In the contests which followed, after a terrific struggle the officers beat the sergeants by three points. The sergeants, as usual, excelled in the more skilful sports, whilst the officers predominated in games of chance! GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—The toilers go on toiling, the operators operating, and the counter clerks counting—sheep. In other words, the work of the unit continues as heretofore, except that the cloud on the horizon is looming large to windward. The storm breaks on the 19th March, when trade tests are due to commence. Till then all are meekly waiting and murmuring not.

Training.—Judging by the professional looks one sees both on and off parade—particularly among the younger end—classes of candidates for the abovementioned tests are rapidly approaching a state of high efficiency. Attendances at drills show a continuance of that enthusiasm that has been so marked lately. The adjutant, Captain W. L. Schneider, completed his course of extremely interesting and instructive lectures to officers and other ranks on the 6th March with an explanation of Signal operation orders and a talk on the selection of sites for signal offices. Previously in the month, lectures were given on the tactical employment of No. 1 Company in the field and signal tactics of an R.A. Brigade Signal Section. Each was illustrated with models on a cleverly laid-out countryside in the drill hall, and we hear that the problem set in the latter case has almost resulted in the unit splitting up into two opposition camps.

Band Dinner.—The annual dinner for members of the Band, which was to have taken place on the 3rd March, had to be unavoidably postponed at the last minute. A band concert arranged for the following Sunday suffered the same fate.

Canteen Curse.—The fellow who plays " fluker " instead of snooker.

Random Reflections.—The month has been devoted almost entirely to work, affording little scope for funny writing (? a joke). Recruiting is progressing, and as a limited number of men is required, only the pick of the applicants are being enlisted. Still, in the dark dismal mists of the future, a star is growing brighter: its name is camp.

Apology.—We regret the brevity of this month's notes, but as our extra special correspondent has been attending a " wetting " party. . . .

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—We are now in the midst of obligatory training, which commenced on the 5th March. There was quite a good turn-out on the opening night, when our O.C. (Captain T. S. Mensley) outlined the training programme up to the time of going

to camp. It is a very busy programme, and includes the training of M.T. drivers, T.S.O.s, etc., and there will be little time to spare.

Winter Course.—The trade test at the termination of the intensive training course for operators was carried out by the adjutant on the 31st January, with very pleasing results. We congratulate Signalmen McGuiggan J., Noble E., Burton A. and Stephenson T. on qualifying as operators signals B.iii., and Sigmn Milligan W. as assistant operator signals, group E.

I should like to point out that Sigmn Burton A. has been with us only about eleven months, and through his qualifying as an operator B.iii. has set a good example to the rest of the recruits in the Company. Well done, boy! May you have your B.ii. in time for camp.

Social Events.—These ended in February with D and L Sections beating J in the indoor tournament. Activities of this nature must finish now, as owing to training there will be no spare time.

Recruiting.—We now only want five despatch riders in the Company, so any member who has a friend with his own motorcycle should endeavour to bring him along to the drill hall and get him to join up.

Boxing.—After winning the Dent cup we had, of course, several members of the Company representing the unit in the Divisional tournament: Lieuts. Osborne and Kirkaldy, Signalmen McGuiggan, McCaughey J. and Gullon R., with Signalmen Flynn T. and Tullock J. as reserves.

We congratulate all who were concerned in winning the Divisional cup from the 6th Northumberland Fusiliers, who have by the way held it for the last six years. Well done, the 50th (N) Divl Signals!

We also congratulate the following who went to London to represent the 50th (N) Division in the Territorial Army boxing tournament: Lieuts. H. M. Kirkaldy, Smith and C. W. Belas. L/Corpl McGuiggan and Sigmn McCaughey J.—particularly Lieut C. W. Belas on again winning his weight at the Albert Hall and L/Corpl McGuiggan J. on getting into the final.

Annual Camp.—Annual training will take place this year on the racecourse at Scarborough, where all ranks will again have the opportunity of improving their standard of map reading through studying the contours and the gradient of the road leading to the camp site from the town. Why is it that all camps and barracks are always located at the top of a hill?

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—Fonthill Barracks has resumed its military aspect. During the winter months, when Territorials go into civilian hibernation, the place resembles a deserted poor-house, but now that 1934 training has started, everything seems to have awakened. The din of tacketty boots along the passage ways heralds the commencement of what we have every hope is to be a first class training season.

The refresher courses for officers under the adjutant and for n.c.o.s instructed by the permanent staff, which are drawing to a close, have proved most beneficial. The winter classes for operators, which terminate on the 5th April in a trade test, have given our op sigs strength a considerable step-up ; the keenness of all who attended these classes so regularly and punctually is very commendable.

Local Signalling Courses.—As a result of a series of fourteen days courses for regimental signalling officers, n.c.o.s and men of the various units in the Highland Area, which have been conducted at this headquarters, a number of units are now better off for signallers. These courses have been very popular with all concerned and, we are sure, have been most useful.

Boxing.—No. 2 (Stirling) Company's notes in the Sports pages give full details regarding the fine performance of Sigmn McLean in winning the welter weight championship of the Territorial Army, and we view with great pride the record of his prowess. It is hoped that his success will inspire the budding Carneras of the unit : though, on the other hand, we trust it will not have a reverse effect with regard to his possible opponents in inter-Company boxing matches. The whole unit are fully aware of the sleeping draught carried in his now famous right to the jaw—especially No. 2 Company! We heartily congratulate Signalman McLean, and have hopes that he will add many more honours to his name as a boxer and laurels to the Corps.

Inter-Company Shooting.—The first of the three 1934 shoots for the cup, at present held by No. 2 (Stirling) Company, has resulted in a slight lead on points by No. 2 Company. Buck up, Nos. 1 and 3! you still have time to do it.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Sigmn Simon A. R. F., who lost his life by drowning at sea whilst employed in his civilian work. He was a popular member of "A" Wireless Section and was liked and respected by all who knew him. We offer our sincere condolences to his parents.

Mechanisation.—" It's a sair fecht, nay mair farriers ; the Signals is bein' hypnotised!"

Complimentary.—Instructor (to recruit squad on parade in drill hall): " That gentleman who has just passed is the Company quartermaster-sergeant." Latest joined recruit: " Gentleman! If I gang near his store again, he's going tae jump on my chest!"

LANKA MK. II.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—We tender our apologies for the lack of notes from this Company for the last two issues, and can truthfully offer the excuse that the date slips by before we notice that WIRE notes are due again. However, we promise not to offend in future.

The second winter course is very near its end now, and as the Trade Board is due to arrive here on the 22nd March, we are hoping for a general uplift in trade ratings. Still, whatever the results of the Board, we are confident that all who have attended these courses will feel that they are much more useful members of the community when annual camp comes round.

News that annual camp is to be at St. Andrew's this year has been received with general satisfaction. Enquiries regarding the cost of plus fours and golf clubs are still being answered, and great interest is displayed in the golf film series now being shown at the Regal (the local cinema). The real players, however, are getting down to it in their best style and slowly taking the rust off their clubs.

Entertainments.—The Company held their annual dance in the drill hall on Friday 23rd February, and all who attended voted it a huge success. The committee, under the leadership of Lieuts. J. Cochran and J. Gray, were well repaid for the enormous amount of work they put into this function. We were very fortunate in having with us our commanding officer, adjutant, and practically every officer in the three Companies, as well as the commanding officer of the Depot Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Stirling Castle) and other officers from the Depot, and also representatives from the 7th A. and S.H. and 51st (H) Divisional Ordnance Company. We were pleased to welcome representatives from Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and we thank them for the support they gave us. Unit H.Q. had a 100 per cent. attendance, as also did the unit permanent staff. No. 3 Company sent us three members of the unit pipe band, who greatly assisted us with our musical programme.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow.

Old George.—(Or should we say George Crawford, one time C.Q.M.S.?) George may be seen in the sergeants mess quaffing his pint of ale, spruce and debonair as ever with his latest decoration, the Imperial Service medal. George has indeed crowned his career as a civil servant with honour. Well may you rest on your laurels, George! Forty years with the Colours, Reserve and Territorials surely qualify you for a long and happy retirement. May you chaff and quaff with us for many a day!

Headway —Apropos our prediction, fortune follows our sporting flag. We have emphasised our entry into Scottish military sporting circles by annexing the light weight boxing championship of the 52nd (Lowland) Division. Splendid. L/Corpl Morrison!

Macbay.—To those whom it may concern, the name is Irish. The bearer of the name is, of course, our promising young friend Lieut. Macbay, who has crowned his attachment to A Corps Signals, Aldershot, with distinction.

It's the Uniform.—Our well-turned-out permanent staff recruiters are the talk of the town. Many a bonnie lassie's eyes fastened on the waving tricolour as our talent spotters looked for likely lads to the skirl of the pipes of the Black Watch. Slap your manly bemedalled chest, Spud Murphy! You catch the eye of the lunch-time typist. You have an eye for Glasgow's potential young soldier. You're the man for the job.

Changing Over.—We are to be mechanised. We will miss the horses, the riding school and the Saturday afternoon rides. Gone will be the great road rodeo from Jardine Street to camp. However times change, our drivers need have no worry. Their good work has been well recognised, and their interests and well-being will be a first consideration.

Aberfoyle.—Our officers will long remember the winter exercises at Aberfoyle. Sweeping gales and driving rain proved no deterrent. With headquarters at that sanctum of crowned heads and millionaires, the Bailie Nicol Jarvie Hotel, situated in the heart of the Rob Roy country, the super problems of communication were tackled and retackled—from General Headquarters to Battalion by way of cable, air line and the ether. There were successful schemes and unsuccessful ones. Advances were countered. Attacks were repulsed. The grand deploy on the Bailie bar proved the most successful of all the exercises. Rob Roy and his myriad hosts vanished into nothingness. His Chief Signal Officer was easily outwitted. Abstruse signal problems proved easy of solution, cable was laid, air line routes were erected, wireless interference was completely eliminated—all at the Bailie bar! The exercises can be productive of nothing but good. Conferences were held, lectures given, and policy defined. The entire outcome of the event should prove most beneficial to our training curriculum.

Comfy.—The recent improvements and additions to furnishings in the Sergeants Mess and Men's Club are indeed welcome. The Men's Club is a cheery place these nights, and the well regulated arrangements are productive of good fellowship and healthy recreation.

Happy Days.—Annual training once again appears in the offing—the great break from our humdrum city life, the Ayrshire coast, the Dundonald hills and the romance of the Burns country. Two Cable Sections of the S.R. are to proceed to Aldershot in September, and they can rest assured of the never-failing welcome of their Regular comrades.

Philately.—Will any comrade interested in this subject—especially anyone serving in China—please communicate with Sigmn Stuart W. S., S.R. orderly room, Royal Signals, 21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.?

Old Soldiers Never!—It has been our pleasure recently to welcome several ex-Regulars to our ranks. We will be especially glad to see any eligible ex-Regular Signals men in the Glasgow district for enlistment or enrolment in the O.C.A.

Queer Queries.—Is it known that a certain member of our permanent staff has once again embraced Lady Nicotine, and that smokers of special brands should proceed with care?

Is it really believed in the Men's Club that Ossie was mentioned in despatches more often than any man in the British Expeditionary Force?

Can it be that the good ship *Forsythian* has arrived from Warren Point and is safely berthed on the Port Dundas Canal?

Will recluse Westland's period of hibernation 'midst his rags and scrap metal soon end? It is believed that with the advent of spring he may emerge and complete his thesis on the exchange of a part-worn tunic.

Thank You!—The local circulation of THE WIRE is increasing. To those who have helped us, we tender our best thanks. There is still room for improvement. We appeal especially to the officers and senior n.c.o.s for their further support.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Individual training is still progressing favourably. Operating tests are held every week, and several members have passed higher reading tests. The honours go to Corpl Hawkins R., who since camp last year has increased his reading rate from twelve to twenty words per minute; and it is very pleasing to see the number of recruits who have also increased their rates.

Seventeen officers attended a week-end course at Porthcawl on the 17th/18th February and derived a great deal of benefit. Another will be held on the 24th/25th March.

Reference week-end course, fire extinguishers are no longer spoken of in the Officers Mess. Who are the all night chars?

Welcome.—We are very pleased to welcome to our district Major G. J. M. Peel from the Air Defence Formations (London). He is maintaining his association with the Corps by attending our drills at Park Street. As he is likely to be with us for some time, we hope he will enjoy our company.

Shooting.—The first round of the Webber cup was competed on the 19th February. Each Company entered a team, and all went into the next round. No. 1 Company made 261 and No. 3 put on 269, while No. 2 had the best score of 285.

The second round took place on the 12th March, and once again No. 2 Company go into the semi-final, having scored the grand total of 299 out of the possible 320. Well done, No. 2 Company! I can see that trophy coming back to Park Street again this year.

The bandmaster is going to use his bass fiddle as a bow and arrow the next time he visits the range.

Social.—The w.o.s and n.c.o.s held a very successful dance on the 1st March. During the evening we were honoured with a visit by our officers, who appeared to enjoy themselves. Scene 1: In the dance hall at midnight, a Scotsman producing from his pocket one fish supper. Scene 2—ten minutes later (after the ladies had all had a taste): Jock sitting dismally in the corner, sucking the bones. (I should try eel next time, Jock.)

On the 13th March the w.o.s and n.c.o.s entertained the British Legion branch from Taffswell to a return games tournament. Thanks to Sergt Baxter and his entertainment committee, everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Father Time played havoc with the Legionaires on the rifle range, although Sergt Baker met his Waterloo.

An excellent smoker was given by the W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess on the 3rd March. The programme provided by Sergeant Baxter and the entertainment committee was above the average, and was certainly better than some of the B.B.C. hours one listens to. We should like to hear more of these next winter.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

General.—The past month has gone by without much excitement in the way of social activities, because we have put most of our time and energy into the paid evening classes which continue here until the end of March.

The Sergeants Mess dance "happened" to be on the evening of the 3rd March, and according to Vic it went down very well indeed, chiefly on account of the poky die game going the way it should!

Training.—The half-way line of the paid evening classes has been passed and the progress is very satisfactory. The attendances are consistent.

Most of our present driver ratings will, at the annual training camp, find themselves full blown signalmen with a lineman's trade group on their conscience. Some, of course, will be sorry to have lost the mokes, but will be consoled on pay day. These drivers are really working hard and will fully deserve any success that comes their way.

The operator signalmen are also working very hard, so we anticipate quite an uplift in our number of tradesmen after the Trade Board.

Recruiting.—As already announced, we have vacancies in the Company for operators and tradesmen of all kinds; and now a prize of twenty shillings is to be given by the commanding officer to any member who brings up four recruits. This, without doubt, is worth having, so the officer commanding No. 1 Company asks that every man will not only do his duty, but try his best to take away as many "quids" as he would want, say, for a long holiday. So come along with your prospective recruits and be a rich man!

Congratulations.—These are extended to our R.S.M. on his promotion in the Corps roster (fags in lieu of beer permitted, sir, although admittedly unorthodox). To C.S.M. Collins and Sergt Finn on receiving the I.G.S. medal with N.W.F. clasp 1930-31 (and as stated above, Harry—Vic already knows—fags are admitted, etc.)

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—During the last month we have accomplished much. Many noses, large and small, have been well down to the grindstone, and the Morse fever is as contagious as the 'flu. The evening classes have attracted a steady flow of untrained men, and they are now well on their way to secure the coveted Group E.

Our attendances—about a third of our Company strength—are not all that we could wish, but an increase is looked for on this month's attendance roll when some well known faces, as well as some new ones, are expected to make their appearance. However, the month has been very well spent, and according to the "man with the duster" in the canteen, the lads are not a little proud of what they have jerked back.

A member of the exchange operating class suggested that lady telephonists from the London Post Office should be asked to come along during the evenings and give some practical advice. Not a bad idea, but it would mean altering the book of words, which does not contain "Sorry you've been trrrroubled!"

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. Dowie F. J. on his recent promotion. To C.S.M. Collins H. on being awarded the I.G.S. medal and clasp. "I'll sing thee songs of D.I.K. and tales of fair Bannu."

Tips from the Course.—Heard during a lecture on cable laying. Instructor: "What articles would you make sure of having before leaving to lay a line by hand over rough country?" Bright recruit: "Sandwiches"!

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—The only item of interest for this month is the working of the paid classes. A good number have been attending and the reading results are quite good. Our large batch of recruits have taken advantage of the course and are attending every night, thereby obtaining a good foundation for the year's training. Talking about recruits reminds me of a coming event. This will be the "great bread and cheese cinema" show. All ranks will be allowed in free, but. . . . There is a "but" in it, though I think I will leave that until later. In the meantime, bring all your pals along on drill nights and let them watch the Company at work.

S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—Paid evening classes have now started and are in full swing. Quite a number of the unit are attending, and we hope to put up a good show at the annual Trade Board which assembles during May.

Social.—The 248th Field Company Royal Engineers were "at home" on Saturday 17th February, and several members of the unit accepted invitations to the sausage and mash supper, whist drive and concert. Quite a good company was present and the evening was a great success. The chair was taken by Major C. C. Atkinson, M.C., R.E. (T.), who by the way is our late O.C. unit, and everything went off swimmingly. The evening started with a whist drive of twelve hands, and then the whole company adjourned for supper. After that we were entertained by several of our old favourites, including Mr. A. Rump and Mr. Lawley. As usual, they were on the top of their form, and the result was a very good show.

Congratulations.—We extend the big hand to our R.S.M. on his recent promotion in the Corps roster, and also to Sergeant V. Finn on becoming the proud possessor of the I.G.S. medal and N.W.F. clasp, 1930-31. Don't get lop-sided, Vic.

BEDFORDIAN.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 136. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Since last appearing in print in this Journal, great strides have been made in the progress of this unit, and events so numerous and varied have happened that one can only give a short resumé since October last.

In that month we vacated our old headquarters at 51 Calthorpe Street, W.C.1, and occupied our newly built headquarters at the above address. These headquarters are situated in the residential quarter of Clapham, within easy distance of Clapham South underground station, and have all the facilities of a modern West End club, including squash, badminton and miniature rifle shooting. The Sergeants Mess have formed a recreational club, and all members are now potential Amir Beys!

Early in the New Year we held our first dance of the season, which was voted a huge success. The spacious hall was well filled. The floor is one of the best of its kind for dancing, and can easily accommodate 250 to 300 couples.

Training is now much more interesting, as we are not cramped for space. The Line of Communications Signals affiliated to this unit drill on Monday evenings and the Territorial Companies on Tuesday evenings. A great improvement was made by the innovation of canvas clothing and soft caps for parade purposes, officers and permanent staff wearing blue patrol. Viewed from the balcony surrounding the drill hall, these parades are an imposing spectacle; and great keenness is shown, not only on parade but also in the various branches of Signal work in which the men engage.

The great event in our history occurred on the 10th February, when the Duke of York, accompanied by the Duchess, formally opened our new headquarters. There were approximately eight hundred people present at the ceremony, which took place in the afternoon. The hall was tastefully decorated, and music was provided (by kind permission of their commanding officer) by the regimental band of the 2nd City of London Regiment, Royal Fusiliers.

Their Royal Highnesses were received by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel G. D. Ozanne. After all the officers of the unit and their wives had been presented, the Duke inspected the guard of honour formed by this unit. Our commanding officer, in his address of welcome, emphasised the fact that our headquarters was the finest of its kind in existence, and hoped that, as the unit was still well below establishment, the new surroundings would encourage more recruits, to whom he assured a hearty welcome.

The Duke of York, who was wearing the undress uniform of a colonel of the Scots Guards, in his address stated that the Territorial Army was a unique force recruited voluntarily from citizens, and deserved the respect of all our countrymen, whom he hoped would give it every assistance in their power. Touching upon our own Corps, he stated that we were a highly technical body whose activities extended from the base to the foremost fighting troops. Therefore, he continued, it required men of exceptional qualifications, and it was most important that they should be accommodated in districts where the right type of recruit could be attracted. Hence Clapham had been chosen as such a district. He later inspected the drill hall and showed great interest in all he saw.

The Duchess was presented with a bouquet of pink carnations by Miss Betty Willway, the young daughter of Major A. C. C. Willway, commanding No. 2 Company. After the wives of the w.o.s and staff sergeants had been presented to the Duchess, she visited the married quarters allocated to the permanent staff of this unit and spent some time in chatting to the occupants.

Among the many distinguished guests present were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Brigadier-General the Earl of Lucan and the Countess of Lucan, Colonel the Lord Wakefield, Colonel the Lord Basing and Lady Basing, His Worship the Mayor of Wandsworth and the Mayoress, Col. the Hon. Arthur Brodrick,



THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF 56TH (1ST LONDON) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, T.A.

Back row (left to right)—Mrs. Dugan, General Bonham-Carter, Mrs. Bonham-Carter, Mrs. Gough, Colonel Denison Pender, General Sir H. Gough, Colonel E. Wood, Mrs. Pender, the Hon. Mrs. Bowlby

Centre—The Marchesa Marconi, the Marchese Marconi, Sir H. Creedy, Lady Creedy, Lord Wakefield

Front—General Dugan, the Mayoress of Wandsworth, the Mayor of Wandsworth, H.R.H. the Duke of York, the Lord Mayor of London, H.R.H. the Duchess of York

[*Photo by Photopress Ltd.*]

Sir Herbert Creedy and Lady Creedy, General Sir Hubert Gough and Miss Gough, H.E. the Marchese Marconi and the Marchesa Marconi, Alderman and Sheriff Sir G. T. Broadbridge and Lady Broadbridge, Colonel Alderman and Sheriff Sir S. G. Joseph and Lady Joseph, Lieut.-General C. Bonham-Carter and Mrs. Bonham-Carter, Major-General C. J. C. Grant, Major-General Winston Dugan and Mrs. Dugan, Col. J. Waley Cohen, Colonel R. J. I. Hesketh and Mrs. Hesketh, Colonel Evelyn Wood, Col. H. M. Pryce-Jones, Colonel E. G. Dunn, Colonel W. L. Y. Rogers, Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchins and Mrs. Hitchins, Colonel R. Chenevix Trench and Mrs. Trench, Colonel T. W. Vigers and Mrs. Vigers, Colonel L. A. Harwood and Mrs. Harwood, Captain E. H. Tuckwell and Miss Tuckwell, and J. Joseph, Esq. and Mrs. Joseph.

An event such as this should go far to bring recruits to our ranks, and it is hoped that in the near future recruiting will be in full swing. We can promise all an interesting and happy time with our unit.

On the evening of the opening ceremony the Sergeants Mess terminated the day with a dance, which made a very fitting end to a momentous and happy event in the annals of our history.

The inter-Company football competition eventually reached its final stage, and this match was played on the 24th February between No. 2 Company (T.A.) and No. 4 Company (L. of C. Signals, S.R.). The game was keenly contested, but the magnificent defence of No. 4 Company could not keep out the No. 2 sharp-shooters, who won the match by two goals to none. The play was more even than the score suggests, and a high standard of football was reached. No. 2 Company are to be congratulated on their fine performance.

A very successful signal exercise was held during the week-end of March 3rd and 4th in the Aldershot district, in conjunction with a Divisional T.E.W.T., and with the co-operation of the 2nd Divisional Signals, who kindly supplied personnel and equipment. Brigade schemes were the order of the day, except (as I have since been informed) for the "intelligentsia," who were working out problems in connection with tactical exercises. I cannot vouch for the truth of the latter statement, but it certainly sounds all right; and for any further particulars on the subject I refer you to the R.Q.M.S. or the P.S.I. of No. 2 Coy.

C.E.S.



H.R.H. the Duke of York inspecting the new Speech Amplifier, built by Major A. V. D. Hort from parts kindly presented by various Radio Manufacturers.

[*Photo by London News Agency Photos Ltd.*]



H.R.H. the Duchess of York chatting with the wife of Sergeant N. J. Woodcock and her two children in their home.

[*Photo by Planet News Ltd.*]



Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

General.—There is always a moan because we do not lift many sports trophies. How can we? After fourteen weeks training under our very capable P.T. staff, we produce the perfect Hercules-cum-Adonis. He immediately passes on to the Training Battalion or the Mounted Wing, and promptly proceeds to display those excellent qualifications to our ultimate loss and embarrassment. One thing that *does* seem to please the powers that be is the noticeable increase in weight of our recruits after a few weeks training. We get some fine examples of the value of Army P.T. in this Wing. "Muscles" seems quite happy about it, and that is something!

Boxing.—Our recruits met the Depot Green Howards in the Blood Tub on the 22nd February. There were some excellent displays, our team winning by 18—15 points. During the interval Captain B. B. Kennett, with the assistance of Corpl Myddleton and L/Corpl Stirk, gave us an interesting black and white demonstration. Driver Murdoch (No. 55 Squad) finished the evening off in fine style by knocking out his man in the first round. Looking round the ringside, I missed the familiar face of C.S.M. Payne (now R.Q.M.S. at Colchester).

During the first two weeks of February an inter-Squad boxing competition was held. This was won by No. 53 Squad, who received the shield. Driver Murdoch won the welter weight and Sigmn Gale was runner-up. Sigmn Driscoll was the winner of the middle weight. These men were all presented with a medal. No. 50 Squad took second place with 41 points. Sigmn Toole received a medal for being the best loser. Better luck next time!

Attachment (Temporary).—L/Corporal Stirk to London, where he is entered for the Army individual championships as a feather weight. All the best!

Assault-at-Arms.—This was given by our P.T. staff in the Depot Gymnasium on the 20th February. The parallel bar and chair tricks were a credit to our instructors. The audience, largely composed of recruits, was highly delighted with the quarter-staff display by Corpl Myddleton and L/Corporal Stirk. The P.T. display could be considered quite an inspiration to the recruits. "Muscles" tells me that he considers it only a start, and is hoping for better things still in the future.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—On the 14th February we met E Company in the second round of the Mackworth trophy. It was good to see the teams give each other such hard knocks in a real sporting spirit. Both Companies had good vocal support, and there is no doubt that the spectator who insisted on Don keeping their eyes on the ball played no mean part in their ultimate victory. The interval arrived with the score sheet blank, some of the spectators being more exhausted than the players. Soon after the resumption Parker scored a try which was converted by Mr. Linton. After a short period Mr. Linton kicked a grand penalty goal. This concluded the scoring, D Company winning by 8—0 points. We are sure that those who took part in this Titanic struggle enjoyed it as much as we did watching it.

After defeating E Company, we met the School of Signals in the final of the Mackworth trophy on Scotton ground on the 1st March. The ground was on the soft side, being partly covered with the snow for which Catterick is famous. Both sides were at full strength, and we were pleased to see Corporal Atkinson back at scrum half for the Company. The School opened the scoring with a penalty goal for a scrum infringement in our '25, Smith taking the kick. This lead was maintained until the interval. Shortly after resuming we equalised with a penalty goal by Mr. Linton, who was playing with his usual hearty vigour. It was essentially a forward game and little was seen of the three-quarters. Lutener of the School was nearly through when he was well tackled by Sergt Angell. Everything pointed to a draw when Corpl Atkinson seized a chance to cut through from the scrum to score a great try for D—a worthy effort. This try was not converted. So ended a hard-fought game, with Smith of the School prominent at full back, the result being a win for us by 6—3 points.

Shooting.—During the last month, shooting has been going with a swing and the standard has greatly improved. The results to date are as follows. We defeated F Company, School of Signals and Mounted Wing, and lost to E Company and the Dismounted Wing. This places the team third in the league. Previously we tied with Mounted Wing and E Company for first place.

The best team shoot made in the league to date was 767 by the Mounted Wing, but in our match against F Company we beat this by two points, making the best Mackworth League score now 769. This averages just over 96 for each competitor—certainly a good team average. To date we have only once been below last year's best Company shoot, and this indicates the keenness with which members have practised. Possibly, with the Battalion running a team in the Yorkshire Summer League, we shall put this year's shooting in the shade next winter.

During the last month we have lost good shots in Signalmen Robinson, Hutley, Johnson, MacNair and others. We hope they will get a chance in their new units to carry on with .22 shooting, and that we may see them at some of the S.M.R.C. meetings.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.

Army Boys Championships.—Held at Chepstow on the 23rd and 24th February. Our heartiest congratulations to Cross and O'Brien on winning the 8 st. and 7 st. 7 lb. weights respectively. Last year we entered for the first time, sending three boys down. We got one runner-up and a semi-finalist. This year we sent four representatives, getting two weight winners; and all four fought in the final sessions.

7 st. 7 lb.—O'Brien drew a bye in the first round and easily won the semi-final and final, the fights being stopped as he was too good for his opponents.
8 st.—Cross had three fights, the first and final being stiff ones and the semi-final an easy win.
8 st. 6 lb.—Mullen drew a bye into the semi-final and was only just beaten on points after a very fine show.
9 st. 9 lb.—Willis put up an equally good show, beating a strong opponent in the first round and just losing in the semi-final.

F Company v. Stoneyhurst College.—This meeting took place at Stoneyhurst on the 14th February. A team of ten went over and won by six fights to four. The improvement in the standard of boxing in the Company was most noticeable. The following were the results. Mullen, Mayhew, O'Brien (knock-out), Hawley, Willis and Cross won. Garfield, Brown, Parker and Shepperd lost on points, by a small margin in each case.

The day's outing and the hospitality of Stoneyhurst were much enjoyed by all. Once again we wish to thank Sergt Brewster for giving up so much of his time to train the boxers and assisting so much towards the successes related above.

Soccer.

Boys Army Cup.—The semi-final draw is as follows:—Royal Signals "A" team v. D.6 Platoon, Chepstow; and Irish Guards v. Hampshire Regiment. The matches will be played on the Command central ground, Aldershot, on Wednesday 11th April. We appeal most earnestly to the Aldershot Signals to come and support us on that afternoon. If we have a lot of supporters to drown our opponents' adherents, it will make all the difference.

Boys Garrison Football Cup: First Round.—Wednesday 21st February was a red letter day for Company soccer. "B" team (operators) beat the Durham Light Infantry on Colburn ground by 4—2 goals. "C" team (fitters) beat the East Yorks Boys by 2—0 after extra time on Scotton. "D" (instrument mechanics) beat combined 20th and 21st Field Brigade Boys on Marne Lines ground by 4—0. On Saturday 24th February "A" team (operators first team) beat the Essex Regiment Boys by 2—0. We then had four of the six teams left in the competition.

Cross-Country.—Congratulations to the following on their performances in the Garrison run and Northern Command cross-country, and on being awarded Training Battalion "Jimmies" for the season 1933-34: L/Corpl Blades, L/Corpl Boy Verlander, Boy Terrey, Sigmn McQuade, Boy Craig.

Rugger.

F Company v. Ampleforth Second XV.—Played at Ampleforth on the 20th February. Won by 14—6 points. Although we had playing for us three officers and one n.c.o., who scored the points and held the team together, our success was mainly due to the great improvement in the boys' rugger since the beginning of the season. The team now show more confidence, especially the three-quarters, who are handling the ball and passing much better. Team: Back, L/Corpl Boy Verlander; three-quarters, 2/Lieut. Gordon, L/Corpl Boy Piddington, L/Cpl Boy Offord, Boy Smith; halves, Boys Harrison and Shergold; forwards, 2/Lieutenants Nicholson and Starr, L/Corpl Currie, Boys Luscombe, Hall, White, King V. and Terrey.

The match against Barnard Castle had to be cancelled owing to the hard state of the ground, due to drought. A last minute attempt to procure a bus for them to come over here failed.

School of Signals, Catterick.

Rugby: Mackworth Trophy Knock-Out Competition, 1933/34.

First Round.—v. Mounted Wing on 14th February. Won by 3—0. This game was played on a very windy day, with the result that it was mainly a forward duel, most passing movements being ruined by the high wind. There were long periods of pressure by both sides, but neither could score. In the last few minutes of extra time L/Corpl Pearson won the race for the ball after a kick ahead and scored the School's try.

Semi-Final Round—v. F Company on the 22nd February. Won by 4—3. A very fast and open game. The School took the lead early with a good drop goal by Sigmn Smith C. After this F Company kept up a long period of pressure and scored a try, which was unconverted. The School again attacked strongly, a forward pass spoiling a certain score, and Sigmn Smith took a penalty kick that only just went short of the goal.

Final Round—v. D Company on the 1st March. Lost by 3—6. The School forwards had been improving with each game, and they played very well indeed to hold D Company's pack as they did. The game was very even and fast. The School attacked well in the first half with the wind behind them, but could not get over D's line. A penalty in their '25 resulted in a very good kick by Sigmn Smith C. After half time D Company had the advantage of the wind and went very hard. The School defended well, but a penalty right in front of goal resulted in the scores being levelled at 3—3. The School then went very hard and pressed on D's line for a long period but could not score. A breakaway by D Company took the play back to the School '25. Finally, in the last few minutes, D Company got over to score a good try and win an exciting game.

The following turned out for the School in these games:—Lieut. Holmes, C.Q.M.S. George, Sergt Mineur, Corporals Brice, Homan and McCullogh, L/Corporals Knight and Pearson, Signalmen Beck, Beswick, Cartwright, Lennon, Lutener, Smith C., Stevens and Walters, and Drivers Brooks and Scholfield.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.—Congratulations to the football team on their very strong position in the league.

Cross-Country Running.—Congratulations to the cross-country team on beating the 2nd Divl Signals by 20 points, with A Corps Signals third.

Boxing.—On the 14th March the unit beat A Corps Signals in the inter-unit boxing by 24—18 points. Results (1st Divl Signals first named in each case):—

Bantam—Sigmn Cavanagh beat Sigmn Homer on points.
Feathers—Sigmn Grant was beaten by Sigmn Smith on points. Sigmn Cox beat Sigmn Waterson in a good fight, with plenty of hard hitting on either side.
Light weights—Sigmn Ingram beat Sigmn Ducker. For the first two rounds of this fight there was plenty of hard hitting, with little to choose between the opponents, but in the third round Ingram took the lead to win on points. Sigmn O'Brien beat Sigmn Reighton on points. This fight was spoilt by too much footwork and very little boxing. L/Corpl Snow beat Sigmn Walker. This fight was stopped in the second round, Sigmn Walker putting up a very game show.
Welter weights—Corpl Clarke beat Sigmn Kennedy in a mixed fight. Signalman Brown was beaten by Sigmn Gough, who registered a knock-out in the second round. Sigmn Duffin was beaten by Sigmn Hughes. Duffin was floored three times in the first round but was saved by the gong. In the second round he received terrific punishment, but came back for more until the fight was eventually stopped.
Middle weights—Sigmn Hardwick was beaten by Lieut. Cooke in a fight with a very little hard hitting but a lot of blood. Sigmn Ringrose beat Sigmn Craddock in a hit and miss fight. Sigmn Lunt beat Sigmn Clark, making good use of his very useful left.
Light heavy—Sigmn Chapman beat Sigmn Boffy in a very good fight, with plenty of good clean boxing and hard hitting.
Welter—Sigmn Edwards beat Sigmn Grigg in a whirlwind fight which slowed down in the third round.

No. 1 Company.

Boxing.—We boast several exponents of the noble art, and they are engaged at the moment in keeping in training. Several competitions are due in the near future, and I hope to report later the annexation of new trophies.

Football.—Inter-Section games are the rule on recreational training afternoons. The most notable rivals are D and D.R. Sections. Of the several games played, none has resulted in a decisive victory either way; but several stars have found their way into the unit teams.

Hockey.—Two Company matches have been played with No. 2 Company. Here again, the honours are even with a win apiece.

Rugby.—Only one Company game has been played. In this we were pitted against No. 2 Company in a Cobb trophy fixture. We were narrowly beaten by the only try scored, and were indeed lucky to foil their clever efforts to win by a wider margin. However, we provide several stars for the unit team, who invariably give a good account of themselves in each game played.

Cross-Country.—We have not the numbers to arrange Company runs in competition with the demands of other forms of sport. But we do number among our ranks several useful members of the unit team which has proved almost invincible in competition with the other Signals units stationed in Mons Barracks.

Shooting.—In the annual small-bore competition on the miniature range for the Powell cup, No. 2 Company narrowly beat us, with No. 3 a good third.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 2 Company.

Hockey.—We played No. 1 Company in the inter-Company competition on the 21st February, the winners to meet No. 3 Company in the final. After a hard and exciting game, in which both sides played really good hockey, our opponents proved themselves better than we were by scoring the only goal in the match.

Soccer.—We met No. 3 Company in the final of the inter-Company competition and were very unfortunate in losing to them. They fielded a strong side of members of the "A" and "B" unit teams, and from the start we knew that we would be up against something. However, we soon gave No. 3 Company and many of their spectators one large-sized shock, for we led by two—nil. By half time the score was level, and when the final whistle blew the score was 4—2 against us. Thus the honours for soccer go to No. 3 Company.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

Hockey.—In the second round of the Garrison hockey cup we managed to gain the verdict by 3—2 goals. It was a very tight game and full of excitement right up to the final whistle.

In the semi-final round we played the 2nd Battn Loyal Regiment (last year's Army cup finalists) and they gave us our exit card to the tune of 3—0 goals. Considering the size of the unit, the team's performance was pretty good. Up to half time our team held their own with the exception of a gift goal for the Loyals; but in the second half the latter were much superior in attack and added two fine goals to their tally. A very good game to watch.

Other results for the month are as follows. Against Bristol Civil Service, at Bristol, we drew at three all after a ding-dong struggle. We are anxiously looking forward to the date of their visit to us here, as we are sure of a good game. We spent a very enjoyable day at Bristol. I can vouch for the scenery, too. Against the K.O.Y.L.I. we drew in a non-scoring game.

Soccer.—Results to date: v. 11th Hussars lost by 2—4, and v. 16/5th Lancers won by 5—1.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.

Salisbury Plain Area Challenge Cup.—In the first round we were lucky enough to get a bye. For the second round we were drawn against the 11th Hussars and played at Bulford on Tuesday 6th March. From the onset it was evident that our fellows were out to win, especially as we had been defeated by the same team in the league to the tune of 6—2. The game was full of thrills and the spectators were kept on their toes until the final whistle, when we ran out winners by 2—0.

Third round. Drawn against the 1st Battalion K.O.Y.L.I., we played at Tidworth on Friday 9th March. It was clear from the start that we were up against a tough proposition, but having beaten them by 6—2 in the league, we were rather confident of victory. We had plenty of support, but even that didn't help much. As a game it was not spectacular, and undoubtedly the K.O.Y.L.I. were a better team. At full time the score stood at 1—1, but during extra time they put on two more and deservedly won. So ends our prospect of reaching the semi-final.

Salisbury Plain Area League.—v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A. Things have brightened up considerably in this direction, and after beating the 6th Medium Brigade R.A., the league leaders, by 4—0, the critics were rather confounded by our third round cup tie. In beating the 6th Brigade our fellows certainly put a feather in their caps, for the Medium team is certainly not one to be treated as easy. Our lads surpassed themselves, not individually but as a team, and deservedly won.

v. 1st Battn Royal Welch Fusiliers. Played at Bulford on the 7th March. Once more our team proved that a great improvement has taken place in their play. Although the game was rather scrappy at times, it was evident that we had the measure of the Welshmen and were determined to avenge our earlier defeat in the league. We might have had a couple more goals, but were contented with 4—1.

We hope the team will maintain their improvement for the rest of the season, and not give us those heart attacks on occasions when they seem to fall right back for no apparent reason.

Company Football.

No. 1 Company.—Up to date No. 1 Company are seventh out of nineteen teams in the Bulford Garrison Football League, with 13 points out of a possible 20, and lead the other Companies. Results since the last notes are as follows:—v. 48th Battery R.A. lost by 1—2, and v. 15th Battery R.A. won by 2—1. We hope to improve our position in the league, as all the teams above us, with one exception, have played more games.

No. 2 Company.—Only one match has been played during the preceding month. This was against the 48th Battery R.A., and it was left drawn with a score of four all.

No. 3 Company.—At present our share of points in recent games has only reached a rather small total. There is not much time left now, so buck up, No. 3 Company, and collar a few more.

Rugby.—Four games have been played, with results as shown:
v. 5th Light Brigade R.A. lost by 8—10
v. 9th Field Brigade R.A. won by 21—5
v. Exeter, lost by 0—13
v. K.O.Y.L.I. won by 14—11.

The Exeter game played at Exeter gave the team an outing and, we hope, several lessons. Chief among these is the necessity to get the ball out and keep it moving. A second and vital lesson was the awful result of not going hard for the man and ball in defence. Actually, on form, there was no reason why we should not have beaten the team handsomely. A bus drive of a hundred miles is not, of course, the best preliminary to a game.

Hockey.—Only one unit match has been played: v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A., which we won by 2—0. In a friendly, No. 1 Company defeated the 56th Company R.E. by 5—2.

All three Companies entered the semi-finals of the Bulford Garrison hockey cup. No. 2 Company defeated the 15th Battery R.A. by 5—0, so that it will be an all-Signals final.

Recent arrivals from India and elsewhere include some very useful players such as Capt. Watts and L/Corporals Thomas and Burrell, and we look forward to a first class team next year.

Cross-Country.—During the last month we have competed in the Salisbury Plain Area and Southern Command championships. As we had so many promising runners, we entered two teams in the former event. The teams were arranged as nearly as possible equal in merit. As it turned out, we secured the first and third places, with the Royal Welch Fusiliers second; but our "B" team was surprisingly far behind our "A" men, upsetting form completely. That result, however, has since proved correct, and the team finally selected for the Army championships includes only two of the "B" team. There was a fine finish between Sigmn Page and Sergt Cotterell, Page just getting home on the post.

In the Southern Command race we entered one team only and lost the cup for the first time in seven years, being defeated by the York and Lancs. Regiment. They were a very fine team indeed and packed extraordinarily well. We had two or three casualties with knee and ankle trouble, but we cannot (and do not) complain of the result. Individually, Page again took first place, with Cotterell second. Page has come on wonderfully this year, and we look to him for Army individual honours on the 20th March at Windsor. The veteran Cotterell never seems to fade away and is still in great form.

The team for the Army championships is as follows: Sergeant Cotterell, L/Corpls De Courcey, Bucke and Robinson, Signalmen Page, Hawthorne, Whichlaw, Petrie, Strickland, Hastings, Carlyon, Stanger, Hudson and Mudge, and Driver Stillwell. Reserves, L/Sergt Ayres and Sigmn Price (A.F.V. Signals).

Billiards.

No. 1 Company.—In the inter-unit Y.M.C.A. billiards knock-out cup we have reached the final round and are due to play off against the 15th Battery R.A. in the near future.

Progress to this stage has been made at the expense of the 1st Light Battery R.A., Royal Engineers and the 71st Battery R.A., whom we have beaten in each case by a comfortable margin.

The team is made up of the following players: L/Sergt Brooke (captain), Corpl Ashford, L/Corpl McKenzie and Signalmen Sherwood and Way; and it is hoped that we shall be able to report later that yet another cup has been won for the unit.

In the semi-final against the 71st Battery R.A. we excelled in team work, each man doing his best. Five very interesting games were witnessed, Sigmn Sherwood and L/Sergeant Brooke coming along with the largest wins, getting over 100 points between them.

No. 2 Company.—Good-bye was said to our hopes of gaining the Y.M.C.A. billiard cup after a very thrilling game, won by the 15th Field Battery R.A. Better luck next time, we hope.

No. 3 Company.—Unfortunately, C.Q.M.S. Thomas was supporting the rugby team and eating Devonshire cream at Exeter when we played the 15th Light Battery R.A. in the semi-final of the Y.M.C.A. cup, and this contributed to our heavy defeat.

Sergeants Mess.—After a disappointing appearance against the R.E., the team returned to form by winning both series of games against the R.A.S.C. with a score of 7—1 games on each occasion. We now confidently expect to carry off the cup for the runners-up. Our R.S.M. (Mr. Bramley) was very unlucky to lose a tight game of snooker when only black was left to decide.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Rugby.—Garrison Cup match v. 27th Field Brigade. Won by 12—3. The Gunners scored first, but shortly afterwards Haines replied with a try far out after a run and kick over the back's head. Early in the second half Snowball kicked a fine penalty goal from the half-way line. Our forwards were now right on top, and first McPherson and then 2/Lieut. Stead got over their line, the latter from a movement starting in our own '25.

Garrison Cup Semi-Final v. K.S.L.I.—Lost by 0—8. This was a very even match, our forwards being slightly superior in the loose and making ground with some excellent rushes. Our outsides, however, were unable to score, though Lieut. Goldsmith once or twice beat his opposite number. In the second half the elusive K.S.L.I. fly half scored two really good tries, one of which was converted. At full back Sigmn Snowball played an almost faultless game. The K.S.L.I. have since won the competition.

v. Northern Blues "A."—Won by 69—0. Northern Blues, at the last minute, only turned out an "A" XV. against us, with the above result. Top score in tries was made by Evans with eight.

Football.—The following matches have been played since the last publication.

First Eleven.

17/2/34 v. Clacton, home, E. and S.B. League, won by 5—3
21/2/34 v. Lancashire Fusiliers, E. & S.B. League, drew at 2—2
24/2/34 v. Stowmarket, home, E. and S.B. League, lost by 1—2
1/3/34 v. Lancashire Fusiliers, semi-final Pearson cup and E. and S.B. League points, won by 2—0
3/3/34 v. Heybridge, home, E. and S.B. League, lost by 0—4
5/3/34 v. Middlesex Regiment, semi-final Garrison cup and E. and S.B. League points, won by 4—2
7/3/34 v. K.S.L.I., E. and S.B. League, won by 4—2
10/3/34 v. Colchester Town, semi-final Essex Press cup, lost by 2—4

Second Eleven.

15/2/34 v. R.A.M.C., Thursday League, won by 4—1
22/2/34 v. 7th Field Company R.E., Thursday League, lost by 1—2

This month we have said goodbye to our centre forward Sigmn Snowball, and we shall greatly miss his sharp-shooting proclivities. The team and officials wish him the best of luck and "a sitter."

Hockey.—The only match of real note during the past month was the semi-final of the Garrison knock-out competition, in which we met the 2nd Battn K.S.L.I.

The first twenty minutes of the game went greatly in our favour, and the K.S.L.I. goalkeeper was compelled to make some splendid clearances to protect his charge. The K.S.L.I. then broke away and scored a soft goal in what was their first attack on our citadel. This unsettled our team; thereafter our opponents were clearly the better team and ran out winners by 3—0.

The unit is still interested in one more Garrison tournament, No. 1 Company having reached the semi-final of the sub-unit knock-out, and if normal form is maintained they have somewhat more than an even chance of winning the trophy.

First Eleven.

22nd February v. K.S.L.I., lost by 0—3
24th February v. Witham, won by 1—0

Second Eleven.

22nd February v. Severalls, won by 6—1
8th March v. Colchester Second Eleven, lost by 2—3

No. 1 Company.

Hockey.—Results in the inter-Company tournament: v. Field Battery, won by 3—2; v. C Company Lancashire Fusiliers, won by 4—1; v. A Company Lancashire Fusiliers, won by 3—0.

Football.—Results in the inter-Company competition: v. C Company Lancashire Fusiliers, won by 6—2; v. B Company Beds and Herts Regiment, won by 9—0.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Soccer.—Division I. table of the Scarborough and District League still proudly shows the Signals as the only club yet to concede both points to their opponents.

A smashing win over Hunmanby F.C. by 6—2 goals, away from home, places the unit team in the second place in the league. L/Corpl Hills A. and Sigmn Machin B. celebrated their initial appearance in the First Eleven in this match by finding the net, the former on three occasions and the latter once. L/Corporal Vize H. completed the rout by adding a couple of useful goals.

March 17th at Filey may record a temporary halt to our successes, but nevertheless I hope to be able to tell the Corps next month that once again "Jimmy" won through. This fixture should prove a battle royal, with the odds slightly in favour of the home team—tenants of a ground where very few visiting teams survive. Still, the "going to win" spirit is in the team, and Filey will not have matters all their own way; so here's to "ould Ireland"—and the seventeenth!

The fixture with Hunmanby F.C. being the only league match played since my last report appeared in the Sports section, I have little else to mention, so now for a few words about the Reserves.

Just take a glance at the league table, and it will be observed that the team occupies the fourth place with games in hand over the leaders. Playing regularly every week, victories have been registered against Forge Valley (5—1) and Gristhorpe (4—0). A division of spoils with Filey II. (1—1) was a creditable display at Filey, whilst a 1—0 defeat at the hands of Scalby, away, was no disgrace, although a draw would have been a fair reflex on the run of the game.

The Reserves have yet to meet Scarborough Juniors, the present league leaders; and when they do meet, memories of the 6—0 defeat inflicted by that club on the First Eleven in a cup tie earlier on in the season, will no doubt cause that "revenge is sweet" atmosphere to be prevalent throughout both encounters.

Here are both league tables compiled up and including Saturday 10th March.

Scarborough and District League.

Division I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Imps	12	7	3	2	37—22	16
Signals	9	6	0	3	30—10	15
Whitby	9	6	1	2	43—15	14
Filey	7	5	1	1	34—15	11
Pickering	8	2	3	3	30—23	7
Kirbymoorside	11	2	8	1	37—49	5
Hunmanby	8	2	6	0	23—24	4
North Cliff	8	0	8	0	4—78	0

Division II.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Scarborough Juniors	17	14	1	2	98—18	30
Snainton	18	13	5	0	64—45	26
Filey II.	16	11	2	3	70—25	25
Signals II.	15	10	2	3	48—25	23
Scalby	16	10	4	2	76—23	22
West Leigh	17	7	6	4	53—57	18
Imps II.	16	8	7	1	56—36	17
Oriel	13	7	5	1	47—35	15
Gristhorpe	20	6	11	3	53—63	15
Forge Valley	16	6	10	0	43—73	12
Y.M.C.A.	17	3	12	2	29—100	8
St. Peter's	20	2	16	2	41—110	6
Sherburn	17	0	14	3	20—94	3

Turning to soccer within the unit, the semi-final stage of the inter-Section knock-out shield has been reached, with the following results: K Section beat L by 3—1, and No. 4 Artillery Signal Section drew with D at 2—2. No. 4 and D Sections have yet to decide who shall be the opponents against K Section in the final. The weather clerk decided to prolong the agony by sending down sufficient rain to place the arena in a flooded condition. Look out for a report on the final in the May issue.

The Inter-Company League will commence almost immediately, as No. 2 Company's move to Catterick is imminent. Twocoy scribe will no doubt tell you all next month that "it was a foregone conclusion." What will actually happen remains to be seen.

A friendly match between Scarborough College and a Signals Eleven resulted in a 4—0 defeat for the College. A similar score was registered against Scarborough Corporation F.C. in a "run-out" match for the First Eleven.

Have You Observed?—The 2nd Battalion The King's Own Royal Regiment are appearing in the semi-final of the Army cup. We are rather proud of the fact that this team just managed to dispose of us in the first round by only two goals.

Rugby.

v. Driffield.—At Driffield on the 10th February. Won by 3—0. An entirely rearranged back division was chosen for this game and, whilst not altogether satisfactory from a team work point of view, showed good individual promise. 2/Lieut. G. B. Stevenson made a welcome return to the pack, which was otherwise unaltered. Our pack dominated the play, but the finishing work of the backs left a lot to be desired. In the second half Anthony moved to fly half and Farmer to left centre. This put a little more life into the backs, and ultimately Farmer crashed through for the only score of the game. Apart from the regular first team men, only Hodgson at full back was successful. He should, with further experience, make a very sound back.

v. York Y.M.C.A.—At York on the 24th February. Won by 11—0. Sigmn Beaumont, our fly half (who was on leave) failed to join us owing to a missed connection, so Signalman Ford was brought into the pack and Sigmn Kettlewell moved to the left wing. Our men soon showed their superiority, and after ten minutes continuous pressing Anthony kicked over the back's head, picked up cleanly and passed to Farmer, who touched down underneath the posts. Parry converted. The Div. pressed again, but a good kick by the Y.M.C.A. back transferred play to our half of the field. After a lot of midfield play, Farmer took a good pass from Parry and ran half the length of the field for a really good try, but Parry failed to convert. After half-time the Div. continued to press, and a good passing movement between the forwards ended with Kettlewell knocking on right on the home line. Sant took the ball from the base of the scrum and, neatly dummying the defence, placed another good try which was not converted. There was no further score. The splendid loose forward play of Mr. Stevenson and Sigmn Parry was a feature of this good game.

"A" XV. v. Bridlington "A."—At Bridlington on the 24th February. Won by 11—6. A strong "A" team visited Bridlington and easily avenged a home defeat. Sigmn Reay, who was making his first appearance of the season, scored two good tries and Sigmn Hall the other. Sigmn Cooper, who has been left out of the senior team owing to injuries sustained during the County cup ties, did good work by captaining this team from the full back position. He converted one of the tries.

v. York 1st XV.—At York on the 3rd March. We travelled to York, but owing to the ground being unfit for play the match had to be postponed.

v. York "B."—At home on the 3rd March. Won by 8—3. We turned out a team of about six second team players and the remainder third team men. Sigmn Cooper again captained the side. Sigmn Reay scored two tries for us, Cooper converting one of them. The York score was the result of a penalty kick for obstruction. Sigmn Oates played well at fly half and should establish himself as a good second team player.

v. Scarborough "A."—At Newby on the 10th March. Won by 17—6. This proved to be more of a mudlark than a match. Our First Fifteen were much too good for the Scarborough Second Fifteen and ran out easy winners. Tries were scored by Lieut. Stevenson and Signalmen Anthony, Cooper, Malone and Sant. Cooper converted one of the tries. Sant revelled in the mud and gave a very bright display in an otherwise dull match.

"A" XV. v. Beverley "A."—At home on the 10th March. Won by 9—3. The "A" XV., captained by L/Corpl Farmer, defeated Beverley "A" side, which included a number of men from the East Yorks Depot. Farmer, Ridley and Todd were responsible for our tries. L/Corpl Webb gave a good display at back, and Sigmn Oates gave another sound performance at fly half.

PLAYING RECORD TO DATE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points
First Fifteen	20	12	7	1	147—177
Second Fifteen	11	6	5	0	69— 83

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore

S.T.C. (India) All Ranks Golf Club.—On Sunday 18th February a triangular golf competition between the sergeants, corporals and signalmen was held, resulting in a win for the sergeants. The detail of the results are shown below.

Match No. 1—S/Sergt Maguire and Corporal Quigley ended all square. S/Sergt Maguire 9 up v. Sigmn Knox. Corpl Quigley 8 up v. Sigmn Knox.
Match No. 2—Sergt Nokes lost to L/Corpl Campbell by 7, and to Sigmn Hampson by 4. L/Corpl Campbell 3 up v. Sigmn Hampson.
Match No. 3—Sergt Marchant 6 up v. Corpl McKinnon and 6 up v. Sigmn Bourton. Corpl McKinnon lost to Sigmn Bourton by 3.
Match No. 4—Sergt Whittington 8 up v. Corpl Marchant and 5 up v. Sigmn Nelson. Corpl Marchant lost to Sigmn Nelson by 10.
Match No. 5—Sergt Wheeler lost to Corpl Connolly by 3, and 5 up v. Sigmn Spiers. Corpl Connolly 6 up v. Sigmn Spiers.
Result—Sergeants 4 up v. Corporals and 20 up v. Signalmen. Corporals 4 up v. Signalmen.

A Company.

Football Results—

A Company beat Brigade H.Q. Eleven by 8—1
Corporals Room lost to Junior N.C.O.s 15th Field Brigade by 0—4
A Company drew with S Battery R.A. at 3—3 and won by 2—1
A Company "B" beat H.Q. and F Section combined by 3—2
A Company drew with 15th Field Brigade at 1—1 and lost by 1—6 (four penalties)

Hockey Results—

A Company lost to H.Q. and F Section by 0—1, and won by 5—1 and 4—2
A Company lost to South Indian Sports Club by 0—1 and won by 4—2
A Company lost to Southern Sports Club by 1—3
Corporals Room lost to Signalmen by 2—5

Fazal Din Cup, 1934: Athletics.—As anticipated, owing to the heavy decrease in our numbers, the fight to retain the cup in the Company proved very hard, but we managed to win the trophy by three points as against 1½ points last year, when we were up to establishment. A table of events, showing points awarded, is published herewith for the information of our ex-Jubbulpore athletes.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A Company	4	4	4	3	2	0	0	3	2	3	4	2½	4	...35½
B R.Half	1	2	3	4	4	4	0	4	3	2	1	2½	2	...32½
D R.Half	2	1	2	2	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	4	3	...22
C L.Half	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	4	4	3	0	1	...18
D L.Half	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	...12
C R.Half	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	... 6
B L.Half	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	... 4

Column 1, 400 yards relay; 2, 880 yards relay; 3, mile relay; 4, two miles relay; 5, mile team; 6, three miles team; 7, 480 yards hurdles; 8, high jump; 9, long jump; 10, shot; 11, hammer; 12, pole jump; 13, medley race; 14, total points.

The entries were as follows:—
400 yards relay—First: L/Sergt Matthew, L/Corpls Chapman and McVey, Sigmn Keenlyside. Time 44⅕ sec,

880 yards relay—First: Corpl Yates, L/Corporals Chapman and McVey, Sigmn Keenlyside. Time 1 min. 41 sec.
Mile relay—First: Signalmen Clutton, Keenlyside and Nelson, L/Corpl McVey. Time 3 min. 52⅕ sec.
Two miles relay—Second: L/Sergt Murphy, Corpl Edge, L/Cpl Dean, Sigmn Bourner.
Mile team—Third: Corpl Edge, L/Corpl Dean, Sigmn Hampson and Sigmn Mattok.



L/Sergt Matthew receiving the Fazal Din Cup on behalf of A Company.

Three miles team—Signalmen Hampson, Mattok, Towler and Duncan.
480 yards hurdles—Corpls Yates and Cosens, Signalmen Whitehead and Bourner.
Medley race—First: L/Sergts Matthew and Murphy, L/Corpls Chapman and Dean. Time 4 min. ⅗ sec.
Long jump—Third: Corpl Cosens and L/Corpl Roberts.
High jump—Second: Sergt Bramwell and Sigmn Tindall.
Pole vault—Tie for second: L/Sergt Matthew and Signalman Simmonds.
Throwing the hammer—First: Sergt Bramwell and Sigmn Burns.
Putting the shot—Second: Sergt Bramwell and Sigmn Markey.

B Company were running very close, and at the start of the medley (the last race of the day) we were one point in the lead. L/Sergt Matthew handed over a lead of four yards to Chapman, who increased it for Sergt Murphy in his quarter-mile run. Dean took over a lead of ten yards and ran well in his half-mile to gain the points for A Company.

The following S.T.C. (India) records were made during the meeting. Long jump, Sigmn Nazir Hussain, 20 ft. ½ in. One mile, Sigmn Harnum Singh, 4 min. 48⅕ sec.

In the open medley race for other units at the sports of the 1st Battn The King's Regiment in February, A Company beat the 15th Field Brigade. There were only two entries.

Younger Cup Competition, 1934: Cricket.—In this tournament the Officers lost to the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess by 39 runs. For the Mess, R.S.M. Harrison made 5, R.Q.M.S. Wensley 15, Sergt Farmer 12, Sergt Bramwell 17, Sergt Shepherd 12 (not out) and L/Sergt Matthew 11. Sergt Farmer took six wickets for 45, and Sergt Matthew four for 32.

For the Officers, Captain Scott scored 45, Captain Barton 9, Colonel Copeland 7 and Major Rowley 6. Captain Scott took six wickets for 43, Captain Nicholls three for 8, Colonel Copeland one for 19.

The Corporals beat their senior Mess by six wickets. Sergeants Mess 103, Corporals Room 104 for four wickets. Sergt Murphy scored 34, R.S.M. Harrison 10, R.Q.M.S. Wensley 17, and Sergt Farmer 17. Sergt Farmer took four wickets for 39. Corpl Edge made 58 (not out), L/Corporal Cooper 28, and L/Corporal Roberts 17. L/Corpl Campbell took four wickets for 7, L/Corpl Roberts two for 22, and L/Corpl Revill two for 12.

The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess retain the Younger cup trophy for a further year.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Cricket.—In the second round of the Jamasjee cricket tournament the R.E. and combined Signals lost to the combined Medical Corps by ten wickets. R.E. and combined Signals 248 (L/Corpl Lundie 110) and 160 (Sergt Richards (A.E.C.) 64 and L/Sergeant Bygrave 39). Combined Medicals 401 and 8 for no wicket.

Football.—During the last few weeks numerous combined Signal trial matches have been played, and we have managed to pick a very strong side for this season. The following are a few of the results: v. 4th Field Battery R.A. drew at 1—1; v. K.S.L.I. drew at 3—3; v. Welch Regiment, won by 2—1; v. K.S.L.I. won by 4—0.

A Garrison team was selected to play against the I.F.A. team at present touring India, and Sigmn Thornton (1st Div) at right back and Sigmn Managhan (B Corps) at outside right were included. This team proved too good for the visitors and ran out easy winners by 4—0 goals.

Officers v. Sergeants.—This tournament is at present in full swing and some very interesting games have been witnessed. In the billiards the sergeants were leading by 64 points in three games when the officers produced their expert player, Lieut. Minshall, who almost proved too good for our policeman. The latter, however, managed to get above the hundred line before Lieut. Minshall could reach the 150 mark, thereby allowing the sergeants to run out the winners by 10 points. The snooker again proved a good match, and after a well fought fight the sergeants eventually won the game and gained a slight lead in the tournament.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

We are continually re-arranging our football and hockey teams, and now that drafts have more or less finished, we hope to get settled down to regular teams. The following matches have been played this month.

Football.—
10th February v. G Battery, away, lost by 1—2
14th February v. G Battery, home, lost by 1—3
18th February v. B.M. Hospital, away, won by 3—0
19th February v. Murray College (Sialkot Olympic tournament) home, won by 10—0
We now meet the 13/18th Hussars in the final of the Olympic tournament.



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop Football Team, 1934.

Hockey.—There have been several experiments tried to create an eleven to replace the team that did so well at Lahore. The commanding officer has sanctioned a new ground, which will be ready for use after Signals Week. The following matches have been played to date.

11th February v. G Battery, away, won by 9—3
15th February v. M.T. Section, away, won by 2—1
20th February v. H.Q. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 1—0

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Apologies are due for the scanty notes this month, but owing to the heavy scale of training this year, facilities for sports are few and far between. The only games meriting notice are the inter-Section matches. There remains but tennis to complete the inter-Section Murray cup competitions, and at present K Section are well in the lead.

Inter-Section Hockey.—As usual, there was very keen rivalry shown in these matches and, of course, plenty of "ticks." K Section won by one point, but were very lucky to do so. The last match, between A and D Sections, ended in a draw, and this gave K the lead.

Cross-Country.—The cross-country was run from the fifth milestone on the Bannu road. The race was very keenly contested, and more than one man surprised the critics—or I should say, old soldiers. L/Sergt Jones and Sigmn Luckhurst are to be congratulated on being first home. Special mention must be made of Sigmn Bass, who, newly out from home and off the trooper, came in third. There was very little difference in the total number of points of each Section, but here again K Section won.

Cricket.—Very little cricket has been played during recent months, but at the moment we are selecting a team to compete for the Jamasjee cup. However, more about that later.

Golf—Congratulations are extended to Capt E. F. V. MacSwiney and Lieut. H. Worrall on winning the Kohat Garrison foursomes on the 19th January. Well done!

Signals Week: Northern Command.—Signals Week will soon be held, and we are sending down a hockey and a football team and three pairs for tennis. Not having seen or heard anything of the standard of our opponents, any forecast would be risky.

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Western Command Boxing Championships.—To win four contests out of the first five; to lose one in which our representative was infinitely the better man, but unfortunate enough to sustain a cut eye which rendered him practically blind; to commence the last fight of the evening with a clear two points lead and have our man disqualified—and then go to our beds to spend a sleepless night under the impression that our opponents had been victorious by a point—that was our lot in the Western Command boxing championships.

It was not until the following morning, well after everyone had refused their porridge, that the glad news became known that although having tied on points, we had won the match by the narrow margin of six bouts to five. It was great to see the team's faces change on being informed of this, and greater still to see—(I will mention no names, but the gentleman concerned will be on leave pending retirement by the time these notes are in print)—a very dignified and exalted personage leap at least two feet in the air and give tongue to an expression that sounded suspiciously like "Whoopee!"

In this match, although we consider ourselves unlucky in two bouts, the 2nd Battn Royal Sussex Regiment are to be congratulated on the fine show they put up; and we feel that in defeating them, we have surmounted a very difficult obstacle.

Elaborate arrangements were made to ensure the success of the meeting, which was staged in Karachi for the first time at A Corps Signals Stadium. There were very few empty seats when the show commenced at 10 p.m., and a glance around showed that the honour of being able to stage these championships in our Stadium was well bestowed.

"B" Group Signals v. 2nd Battn. Royal Sussex Regiment.

Sigmn Taylor v. Pte Cook—Cook started off with a rush, but Taylor, plying a straight left, kept him out and then took the offensive, landing well with both hands. In the second round both were inclined to hold, but Taylor managed to get in two upper cuts and the round ended with Cook slightly groggy. Cook went all out in the third round, but Taylor steadied him up and his subsequent aggression earned him a points decision.

L/Sergt Matthew v. Corpl Mowbray—Both men were very quick, Mowbray landing well from long range and Matthew appearing to get the better of the close work. The second round was slower and Matthew, getting home several times on the body, had the better of the exchanges. His work to the body caused Mowbray a lot of trouble, but he weathered this and a strong finish gained him the fight on points.

Sigmn Williams v. L/Corpl Tullett—Tullett surprisingly drove Williams all over the ring and floored him twice for short counts, but the round ended with the latter having the measure of his man. Williams, easily the better boxer, found little difficulty in scoring with both hands in the last two rounds. Tullett was a game loser.

Corpl Hutchison v. Sergt-Drummer Powell—Powell had a big advantage in height and reach, but Hutchison's speed and footwork compensated for this and he landed cleverly with double left leads. His footwork was a revelation, and even at long range he scored frequently with both hands. Powell never ceased trying. Hutchison tired rather in the last round, but his experience told and he was a good winner on points.

Sigmn Warburton v. Pte McMahon—Although much the smaller man, Warburton's speed of foot and two-handed punching had McMahon in trouble in the first round. He was floored with a right and again with a left in the second round, and finished in a weak state. In the last round Warburton landed heavily with both hands, but McMahon was game and managed to last out. Warburton was an easy winner.

Sigmn Roberts v. Pte Bell—Both men boxed well, with Bell landing more often—a right from him staggering Roberts towards the end of the first round. Bell continued to be the aggressor in the next round, but Roberts landed well two or three times with his left. Both men were very strong in the last round, in which Bell, timing his punches better, gained a well-earned decision.

Lieut. Seely v. L/Corpl Scott—Lieut. Seely, showing nice style, scored well with his left, Scott replying with some dangerous crosses. In the second round Lieut. Seely's style caused Scott to become very wild, and the former continued to pile up the points. Misfortune overtook him, however, in the last round, when he sustained a badly cut eye. Blinded with the flow of blood, he was at the mercy of an inferior opponent and, although he very pluckily tried to avoid it, was knocked out.

Sergt MacFarlane v. L/Corpl Preen—MacFarlane, after a quiet start, used his left well, following up with the right, and he had the better of the exchanges in the first round. Preen boxed well in the second round, scoring with his left, and evened matters up. MacFarlane, using his right with good effect, appeared to have the best of the last round, but Preen (possibly owing to his style) was awarded the decision. A good fight.

Corpl Rawson v. Corpl Barton—There was very little in the first round. Rawson was early cautioned for holding, and this seemed to quieten him down. In the second round both were at times aggressive. Neither man seemed likely to land a damaging blow, but Barton in a strong attack succeeded in flooring Rawson. The round, however, finished even. In the final round Barton's rushes were always dangerous, but Rawson was clever in keeping him off and took advantage to land well at times, eventually emerging the points winner of a close fight.

Sigmn Rymer v. L/Corpl Offord—Offord, the lighter but more experienced man, was put down for the full count by a terrific right in the first round. Rymer gave us little opportunity of seeing what he is really capable of, but we were quite satisfied with the little we did see.

L/Corpl Lovell v. Pte Wells—Wells, a very strong fighter, made attempts to land an early knock-out, but Lovell, boxing well, did not look in danger. The referee cautioned both men early on, and later Lovell again met with his disapproval. In the second round Lovell, gaining confidence, took the offensive. During some close work the referee again stopped the contest and disqualified Lovell for leaning on his opponent.

Result.—"B" Group Signals (6 bouts) 16 points: 2nd Battn Royal Sussex Regiment (five bouts) 16 points.



"B" Group, Signals, winners of Western Command Boxing Championships.

Standing (left to right)—Corpl Mills (trainer), Signalmen Rymer and Roberts, Corpl Rawson, Sigmn Williams, Sergt MacFarlane, L/Corpls Lovell and Harbury (second
Middle row—Corpl Hutchison, Lieut. F. C. Seely, Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., R.S.M. Bayliss C. Sigmn Withers
Front row—L/Sergt Matthew, Signalmen Taylor, Warburton and Barlow

Final: "B" Group Signals v. 2nd Battn Royal Scots.

Two days later we faced the 2nd Battn The Royal Scots (the holders) in the final. All Karachi was present—at least, all who counted—and there wouldn't have been room for those who didn't. This time there was no doubt as to the result. By the handsome margin of 19—13 points Signals, for the first time, won the Western Command championship and qualified for the last eight in the all-India team championships at Rawalpindi.

Sigmn Taylor v. Pte Watt—After a quiet start, Taylor took the offensive and landed well with both hands, making Watt miss very badly; Taylor's round. Taylor continued to have very much the better of exchanges in the second round, although Watt was always dangerous with a right swing. The third round was a scrambling affair owing to Watt's desperate rushes; he showed gameness, but Taylor remained the better man and was a good winner on points.

Sergt Matthew v. Pte Cumberland—There was very little in the first round, Matthew landing perhaps more frequently, but Cumberland showed very good defence. In the second round Matthew attacked and Cumberland was rather at sea with his right crosses. Matthew was the superior man in the last round, scoring several times with a right upper cut, and Cumberland was rather unsteady at the finish. Matthew was an easy winner on points.

Sigmn Williams v. Lieut. Dickson—Williams was not too comfortable at the start, and Dickson showed himself dangerous. Williams had his work cut out in avoiding rushes, but seemed more comfortable at the end of the round. In the second round, after sending his man to the boards for a short count, Williams waited for a rush by Dickson and, timing his left beautifully, sent him down for the full count.

Corpl Hutchison v. Pte McMahon—McMahon had Hutchison dazed with a hard right midway through the first round, and several times nearly connected again with it, but Hutchison's experience stood him in good stead. He showed up in the second round and used both hands well, but McMahon continued to land frequently. Hutchison was unfortunate to be disqualified for holding in this round.

Sigmn Warburton v. Pte Kerwin—Warburton, in his usual manner, awaited his chance and with two rights put his man down for the full count in the first round.

Sigmn Roberts v. Pte Murray—Murray proved a hard hitter, but Roberts did not appear unduly troubled. Murray took the first round. Roberts, using a straight left in the second round, started to collect points but failed to follow up his advantage, and the end of the round saw Murray again on the offensive, although hitting a trifle wildly. Roberts found the use of a straight left the best policy, but he was too far behind in the previous rounds to collect the necessary points. Murray was the winner of a very close fight.

Signalman Withers v. Bandsman Nolan—Nolan was the more aggressive in the first round, but there was very little clean hitting and honours were fairly easy. Nolan was still doing all the attacking in the second round, but Withers seemed more confident and landed with his right. He would probably have been a clear winner had he shown more enterprise, but he just about earned a points decision.

Sergt MacFarlane v. Pte Thompson—MacFarlane was the cleverer man but failed to connect with anything resembling a punch, missing several times with his right. In the second round he found a home for his right and more than once staggered his man with it. In the close work MacFarlane was definitely superior. He tried hard for a knock-out towards the finish, but Thompson was of tough material.

Corporal Rawson v. Pte Paul—Both men showed good style. Rawson used his left well and took the first round. He continued the good work in the second and piled up the points with his left, Paul countering well occasionally. Both men continued to give a good display throughout, but Rawson was a clever winner on points.

Sigmn Rymer v. Pte Shand—Shand was a pure novice, and it was merely a matter of time before Rymer connected with the necessary right. We still have to see him really tested.

L/Corpl Lovell v. Pte Thomson—Thomson was disqualified for holding early in the first round.

At the end of the evening the G.O.C. Sind (India) Brigade Area, Major-General C. Kirkpatrick, C.B., C.B.E., presented the

cup and medals, and in his remarks he paid a fine compliment to our C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel Helps) and the team. They certainly deserved it. Whilst on the subject of compliments, no little credit is due to the trainer, Corpl Mills, for the form and fitness of the team. Whatever success they may achieve at Rawalpindi, we know that we have sent a team worthy of the Corps and one that will take a lot of stopping. They had a great send-off from Karachi, and it nearly needed a special train for the supporters.

Rugby.—In this year's Karachi open rugby tournament, Royal Signals entered as Signals, Western Command (A Corps combining with 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta) and the result was the getting together of a team as good as the best entered. Had there been an addition of about 6 st. in the scrum, there might have been a different tale in the semi-final match against the R.A. (Quetta). The Gunners were a fine side and much the heavier forward, with the result that although our scrum obtained a fair share of the ball, the weight wasn't there to get it back quickly. In the loose, however, our forwards played a great game.

The Gunners scored in the corner a few minutes after the start but failed to convert, and although playing against a strong wind and the sun Signals held them to this score for the first half. Crossing over, Signals several times came near to levelling the score, but a second try by the R.A. clinched matters.

The R.A. subsequently went on to the final, playing a pointless draw and becoming joint holders of the trophy with the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Sport.—The following represented the Zhob Signal Section versus the 1/8th Gurkha Rifles, Fort Sandeman, in the final of the Baird football tournament, which took place at Loralai on Saturday 24th February: goal, Sigmn Smith E. ; backs, L/Sergt Ward D. and Sigmn Watson C. ; half-backs, L/Corpl Malvern H. and Signalmen Kenneally J. and Stolliday F. ; forwards, Sigmn Shields J., L/Corpl McGlinchey J., Sigmn Murray J., U/L/Corpl Smith H., Sigmn Edwards T. Referee, Captain W. Fagan, M.C., R.A. (Staff Captain, Z. (I.) B.A.)

This match resulted in a win by 2—0 for the Gurkhas, who put up a splendid and very clean game. But for the fine play of the Signals goalkeeper, the score would certainly have been heavier. On several occasions during play the scene became absolutely obliterated by a sandstorm which provided hard work for both teams in keeping the ball under control. The Signals team seemed to be fated, missing goals by inches ; and at times when it seemed impossible to miss that open goal, the ball *would* persist in creeping either just past the upright or over the bar. Well done! better luck next time.

The attendance proved a record, and on the conclusion of the game the cup was presented to the winners by the Area Commander. This was followed later in the evening by the dance mentioned elsewhere, and any disappointment which may have existed was very soon forgotten—sez you!

Plain Tales.—The best description of the recent cup final which I can give is the following extract from *The Loralai Times and Zhob Sentinel*, whose special correspondent was sent to write up the match.

" The final of the Baird football tournament between the Zhob Signal Section and the 1/8th Gurkha Rifles, Fort Sandeman, took place on Saturday 24th February, on Jackson's Nullah ground, the referee being Captain R. W. F. Fagan, M.C. The gates had to be closed an hour before the kick-off, and the Baluchistan Police had to be called in to remove adventurous would-be spectators from the surrounding hills. The band of the local Camel Corps, conducted by Bandmaster Thair, rendered light music before the kick-off, and they broke into the " Corps March " as eleven figures in light and dark blue and green tripped on to the turf. The Signals won the toss and elected to take what little advantage there was of a treacherous cross-wind.

" Amid tense silence the Gurkha centre forward kicked off. At first it seemed that the Signals were going to have things all their own way, but even bad mis-kicking on the part of their opponents was not brought to fruition. The Gurkhas' solitary attacks were mainly nullified by their wing forwards' eagerness. Half-time came with no score. On resuming the Gurkhas had the slight wind advantage. But, in spite of this, the Signals still pressed, but their forwards were all shooting wide. About the middle of the second half a run through by the Gurkhas brought a goal, the ball being twisted out of the goalkeeper's hands by the wind. This seemed to put life into the Gurkhas, and five minutes later a nice cross shot scored what proved to be the last goal of the match.

" The Area Commander presented the cup and remarked on the clean play in the game. A running commentary on the game was broadcast by Captain Wakem. The attendance was huge, and when the gate receipts are counted it is confidently expected that they will constitute a ground record."

Thus the Gurkha Rifles have annexed all the cups (three) in the Zhob, and our only cry now is " Wait till next time!"

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Annual Regimental Sports.—Owing to the absence of the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop last year, the regimental sports were not held ; but this year, the Troop being present, the sports were held on the 10th February, and the Cavalry Troop retained the trophy which they won two years ago.

Sigmn Lawson of the Troop was an outstanding performer in the track events, for which he was presented with a gold medal, as also was Corpl McDowall, who shone in the field events, winning no less than three.

L/Corpl Ross, after a close struggle with Sigmn Leonard of the Troop, won the high jump, and Sigmn Spencer succeeded in the long jump. The three miles cross-country was won by the Troop on the " toss up " after tieing with No. 1 Left-Half Company. Sigmn Hunt just failed in being the first man home, being narrowly beaten on the last sprint by a very good Sikh runner, Hunsa Singh. However, he made up for this by winning the British mile as he pleased.

Each winning team was presented with a set of suitably inscribed medals, a list of which is given below.

Of the Indian ranks, Sigmn Hunsa Singh was the outstanding track athlete, being the winner of the cross-country and mile events and also a member of the winning shot team, thus securing the right to a gold medal. The next in the honours list was Sigmn Puran Singh, who was a member of three winning teams, as also was Naik Mohd Khan.

Taken as a whole, the equine events were not of a very high standard, as Nos. 1 and 2 Companies had only just returned from manœuvres and had not sufficient time to perfect their jumping and tent pegging. Lieut. Hobson's horse stumbled and fell at the first jump, but the lieutenant gallantly remounted and finished the course to the roars of appreciative applause from the audience.

The Cavalry Troop secured both the tent pegging and jumping events, as was only to be expected in the circumstances.

The despatch riders, under the capable supervision of L/Sergt Fee, gave an exciting display of trick riding, and the Misses Stier and Ridley contributed a piquant charm to the occasion by exposing to view their feminine allures whilst working in conjunction with the gallant riders.

During the course of the afternoon the audience were regaled with an exhibition of music and drill by the S.T.C. pipe band.

The sports concluded with the communication race, which was won by "B" Draught Cable Section after an efficient display by wagon teams, operators, riders and runners.

The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Beatson-Bell. Major J. E. F. Paton is to be commended for the smoothness with which the events were carried out.

MEDAL WINNERS.

Gold medals—Sigmn Lawson J., member of four winning teams. Sigmn Hunsa Singh, member of three winning teams and in addition an individual winner of two events.

Silver medals—Corpl McDowall, L/Corpl Hill, Signalmen Hurt and Dorsett, Naik Mohd Khan, Sigmn Puran Singh.

Bronze medals : British ranks—Sigmn Lawson 4 ; Cpl McDowall, L/Corpl Hill and Signalmen Dorsett and Hurt, 3 each ; Sergt Jeffers, Corpl Munday, L/Corpls Hunt and Roberts, Signalmen Graham, Leonard, Payne and Spencer, and Private Sellick, 2 each ; Sergts Burgess, Pack, Percy, Squirrell and Udell, Corpls Kirby, Lowrie, Strickson and Thomson, L/Corpl Green, and Signalmen Dale, Frettingham, Giles, Guest, Harcus, Hunt, Locke, Meese, Munro, Neves, Payne, Roberts and Storey, 1 each.

Bronze medals : Indian ranks—Naik Mohd Khan and Signalmen Hunsa Singh and Puran Singh, 3 each ; Naiks Bachan Singh and Gajjan Singh, and Signalmen Abdul Rahman, Bugga Singh, Kishan Singh and Mohd Sarwar, 2 each ; Lieut. Bradford, Havildars Tara Singh and Teja Singh, C.H.M. Puran Singh, Naiks Abdul Aziz, Chuni Singh and Sohan Singh, L/Naiks Ishar Singh and Sher Zaman, and Signalmen Ahmed Khan, Arjan Singh, Bostan Khan, Din Mohd, Gulzar Shah, Gurbachan Singh, Gurbux Singh, Jalal Khan, Maula Dad, Mohd Ghaus, Mohd Khan, Mohd Sarwar, Mohd Zaman, Naranjan Singh, Peshawara Singh, Sadhu Singh, Sardar Singh, Shakar Khan, Sohan Singh, Surjan Singh and Walait Khan, 1 each.

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS.

British—Mile, Sigmn Hunt ; high jump, L/Corpl Ross ; pole jump, Corporal McDowall ; long jump, Sigmn Spencer ; shot, Corpl McDowall ; discus, Corpl McDowall.

Indian—Discus, Sigmn Sher Zaman ; high jump, Naik Abdul Aziz ; mile, Sigmn Hunsa Singh ; long jump, Sigmn Abdul Rahman ; pole jump, Sigmn Surjan Singh ; shot, Naik Mohd Khan ; cross-country, Sigmn Hunsa Singh.

Congratulatory.—Sigmn Hunt is to be congratulated on securing the second place in the six miles race at the Lucknow Olympic sports meeting.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Ex-members of the Troop will be pleased to hear that the unit was again successful in lifting the challenge cup put up by the 3rd Indian Divl Signals for mounted and dismounted sports. First competed for in 1932, the Troop then won it by the narrow margin of 1½ points. Owing to the absence of the unit in Alwar during the early part of 1933, the trophy was not competed for ; so, with the advent of the New Year, it was with the unalterable aim of retaining the trophy that the men got down to training.

The unit (B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s) counts as a Half-Company in this competition, so there are normally five teams competing—the 3rd Divisional Signals entering four Half-Companies. Before going into details, it should be understood that by the time the lame, the blind and the aged have been weeded from the mass, there are not a great number left to pick from, but everybody was a trier and brimming over with team spirit. At the same time, congratulations to several of the B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s for the enthusiasm they displayed ; although all could not be picked for the different events, quite a number continued training up to the last day.

The cross-country was run on the 6th February. There were five teams of twelve lined up for the start. The Troop team, consisting of Sergt Jeffers W., L/Corpl Roberts E., Signalmen Lawson, Frettingham, Hurt and Shannon, and six I.O.R.s, bunched well and tied for first place with I.A. Half-Company. We won the medals, however, owing to the placing of our ninth man. During the race Sigmn Lawson had a bad attack of stitch ; otherwise we wouldn't have shared the points. L/Corpl Roberts ran a splendid race and just pipped our old friend Corpl Strickson (hard lines, Strick! but youth will tell). The old stager Sergt Jeffers ran like a young stag.

On the 9th February the following events were held with the results shown.

Tent pegging, B.O.R.s—First. We were very lucky, as the pegging was poor all round.

Tent pegging, I.O.R.s—Fourth.

Mounted jumping, B.O.R.s—First. A fine display by a well trained team.

Mounted jumping, I.O.R.s—First. Another splendid exhibition, practically fault-free. Perhaps old Troopites will recall the " hardy annuals," Nos. 11 (Henry), 45 (Kitty), 100 (Aunty), 66 (Peter), 5 (Startles), 61 (Emma), 95 (Queenie) and 87 (Dick).

Tug-of-War (B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s)—Here we had a striking example of how the Div. strain up cable, for they pulled us all over Meerut.

Mile team, B.O.R.s—Second. We were up against strong opposition here, and I.A. Half-Company are to be congratulated on the fine race they ran.

Discus, I.O.R.s—First.

Pole jump, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Corpl McDowall and Sigmn Locke V. The former also won the individual prize for this event, with a few feet still up his sleeve.

High jump, I.O.R.s—First.

Long jump, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Signalmen Spencer and Sellick. Aggregate 36 ft. 7 in. Individual prize, Sigmn Sellick, 18 ft. 7 in.

Shot, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Corporals McDowall and Mundy. Aggregate 69 ft. 1 in. Individual prize, Corpl McDowall.

Long jump, I.O.R.s—First.

High jump, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Signalmen Leonard and Neves. Aggregate 9 ft. 11½ in. Individual prize, Signalman Leonard, 5 ft. 1¼ in.

Discus, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Corporals McDowall and Mundy. Individual prize, Corporal McDowall.

Pole jump, I.O.R.s—Second.

Shot, I.O.R.s—Second.

880 yards, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Sergt Jeffers, L/Cpl Roberts, Signalmen Lawson and Meese. Sigmn Lawson ran last string and, sprinting into the lead, was never challenged.

880 yards, I.O.R.s—Fifth.

440 yards, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Signalmen Lawson, Leonard, Dorsett and Payne.

440 yards, I.O.R.s—Fifth.

220 yards, B.O.R.s—First. Team : L/Corporal Hill, Signalmen Dorsett, Graham and Sellick.

220 yards, I.O.R.s—Fifth.

100 yards, B.O.R.s—First. Team : Signalmen Spencer, Lawson, Graham and Dorsett—a team of flyers who are seriously thinking of competing in dirt track racing.

100 yards, I.O.R.s—Third.

Hurdles, B.O.R.s—First. Team : L/Corporals Hill and Green, Signalman Hurt, L/Corporal Hunt. Although our third string got the hurdle wrapped round his neck, he had such a commanding lead that he had time to disentangle himself and give our fourth string a slight lead. The hurdler in question admitted later that he understood that it was an obstacle race and that diving through the hurdle was one of the handicaps.

Hurdles, I.O.R.s—Second. Our I.O.R.s jumped well, owing probably to the fact that they had had their hocks rapped on several occasions while practising.

General—The crowning achievement of the day was the winning of the ladies' race by Mrs. Marshall, wife of our C.Q.M.S. Great stuff, this esprit de troop! We were unable to supply the winner of the children's race ; it is believed that the youngsters of the Troop were " got at " by outsiders, who filled them with buns and lemonade before the race commenced.

Congratulations must be extended to the B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s who obtained individual awards, as shown in the Sports Notes of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals. In conclusion, the inimitable Puncher is to be complimented on a splendid display given by the despatch riders of both units.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Hockey.—League : v. Police, lost by 0—4, and v. H.M.S. *Medway*, drew at 1—1 (Bryce). Friendlies : v. Recreio, lost by 0—1 ; v. Argylls, drew at 3—3 (Fielding 2, Bryce) ; v. R.A.O.C. won by 5—3 (Cord 3, Bryce 2) ; v. R.A.O.C. won by 5—4 (Erridge 2, Fielding, Larking, Lieut. Lyddon).

Football.—Friendly : v. Argylls lost by 1—3 (Martin).

Leading scorers to date.—Hockey : Convey 5, Cord 3. Football : Convey 9, Cord 6, Whitehead 4.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

All our recent football matches have been played against Naval or R.A.F. teams. It will be seen from the list of results below that a good number of games have resulted in a draw, thus proving that some good players are produced in the destroyers, as the Signals now have a team capable of meeting all comers.

v. "A" Squadron R.A.F. won by 6—2
v. H.M.S. *Searcher*, drawn at 1—1
v. H.M.S. *Windsor*, drawn at 1—1
v. H.M.S. *Shamrock*, lost by 0—4
v. H.M.S. *Westminster*, drawn at 0—0
v. H.M.S. *Velox*, won by 4—1
v. H.M.S. *Vortigern*, drawn at 2—2
v. H.M.S. *Windsor*, lost by 0—2
v. H.M.S. *Searcher*, won by 4—1

Since our last contribution we have had a billiard tournament with H.M.S. *Hood* (stokers) which proved very interesting. Results:—

Royal Signals—Waller 125, Blake 59, Sumner 125, Bull 100, Q.M.S. Harris 125—Total 534.

Stokers, H.M.S. *Hood*—Whitts 116, Young 125, Lamb 70, Cook 125, Tankey 72—Total 508.

Our next tournament has been arranged versus H.M.S. *Dauntless*, and particulars will be given in our next issue.

Before closing, I must also give the result of a billiard tournament versus H.M.S. *Windsor* on the 18th February. The result was a good win for Signals by 105 points, though each side won three games.

H.M.S. *Windsor*—Elmer 125, House 34, Crook 125, Butler 125, Bates 89, Meres 69—Total 567.

Royal Signals—Hayden 74, Taylor 125, Carr 104, Saunders 119, Sumner 125, Blake 125—Total 672.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Boxing.—We record with great pride that this Company has recently had the honour of providing the 51st (Highland) Division with its only Territorial boxing champion. Sigmn McLean W., of this Company, won the welter weight championship of the Territorial Army at the Royal Albert Hall, London, on the 9th March. Well done, the Buff!

This is McLean's first attempt in any tournament whatever, and to win the title at the first attempt is "going some." He won every fight in London by the k.o. route, none of his opponents lasting more than one complete round—some not even that. McLean has adopted the Corps motto "Certa Cito"! In the final fight he scored the only k.o. victory in a programme of twenty-two bouts—a fact that was favourably commented upon by the sporting editors of *The Daily Mail* and *The Times*.

McLean's famous knock-out hook has been duly christened "Milly." Its origin remains a secret with the Buff and his associates in No. 2 Company. He informs us, however, that Nos. 1 and 3 Companies will receive instruction when he faces their local welter-weight champions in the inter-Company boxing tournament at camp this year. He has been awarded a champion's badge, and has a very fine medal which will be on view at No. 2 Company cookhouse at St. Andrew's.

Prior to journeying to London, McLean had to dispose of the local champion here for the honour of representing the Division there. This fight was staged in Stirling Castle on Friday the 2nd March, and his opponent was Pte Costello, 9th A. and S.H. To quote from *The Stirling Observer*: "McLean was much the cleverer boxer and easily outpointed his opponent. He had his man down for a count in the second round."

Then came the trip to London to compete in the preliminary bouts at the London Scottish headquarters. McLean weighed in at 10 st. 1½ lbs., which was about 5½ lbs. below the standard weight. His progress towards the title was as follows. Wednesday afternoon, k.o. his opponent in the first round. Wednesday evening, k.o. his opponent in the first round. Thursday evening, k.o. his opponent in the second round.

In the final on Friday, McLean was opposed to Fusilier Reid of the Northumberland Fusiliers, and a brief description of the fight is given. McLean, finding himself against an opponent taller than himself and with a longer reach, contented himself with boxing at a distance, and round one finished with very little between the two. McLean, however, saw an opening immediately on commencing round two, got inside his opponent's guard and by delivering four quick stabs to the heart caused him to drop his left arm in protection, when over came "Milly" to the point—and down he went. He got up again, however, but McLean applied his famous right again and that was the end of the fight. Such a blow was this that Fusilier Reid did not recover from it for over an hour afterwards. Where this mighty "swipe" comes from in one so small is amazing!

McLean has not yet received his cup, as it has to be engraved first, but we are hoping to see it formally presented to him soon. We will endeavour to send a photo of our "one round O'Brien" for next month's issue.

The members of the Company wish to express their appreciation to Lieutenants J. Cochran and J. Gray, who gave up their business and travelled to London to encourage and support McLean, and are glad that they were so well repaid.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals, London, E.15.

Boxing.—The unit boxing championships were held at Stratford on the evening of the 23rd January. In addition to the inter-Company competition, four special contests were arranged between boxers of our unit (who were too good to be matched against our own novice class) and members of the 2nd Battalion Beds and Herts Regiment and the 2nd Battalion Royal Ulster Rifles.

The officials were Lieut.-Colonel P. D. Castles, T.D., referee (deputising for Major J. McConville, M.C., who unfortunately cou'd not be present); R.S.M. F. J. Dowie and Mr. A. E. Kenyon (late R.S.M. of the unit) judges; and Captain J. L. Lilley, timekeeper. A very good evening's entertainment was staged. We have in our younger members a spirit which next year will develop and, we hope, produce additional champions to take the place of those who are getting too old.

The special contests finished very even, Signals winning two fights and the Royal Ulster Rifles two.

RESULTS.

Officers, Middle weight—Lieutenant C. Nettleship (Signals) beat Lieut. Donlea (R.U.R.) on points. This was the first occasion on which we have seen Lieut. Nettleship tried out. A very good fight: no quarter was given. We wish Lieut. Nettleship every success in the T.A. championships at the Albert Hall on the 9th March.

Other Ranks.

Fly weight—Corpl Aston (R.U.R.) beat Sigmn Mercer (Signals) who had to retire in the first round owing to a damaged hand. Hard lines, Mercer! we had hoped to see you put up one of your well known fights such as the older members still recall.

Light weight—Signalman Barnes (Signals) beat Pte McCalleugh (R.U.R.) on points. A very good contest, Barnes winning by the smallest margin. Experience told, however.

Middle weight—Pte Dowey (R.U.R.) beat L/Corpl McConville (Beds and Herts) on points. This contest was the best of the evening. Dowey had more ring experience and in the first round he weakened his man, who went down heavily to the floor through the ropes, the gong saving a knock-out. In the second round McConville remembered the advice of his second and avoided the blows of Dowey, who tried hard to finish him off. The third round was fairly even, both men fighting hard. The referee awarded Dowey the fight, although only half a point difference could have divided them.

Inter-Company Championship.

No. 1 Company this year carried off the cup, which had been held by No. 3 Company for two years before. One member of No. 1 Company said, as he sipped from it, "So you have come home again!" Result: No. 1 Company 20 points, No. 2 11, No. 3 9.

Fly weight—Sigmn King (No. 1) beat Sigmn Reynolds (No. 1). The referee stopped the fight in the second round.

Bantam weight—Sigmn Bygrave (No. 3) beat Sigmn Etherington (No. 1), the referee stopping the fight to prevent undue punishment.

Feather weight—Sigmn Gordon (No. 2) received a walkover.

Light weight—Sigmn Taylor (No. 2) beat Sigmn Marden (No. 1) on points. The best fight in the competition. Taylor, who is new to the game, gathered points and wore down Marden, who has had previous experience, as his ring craft showed.

Welter weight—Boy Fuller (No. 3) beat Sigmn Pexton (No. 2) on points. Beef counted, and Pexton, who had only been in the unit a few weeks, entered to get his Company more points—a good display of esprit de corps—but experience won.

Middle weight—Sigmn Johnson (No. 2) beat Sigmn Buller (No. 3) on points. A hard hitting bout, with electrical rushes by Johnson, who could not get one in the right place.

The cup and prizes were presented by Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., our commanding officer, who complimented the boxers on the fine spirit shown by them and hoped that next year we would have still more entries for this sport. For those who wished to keep fit during the winter, the gymnasium was at their disposal. This terminated a very pleasant evening.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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to whom all Correspondence and Notes for THE WIRE should be submitted.
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VOL. XV.—No. 171 MAY, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

It is with much regret that we announce the death of Captain William A. Glue, who passed away at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, on the 24th March, after a very brief illness. The interment took place at St. Luke's, Great Crosby, Liverpool, on Tuesday 26th March, and representatives of Royal Signals were present to pay their last respects to an old and much respected officer of the Corps.

Captain Glue enlisted in the Royal Engineers on the 21st December 1889, and a brief record of his service is as follows:—

Enlisted as Driver, Royal Engineers, Aldershot.....21/12/89
Re-mustered Sapper 30/ 4/90
Appointed Lance-Corporal 8/ 1/95
Promoted Second-Corporal 1/ 4/96
Promoted Corporal 5/11/97
Promoted Sergeant 1/ 7/99
Promoted Troop Sergeant-Major 25/ 9/03
Promoted A/Sergeant-Major 26/ 6/08

Mentioned in despatches (South African War) by Lord Roberts (*vide* "London Gazette") dated 25/4/02 and again on 17/6/02: "For volunteering to repair telegraph line between Jaggersfontein and Kleinfontein—though parties of Boers were reported to be on the line—and carrying it through."

Medals—
South African (Queen's) 1899—1901
South African (King's) 1901—1902
Long Service and Good Conduct
King's Coronation, 28/9/11

Appointed to a temporary Commission .....—
Appointed 2/Lieut. R.E. (Supplementary List) 18/ 4/15
Appointed Adjutant, Western Army Troops Signal Company 23/ 9/15
Appointed T/Lieutenant 27/10/15
Promoted Lieutenant.....26/ 6/17
Appointed A/Captain whilst serving as Adjutant..... 3/ 8/17
Relinquished appointment of Adjutant and A/Captain 13/ 4/19
Re-appointed A/Captain 14/ 4/19
Relinquished rank of A/Captain 29/ 8/19
Retired on retired pay, granted rank of Captain and transferred to Regular Army Reserve of Officers (R.E.) with rank of Captain ("London Gazette," 13/2/20) 14/ 2/20
Appointed Captain and Adjutant in Royal Corps of Signals (T.A.) .....from 19/7/20 to 15/11/22
Ceased to belong to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers, having attained the age limit ("London Gazette") 14/ 2/22

[*See photograph on page* 180]

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The following is published for general information.

Corps Rugby.—The undermentioned fixtures have been arranged:—

Corps XV. v. R.M.A. at Woolwich on 14/11/34
Corps XV. v. Royal Engineers at Aldershot on 19/11/34
Corps XV. v. Royal Artillery at Aldershot on 23/11/34

The final of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup will be played at Aldershot on the 7th November 1934.

❀ ❀ ❀

The following extract from the Bristol *Evening World* of the 11th April is of interest to our readers. We congratulate R.Q.M.S. Smart on the honour conferred upon him, and wish him the best of good fortune in his new surroundings.

Honour for a Swimmer.

MR. A. E. SMART LEAVING FOR EGYPT.

Mr. A. E. Smart, a regimental quartermaster-sergeant in the Royal Corps of Signals, who is leaving for Egypt on Friday and has been closely connected with the Salisbury Swimming Club for

the past three seasons, has been elected an honorary associate of the Royal Life Saving Society.

"The honour is in recognition of the splendid work you have done in helping and teaching others how to gain the practical and useful knowledge of saving life from drowning and the resuscitation of the apparently drowned."

Mr. Smart said to an *Evening World* reporter: "Although the Salisbury Swimming Club has been in existence more than twenty-five years, I believe I am the first member to be elected an honorary associate of the Society. The honour is equally the Club's and those other Salisbury swimmers whose enthusiasm has gained for them the well-merited awards of the Society."



R.Q.M.S. Smart A. E.

[Block by courtesy of *Evening World*, Bristol.]

❀ ❀ ❀

British Motor Cycle Association.—An Association which offers to the 600,000 motor cyclists of the United Kingdom a service similar to that enjoyed by motorists through the Automobile Association and other organisations, was inaugurated at a luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday 29th March.

A certain number of vacancies as Road Patrols may from time to time be available to accredited and selected members of the Signals Association. Those n.c.o.s and men with first class despatch rider qualifications who are desirous of being nominated for such employment should forward their applications to this office after studying the conditions of enlistment as detailed on page 182 of this issue.

❀ ❀ ❀

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—The annual dinner of the Royal Signals Dinner Club will be held on the 27th June, 1934, at the Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W.1, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from Mr. S. Garland, c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

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Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition).—A revised and up-to-date edition of the above publication is now on sale at this office, but only a few copies remain for disposal. Price 1/- per copy (post free at home or abroad).

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked to announce that the N.A.A.F.I. are this year undertaking the experiment of introducing a stall at the Royal Tournament for the exhibition of Sporting Gear. No sales will be made at the stall, but it will be possible for accredited customers to select sports goods without the necessity of visiting the Corporation's Sports Department at Kennington; and N.A.A.F.I. will guarantee that all orders placed at the stall are promptly dealt with. Samples of die-stamped Greeting Cards, Stationery, etc., will also be shown.

Make a special point of visiting this display.

THE EDITOR.

❀ ❀ ❀

Late Editorials.—This month's issue had already gone to press when we received news of the death of Mr. J. Heyburn, ex-regimental sergeant-major of the 46th (N.M.) Divisional Signals (T.A.) Derby—one who will be well and kindly remembered by many of our older readers whose service carries them back to Telegraph Battalion R.E. days. The brief announcement just to hand states that Mr. Heyburn passed away at Derby on the 11th April after a short but severe illness. We hope to publish further information in our June issue.

[54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals (T.A.) Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, please copy.]

We much regret that notes from Royal Signals at Tientsin, Hong Kong and Peking, China, were received too late for publication in this issue and must be held over until next month.

Signals Association Notes

Salisbury and District Branch.

[Received too late for the April issue]

10 Charnwood Road, Salisbury.

Our Annual Dance.—Once again the time came round for the annual dance, which was held with great success at the Cadena Café on the 23rd February. This is another credit to the committee, consisting of Messrs. T. Cannell, E. Hand, F. Cole and C.S.M. Littlefield—not forgetting the great assistance of R.Q.M.S. Smart before he left Salisbury for Tidworth.

A party, which included visitors from the 3rd Divl Signals, Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals and E Troop, danced to music supplied by Tom Sayers and his famous band. Yes, we emphasise the *famous band*. Sergt Sayers (E Troop) and Sergt Barlow (saxophone player, 3rd Divl Signals band) took Salisbury by storm. Everyone enjoyed it and wanted dances each month (please note, committee). We take off our hats to the band. Those who did not attend missed a treat, and I hope they will make it their business to attend another time when Barlow is advertised under Tom Sayers and his famous band.

The committee take this opportunity of thanking those from Bulford and Tidworth who attended the dance, and trust they enjoyed themselves as much as we appreciated their company.

Annual Meeting.—The fourth annual General Meeting of the Branch was held at the Café Rendezvous, 21 Catherine Street, Salisbury, on the 23rd March, some twenty-odd members attending. Mr. W. Ison, vice-chairman, took the chair and opened the meeting.

Formal business being concluded, the election of the Executive for 1934 proceeded. Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., was unanimously elected as president, Mr. W. Ison as vice-chairman, Captain D. L. Carnegie as hon. treasurer, and Mr. F. Cole as hon. secretary, with a committee consisting of Messrs. Collins, E. G. Hand, J. Cannell, G. Daniels and C.S.M. D. V. Littlefield.

The reports of the secretary, treasurer and president of the entertainment committee were most encouraging. Space will not permit of giving these in detail, but from the secretary we learned that membership has increased—sixty-eight now being members of the Branch, irrespective of three who left this area, which shows a net increase of seventeen members since the last annual General Meeting. The Corps Journal sales have gone up since last year—then 211 copies and now 234, showing an increase of 23 for the year. It is hoped to canvass for further subscribers during 1934 in order to still further swell the sales.

Employment.—One of our greatest tasks is placing our members in situations. We cannot guarantee to place them, but we do our utmost with the great aid of the National Association in Salisbury. According to the report twenty-three men were found employment in this area during the past year, and we have four members still on the unemployed list.

Finance.—The financial statement was approved and accepted. The treasurer explained in detail the finance of the Branch, showing the decreases and increases on various functions held during the past year. The members passed a vote of thanks to the treasurer for the clear way in which he explained the accounts, and also for the way they had been kept.

During the meeting the members expressed their deep regret on hearing that Colonel F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., is leaving this district. During his term of presidency he created a feeling of true comradeship, and even in the most crowded hours of military duty he was always willing to help the Branch. Regret that R.Q.M.S. Smart was going overseas was also expressed; and the members wished it to be known through the medium of THE WIRE that these two gallant gentlemen had installed in the hearts of all members of this Branch a true "love of regiment." They welcomed Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley as our new president, but regretted to hear of his illness, and hoped that it would not be long before he was in our midst once more to take over his new duties in this Branch. C.S.M. D. V. Littlefield was welcomed amongst our gathering, and it is hoped that he will be able to emulate his predecessor's Association activities.

Employments.—I am very pleased to announce that one of our members, Mr. H. W. Sturgess (ex-Signalman of Kohat District Signals) has just commenced business with a partner as ladies' hairdressers at 51 Blue Boar Row, Salisbury—known as Gale and Sturgess. He wishes his friends to know that they will be welcomed any time they are this way, and asks them to bring their wives and sweethearts along to inspect his new premises.

Moves.—We deeply regret to announce the departure of two members of our committee: Colonel F. A. Heymann, late president of this Branch, and R.Q.M.S. Smart A. E., who served on the executive and entertainment committee—to Catterick and Tidworth respectively. This is a great loss to the Branch, and we can only wish them every success in their new appointments and thank them for the great interest they have shown in all our activities.

FREDERICK COLE, Hon. Secretary.

The attention of our motor-cycle despatch rider readers is drawn to the fourth Editorial Note, on the opposite page. All applications will be dealt with in rotation as received.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Rubber Worker
2	Ex-N.C.O. London	Attendant
3	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Attendant
5	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Laboratory Attendant
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Painter's Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
10	Ex-N.C.O. London	Attendant
11	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Southsea	Porter
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter
19	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Salesman
22	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
24	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
25	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Attendant
26	Ex-Signalman, Cardiff	Salesman
27	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Supervisor
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Receptionist
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Waiter
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Receptionist
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Film "Extra"
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger-Porter
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
35	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Super
36	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Labourer
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Domestic
38	Ex-Signalman, Durham	Cook
39	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Cook
40	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Post Office S.C. and T.
41	Ex-Signalman, N. Wales	Electrical Haulage Driver
42	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Labourer
43	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
44	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
45	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
46	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
47	Ex-W.O. London	Charge Petrol Station
48	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Salesman
49	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Salesman
50	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Salesman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

P.R.I., 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot
Officers' Mess, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks
3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut, India
Ex-Signalman Lloyd, late of 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut, India
Mr. K. C. Montgomery
Mr. F. V. Cooper

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Durham	£2 grant
2	Ex-Signalman, York	£2/10/0 grant
3	Ex-Signalman, London	£1 grant
4	Ex-Signalman, Darlington	£1 grant
5	Ex-Signalman, London	£5 grant
6	Ex-Signalman, London	£2 grant
7	Ex-Signalman, Derby	£3 grant
8	Ex-Signalman, London	£7/10/0 grant
9	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	£3 grant
10	Ex-Signalman, London	£3 grant
11	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	£1 grant

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

Apprentice Tradesmen in the Army.

Two Hundred Vacancies.

The War Office, London, S.W.1, 12th April 1934.

The War Office announces that about two hundred vacancies for boys will exist in the Regular Army in January 1935, for training as Artificers (R.A.), Armourers, Bricklayers, Blacksmiths, Carpenters and Joiners, Clerks, Draughtsmen, Electricians, Fitters, Operators (Signals), Masons, Surveyors, etc.

This is an opportunity for boys to learn a trade free of all cost to themselves or their parents. During their apprenticeship they will receive pay in addition to their maintenance, and will also be granted liberal holidays.

Entry will be by means of a competitive examination comprising a test in English, arithmetic and general intelligence, which will be held on the 3rd July 1934. Candidates wishing to compete should apply at any Recruiting Office or to the Under-Secretary of State, The War Office, London, S.W.1, before the 9th June 1934.

Candidates for training as Artificers (R.A.) or as Armourers must be between the ages of 14 years and 14 years 9 months on the 1st January 1935; for training as Bricklayers, between the ages of 15 years 8 months and 16 years 4 months on the 1st January 1935; and for training in all other trades, between the ages of 14 years and 15 years 5 months on the 1st January 1935.

Application forms, together with full particulars, conditions of entry and specimen examination papers, will be sent to candidates on request.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe from Aldershot to India (2nd Indian D/S)
Lieut.-Colonel F. O. St. John from India to S.T.C. Catterick
Major M. F. M. Parkes from Aldershot to Hong Kong
Major R. A. Bagnold from Hong Kong to U.K. (sick)
Major D. H. Cunynghame from India to Aldershot (A C/S)
Major R. Jee from Catterick to Aldershot (1st D/S)
Captain J. F. Charlesworth from India to Bulford (3rd D/S)
Captain V. J. E. Westropp from India to War Office (S.D.6)
Captain G. St. J. Martin from War Office to H.Q. Aldershot Command
Captain W. U. Tyrrell from Aldershot to H.Q. Eastern Comd.
Captain C. V. L. Lycett from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Captain M. S. Wheatley from London to Egypt
Captain (Q.M.) J. Finmore from Catterick to Egypt
Captain C. Knowles from Egypt to Aldershot (2nd D/S)
Captain L. A. E. Tozer from Catterick to Aldershot (1st D/S)
Lieut. D. W. Burridge from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. J. E. S. Sanders from S.T.C. to School of Signals, Catterick
2/Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson from Catterick to Aldershot (1st D/S)
2/Lieut. E. C. R. Blaker from Catterick to Bulford (3rd D/S)
2/Lieut. P. A. Duke from Catterick to Colchester (4th D/S)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 16/2/34.

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., half pay, to be C.S.O. Aldershot Command 11/2/34

ROYAL SIGNALS—

Major H. A. J. Parsons is restored to the establishment 15/2/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divl Signals—G. L. Ferguson to be 2/Lieut. 17/2/34
K. A. Maclay to be 2/Lieut. 17/2/34

War Office 20/2/34

Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., late R.Signals, is appointed A.D.C. to the King, 11/2/34, vice Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., late R.Signals, retired.

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., half pay, to be C.S.O. Southern Command 11/2/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Colonel F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., from C.S.O. Southern Command, to be Commandant S.T.C., and is granted the honorary rank of Brigadier, 11/2/34

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THE LATE CAPTAIN WILLIAM A. GLUE.
(see the first Editorial Note)

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major G. Hamilton, from S.R., to be Major 17/1/34, with seniority 31/10/29

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel H. Carter, T.D., from T.A. Reserve, to be Colonel 3/11/33

War Office 23/2/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Major H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of D.A.A. and Q.M.G. East Anglian Area, 15/2/34

War Office 27/2/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. A. Ellison to be Lieut. 25/2/34
2/Lieut. E. G. Day to be Lieut. 25/2/34

War Office 2/3/34

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain L. M. Kidd, late R.E.T.A., to be Captain 3/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divl Signals—D. C. Spicer to be 2/Lieut. 3/3/34
A.D. Brigade Signals—E. E. Cassell to be 2/Lieut. 3/3/34
G. H. Shrimpton to be 2/Lieut. 3/3/34

War Office 6/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divl Signals—D. G. A. Clover to be 2/Lieut. 7/3/34
50th (N) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. R. Alsop, from 47th Divl Signals, to be 2/Lieut. 19/2/34

War Office 9/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

51st (H) Divl Signals—Lieut. T. B. B. Bingham resigns his commission 10/1/34
52nd (L) Divl Signals—Capt. T. M. Niven to be Major 16/2/34

War Office 13/3/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major M. F. Allan to be Lieut.-Colonel 22/7/33

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divl Signals—Captain P. A. Harris resigns his commission 14/3/34
53rd (W) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. G. Cawthorn to be Lieut. 14/11/33

War Office 20/3/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain R. N. Higgs is seconded for duty with the Burma Military Police 12/2/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. T. E. Kitts to be Lieut. 21/3/34
2/Lieut J. Gregson to be Lieut. 21/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divl Signals—The date of appointment of 2/Lieut. K. A. Maclay is 10/2/34 and not as stated in the "Gazette" of 16/2/34

War Office 23/3/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

H. G. Loadsman to be 2/Lieut. 24/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—S. A. Woods to be 2/Lieut. 24/3/34
47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. W. A. Tomlinson, from 43rd (W) Divl Signals, to be Lieut. 26/2/34 with seniority 18/7/33
2/Lieut. E. A. Bennett, from 55th (W.L.) Divl Signals, to be 2/Lieut. 7/2/34 with seniority 2/8/30

War Office 27/3/34

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel (Temporary Brigadier) H. C. Smith, D.S.O., retires on retired pay 28/3/34, and is granted the honorary rank of Brigadier on retirement

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War Office 3/4/34

REGULAR ARMY—

The undermentioned Lieut.-Colonels to be Colonels 31/3/34:
H. I. Allen, D.S.O., half pay list, late R.Signals, with seniority 1/7/32
FitzA. Drayson, M.C., half pay list, late R.Signals

ROYAL SIGNALS—

The undermentioned Lieut.-Colonels, on completion of four years service as Regimental Lieut. Colonels, are placed on half pay list:—
H. I. Allen, D.S.O., 31/3/34
FitzA. Drayson, M.C., 31/3/34
A. E. Meredith, M.C., 1/4/34

The undermentioned Majors to be Lieut.-Colonels:—
G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., 31/3/34
W. T. Howe, O.B.E., 31/3/34
R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., 1/4/34

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors:—
H. N. Brown, 31/3/34
R. Jee, M.C., 31/3/34
F. W. Nicholls, O.B.E., 1/4/34

Captain L. A. E. Tozer is restored to the establishment 30/3/34
Captain and Brevet-Major R. F. H. Nalder is restored to the establishment, 31/3/34

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Lieut. J. E. S. Sanders is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 30/3/34
Superintending Clerk A. R. Manley to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) 1/4/34

War Office 6/4/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. K. D. S. MacOwan from General List T.A. to be 2/Lieut. 7/4/34

War Office 10/4/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. W. G. Tucker to be Adjutant 1/4/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

C. Swan to be 2/Lieut. 11/4/34
C. T. J. Johnson to be 2/Lieut. 11/4/34

War Office 13/4/34

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

Lieut. J. E. S. Sanders, R.Signals, to be Instructor (Cl. GG) School of Signals, 30/3/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. N. D. Arkinstall resigns his commission 3/3/34
46th (N.M) Divl Signals—Lieut. R. A. Stevenson to be Captain 12/3/34
56th (1st L.) Divl Signals—R. E. Denison-Pender to be 2/Lieut. 14/4/34

India Office 13/4/34

INDIAN ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Colonel (Temporary Brigadier) H. C. Smith, D.S.O., vacated the appointment of Signal Officer-in-Chief, 17/2/34
Colonel C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., to be Signal Officer-in-Chief 17/2/34

Correspondence.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham.
16th April 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the May 1934 WIRE.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll.

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 4/5/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

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274 Coleman Street, Belleville, Ontario, Canada.
24th March 1934.

The General Secretary, Signals Association.

Dear Sir.—I am enclosing cheque in payment for THE WIRE for the current year. As usual, my remittance is late, but I trust you will pardon me. Many thanks for sending the Journal without interruption.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you very cordially—although belatedly—for the very kind Christmas wishes conveyed to me in the December issue of the Magazine. To those who have left the Army and are scattered in various parts of the Empire, THE WIRE is the link which binds us together: it is the symbol of friendships formed in circumstances which of necessity render them more enduring than any formed in the normal times of peace. The Christmas message which your kindly thought conveyed to me reminded me that to live in the hearts of our friends is not to die.

I note that my old colleague of the Rhine, Mr. Peter Berry, is visiting London from an outpost of Empire. If it be possible, I would be grateful if you would convey to him my good wishes and my regrets that I am not in London to celebrate a re-union with him.

Wishing you continued success in your sphere of endeavour on behalf of Signals generally, believe me,

Gratefully yours,
ALLAN C. LENNOX.

---

50 St. Pauls Road, London, S.E.17, 22/4/34.

The Editor, "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I should be grateful if you would please publish the following in the next issue of THE WIRE:—

Will No. 2315725 L/Corpl J. E. Grafton, or anybody who has any knowledge of his whereabouts, please communicate with either ex-L/Corpl A. E. Davy, 180 Queenscroft Road, Eltham, S.E.9, or

Yours faithfully,
H. E. HODGE, ex-Sigmn.

British Motor Cycle Association.

Conditions of Enlistment of Patrols.

[See para. 4 of Editorial Notes]

Wages and Commission.—Patrols' wages are £2/10/0 per week, and in addition a weekly allowance of 10/- for running expenses and depreciation of their machines, etc.

Commission.—2/- (approximately 10 per cent.) on full subscriptions of members personally enrolled by Patrol.

Commission on Instalments.—This will be paid when final instalment is received.

Renewals of Annual Subscriptions.—Patrols will receive, if still employed by the B.M.C.A., 1/- (approximately 5 per cent.) for every subsequent subscription paid by a member enrolled personally by them.

Life Members.—10/- will be paid.

Founder Members.—2/- for the first year; 1/- for the following two years only.

Associate Members.—2/- (approximately 10 per cent.) on the first year's subscription, and 1/- (approximately 5 per cent.) on the subsequent years' subscriptions.

Machines.—Patrols will provide their own machines, with side-car attachment and chassis, and will be responsible for the cleanliness and good running order of these.

Boxes.—Boxes for side-cars will be supplied by the Association.

Insurance.—Patrols will insure their machines and box side-car by Comprehensive Policy (including business use) through the Association.

Commission on Insurances.—Patrols will receive commission on all insurances effected through their introduction, other than the free personal policy.

Uniform.—Patrols will be supplied with the following:—Cap and badge, jacket with two sleeve badges, khaki breeches, overcoat, waterproof, hip overalls.

Patrols must provide khaki shirts and ties and brown knee boots, and will be responsible for the cleanliness of their uniforms.

Duty.—The duty of Patrols will be a whole time job.

Absence from Duty.—In all cases of absence from duty, no wages will be paid except under exceptional circumstances. A medical certificate must be sent to the Head Office if absence from duty is due to sickness.

Leave.—One day per week, and one week annually on full pay.

Guarantee.—Patrols are required to make a cash deposit of £15 (fifteen pounds) or take out a Fidelity Bond for £50 (fifty pounds) to cover loss of uniform, badges, cash subscriptions, etc., and the return of these items on resignation or discharge.

Termination of Employment.—This Contract to be concluded by a week's notice on either side.

Point-to-Point Races.

The Corps Race.—This was run at the R.E. Meeting at Ashridge Wood. Our starters were:—

Lieut. C. H. Stoneley .....Westmead
2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon .....Fifty-Fifty
2/Lieut. G. D. B. McKean .....The Sloth
2/Lieut. J. M. S. Tulloch .....Wobley

We did not have the best of luck. The Sloth, who was having a good race with Lieut. McVittie on Felix, fell two fences from home through landing on probably the only bit of soft ground on the course. Unfortunately, Lieut. Stoneley on Westmead, who was close up and would probably have finished second, had not time to avoid the fallen horse and was brought down also. Wobley, who is slow but sure, now finished third and Fifty-Fifty, who carried a good deal of over-weight, a tired fourth.

R.A. Subalterns Troop Horse Race.—The Gunners at their Meeting opened this race to Gunner Brigade Signal Officers, and our three Gunner Brigade Signal Officers started.

Lieut. C. H. Stoneley.....Westmead
2/Lieut. J. M. S. Tulloch .....Wobley
2/Lieut. G. D. B. McKean .....Wynne

We had great hopes that Westmead would make up for his bad luck in the Corps race. However, after about eight fences Lieut. Stoneley went a bit too slowly at a biggish ditch and came down. Westmead, having parted with his bridle, then started for barracks and was eventually caught by a certain Brigadier, after the Meeting, well on his way home. Wynne and Wobley both came down at the water jump, which caused a lot of grief during the day. Wobley, usually so safe, apparently mistook it for casual water and galloped straight in. Both, however, were remounted and, catching up again, Wobley finished second and Wynne third. When weighing in, it was discovered that 2/Lieut McKean had broken his arm when he fell but had somehow managed to remount and ride the last ten fences in spite of the damage—an extraordinarily plucky effort on the part of the rider and a good performance on the part of Wynne, who had completed the course in exceptionally heavy going with a rider who could hardly hold the reins.

- Plain Tales -

Sporting Notes.—What with Oxford winning the Boat Race and—

Uncle Alf: Cambridge won it.

Oh, for goodness sake!—and Aston Villa losing by six goals against Manchester, and the 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess losing their tin cup to the R.E.s, there is no excuse for not having anything to write about. Which is rather a pity, because I prefer to have nothing to write about. I'm pretty good at that.

I rather like the way these University players are shown in the papers. Crabthorpe (Uppingham and Pembroke) looks just swell, so why shouldn't we do something of the sort? In the football match against the R.E. Sergeants Mess (which was cancelled owing to heavy rain, but who cares about that?) K. K. Bramley (Borstal and Headquarters) put up a splendid show at centre half. By sheer skill and amazing footwork he kept O. O. Thomas (Pwwhelilangffacan and No. 3 Company) supplied with footballs all the afternoon.

Later in the evening X. X. X. Adcock (Sling and Wadworth) excelled in the 440 yards darts. He was ably supported by Q. E. D. Seymour (Hong Kong and Saloonbar) who also pushes a very pretty javelin. In tossing the saxophone, S. O. Barlow (Marks and Spencers) was an easy first with no opposition, whilst T. U. Brooks (Watney Combe and Reid) secured the honours as an entertainer with the piano. Micky Fawl (Dublin and Tintown) blew an extraordinary game with a blown egg on the billiard table. Say, what compression, man!

In spite of all efforts the R.E.s secured the cup, chiefly because they kept the scores themselves. When the replay is arranged, the Signals expect to be allowed to do the scoring. R.S.M. Bramley, in handing over the cup amidst laughter and enthusiasm, refrained from calling them liars—but only just!

* * * *

Medical Corner.—This is rather a new venture on my part, and I don't profess to know much about illness. However, a little thing like not knowing never stopped me, so gather ye tips while ye may. In the first place, being ill is all wrong, and if people knew how to keep well, there would not be so much illness about. (I expect "The Lancet" will snap this up.) A contributary cause of illness is lack of beer. Far too many people live on air and water. It is a well known fact that you can make air wetter, but not water. (I'm not sure what this has to do with it.) You can always tell when you are really ill. There are four main symptoms. Two of these I forget, and the others are so well known that they need not be mentioned. Have a look round at the people who push the pints back. How often do you see them ill? How many lives have been saved by the daily glass of stout? Neither do I. Which practically proves what I was trying to tell you.

* * * *

Seeing Their Boots Off.—The Boys of the Royal Signals certainly interested the large crowd that turned up at the Command ground, Aldershot, on Wednesday 11th April, for on that day they defeated the Chepstow Training School Boys by 4—2 goals.

Uncle Alfred: Are you talking about football?

Me: Footbail? Say—you should have seen them. Can that Bennett man play? He had the other lads guessing all the time. I haven't got enough pencil to write all the names here, but Mick Adcock must be mentioned for his good steady and reliable work at centre half. The goalie has learned something about gloves by now. After the first lesson he made some good saves. The final is on Saturday the 14th. Fill in these gaps. Good luck, boys!

Royal Signals Boys ——. Irish Guards Boys ——.

* * * *

Gaskets and Things.—With the approach of the fine weather, Frank Shakespeare and other novices of the motoring fraternity will expect me to give them a few timely tips. One of the first things to consider with a car, no matter whether it be new or old, is the body, chassis, or engine. I forget which. We will suppose it is the body. You just can't be too careful about the body. The judicious use of a few nuts, bolts, screws, nails, or even a couple of feet of string, will save you many awkward and embarrassing situations.

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Quite recently—about four o'clock last February, to be precise—I was seeing my brother Fred off to Birmingham in his car.

"Well, cheerio, Fred, in case it starts," I said, hopefully.

"Oh, she'll start all right," he replied. "There's a lovely engine in this."

Without a doubt there *was* a good engine in that car, but the body did not come up to the same standard. He had sticking plaster where he should have had copper wire; nails where screws were indicated. Simply asking for trouble. He let in the clutch, and the engine lived up to its reputation. Had it not been fastened pretty securely to the chassis with rope, that engine would have gone by itself. As it was, the whole works shot forward so suddenly that the body remained poised in mid air for one second and flopped to the ground.

Fred crawled out through the sunshine roof (a very useful gadget, this) and believe me, his face was as red as anything. Well, dash it all, what with the traffic going by and the people standing about, it must have been a bit rotten for him. So it just proves something or other, doesn't it? Always carry a tin opener, because there's many a slip with a blue ribbon.

* * * *

The Case Develops.—Our great new serial goes on and on. We don't know why. This instalment rushed to press in the nick of time. "I done it on Shell," says the contributor.

Ukann Larfe whistled blithely (I'll bet *you* couldn't whistle blithely) as he walked down the old village street of Little Doing. The sun was trying hard to break through the scurrying clouds. Children chattered gaily as they hurried home from school and pensively smashed an occasional shop window as they passed. The local policeman smiled happily as he ran his truncheon along the churchyard railings. A rakish blue two-seater car pulled up on the opposite side of the road with a sound like a lovely woman's scream.

Uncle Alf: What's all this?

Me: I don't know, Alf. I'm a bit fed up with it myself. Let's go somewhere else.

Inspector Faceache swung round in his chair and faced his visitors. He got quite a thrill out of swinging round in his chair,

so he did it again and finished up with his back to them. This being very rude, he had another swing but went too far and came to rest in the fireplace. He uttered a string of oaths. He liked uttering strings of oaths, though he never knew why oaths went in strings. Anyway, he uttered some more strings and then apologised handsomely.

"Listen, Faceache. Up to date you've done nothing. Robbery after robbery takes place. We know it is the Plugger, and yet you sit there swinging round in a chair." Lord Elpas was angry. Anyone could see that. "Bah!" he cried, making the welkin ring.

"Bah! to you, too," shouted Faceache, making another welkin ring. The local police always kept two welkins.

"Now, now, chaps!" said Ukann Larfe as he shut the door behind him. "Get a load of this. The Plugger has played into our hands!" Ukann Larfe spoke rapidly in low tones for fifteen minutes; then all three slid down the banisters, jumped into three taxis, and drove off in three different directions.

Hermione Larfe crept out from behind the bookcase in the Inspector's office and laughed sardonically. At least, she thought that was what she had done until, looking in the dictionary, she discovered that it was no less than a cynical smile. "Curse it!" she hissed through clenched fists. "Take that!" she cried, kicking the cat into the corner; "and this." She flung a cushion but, losing her balance, fell headlong but withal gracefully to the bottom of the stairs, where she, too, jumped into a taxi and drove off in three different directions.

Uncle Alf: How the ——?

Me: You mind your own business.

BARLEUX.

How We Nearly Won the Army Boxing Championship.

[FROM A CORPS SIGNALS, KARACHI, INDIA]

Two years ago our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., made up his mind to have a shot at the championships. In those days there was only one boxer in the unit—Corporal Hutchison—but since then, in one way or another, many of the best boxers in "B" Group have found their way to A Corps Signals.

The building of our Stadium—of which there is a photograph on the March page of the Corps Calendar—has been one of the chief factors in improving boxing in the Area and in causing a natural gravitation of boxers to A Corps Signals.

More than six months ago our Signal Officer-in-Chief authorised A Corps Signals to form the basis of "B" Group Signals team. After much correspondence with units in the Group, a team was finally selected and concentrated in Karachi for the Command stage of the championships. As the expense of moving men from all over India is so great, we could only afford to bring in boxers from outside units if they were outstandingly better than any we could produce. As a matter of fact, we think that the eventual team was just about as strong as could be made up from "B" Group.

The final selection was eight boxers of A Corps Signals, with three from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, and one from Jubbulpore, as under:—

Bantam—Sigmn Taylor J. (A Corps Signals).
Feather—L/Sergeant Matthew F. (Signal Training Battalion, Jubbulpore).
Light—1, Sigmn Williams J. (2nd Indian Divl Signals); 2, Corpl Hutchison R. (A Corps Signals); 3, Sigmn Warburton W. (A Corps Signals).
Welter—1, L/Corpl Lovell S. (A Corps Signals); 2, Sigmn Roberts F. (2nd Indian Divl Signals); 3, Lieut. F. C. Seely and Sigmn Withers C. (A Corps Signals).
Middle—1, Sergt MacFarlane G. (A Corps Signals); 2, Corpl Rawson J. (2nd Indian Divl Signals).
Heavy—Sigmn Rymer F. (A Corps Signals).

The finals of the Western Command team championships were fixed for the 26th and 28th February in A Corps Signals Stadium at Karachi. The teams left in were the Royal Scots from Quetta, the Royal Sussex Regiment of Karachi, and ourselves.

The Scots drew the bye, and we met the Sussex in the first round—and a real blood match it was, too, against this fine boxing regiment. They knew our men to be superior boxers, and they went into the ring determined to make up in fighting for anything they lacked in boxing—and they came fairly close to doing it. We were leading all the way through, and before the last fight were in an apparently impregnable position with a lead of 16—14 points. But what happened? In the last fight our man was unfortunately disqualified, and the whole house of a thousand men dispersed without waiting for the decision as to who had won; most of them, I think, were in doubt. We were ourselves, and it was a very miserable supper party the team had that night; and it was only in the morning, when we looked in the book, that it was perfectly clear that we had won, since the side winning the greater number of bouts gets the decision.

In the Western Command final against the Royal Scots, on the 28th February, we were against last year's Command champions; and although they put up a very game fight, our men were much too good for them and we won by nine fights to two, thus becoming Command champions and holding a very fine cup.

On Friday 2nd March the team went off to Rawalpindi, fit and full of fight and hope. In the first round, against the Royal Fusiliers, they fought magnificently and carried all before them, outclassing their opponents by ten fights to one. Such a result naturally gave us the greatest confidence in meeting the holders, the East Surrey Regiment, in the semi-final.

This match was a great show on the part of our men. In the matter of points there was nothing in it throughout, and as the contestants entered the ring for the last fight it was 15 points all. Our man made no mistake, and we thus not only defeated the All India champions but justified the faith placed in Colonel Helps' ability to produce such a team.

The night of the final found us facing the K.S.L.I.—a tough proposition. But we do no more than pay a tribute to their ultimate victory when we say that we were confident of winning, and the result must have come as a surprise to many: we lost the match by four fights to seven. One of our men pluckily entered the ring with a fractured hand. In another contest, in which our representative was adjudged the loser, the recorders were so confident of his having gained the decision that the points were placed against his name on the board. But the fact remains that every fight was a close one, and both our opponents and the spectators would be the first to say that there was very little, if anything, to choose between the two teams.

No individual in the team (not forgetting the training side of it) can be singled out for praise—it was a case of "Jolly well done, all of you!"

This has been "B" Group's first attempt to lift the Army title, and we are naturally proud of the effort resulting in our being runners-up. We are determined to go one better next year and bring to the Corps in India an honour which is closely associated with it at home.

[A photograph of "B" Group boxing team appeared in the Sports pages of our last issue.—ED.]



Wireless Station, Fort Smith, North-West Territory.
Operated by the Royal Canadian Signals.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O. I. (R.S.M.)

1850122	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) Shenton A.	17/11/33	5

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

*5429956	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Tank R.	17/ 2/33	68

To be C.Q.M.S.

2308817	Sergeant Young E.	23/12/33	15
2308798	Sergeant White F.	1/ 1/34	15
2306440	Sergeant Dixon A.	7/ 2/34	15

To be Sergeant.

2314039	L/Sergeant Golder L.	6/12/33	27
*1407886	L/Sergeant Cook A.	14/12/33	78
6837724	L/Sergeant Lee A.	7/ 2/34	27
2313951	L/Sergeant Redworth F.	7/ 2/34	27
2311489	L/Sergeant Guile W.	22/ 2/34	27

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2314982	Corporal Taplin C.	16/11/33	34
*2309017	Corporal Cocks G.	6/12/33	78
2312592	Corporal Dunn F.	2/ 1/34	34
2315802	Corporal Chesters W.	7/ 2/34	34
2315906	Corporal Forrest W.	7/ 2/34	34
2316805	Corporal Smith T.	22/ 2/34	34

To be Corporal.

2316950	L/Corporal Allen W.	8/12/33	50
2317214	L/Corporal Evans S.	24/12/33	50
7109684	L/Corporal Reilly A.	3/ 1/34	50
2316995	L/Corporal Walker C.	10/ 2/34	50
6134549	L/Corporal Barnicott A.	13/ 2/34	50
2311306	L/Corporal Furze W.	22/ 2/34	50

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2319431	Signalman Cross P.	4/10/33	
2315355	Signalman Jerram C.	1/11/33	
2318785	Signalman Fairbanks F.	2/11/33	
2318256	Signalman Bruton S.	15/11/33	
2318323	Signalman Robinson F.	25/11/33	
2318884	Signalman Castell F.	6/12/33	
2319373	Signalman Dangerfield J.	8/12/33	
2319795	Signalman King E.	14/12/33	
2319694	Signalman White R.	23/12/33	
2320240	Signalman Barron A.	23/12/33	
2318933	Signalman Nugent S.	24/12/33	
2318405	Signalman Brudenell A.	24/12/33	
3955288	Signalman Sowden J.	29/12/33	
2319484	Signalman Cooper W.	30/12/33	
2318817	Signalman Honor V.	30/12/33	

To Army Reserve.

*2317774	Corporal Michie J.	1/ 2/34	44
5493061	Corporal Feltham G.	12/ 3/34	40
2315724	Corporal Yalden W.	12/ 3/34	41
2317613	L/Corporal Higgins G.	11/ 3/34	54
2317691	L/Corporal Cameron J.	12/ 3/34	63
2319128	L/Corporal Rawlins W.	18/ 3/34	52
2317665	L/Corporal Clowes E.	26/ 3/34	59
2319205	L/Corporal Connaughty B.	10/ 4/34	62

Deceased.

2314929	L/Sergeant Walby L.	11/ 3/34	33

Change of Name.

2317172	L/Corporal Andrews F. assumed name of Farnden T. H. G.	6/ 2/34	58

* *Special Roster (India)*

Much Ado About Nothing.

Good-bye to all that: or, A Lament to the Lads who left on the "Lancashire."

No more will they be roused with the lark, to dash outside on to the verandah for the early morning cup of tea.

No more will they be awakened from dreams of "Iceland's snowy mountains" to find the bally punkahs quite idle.

No more will they patrol the wire at night with guns in their hands and curses on their lips, and the jolly old searchlights giving them thrills as the light casts shadows bigger than the Loch Ness Monster before them.

No more will they be confined to a perimeter a mile square, with its one cinema, its lack of restaurants and fish and chip shops, its continual dust and glare, and above all, its absence of that friend of man—Eve.

No more will they cast all thoughts of dust and glare behind them and stroll down the Mall, with its gorgeous flowers, its evergreen trees, its English church (which gives you the history of this part of the North-West Frontier once you are inside), and that glorious carpet of grass the Brigade parade ground—verily an oasis in the wilderness.

No more will they trek those weary miles amidst sun and sand, with flies and sweating brows; neither will their bed be the earth of the Kurram, Lachi, Parachinar, Thal, or all those other places near the Afghan border that the gods in their wrath say they shall visit on manœuvres.

No more will they come back to civilisation after a three weeks "pub crawl" around the hills of Waziristan—back to light and laughter, baths, and a binge in the canteen—with the knowledge that they have done their bit and done it well.

No more will they have afternoons off in which to frizzle under the mosquito nets, with Thursdays and Sundays off thrown in by way of consolation.

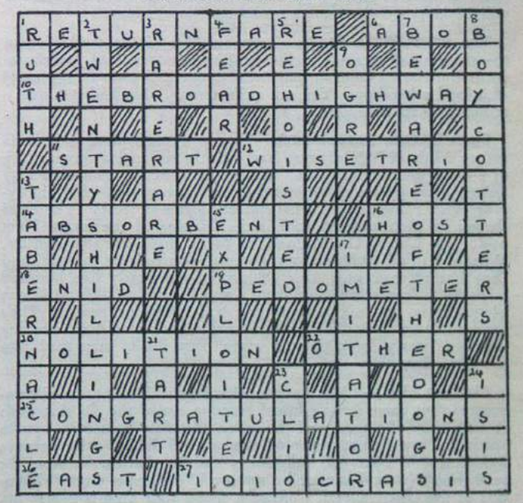
They will arrive in England amidst all the glories of early spring. They will look, with eyes of interest and hearts filled with joy, on fresh green fields; trees will be in their first buds; lambs will be gambolling on the sward; and, yes, they will stand aghast in the Strand and perhaps wish themselves back on the North-West Frontier. Who knows what they will wish? After spending five or six years here, they may desire this haven of refuge rather than the hazard of crossing the Strand with death on every side of them. However, we who have to carry on know that the N.W. Frontier does make *men*.

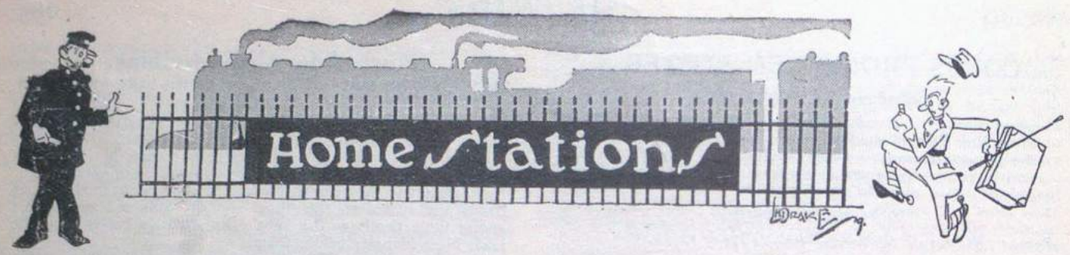
And with that compliment, coupled with all best wishes, I'll sign myself

TIM.

Solution of Cross-Word Puzzle No. 9.

Published in the March issue.





SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

By the Waters. . . .—Mind habits persist. So when somebody leaves us we, being normal, usually say we are sorry. Often it is no more than a faint annoyance at having to adapt ourselves to fresh conditions. So, except in rare cases (we are rather lazy and do not actively dislike people unless we have good cause) we are quite sincere in expressing regret at the departure. This is generally understood, and such messages in this Magazine are apt to be regarded as largely a matter of duty and form. But since, if this paragraph be so considered, a lamentably false opinion of the Battalion's emotion would obtain, I think I might without offence publicly declare my sincerity.

Lieut.-Colonel H. I. Allen, D.S.O., was placed on the half-pay list on 31/3/34, which meant his leaving us. He had been our commanding officer since December 1932, and in that short time had earned an affection and respect little short of astounding—but a just measure of the splendid qualities he possessed. The Battalion was keen on turning out and wishing him goodbye as he drove through the lines on his way to the south of England. It was known, however, that he was really too modest and shy to like that sort of thing. Similarly, I suppose his eyes and ears would be burning if I were to write all that is his due. So I will say nothing more than that all ranks were more than delighted to hear he had been promoted Colonel w.e.f. 31st March 1934. May his military career ever prosper!

The married families would also like me to say how much they appreciated the help and guidance of Mrs. Allen, who got round everywhere and knew everybody. Being a bachelor, I hardly know what else to say, but from what I hear I am certain she will be long and gratefully remembered in the unit.

The Great Wide World.—From troubles of the world I turn to—the English Press, specifically *The Western Mail*, which records the rise to fame in the Royal Corps of Signals (bless 'em!) of a local schoolboy. You are quite wrong. He had *not* won a scholarship to Woolwich.

Open Spaces Department.—Tagish, a small place in Canada rather south of Whitehorse, has recently suffered a temperature of —84 degrees (unofficial). When the mercury bumps to fifty below, most people think twice before moving out. But eighty-four below! one hundred and sixteen degree of frost! The chief danger in such extreme cold is the frosting of the lungs, I am told. But Cherry Garrard and his two companions (Bill and Dr. Wilson, I think) continually registered —73 degrees in 1911, and they hauled their gear for eight weeks and nearly five hundred miles to collect some eggs from Cape Crozier. Their tent was blown away one night, and they had morphine ready. They suffered from optical illusions after a time: and their clothing weighed nearly forty pounds when they finally staggered into the Base Camp.

Civilian Life.—" We keep moderately well in trying circumstances, but there is no gradual growing out of the ills that flesh is heir to. The worry of living on the dole makes us low in spirit and we cannot shake off the general debility, the nervous irritation and bouts of indigestion and headaches, because the main cause (worry) cannot be removed."—Extract from " Memoirs of the Unemployed." Read it when your time is nearly up.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Everyone seems to be settled down again after Easter leave, with empty pockets, nil credit balances, and happy memories. " Gather lip rouge while ye may " is a good motto.

The Wing is having the usual influx of recruits for the new quarter. Our N.A.A.F.I. assumes quite a civilian atmosphere about this time. Our storeman (who prides himself on his service) wandered into the canteen in civvies the other evening, and was asked by one of the new arrivals what he thought of the Army! His reply was unprintable: I leave it to your imagination.

There are no rewards for the cleanest and smartest barrack room this month, as we are in the throes of spring cleaning. Every barrack room you enter seems full of paint pots, step ladders, etc. By a miracle we managed to get the office done first without *too* much moving about.

Recruits.—Let me give the new arrivals a little sound advice. Don't talk to your Squad commander about motor cars and week-end leaves, tennis courts, or "Tempus Fugit." You might choose one who would take your remarks personally.

More Old Soldiers!—No. 47 Squad, under L/Corporal Allen, passed off the square on 10/3/34. Sigmn Darragh winning the Colonel's whip. No. 48 Squad, under L/Corpl Payne, passed off on 16/3/34. Sigmn Davidson winning the whip and a medal for P.T. No. 49 Squad, under L/Corpl Taylor, passed off on 22/3/34, Sigmn Grice winning the whip.

Promotions.—We actually have one! Congratulations to L/Corpl Allen on attaining that rank. " The first one is the hardest." " It's a long time to wait, but it is worth it." I expect he has heard all about that by now.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold C.S.M. Nash from 4th Div. and U/L/Corpl Maughan from the Training Battalion. I have also noticed rows of stripes and several overseas caps about the office, but have been too busy to find out whether they are joining us or are en route for civvy street. Either way, we wish them all the best.

Departures.—We were sorry to lose C.S.M. Noonan to A.F.V. Signals and Corpl Lynch to 1st Div. So we have lost the bold Joe at last! The pay office inventory board will have to be altered now. Several things could be said here, but discretion is one of my strong points.

Agony.—To Tee-Hee Smith, A Corps Signals: We've not heard about Lal just lately. Northampton.

Finis.—When a certain person in this Wing heard that I was writing these notes, he walked away muttering something about " a bad result of a good idea." Before I realised that it was not the compliment I deserved, he had vanished in the distance..

EL PEE.

Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion.

We had another whist drive and dance on Friday 6th April. There was an absolutely full house, and it looked as though we should need to put " House full " boards outside and have an overflow meeting in the billiards room. The Artillery captured the first prize, which was a blow (to us, I mean). Dancing went on into the dark hours and went with a swing. The whole thing was a terrific success, and we anticipate the next very keenly. We *are* a sociable crowd of people, you know. Several new members, C.S.M. Nash, Sergt Hamlin, L/Sergeants Dunne and Chadney, and families, were present.

Then the S.T.C. officers played the Depot sergeants at soccer on 17/3/34. What a match! There were crowds of spectators (some necessary) and most of them brought their own grand

stands, to the dismay of the nearby building contractors (heaven rest their souls!) We played well—very well—but the officers were too good for us. Among the bright spots of the match was C.S.M. Young with his furious yellow stockings (you daren't wear those in the stables, Jerry). Major Hill was a sound back and kept our forwards out. 2/Lieut. Williams played soccer and showed us how, while Lieut. McCormack really got going several times. Our left half (no name, but—) should have had a week-end pass to get a start after him. Too bad. Our goalkeeper was very good. His technique in picking the ball out of the net was superb. No wonder the ball kept away from you, Jerry; your socks. . . . Sergt Crowhurst put in some slippy headwork, struggling against a natural handicap, and Dickie's very fine slacks were hoisted to some effect. I cannot quite see why the officers delighted in stopping the ball with their faces. I think a first timer from C.S.M. Noonan's foot must hurt when thus stopped. However. . . . As I said, we'll not mention the score. We were not on form. But next time. . . May it be very soon, too!

The rumour that Urdu is to be the Depot's language in future is not true, in spite of appearances. CARSTAIRS.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Boys Army Cup.—We must commence these notes by congratulating F Company boys on reaching the final of the boys Army cup. Their performance in the semi-final against the Chepstow boys was remarkable. After being two goals down, they put their shoulders to the wheel and rammed home four goals (all scored by Bennett) thus winning the match by 4—2. Bravo! We hope they will do well in the final against the boys of the Irish Guards. We hear that this will be their hardest match, but we are confident that our boys will give of their best.

Stop Press—I have just been informed that the Irish Guards won by 3—2 goals. I am unable to give an account of the match, but from the result one would imagine that it was keenly fought. Hard luck, boys!

" Wire " Notes.—Many readers are complaining that notes compiled by scribes are of the Part II. Order variety. Now, this is wrong, but one must realise that to give notes of interest and to enable friends to keep in touch with one another, certain sections of the notes must be taken from Part II. Orders. It is done for the good of all, and it enables men to keep in communication throughout their service.

Marriages.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Booth on joining the roll for C.R.A. (don't tell her yet what it is). Married to Esther Calvert at Knaresborough on the 21st March. Uncle Walter was the best man.

Departures.—Sigmn Lundie to 1st Divl Signals, Sigmn Baldwin S. to A Corps Signals, and Sigmn Merchant to Air Defence Signals—all on 12/3/34. Signalmen Mellor, Lambert M. and Watson to 2nd Divl Signals, Signalmen Buck, Hughes S., Hunt and Nicholson to 3rd Divl Signals, Signalmen Holder and Wilson W. J. to 4th Divl Signals, Signalmen Harrod and Last to 5th Divl Signals, and Signalmen Johnson W. and Linton to A.F.V. Signals—all on 20/3/34.

Our Civilian Friends.—On Saturday 7th April we entertained our old friends Newton Cap Bank, from Bishop Auckland, in a friendly football match. These fixtures are very popular and have resulted in a close friendship being formed between both clubs. Our visitors are all unemployed and have been for years—in some cases seven or eight—but this does not deter them from keeping happy. They are a fine lot of fellows. They brought about thirty-four with them, and we gave them a right royal time. The football match resulted in a win for Newton Cap by 2—0 goals. After the match we took them to the canteen for tea—and what a tea! It was voted by all to be excellent, and we must thank the N.A.A.F.I. staff for their co-operation.

The return visit was made and once again we had a wonderful reception, although they beat us once more. We not only lost the football, but also a member of our team. I think he is at present trudging along the highway.

We must not close this account without thanking our O.C., C.S.M. and others whose strong financial support enabled us to give our visitors such a good time. Without this encouragement we could not have done it, and on behalf of the team I thank them all. I also thank the football team for their help at all

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times. Through their sporting play we have not only made permanent friends but have also upheld the traditions of the Corps. E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Nothing really important has happened during the last month except Easter leave. Judging from some faces we all had quite a good time, although the weather wasn't particularly Easter-like. Spring drills commenced after the vacation—if that's a laugh for anyone. The Company still maintains its old standard regarding work, and we often see the potato peelers labouring away into the night. The weather seems to have changed to damp and gloomy, but after quite a glorious winter we can hardly complain.

Outdoor Sports.—As already mentioned, spring drills commenced on the 6th April, and everybody who has passed through here knows exactly what I mean. The usual practice of competitors receiving a mug of cocoa after parade is still in force, and I believe that those who go for cocoa without having indulged in this famous pastime are looked upon as being very mean. Personally, I think they are very wise guys, as Al Capone would say. However, everyone is looking forward to musketry starting, as I believe it does, immediately after them.

Another famous item under this heading is gardening. We have a new Company gardener in Sigmn Farrar T., and he seems to be taking a keen interest in his job. Outside the C.Q.M.S. stores we have a small forest planted, which he tells me will supply his grandchildren with enough crows' eggs to keep them quiet for life. The allotments are acquiring that Kew Garden look with every week, and I've seen enough vegetables go in one patch to start a grocer's stall in Richmond or Darlington. Of course, that's not a suggestion, but it would save the risk of having one's lettuces or radishes stolen to satisfy someone's palate as a supper dish. I should not have said that, because I can see I am going to take the can back if any do vanish. Anyone who has it " in " for me should wait till the radishes appear and then make a dive the first night. Yes, and probably I'll have them first!

Arrivals.—According to Part II.s Sergt Storr arrived from the port of disembarkation ; I think it was from India. Anyway, he is welcomed to the Company and invited to take full advantage of its liberties. Sigmn Burnham came to us from Aldershot to fill a vacancy left by one of our cooks. He is also welcomed and seems to be settling down. Thirty operators arrived from the Depot Battalion, and we are expecting more. By the time these notes are published, the majority will have inscribed their names on the lecture room tables. To tabulate their names would fill a WIRE of my own, but when you see them you'll know whom I mean—that's if you know what I'm talking about now. However, outside these, there are no more arrivals except a few sheep during the night, which can be further explained by the Company gardener.

Departures.—We bade goodbye to Sigmn Duffy before Easter, when his engagement finished and he went to civvy street. I believe he was married a few days after he left us, owing to excitement, and we wish him all the best and congratulations. Sigmn Westwood left us for Colchester before Easter, and we hope that he is making good headway. C.Q.M.S. Kendall and Signalmen Mallet, Roberts W. F. and Hilliard leave for Egypt on the 13th April, and we all hope they have a happy voyage and land without that " sailor " walk. No. 174 Squad proceeded to units after Easter, and we hope they also are doing well. So many squads pass through here that their names are too numerous to mention, so all that can be said is that they came and went, and their number goes with them.

Congratulations.—The tailors bill says that Corpl Chesters is now a lance-sergeant. We congratulate him on his appointment. Someone mentioned to me that he was looking for a suitable site to start an allotment. Looking further down the list, L/Corpl Reilly is now a corporal. In case anyone doesn't remember him, he plays the big drum in the band, so any letters of congratulations should be addressed personally care of them. Once again we congratulate both, and hope they climb higher yet.

Congratulations of another kind go to Sergt and Mrs. Jarvis on the birth of a daughter at the Families Hospital on the 25th March. Now I know why he was sweating so much on that allotment when he gave his spuds their turn-over.

Sports.—We were very unlucky to lose in the second round of the inter-novices knock-out boxing. The first round was a walk-over owing to the Royal Artillery scratching, so we met the Royal Scots Fusiliers and lost by a narrow margin of one point —113 to 114. I did not attend at the ringside because there was a free show at the N.A.A.F.I., but their trainer tells me he was very satisfied with the team. E. Robinson put up a very good show against a fellow a lot bigger than himself.

The Band and Cadre football team were active again last month. To Aske Hall, away, they lost by 3—5, their only defeat. Against Hauxwell, at home and away, they won by 3—0 and 8—3 respectively. Just before Easter they beat the Darlington unemployed team by 3—1 and were very pleased, because the unemployed had previously beaten quite a famous team up here. Teas, of course, were included with each match, and altogether the whole affair is running very smoothly. In the Company itself there has been no sport, but all challenges are excepted. We have a very fine selection of hockey players, football jerseys and a brand new shove-ha'penny board—so, much as I regret to report the absence of games, I've done my bit.

Speaking of famous sports, we had on the 21st March the Garrison point-to-point and on the 6th and 7th April the Catterick Bridge races. Everything went splendidly except for those who came away with links and studs only. I attended neither because I couldn't see why I should pay at the gate and also when I was inside. Anyway, the weather was fine and there were millions there—and an ice cream fellow told me his profits were appalling!

Press.—During Easter the Corps Band was engaged at Bridlington, and here is a very favourable extract taken from their press: " A comparatively large audience on Thursday evening welcomed the re-appearance in the Floral Pavilion of the band of the Royal Corps of Signals, a band which despite its youth—it is one of the youngest in the Army—has won high praise wherever it has performed. . . . . Mr. R. R. Ricketts, the conductor, received a warm ovation when he made his appearance on the platform at the commencement of the programme. . . . Thursday evening's audience, which included the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. Byass) and Alderman C. H. Holmes (chairman of the Parade Committee) gave that impression of popularity, for their applause was so insistent that not one but several encores were given. . . ."

Our Mess orderly said the fellow who wrote that article was after easy money, but that's all wrong. Mr. Ricketts and the Band are to be thanked for maintaining their popularity.

After-Thought.—This month's jew's mail is very short. However, there are one or two.



Training Battalion Boys "A" Team.

Standing (left to right)—Corpl Tant, Corpl Boy Adcock, Boy Edwards, Signalmen Lancashire, King L. and McQuade
Sitting—Boy Garfield, Sigmn Kendall, Boy Humphreys, Captain V. C. Holland, Sigmn Beenham (captain), Signalmen Bennett and Fry, Boy McDonald

Will L/Corpl Hickman, Jubbulpore, write to his old pal of the Band at Catterick Camp?

To Clancy, India: What was the number of my rifle? I think I've found the bolt. Squeezer, Catterick. W.R.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The long-awaited spring drills have started and finished. (It rained this morning. Good show.) Early reveille and breakfast are the order of the day. Catterick weather is living up to its reputation, and so far there are few signs of spring approaching. (Bad show.)

Boys Club.—Our thanks are due to the P.R.I. for undertaking to pay all Club expenses. Boys' subscriptions will cease this month.

During Easter we had two whist drives, and both were well attended. An impromptu concert was organised by L/Corporal Blades, and thanks are due to those who helped. Sergt Sullivan gave some very good cornet solos, and Boy Halstead sang in his now famous angelic soprano. A mouth-organ band under the direction of Corpl Boy Adcock was well applauded. Corpl Boy Adcock and L/Corpl Boy Rixon gave us some impressions of bull fights and things. The members of Room 7 gave an impression of a kan-kan dance (very impromptu: very) and Boy Lee told us that "Heaven will protect an honest girl." A choir (?) also rendered some popular songs. Thanks are also due to Boy Rosslyn D. Smith ("D" stands for Dracula) and Boy Whittenham for pianoforte solos and accompaniment.

A dance with refreshments was held on Saturday night, and a trip to the Garrison Cinema was organised on Monday.

Six-a-Side Soccer.—Six-a-side soccer was organised during the Easter period and proved fairly popular with everyone. We congratulate Squeak Humphreys and his stalwarts on winning the contest. Sergt Luck expressed his regret at being unable to attend the final. We don't know whether the cause was fever or too many Easter eggs.



Representatives of the Signals in the Boys Army Boxing Championships.

Standing—L/Corpl Boy Willis and Boy Mullen D.
Sitting—Boy O'Brien, Sergt Brewster (trainer), Boy Cross



The Long and the Short of It.

Shooting.—A shooting contest provided excellent sport for all those who did not miss the target. We congratulate Boy Whittenham on winning with a possible 20.

Hockey (and how).—A hockey match against Scorton ladies, at Scorton on Easter Saturday, resulted in a win for the boys by four goals to two. An excellent tea was provided, and the boys are looking forward to the next match. We wonder whether the tea is the only attraction! It is now known that several n.c.o.s play regularly for the ladies' team.

Recruit Boys.—The squad of recruit boys under Sergt Harrison J. passed off on Saturday 24th March. Congratulations to Boy Elston on winning the whip given to the smartest lad in the squad.

Marriage.—Sigmn Guest R. has been and gone and done it. We have pleasure in announcing his marriage to Miss Nellie Cooper. From the number of letters received by some people, we expect a few more marriages in the near future.

Departures.—We grieve to lose from the Company Sigmn Bennett P. to 2nd Div. Aldershot ; Signalmen Beenham, Fry, McQuade and Lancashire (Harker) to A Corps ; and Sigmn King L. to A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth (goodbye, "A" team) ; also Sigmn Hall R. to 5th Div. Scarborough and Sigmn Smart to civvy street.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company Sigmn Vivian from A Corps and Recruit Boys Whippe, Bennett, Jackson, Connell and Perry.

Growth.—A study of the photograph " The long and short of it " will convince anyone that F Company is a home from home. Two of our latest recruits are standing under the wings of an ex-boy : see how they grow. EEL.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—This is No. 2 Company calling. Once again we will endeavour to let all and sundry know that signals are still good, although atmo's cause a spot of bother at times.

Records, having sadly depleted our ranks for service beyond Frensham Pond, are at last satisfied. The remainder have been allotted their respective jobs for the training season, and Sections are busy holding secret conferences and chotah schemes—the latter being carried out with success. By training season, we mean the period when civvies are put in press and hard work is the order of the day. Four Medium recently worked Colchester very successfully, and although it is no great distance, credit is certainly theirs for the expert way in which the scheme was carried out.

We did well last year, but we prophesy far better results this. By the time these notes appear, we shall have received a bill from the wardens of Ash ranges for damages to roaming cattle and buildings and windows at Pirbright. No doubt, Joe and Spud will oblige. Our average was very high last time, so we have no qualms about what will happen on the 18th April.

Marriages.—Congratulations to Signalmen Sayer and Midgley on their respective marriages. We hear of others, but having consulted the crystal, we found only a jumble of letters which are now being feverishly decoded by the C.R.A. staff.

Birth.—To Sigmn and Mrs. Hutton a son, Christopher George. Congratulations.

Departures.—Corpl Johnson and Sigmn Hall to civvy street. Sorry to lose you, Johnnie boy, but guess we will all buy a box when we see you. To Egypt, Signalmen Kelly F., Cadogan and Fraser. Our best wishes go with you all.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. McGregor and others from P.O. courses, besides numerous others from the Depot and overseas. We extend the firm grip with the right hand to all.

Oscar is back.

DIXIE.

1st Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

This month finds us well into Section training. Many small exercises have been held to enable personnel to acquaint themselves with their duties in the field. Consistent with custom at this stage of training, not a few ideas and sundry gadgets are in process of being patented in order to adapt the standard types of transport and stores to the specialised jobs of their respective Sections.

A Section have been radiating much of late, but have been handicapped somewhat by the absorption properties of the "D" layer. D Section have become magneto entirely, telephonically; whilst the Fullerphone reigns supreme telegraphically. The problem will be to obviate their mutual interference on single line earth return systems; but more anon. Indeed, we hope to experiment in high frequency carrier wave telephony, and even then our exclamations may be "Scrambled!"

The D.R. Section have completed individual training and have turned out a goodly team of fliers who should prove very useful during the forthcoming training season.

No. 1 Artillery Signal Section have almost completed preparations to join the Gunners out in the blue. Naturally, they are loth to leave the social amenities of a garrison town; but there are advantages, too—and pleasant ones at that.

M Section have indeed been busy re the approaching O.M.E.'s inspection. The charging room and the fitters shop are on full time with more work than they can cope with without having some items outstanding. The instrument repairers have had the usual stream of overhauls, and the carpenters are busy with the aforementioned gadgets.

General.—The usual number of arrivals and departures have taken place, a summary of which follows this discourse. A few have volunteered for next trooper, whilst others are hoping to evade it. A few have visions of upgrading this time, and the Trade Board will show if they have been successful. The painters have completed the rejuvenation of our all-weather flats, and work on the gardens has commenced. Easter leave has come and gone, leaving quite a number on the wagon for a while. Now for Whitsun!

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold L/Corpl Dacombe from Singapore, 29/3/34; Corporal Blakeman from India, 6/4/34; Sigmn Melville from North Ireland Signal Company, 10/4/34; and Corpl Lynch from Catterick, 11/4/34.

Departures.—We bid adieu to L/Corpl Williams and Signalmen Lea J., Lane P., Robinson N. and Self F. to Egypt and Palestine, 14/4/34; Sigmn Inskip to North Ireland Signal Company, 9/4/34.

Up-Grading.—Congratulations to the undermentioned. Signalmen McKinnon, Seatter T. and Jones K., operator signals B.iii.; Sigmn Cooper E. lineman C.iii.

Marriage.—Sigmn Wood F. to Miss Patricia Rose Geary at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on 31/3/34.

DODGER J.J.

No. 3 Company.

Apologies.—These are tendered to all readers for the absence of notes in recent issues. This, I hope, will not occur again. Last month my quota must have been mislaid somehow, as the notes were not published.

General.—The Easter leave period has passed, leaving the usual lovesickness in its wake; hence some of the members of this Company writing letters every evening. I will not, however, say who the letters are addressed to, but leave it to be imagined.

Spring drills have come and gone, the individual training season has finished, and Section training has begun in real earnest as a prelude to the Salisbury exercise next August and September.

M.T. Driving Instruction.—The M.T. driving classes have passed over successfully, and quite a number of taxi drivers are flashing their licences throughout the Company. We regret to state, however, that Dunlops and Morrises refuse to supply india-rubber gear boxes. Isn't that correct, Darkie?

Musketry.—The junior n.c.o.s underwent a course of musketry during March, which had a successful conclusion. However, a certain n.c.o. of note used to talk of "pokey di" in his sleep and tell us how it aided him when he was holding 'em back in Burma in bygone days.

Medal Presentation.—On Sunday 10th March Colonel Samson, our new C.S.O., presented long service and good conduct medals (rootie gongs) to Sergts Pye E. and Weeks W. What! Eighteen years undetected. Boys, what a record! Together with these, the C.S.O. presented the Indian general service medal to the following stalwarts who upheld the Standard of Britain in Eastern climes: L/Corpls Hamilton A. and Kent, and Signalmen Banks and Steele.

Re-Engagements.—L/Corpl Saunders A. to complete twelve years with the Colours. Atta boy!

Arrivals.—We tender a hearty welcome to all new arrivals, of whom there are too many to give them individual attention.

Departures.—Many have left the Company, some for service in the East and some to civvy street. Among the latter figure Signalmen Bain, Sellars, Shone, Powner, McGuire and Wilson G. Cheerio, boys, and the best of luck! Sigmn Burnham has left us for the Training Battalion after a successful course at the School of Cookery. Signalmen Cook K., Johnson A. and Smith F. are off for service in the land of Pyramids.

We Want to Know.—Who is the chap who lost his girl at the dance at Hale? and if the Company clerk knows anything about it? Why don't you get a motor-bike, Hutch? If a certain young man is studying Hebrew for his special, or is the idea one of Cupid's?

Promotions.—Sigmn Carter to be cookhouse stoker (plenty of "gunfire" now, Boris). Sigmn Norton to be broom major, unpaid, on the provost staff (Scavengers Brigade).

Sport.—Congratulations to the Company hockey team on defeating No. 2 Company. We must not forget L/Corpl Hamilton's boxing display when he beat Driver Parrish of 2nd Divl Signals after three gruelling rounds. We are sorry to relate that Sigmn Griffin lost in the Army fly weight semi-final to L/Bdr Pratchett on the referee's casting vote. Better luck next time, Griff bhoy! (He has since been chosen to represent the Army in the I.S.B.A. championships. Congratulations!) We extend our sorrow to L/Corpl Sweet in being beaten in the Command billiards semi-final, but we congratulate him on winning the snooker final by defeating Sergt Neish of the Royal Tank Corps by two games.

The Company join with me in congratulating F Company Boys "A" team on defeating D Platoon of the Army Technical School by four goals to two in the semi-final of the Boys Army cup. We hope they have a similar victory in the final.

Correspondence Course.—G.W.R. would like to continue the aforementioned course with Pawsboy (late Exptl. India).

Conclusion.—Thanks to those kind readers who have borne with me so long. Look out for more next month.

VEDAH.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—Easter having come and gone since last month's notes, there is very little to write about. Of course, we could write of the merits of certain train services and how they did or did not get us to our destinations, etc., but that is of no interest to the majority. To say that we who had leave enjoyed ourselves and appreciated the change is sufficient.

Congratulations.—To Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., on his promotion. To L/Sergt Bye E., who came out on top of the senior n.c.o.s drill and duties course. To L/Corpls Simpson T. and Denbow E., who tied for first place in the junior n.c.o.s course. To our boys on reaching the semi-final of the Boys' Army Association football cup (we wish them the best of luck when they meet the Army Technical School Boys team; if it's a question of enthusiasm, they can be assured of the support of all ex-F-ites at the match on Wednesday next).

Arrivals.—We welcome our new second-in-command, Major H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., who has arrived from the 54th Divisional Signals.

Conclusion.—We shall be pleased to inform the 5th Divisional Signals of the price, dates of issue, size, weight—in fact, anything connected with sausages, as this section of the meat market is quite an institution here.

BONCELESS.

No. 1 Company.

Introductory.—It is learned with much regret that a change has been made in the staff appointments. "Onecoy," having reached the age limit, has very reluctantly retired on half-pay, with the promise that he will still carry on as unofficial overseer. Unfortunately, he has not left the Company altogether, but will still occupy his time in sorting out the "likes" from the "dislikes" for stable picquets, etc. In case there is anyone in doubt as to who "Onecoy" stands—or rather, stood—for, he is nothing more than THE WIRE correspondent.

I can assure everybody that I did not succeed this gentleman by way of a general election. I was told in a very nice manner one morning, on the office verandah, that I had been appointed. It was quite voluntary, of course, but knowing what would happen every morning at 6 in the summer and 6.30 in the winter (C.P.) should I refuse, I put on an air of contentment and, springing to attention, replied smartly in the affirmative, took a pace to the rear, turned about, and doubled away smartly for pencil and paper. So, with apologies to "John Bull," I will endeavour ("with or without offence") to sketch the Company exactly as it goes.

Arrivals.—Driver Chambers from D Cavalry Troop; Sigmn Bennett P. from the Training Battalion; Sergt Hay, L/Sergeant Betts, Corporal Harbin and Signalmen Williams, Curryer and Crowther from India. The usual salutation is extended to all of these new No. 2 Divites.

Departures.—The following have decided to chance their luck in civilian life (and I am sure we all wish them a prosperous retirement): L/Corpl Pickles, Signalmen McLoughlin, Jenks and Gray, and Driver Webster (of crooning fame).

Sigmn Joy now parades on D Troop parade ground, and Driver Bowen is now comparing the 4th Div. with our own.



With apologies to Lawson Wood.

Sleeping Out Roll.—Sigmn Caplehorn was promised that he should be obeyed, for better or worse, some time during Easter. L/Sergt Jones T. also resigned his membership of the Bachelors Club. Driver Hayward's pass is still in the "pending" tray of the Company office, as he has yet to sign on the dotted line. (B Cable, please note that presents for the last mentioned should be sent direct to Driver H.—c.o.d. if you wish—but I warn you that Snowene will be most ungratefully received.—Corres.)

Birth.—To Sergt and Mrs. Leath, at Grampound, Cornwall, on 11/3/34, a son (less moustache), Francis Michael Thomas.

Pontoon Table.—No. 2314798 Sigmn Legge B. F. has now re-engaged to complete twenty-one years with the Colours, having decided that ammos, flannel slacks, canvas jacket and cap comforter do not fully comprise a civilian wardrobe. When interviewed by the Press, he said he was quite confident that the Arsenal would win the league championship, but he was still in doubt as to whether he would be successful in obtaining his class iv.b chippy (all Indian nwespapers, please copy).

L/Corpl Smith C. G. (complete with B.S.A.) has signed on to complete twelve years with the Colours—a disappointment, no doubt, to several who have been studying the little blue book.

Medical.—We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all who have been afflicted with the local "mump" epidemic—not only to the actual patients, but also to those who glory in the name of "contacts." Whilst admitting that it is not unpleasant to have one's cheeks patted every morning, with the usual enquiry "Are you all right?" it is rather disconcerting to see one of the usual hangers-on bolt with a handkerchief to his face every time a "contact" appears round a corner.

At Home.—L/Corpl Hart, late of 38, will be pleased to receive any visitors interested in the noble art of giving away with one hand and retrieving with the other. Prospective purchasers of bicycles preferable.

Agony.—To 3rd Cavalry Troop, Meerut: Received your message as regards winning sports trophy. Congratulations. Charbosh.

SIMMO.

Finale.—The WIRE correspondent would be greatly obliged if any person wishing to subscribe agony columns, bad cheques, etc., would send them c/o the Company office not later than the last day of each month, when the aforesaid will be pleased to sort out, burn or otherwise deal with the same.

EASY.

Stop Press.—For sale, black Labrador dog, good pedigree, answers to the name of "Sooner." Owner would not part, but owing to an increase in family—larger than expected—extra accommodation is required. Despite the unfortunate circumstances we congratulate Sergt Kitchen on becoming the proud father of twin daughters, but would like to remind him that it is not considered parental to tie them to the office table leg.

CORRES.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Individual training has now ended, and the Sections of this Company are beginning Section training with their R.A. Brigades. E Section will soon move to Brighton ; No. 6 Section are moving to Deepcut on the 11th of May ; and F Section are to enjoy a practice camp at Okehampton on the same day. Last, but by no means least, half of H.Q. Section (three of us) are due to spend a vacation at Thursley.

I wonder what the main topic of the "Fireside Talks" will be after all this is over, and I wonder if Ernie looks any more entrancing as he glides into the sea at Brighton.

Effects of Spring.—The following is a contribution from our boxing bard, so please be patient.

NO. 6 SECTION.

There's a Section in the unit which I label as the best
In any kind of sport you like: it's far above the rest.
To mention individuals I must needs deliberate :
And if you criticise it, well! it's open to debate.
To start with, there's our officer, 2/Lieutenant Drake,
Who supervises things and keeps us right slap up to date.
Next comes our Section sergeant. A busy chap is he,
And when he gets a liver on, be missing—just like me.
He stands around and lets it go, so just keep out of sight,
Apart from that, he's sure the goods, no matter what we write.
Our next is Sergeant Morley ; no need to say much more—
The finest sergeant in the Div. or even in the Corps.
Then comes our operator, by name one Corporal Somers:
At sending and receiving he challenges all comers.
Of probationary corporals, both paid and underpaid,
I fancy there are four all told when they are on parade.
To take them in their order. The first is Reggie Macey,
Or it might be Joey Chirgwin—I'm just a wee bit hazy.
The next one to be mentioned puts musicians in the rear:
Our redoubtable pianist, Lance-Corporal J. McKeer.
And then there's young Ted Peuleve, the lad with lots of knowledge,
Who speaks both French and Latin, so to him we *must* pay homage.
At football, as you all must know, there's Nicholson and Hough ;
It's needless to remind you that they're both well spoken of.
We must not forget our lineman, known to all as Darkie Brookes:
If sunburnt men are handsome, why, he sure possesses looks.
We have seven men included in the new cross-country team—
A very useful average ; we've every right to beam.
We even have our modest share of tough men in the unit,
And nominate Buck Taylor and Jack Duncan for that credit.
Our next is old Josh Braham, the lad to do the talking,
Who when he leaves the Army means to specialise in hawking ;
At present he's in hospital and has a "gammy" toe—
We're sorry for the nurses who must listen to his woe.
If this effusion rasps your nicer feelings, well! I'm sorry!
But I must fill time in somehow. Why the blazes should I worry?

This is True.—"I want everybody here at half past four ; anybody not here will be absent."

Arrivals.—Sergeant Chandler to this Company from overseas, and Sigmn Lambert from the Training Battalion. Greetings to both.

Departures.—To civvy street, the land of happy mortals, Sigmn Knight (11/4/34) and L/Corpl Reardon (26/4/34). C.S.M. Harris F. and Sigmn Fresle left on a Mediterranean cruise on 14/4/34. The best wishes of the Company go with them, and we hope they enjoy their new station.

Congratters.—H.C.S. congratulates H.H.L. on the results of the shooting. Who carries the rifles down now, Harry?

J.C.

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—The undermentioned new arrivals to the Company are welcomed: Sergeants Brunton, Hay and Williams, Corporal Healey, and Signalmen Evetts, Furnell and Flynn.

Dopartures.—C.Q.M.S. Dixon and Signalmen Syson and Smith H. have left us for Catterick. Signalman Scott E. is now taking things prettily easily in Singapore, Signalmen Mason and Ridley and Driver Dennis are with the camels in Egypt, and Signalman Phillips is hobnobbing with the Israelites in Palestine.

Courses.—Congratulations to Corpl Smith G. upon obtaining "D" on an education course held at Shorncliffe.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

We're Telling You.—Corpl Stanley and family joined this unit on 4/4/34 from Sialkot. We extend a mitt and hope he will like us. Sigmn Hale E. C. left us on 14/4/34 to join Egypt Signals. His departure caused many tears of anguish in the 'Shot, and the number of people who came to see him off was amazing. We hope his stay in Egypt will be a happy one. C.Q.M.S. Hartley has left the Company. No. 3 Company A Corps Signals are the lucky ones to receive him, and we hope that his new sphere of activity will prove as enjoyable as we trust his tour was with us.



AB/A. — OR, —

"IT IS BETTER TO HAVE DREAMED AND HAD,
THAN NEVER TO HAVE HAD AT ALL!"

The Duke is getting in trim for civvy street. He styles himself "the new Stephen." Wine, women and foolish pranks are things of the past ; I nearly said "and song" until I remembered his uke. He is studying music as applied to the ukelele—and do I suffer in consequence! He is now helping British industries by drinking a pint of milk a day, just because he heard that they were going to let foreign beer into the country. Believe it or not, he entered one of those taverns in the town, looked round in a disgusted sort of way, and popped out without opening his lips in any way. It wants some believing, but I know it's true, 'cos I watched him.

Garden Notes.—Optimism is certainly demonstrated by a certain allotment holder here. He has already received orders for beans, peas, beetroots and rhubarb. The humorous part of the whole thing is that (1) he has never done allotment gardening before, (2) his peas are just peeping through, (3) his beans are not showing, (4) his beetroot isn't sown, and (5) the rhubarb isn't his. However, I believe he was business man enough to tell his customers that their orders would be dealt with in strict rotation ; and judging by the size of the allotment, some of the customers will still be waiting four years hence.

Musketry.—The annual shoot comes off on the 16th April, and the C.O. is giving two prizes. It is said that Austin has been

practising for many hours each day in snapping "bulls," as he wants to make sure that he gets both prizes to cover his liabilities should Pompey fail to win the cup at Wembley. P.S.: I didn't write the foregoing paragraph. Although bets on the cup final have been coming in, I have no fear. I'm on a dead cert: it's Pompey's cup this year.

VS6AX.—Thanks for QSL. Maybe will hear you some day.

AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

What a beautiful place is Farnborough Abbey! Although only a mere three miles distant, few of the unit have ever visited it. I think the view from amid the wooded slopes a poem of beauty and simplicity. Many have been the curious remarks as to the identity of this Abbey—it can be clearly seen from our windows here—and yet a mere minority of you have taken the trouble to walk that way. That, I think, proves to what extent our national non-inquisitiveness is ingrained in us, and further proves that it would be a poor sort of chappie who could not find an opening of some description for his monthly notes! If there does happen to be any curious laddie requiring snaps taken on the actual scene, I can supply any quantity when finally developed. A soft word in mine ear, a quick nod of the head, a flicker or two of the eyebrows, and the deal will be clinched! The price, after deduction of travelling and refreshment allowance, you will find a mere detail. I might add that I expect the angle shots of the gargoyles to be a revolution in the photographic world. To prevent any mistakes, allow me to point out that the object leaning over the third balcony to the right will be Sandy. He is wearing a hat. My hat!

Unit News.—The individual training in this unit has now terminated. We congratulate Signalmen Walsh J., Wiseman H., Brown R., Pescod R. and Carmichael A. on attaining higher trade classifications in their respective groups, and commiserate with those others who unfortunately failed in one subject only. Rather hard luck after studying intensely during the training season.

Section training has now commenced. The Cable Sections are out daily and leave their calling cards—in the shape of much cable and poles—over the fair countryside. Already our Cable Sections are considered to be efficiency plus. After a month or more of training, at the present rate of progress, they will indeed be a credit to any mechanised cable unit. Cut their working time down to the minimum, and they still complete their tasks in the allotted time and turn up smiling! The despatch riders are also engaged in training runs and schemes. These hard riding laddies are a useful bunch withal. Ask them to take over a lorry, handle a deft crookstick, or disguise themselves as a working number on a cable lorry, and there they are, carrying out the job with consummate ease and skill. Tough fellows!

Our hearty congratulations to L/Corpl Aldridge M. on his appointment. He is unpaid as yet, but we hope it will not be for long. Popular chap. Fallacy has it that n.c.o.s should not be popular—but you'd be surprised!

Our Absent Friends.—During Easter the Air Defence Formations Signals (T.A.) were attached here for their training. Jolly crowd. My regret is that I was unable to greet them in person—the air and sea breeze most salubrious which at Brighton is found (I'll tell the dubious) prevented me this year. Thankful sighs from C.S.M. Shergold and Co. Being of the generous species only to be found in the best regulated offices, I will—through the medium of my narrator, one J. McD. Glass, also of office fame—relate their venturesome frolics so far from home. Ready, Jock? Och aye, let's awa'.

Familiar faces were again seen—how little they change!—and after due social respects were exchanged, someone or other began a spot of work. The greater part of the days were devoted to cable work, which is purely as it should be. Lectures and schemes were well to the fore and, glancing at the programme, it would appear that the days were fully occupied with training.

To offset the amount of work, a spot of recreation was arranged in the shape of a pick-up soccer match. Wishing in no way to detract from the brilliant efforts of the Terriers, I had better point out—for reasons of personal safety—that our team was by no means the First Eleven. Thirteen of those were on leave (acute form of wit!) Be that as it may, it was a tough game withal. Each side gave of their best, and had the match been played on one of our soccer grounds—which are grounds par excellence—instead of scratching around on the spare area of sand and shrub opposite our barracks, the standard of play would have been more representative. That doughty warrior Shergold proved a stumbling block to our forwards (are you sure, Jock?) and the Air Defence Formations Signals (T.A.) ran out worthy winners by 3—1 goals. That our goalkeeper only conceded three goals is a revelation in itself. This fine custodian was recently transferred from the Tittenshawe Wanderers where, so 'tis rumoured, he spent the greater part of his time in picking the ball out of the net. Unless you have seen Arthur the actionist in play, you will be unable to appreciate that last remark.

Stop Press.—Our congratulations to L/Corpls Farrell L. and Robinson L. on being paid for their appointment.

Calling India.—To Sergeant Bloodworth H. and others: We were beaten in the final of the Air Defence Brigade hockey competition by one goal to nothing. This time we were unlucky.

Conclusion.—Next month I'll tell you all about the Brigade sports, the sports meeting of this unit in its social aspect, the story of our n.c.o.s morning drill parades, the results of various examinations, and my efforts to discover Lobby Lud! But that's next month. . . .

B.A.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Individual training for this winter is now a thing of the past, and Easter leave but a pleasant memory—I hope. Weapon training is in full swing, and Tank Signal Sections are now joining their respective battalions of the Royal Tank Corps.

Two extra Sections have been formed this season: Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Section and Light Tank Signal Section. This has depleted headquarters a little, but gives more personnel the chance to get out in their trades.

No. 1 Tank Signal Section, with the Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Section attached to them, have already joined their battalion at Farnborough.

Nos. 2 and 3 Tank Signal Sections leave us for their battalions at Perham Down and Lydd respectively on the 1st May, and No. 4 Tank Signal Section joins the 4th Battalion Royal Tank Corps at Catterick on the 19th April. The Light Tank Signal Section joins the 1st Tank Brigade on its formation in June.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Moss P. H. on his marriage to Miss Mary Crawford Gray at Andover on 14/3/34. To L/Corpl Galbraith A. C. on having the pluck to sign on the dotted line to complete twelve of the best. To L/Corpl Paling R. on reaching paid status w.e.f. 6/3/34 (yes, boys, it is still being done). To the following on passing trade tests as shown: L/Corporal Hubbard F., Signalmen Graham J., Speakes F., Oliver U. and Harrison E., operator signals B.ii. ; Signalmen Petherick J. and Guile S. T. (at last you have managed it, Sydney ; wonderful what being at your trade does) despatch rider D.ii. ; Sigmn Henry D. despatch rider D.iii.

Snooks.—Apropos last month's notes under this head. Snooks, the erstwhile office cat, has mysteriously disappeared. Readers may be interested to know that she *did*, funnily enough, win the Sweep—or at least half of it—and now the reason for her disappearance is a matter of conjecture. Which of the following explanations do you think fits the case? (1) Having won the Sweep, she has gone on the razzle. (2) Was she paid out or not? if she wasn't, has she died of a broken heart? (3) Finding himself in financial difficulties, did Rusty take advantage of her defencelessness and foully murder her to avoid having to provide her with milk for the rest of her life?

Solutions to the puzzle should be written on a blackboard with invisible chalk, to keep the matter dark, and thrown through the nearest and biggest plate glass window that you can find. Every competitor is then sure to be amply rewarded in one way or another.

Departures.—Corpl Warman E. to the Army School of Education, Shorncliffe, for a brain trust course on 16/4/34.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome to the fold the following, and sincerely hope that their stay with us will be a long and a happy one. C.S.M. Noonan M. J. from the Depot

Battalion, Catterick, on 29/3/34. Signalmen Crebbin T. and McGinley J. back from their six months vacation with the Bristol G.P.O. on 1/4/34. Signalmen Mornington S. and Brand R. from attachment to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, for a lineman's course —not such a vacation, I believe. L/Corpl Reed A. from overseas ex the *Lancashire* on 5/4/34. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Whitehead R. from Aden on the same boat, also on 5/4/34. RUSTY.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Now that the Easter leave period has terminated, schemes are beginning to play a prominent part in routine. New operators are beginning to get an insight into the real work of the Troop.

Annual Classification: Revolver.—The Troop fired their annual revolver course at Tidworth on the 17th March. Special mention must be made of the splendid performances of Sigmn Speakes and C.Q.M.S. Taplin. The former scored a "possible" in each practice, and the F-of-S came a very good second with a score of 48, only dropping two points on the whole practice. The general standard of shooting was very good, the combined average score amounting to 38.8. " G.G.M."—the magic signature—was in constant use when the buckshee days leave was added to the Easter period.

Training: Technical.—A few selected members of the Troop drum and fife recently attended an upgrading course and are now sweating on higher ratings. Sweat off! Yesterday's Part II. Orders promulgated the results: Remustered as operators signals class ii. L/Corpl Hubbard F. and Signalmen Speakes F., Graham J., Harrison E. and Oliver U.

Training: Sports.—The once-white floors of our barrack-rooms have now been respectably stained. It is pitiful to watch certain members, to wit Edgar and J.A.G., creaking and groaning over the " bumper " like galley slaves of old. What a hope!

Troop Cameo: No. 4.—The author having a natural reluctance to terminate his engagement in the deepest dungeon 'neath the castle moat, Cameo No. 4 must be left to the imagination.

Society Jottings.—We are pleased to welcome to the fold Viscount Norton of Shipton. Rumour states that the Viscount has leased his vast estates in Hampshire prior to casting the light of his countenance upon the Knights of the Silver Burnisher.

Our Ever-Changing Coastline.—Freddie, the lad with the prismatic peelers, made quite an interesting discovery whilst at Lulworth a few days ago. Planting both hoofs on the roof of C Squadron's Leyland, the bold Freddie cast his optics towards the south. Lo and behold! the sun was glinting on the roof of that famous seat of learning, Borstal. Freddie glanced serenely around until his eyes rested upon the locals below, waiting for the pearls of wisdom to issue from his ruby lips. " Ha!" he hissed ; " Beachy 'Ead!" No names, but it Speakes for itself.

This Month's Bright Thought.—Press button "B" and your one and tuppence may be returned—perhaps!

Sayings of the Unwary—(Thomo, please note) " Every day I walk from Liveringpool to London mitt my fader's lonch!"

What happened to the unleashed dogs? Simmo and Unger missed the first re-union of the B.F.R.C. Brigade.

Why did a certain individual spend most of his Easter leave (and spare coppers) " down the cellar " in High Street, Aldershot? (To quote Nero, " It was a gorgeous debauch.")

Wonders of Science.—An eminent foreign scientist has declared that sound waves are capable of preventing the decay of foodstuffs. We are all waiting to see the famous Jock Holmes (the constant source of income) serenading a questionable bevy of rissoles with the aid of a superhet and the "Rhapsody in Blue."

RUT.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Keeping up to time nearly got me down this month. Unkind people may allege absence on more or less frivolous pursuits as a reason but not as an excuse. However that may be, a timely week-end has saved my bacon.

The rattling of rifle bolts has been a marked feature of our recent life, and mass musketry instruction led by L/Sergt Bailey and an efficient and friendly corporal of the Welch Fusiliers has presented quite an inspiring sight. We hope that results next month will be pleasing to all.

Our horseflesh is not being neglected, and daily we see the progress of intensive remount training and driving instruction. The condition of our horses elicited an excellent report from the A.D.V.S., which reflected great credit on all concerned with nursing the horses throughout the winter.

We are completing our final stages of preliminary training before getting on to the serious business of the summer. As usual, the programme seems more than full, and fitting in everything presents a fine jig-saw puzzle.

On the more or less unofficial side, we hope to be entertained by (and to entertain) the Corps Band from the 7th to the 15th July, with our ever welcome Old Comrades Day on the 15th. Incidentally, it is good news that the Bishop of Salisbury has promised to preach at the Old Comrades service.

Our sports are scheduled for the 5th and 6th June and the gymkhana for Wednesday 11th July. Captain Watts is getting really busy over cricket, and our new tennis courts are already being well patronised.

Details of our sporting activities will be found in the usual place, but we would like to call attention to our record of the past ten days. It at least shows versatility and almost lays us open to a charge of pot hunting.

No. 1 Company annexed the Garrison hockey and the Y.M.C.A. billiards cups. The junior n.c.o.s collected the appropriate Garrison Billiards League trophy. The sergeants just lost the Sergeants Mess cup. The unit football team have shown excellent form and have improved their league position. In the Southern Command Golf Meeting the unit team beat the 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, the Royal Engineers (the holders) and the 9th Lancers, and only went down in the final by the narrowest margin to the K.O.Y.L.I., who have been runners-up for the past three years. Lieut. Winterborn annexed the Command individual championship, was third in the 36 holes medal play on handicap, and (partnered by Major Penney) tied for first place in the foursomes against bogey. Incidentally, Lieut. Winterborn (in his really spare time) carried off a trophy in a motor reliability trial! It only remains for us to shine in the Garrison horticultural contests to complete the picture, and we have made due note of various measures calculated to this end.

We extend our heartiest congratulations on the performance of the Corps Boys at football, and hope that some of them will shortly grace our ranks and our own team.

And so we embark on summer time, the merry month of May, and all that it promises. BULFORD.

Extract from Company Orders.—" To report to U.O.R. at 08.45 hrs. 18th Oct. 33: Two Morris cars without drivers." Ours are well trained cars, ours are!

Suggestion to Barleux.—In future, instead of " Plain Tales from the Hills," why not " Tall Tales from the Plains "?

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to this unit and hope that their stay with us will be pleasant. Sergeant Higham B., L/Sergt Watt N., L/Corpls Jerram C. and Goodman E., Signalmen Hurst A., Harris T., Williams J., Barnecutt J., Evans T. and Gasson C. from India. Sigmn Dell from Malaya. Signalmen Williams V., Mills H., Kearley C., Beatt D., Dunn E., Harvey W., Wilkin W., Whitelaw D., Briggs J., Nicholson M., Warr A. and Crockett C. from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—The following have left us to join the civilian army: L/Corpl Clowes E. and Signalmen Hankinson F., Wall W., Toomey D., Hall J. and McLemon H. The following have been discharged: Corpl Pallett and Sigmn Edwards H.

Lands overseas have claimed the following from us, and we hope that their new stations will be all that they desire. L/Corpl White K. and Signalmen Page W. and Kirkby D. to Palestine. Signalmen Robertson D., Barrow T., Williams D. and Pew H. and Driver Brooking A. to Egypt.

The following are learning something useful on vocational courses pending their transfer to civvy life: L/Corpl Lymer A., Signalmen Keeble G. and Newbury R., and Driver Wright E.

Extensions of Service.—The undermentioned have signified their willingness to carry on soldiering. L/Corpl Thomas L. and Signalmen Andrews C., Jury G. and Beard R. to complete twelve years with the Colours. L/Sergt Humphrey J. to complete the pontoon. Sergt Fawl to continue beyond twenty-one years (why?)

Education.—We congratulate the following on their success in passing the third class certificate examination: Drivers Roberts E. and Ambridge H.

Appointments—Congratulations are showered upon the undermentioned on setting his foot on the first rung: U/L/Corporal Mitchell H. R.

Marriages and Births.—Sigmn Lewis W. has taken the plunge and come up smiling. Condolences to Corpl Gibson and Sigmn Edwards, who are now the proud fathers of one brand-new daughter apiece.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Section training commenced on the 17th March, but I am afraid that owing to No. 1 Company taking part in an E.C. spring exercise at the end of the month, only a fortnight could be spent on that training.

The first Company scheme took place on the 5th April and was in the nature of a traffic scheme. Considering the number of new personnel in the Sections, the scheme went off quite well and the amount of traffic cleared was satisfactory. The second scheme, on the 10th, was in the nature of a Divisional advance and was very instructive to all ranks.

The results of the trade tests have now been published, and there was only one failure amongst the candidates from No. 1 Company.

We proceed to Newhaven on the 28th April, but more of that next month.

Arrivals.—This month arrivals have been many, and we extend the hand of welcome to the following: Signalmen Pledger, Peace and Turner from the S.T.C. Catterick. Sergeant Conyers and Signalmen Bellis, Shewring, Burt and Lundie from India.

Departures.—Lieut. J. H. L. Crichton to No. 3 Company. Signalmen Woodward and Beckett to the Army Reserve. Signalmen King and Moloney to Egypt.

Sport.—All the bright hopes of this Company winning the Garrison inter-Company soccer and hockey knock-out competitions have been dashed to the ground, as we suffered defeat in both semi-finals. The 37th Field Battery R.A. beat us by 3—2 at hockey, while B Company 2nd Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers just pipped us by 2—1 at football. However, D Section are still in the final of the unit inter-Section football knockout.

MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—After a short spell of Section training, E Section proceeded to join the 22nd Field Brigade R.A. at Shorncliffe for Brigade training. F Section also proceed to Woolwich on the 29th April, leaving good old G Section behind for picquets, etc.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Boon from No. 1 Company. L/Corporal Blanchard from Unit Headquarters. Signalmen Mullen, Gammond, Pickford, Rainbird, Illingworth, Hipperson, Arnold and McCarthy from the Training Battalion. We wish them the best of luck in stables.

Departures.—Signalmen McTigue and Boobier to the land of the dole, and Sigmn Rice selling rabbit skins.

Sport.—E Section beat G by 2—1 in the inter-Section hockey knockout, but will not be able to continue as they have proceeded on Brigade training.

Howlers on Section Training.—Section Sergeant: " What are you doing?" Bright young lad: " Check to the cable wagon, sergeant."

" Who won the bicycle race round the haystack? and how long did he take?"

Rotten Row.—A short ride for amateurs commenced during the month. On the first day, after many tips had been offered and taken, the jockeys mounted their steeds via bales of hay, etc. On the command " Walk—March " many weird and wonderful attitudes were adopted. When they started to trot, the Bosun threw his arms round the horse's neck and shouted lustily " Man overboard!" but the instructor was not listening. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Now that individual training is over, this Company is helping out No. 1 in preparation for the Eastern Command signal exercise to be held at Newhaven from 30th April to 5th May. For this exercise we are supplying personnel for the mechanised cable layer, Brigade terminal operators, Base operators, 120-watt set operators, and six despatch riders. All concerned are looking forward to the trip to Newhaven and are hoping that the weather will be kind to them. On the return of our members from Newhaven, this Company commences Section training in preparation for the Divisional concentration.

Trade Test.—Congratulations to the following, who succeeded in passing their respective trade tests: Signalmen Buckles C., Nunnick A. and Wilson A. lineman C.ii. ; Signalmen Mudie A. and Mozley J. despatch rider D.ii. ; Corpl Scratcher J. electrician fitter A.iii. (extra qualification). The results of the operator signals course are not yet to hand, but will be published next month.

Courses.—L/Cpls Marshall and Woodhouse recently returned from Feltham, having completed and passed an M.T. course. L/Cpl Wilbraham H. rejoined the Company on 31/3/34, having completed a six months course with the G.P.O. at Leeds and succeeded in obtaining satisfactory results.

Lieut. A. B. McVittie and L/Sergt Penn G. departed for Porton on 4/4/34 to undergo an anti-gas course. 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead is now at Feltham, undergoing an M.T. course.

Departures.—C.S.M. Nash E. left us on 4/4/34 for the Depot Battalion, to take over the duties of senior drill instructor. His stay with us has been very short, and our loss is Catterick's gain. L/Corporal Steel A. is now a full blown civilian w.e.f. 5/4/34. [No. 3 Company notes end abruptly here, and we are afraid a sheet or more has been mislaid or gone astray.—ED.]

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Nothing of import has occurred on which many notes may be written, and it is requested that the readers will excuse the brevity of these paragraphs.

Errata.—Through an error in the typing, part of last month's notes appeared under a heading other than that intended. The second and third paragraphs of the Sergeants Mess notes should have been included under the heading " Departures." Would readers please turn up their last month's copy of THE WIRE and re-read.

Sergeants Mess.—" Congratulations, sirs!" was the very hearty salute given to R.S.M. Bevan and R.Q.M.S. Tilford on their entry to the Mess on a certain day of this month. The word " hearty " does not fully convey the extent of feelings expressed, for a more popular promotion order could never be issued.

The members of the Mess and their families express the wish that Mrs. Lindsay, who is slowly recovering from a serious illness, may soon be fully restored to health.

Courses.—L/Sergt Mansfield F. has returned from a veterinary course, and L/Sergt Pinkstone E. W. H. from the No. 111 R.S.I. course at the School of Signals. Both these n.c.o.s acquitted themselves with credit.

Extensions of Service.—Signalmen Mintram and Costigan have extended their Colour service to twelve years, and Sigmn McConnell to eight years with the Colours.

Marriages.—The following have deserted the ranks of bachelordom during the month. Corporal Gordon N. C. to Dorothy Beatrice Rye. Sigmn Curtis to Marjorie Lorrianne Croft. Sigmn McCartney J. to Veronica Ward.

Births.—The following births within the unit have been notified. Unto the wife of Sergt Redworth a son, and unto the wife of L/Sergt Clarke a son.

Departures.—The last draft for the trooper has left us: L/Cpl Lawson, Signalmen Ackley, Murray, Howard, Ross, Mills and Driver Walker T.—the first three for Palestine and the remainder for Egypt Signals. The personnel of the unit wish them the best of luck and progress in their new sphere.

The following have also left the unit during the month. Signalmen Duke and Stamp to A Corps Signals. Sergt Newman N. B. to 4th Divl Signals. Signalmen Bywaters, Sandalls and Tumilty and Driver Evanson G. to the Army Reserve. We wish them also the best of luck in their new units or in civil life.

Arrivals.—L/Corpls Kelly and Morris, Signalmen Steer S., Steer G., Goldsworthy, Bryce. Convey and McLaughlin from

overseas. To these we extend a welcome, and it is thought their stay with the unit will be an agreeable one.

Trades.—The last Trade Board is about to assemble, and the personnel who have obtained a higher rating will be notified in due course.

Promotions and Appointments.—To R.S.M. Bevan and R.Q.M.S. Tilford and U/L/Corpls Welburn, Chaffey and Dillon, we offer congratulations on attaining those respective ranks.

Agony.—I think this heading quite applies. The question set was "What do you know of the physical features of India?" and the written answer was "The Khyber Pass, the Black Hole of Calcutta, and the Relief of Cawnpore." Needless to say, the instruction given on the subject had not been fully grasped, and it really ought-on-ter 'ave 'appened!

Sport.—Owing to Easter leave our sporting activities have been very small, and reports have been kept over for the next issue.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—Some prophet said we were to have a heat wave in April, but it appears to have missed Belfast, though there certainly is some rain.

Lieut. Aldridge returned from leave on the 9th April.

News from our out-stations is rare. Now and then, there is a marriage or else a casualty. Sergt Davies of Dunree appears to have left hospital once again without having had that dreaded operation (influence with the nurses). Sergeant Tosdevin, our A/C.S.M., the quarterbloke No. 2 (Corpl O'Brien) and L/Corpl Castell are also casualties, whilst a D.R. is suffering from lung trouble. Oh, yes, Ireland is shure a grand place!

Arrivals and Departures.—This column reminds one of a railway station. However, here they are. Sigmn Inskip from 1st Div. We hope he likes N.I.D. Sigmn Melville left us for 1st Div. Take care of him, Divvy; there's some good stuff in that laddie. He has our best wishes in his new unit.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Swift H., at Ballykinler, on getting his name in the little blue book. To L/Corpls Thomson L. and Blount on drawing the first chevron from the quarterbloke. To ex-Sigmn Wilson of this unit on being appointed to a job in the G.P.O. (some are born lucky). And also to ex-Sergt McKee on securing a job after undergoing vocational training in Belfast.

Marriages.—Shure, this is a grand business! Congratulations to Signalmen Hall and Hunt. May all your troubles be the usuals.

Sport.—We have been quiet of late, but we managed to finish third in the Garrison Football League. Now that cricket is here, we hope to field a fair eleven. We should do well, considering one of the committee dreamed he scored a thousand runs in one match and was just going to score again when he was rudely awakened for tea.

Education.—Congratulations to Signalmen Smart and Parkinson on obtaining their seconds.

En Passant.—One little Austin Seven cost us a horse, so we anxiously awaited a replacement. According to the reports one expected a gee-gee of great lineage. Alas! the arrival should really be a toast rack. Information from the stables logs it as "an also ran but likely to improve."

The R.E.s have a great passion at present for painting our premises, and this last couple of days it behoved one to go warily. The C.O. was there, and worst of all, the A/C.S.M. was moving about, too. However, we are pleased to report that after smelling paint for several days, the place is returning to normal.

We learn that L/Corpl Simmonds has arrived in Trimulgherry. We wonder if Scissors still give coupons.

A Dash of Scotch.—To Robbo: What did you say about those returns? André.

Tail Piece.—Q.R.U.

HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, 11th April.

"Ave et vale" to Sigmn Foster J. R., who arrived here on 19/12/33 from A Corps Signals and is leaving us on 20/4/34 for the Dover detachment of the Eastern Command Signal Section. In his place we expect to see Sigmn Hopwood A. on 24/4/34. Will he wonder why he left Dover?

Other movements are local, Sigmn Nightingale W. relieving Sigmn Miller T. W. at Bere Island.

The regimental signallers course has finished, and in spite of failures in the preliminary tests, the classification passed over very well; in fact, the Signals were thanked for their co-operation, which is more than they got last year. The W/T class for regimental signallers has just commenced, and according to reports some operators in the Corps had better look to their laurels.

The Q.M. stores must have been a paying proposition during the depression, for our "Q" has just got a nice suit of blue patrols. Is this for use with the radiogram on regimental guest nights?

The attached verse was discovered by one of the skippers of the W.D. Fleet, who thought it worthy of re-publication. I feel sure that all who have served in these Defences must at some time or other have been in complete sympathy with "W.H.," who, I presume, shook the dust from his feet and laughed as he left. But there are worse stations. Ask those who come back here for a second period of service.

Exchange Mart. I have maces, braces, laces, long and short traces. Will exchange for a set of false teeth or something useful. What have you? By gum!

LANKA MK. IV.

Extract from The Royal Army Ordnance Corps Gazette (date unknown).

SPIKE.

Spike is an island which, viewed from afar,
Seems nature's fair jewel which nothing can mar,
With verdant green slopes reaching down to the sea
And a score or more pine trees fringing the Lee.
Gaunt rocks on the foreshore, with winkles all strewn,
Hide conger and pollack, from capture immune.
Little white cottages edging the beach,
Without room to swing half a cat round in each.
The mighty tide rises twice a day without fail,
And the cottagers' wives, with both besom and pail,
Patiently strive in the cottages' gloom
To sweep the sea out of each tiny front room.
There's a fort at the top (with a flagstaff and flag)
Like a dirty old eagle asleep on a crag.
In old times, for convicts the place was deemed fit,
But now that their treatment has improvëd a bit,
They've left it to troops, and it's not altered much—
A prison 'twas built, and 'twill ever be such.
There's a moat, less the water, awinding all round,
And the fort's built to stand till "the last trumpet's sound."
The W.D. laundry, primitive quite,
Unlovely, presents a most doleful sight,
Next the mortuary, where there's a bin
Awaiting the next bloke to do himself in.
High walls all about, and inside it as well,
Dark cells and gaunt ruins, some stories could tell.
Old casements with windows about a foot square,
As offices, certainly keep out the glare
Of old Sol. He never perchance may peep
From out the grey clouds which unceasingly sweep
From the Atlantic, with fierce gales of rain;
And when it stops blowing, it just starts again.
A golf course so tiny, with greens all in bumps,
And water-logged sports field with mud in huge lumps.
Even the banshee withholds her weird cry
And makes it a point to give us the bye.
It's warmer than England, the natives will tell,
But that's what the parson said about hell.
Two years is our term, though the convicts did more;
But they had their trial, while we of the Corps
Oft wonder what we did to transgress the law
And get two years penal. There *must* be a flaw
In the charges against us, but we'll never know
Just how it happened, and perhaps better so.
Still, duty is duty, and at duty's call
We stay here and curse it, the banshee and all.
And when the long years behind us shall fall,
They'll wonder, as we do, why we're here at all.

W.H.



UNITS ABROAD



Northern Command Signals Week.

General.—The annual Signals Week for units in the Northern Command was held at Rawalpindi from the 4th to the 10th March this year. Contingents from the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Kohat District Signals, Peshawar District Signals, Waziristan District Signals, and Wireless Experimental Section (Cherat) on their arrival, were accommodated in Cambridge Barracks by B Corps Signals and 1st Indian Divisional Signals. The I.S.C. Pipe Band also arrived, and an added attraction was the influx into the barracks of the team who were eventually runners-up in the all-India team boxing championships (A Corps Signals) plus a strong contingent of supporters.

On the 4th March the 1st Indian Divisional Signals were played to church by the Pipe Band. On the following day, Monday the 5th, the first rounds of the hockey, football and tennis competitions were commenced, a summary of which is given under the various headings. The Pipe Band played at the officers mess in the evening.

Tuesday morning dawned cold and rainy, and from then onwards until Saturday the weather was wet and cold, necessitating last minute alterations in the programme. During the evening a most enjoyable dance was held in the w.o.s and sergeants mess, Waziridist dance band kindly supplying the music. During the interval the Pipe Band staged a torchlight tattoo outside the mess.

On Wednesday the 7th, an ex-boys dinner was held in the sergeants mess, a party of fifty-seven (including guests) sitting down to dine. The chief guest of the evening was Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., Chief Signal Officer. The senior ex-boy present was Lieut. (Quartermaster) H. L. F. Fegan, M.M. At the conclusion a flashlight photo was taken of the company which included Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E. (Administrative Commandant and O.C. B Corps Signals) and Major G. L. Pollard, M.B.E., (O.C. 1st Indian Divisional Signals). Judging by everyone's air of contentment, it must have been an excellent show. Immediately after the dinner, the all ranks dance commenced in the regimental theatre next door, the floor being crowded. The efforts of the dancers in the Palais Glide were very creditable.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings were kept free, to enable everyone to see the team boxing championships. A Corps Signals put up a fine show on Thursday and Friday, vanquishing the Royal Fusiliers and the East Surrey Regiment (holders) successively. On Saturday evening they lost by the very narrow margin of three points to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry after a very fine show.

On Sunday morning B Corps Signals turned out a full parade and, preceded by the Pipe Band, marched to the Garrison church. At 12.30 hrs., on the return from church, the prizes for the events in Signals Week were kindly presented by Mrs. Barker, wife of the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command.

Sporting Events of Signals Week, 1934.

British Ranks Hockey.

First Round.—Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat, v. 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot. Played on Monday 5th March. There was no score in an evenly contested first half. In the second half Cherat took control of the game and five minutes from the end they scored. The Troop fought hard for the equaliser, but time arrived with W.E.S. winners by the only goal scored.

1st Divisional Signals v. Waziristan District Signals. This game was played in wretched weather, and good hockey was impossible owing to the rain and mud. The game was fairly even throughout. During the second half Wazirdist scored through Rigby, thus qualifying for the second round.

B Corps Signals v. Kohat District Signals. This game was played on an improvised pitch on B Corps parade ground, owing to the hockey grounds being out of play. The whole of the game was played in heavy rain, and the first half ended with no score. During the second half Locke scored for B Corps, who finally won by that one goal to nil.

Second Round.—Peshawar District Signals v. Waziristan District Signals. Conditions for this game were still very bad. The game was evenly contested throughout, but owing to the state of the ground good hockey was impossible. P.D.S. were eventually winners by one goal to nil, Waziristan District unfortunately putting through their own goal.

Wireless Experimental Section v. B Corps Signals. During the first half there was no score. On resumption of play Roderick scored for Cherat, placing W.E.S. in the final. Bad weather marred play on both sides.

The Final.—Peshawar District Signals v. Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat. This match was played in glorious weather. Both sides opened well, and the game was even in the first half. After the interval P.D.S. pressed heavily and were rewarded by a goal scored by Lambert. Cherat now attacked strongly and within five minutes Sergt Penny had equalised for them. The last ten minutes produced very good hockey. From one of their many break-aways Borret scored for Cherat, W.E.S. thus winning the final by 2—1.

Indian Hockey.

First Round.—B Corps Signals v. 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Tremendous excitement prevailed throughout the game. At the end of the first half, the Troop led by one goal. On the resumption B Corps pressed strongly and were rewarded by two goals in quick succession, adding one more just before time. Final score: B Corps winners by three goals to one.

1st Divisional Signals v. Kohat District Signals. Played in good weather, and after a keenly contested game 1st Div. won by one goal to nil.

In the first round Waziristan District Signals and Peshawar District Signals each secured a bye.

Second Round.—Waziristan District Signals v. B Corps Signals. Owing to the score being two all at full time, extra time was played, during which B Corps added a further goal. Result: B Corps winners by three goals to two.

1st Divisional Signals v. Peshawar District Signals. After a clean and hard fought game P.D.S. won by two goals to nil.

The Final.—Peshawar District Signals v. B Corps Signals. This was easily the best match of the series. At the end of full time no goals had been scored, necessitating extra time during which P.D.S. scored, thus winning the final by one goal to nil.

Cross-Country.

B.O.R.s.—Five teams were entered (1st Divl Signals entering two). The course was over fairly stiff country. The results were as follows:—

1st, 1st Divisional Signals "A" team
2nd, 1st Divisional Signals "B" team
3rd, Kohat District Signals
4th, B Corps Signals
5th, Peshawar District Signals

Individual placings:—1st Sigmn Blakemore, 2nd Sigmn Nearne, 3rd Sigmn Barnes, 4th Lieut. Minshall.

I.O.R.s.—Six teams entered. The results were as follows:—
1st, Kohat District Signals
2nd, 1st Divisional Signals "A" team
3rd, 1st Divisional Signals "B" team
4th, Peshawar District Signals
5th, B Corps Signals
6th, Waziristan District Signals

Individual placings:—1st Sigmn Makkhan Singh, 2nd Signalman Harnam Singh, 3rd Sigmn Mohd Fazal, 4th Sigmn Durnam Singh.

Mounted Events.

Tent Pegging.—Winning team, 1st Indian Divisional Signals. Individual winner, Subedar Ahmed Khan, B Corps Signals; 2nd, Jemedar Mahboob Khan, Kohat District Signals.

Jumping.—British Officers: Winner, Lieut. Worrall, Kohat District Signals.
B.O.R.s: Winner, Signalman O'Connell, 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop; 2nd, Sigmn Cloke, 1st Divisional Signals.
I.O.R.s: Winner, Jemedar Mohd Shoeb, 1st Divl Signals.

Handy Hunter.—Winner, Lieut. Patterson, 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

British Ranks Football.

First Round.—1st Indian Divisional Signals v. Kohat District Signals. The game opened with the Div. attacking strongly and scoring the first goal after two minutes. The pressure was maintained and by half time the score was 4—0 for the Div. After the interval Kohat endeavoured to even matters up, but were held in check by the fine defence of the Div. Accurate passing by the forwards and few chances being missed resulted in a final score for the Div. of 8—0.

B Corps Signals v. 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Owing to a rather serious injury to their goalkeeper two minutes after the kick off, the Troop had to complete the game with only ten men, which no doubt made a great difference to the result. The Corps scored three goals during the first half with no reply from the Troop. After the interval, the play was more even and the Corps only scored once more. The Troop were often very dangerous, but with their handicap they were unable to finish well. They put up a splendid show, however, and the game was full of interest throughout. Final score: 4—0 for the Corps.

Second Round.—1st Indian Divl Signals v. Waziristan District Signals. The Div. met a tougher proposition in this round—more so as the ground was very bad and players had great difficulty in controlling the ball. Half-way through the first half the Div. scored, the Wazirdist goalie failing to hold a greasy ball. Owing to one being injured, the Div. played only ten men in the second half, but even so they managed to break away and score once more before the final whistle. Score: 2—0 for the Div.

B Corps Signals v. Peshawar District Signals. Owing to heavy rain and the condition of the ground both teams found it rather heavy work, but the game was full of excitement throughout. B Corps scored the first and only goal of the match after fifteen minutes play, and although P.D.S. forced the game from then to the interval, they were unable to equalise. Both defences played strongly after the interval, preventing any further score. Final score: 1—0 for B Corps.

Final.—B Corps Signals v. 1st Indian Divisional Signals. This match was played in pouring rain, but a record crowd attended to watch a very hard game. The Corps attacked strongly during the first half and scored two goals, the Div. failing to reply. After the interval, the Div. pressed continually but were repelled by the Corps defence. About five minutes from time, when the game seemed to be in the hands of the Corps, the Div. forced a goal from a corner, and they scored again just before time. The ground was in such a state that a replay was decided upon.

Final (Replay).—Conditions were much improved for the replay, which attracted a large gate. Play was even throughout the first half, but neither side was able to score. During the second half the Div. improved and attacked repeatedly, but the Corps defence put up a good fight. Half way through this half the Div. broke through and scored. This proved to be the only goal of a fairly even match, the better team winning by a score that justified the play. Score: 1—0 for the Div.

Tennis Tournament.

Nine teams entered but only eight played, the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signals unavoidably scratching. A team comprised three pairs, each of whom played in turn each pair in the opposing team: eleven games up—the team with the most games to its credit being adjudged the winners.

The first round saw only one match, 1st Divl Signals "B" team disposing of Waziristan District Signals "B" team in an evenly contested affair.

In the second round three matches were decided. 1st Divisional Signals "A" team comfortably defeated Wazirdist Signals "A" team; Kohat District Signals defeated 1st Divl Signals "B" team; and Peshdist Signals defeated 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop in a match which proved to be the closest of the tournament. With but two pairs left to play, and sixteen games to the good, it certainly looked as if 2nd Cav. had the match won. Surprisingly enough, however, the two Peshdist Signals pairs brought off the unexpected by winning 20 games out of a possible 22, thereby giving their team the victory by two games. As already mentioned, 1st Cav. Signals scratched and so gave B Corps Signals a walk over.

In the first semi-final Kohat District Signals perforce scratched to the 1st Divl Signals "A" team. In the second, Peshdist Signals were eliminated by B Corps Signals. Amusingly enough, the only B Corps Signals pair to suffer defeat was their supposed No. 1 pair, who lost their first set at 6—5.

The final was rather one-sided, B Corps Signals winning by 62 games to 37.

Deplorable weather certainly affected the standard of play, which was not so good as that of the previous Signals Week. However, the competition proved a jolly affair, and as such was enjoyed by the players and the many interested watchers.

The final results of all competitions ended in placings for the Drayson Cup, with points scored, as shown.

1	1st Indian Divisional Signals	30
2	B Corps Signals	18
3	Peshawar District Signals	15
4	Kohat District Signals	14
5	2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop	8
6	Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat	6
7	Waziristan District Signals	5

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Thursday, 8th March.

General.—Training camps having finished, the unit is together once again and arrangements are now in full swing for Signals Week. A large number of visitors is expected, and all are looking forward to a week's good sport and entertainment.

D (Operating) Section once again upheld the name of the Corps at the Northern Command concentration, and we must congratulate them on the report received.

F Section, having finished their sojourn with the R.A. Brigade at Lahore, have now rejoined the unit, looking fit and well.

Entertainments.—Another all ranks whist drive and dance was held in the B.O.R.s dining hall. This was the only one held this month owing to so many of the unit being away, but it proved as big a success as the remainder. It seems that dance bands are getting a bit tired of the new jazz tunes. Quite a number of old tunes were played at this dance, and remarks were passed as to the better rhythm and time of the old music.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Signalman Garven from 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur. The assistance he has offered THE WIRE correspondent of the unit is greatly appreciated.

Departures.—Sigmn Clayton S. to Risalpur in relief of Sigmn Garven.

Wanted.—A dance band. Any instrumentalist who desires a change of climate would receive a hearty welcome.

"Wire" Notes.—Will our Section n.c.o.s, whilst away with their Brigades or at training camps, kindly report any incident of interest to the Branch secretary? Such assistance in swelling the unit's notes would be greatly appreciated.

Photograph.—The accompanying photograph was taken on the occasion of the inspection of the unit by the C.S.O.-in-C. India during his farewell tour.

ONEDIV.



Lieut.-Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., O.C. 1st Indian Divl Signals

Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., C.S.O.-in-Chief, India

Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., C.S.O. Northern Command

Photo taken at Rawalpindi on the C.S.O.-in-Chief's Farewell Tour in December, 1933

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Monday, 19th March.

Signals Week has been the chief item of interest this month. Unfortunately, it rained every day except the last, though that is not the reason why we lost the football and hockey to B Corps Signals and Wireless Experimental Section respectively.

However, certain amends were made in the mounted events. In the B.O.R.s open jumping Sigmn O'Connell and L/Corpl Bruton, on Pills and Bhalu, made good rounds, Sigmn O'Connell being awarded first place.

In the handy hunters event the Troop were again prominent, providing the first three horses as follows: 1st, Lieut. L. D. M. Patterson on Jimmy ; 2nd, Sigmn Karam Dad on Kiki ; 3rd, Sigmn O'Connell F. on Pills.

A few words of congratulation to A Corps Signals, Karachi, on putting up such a good show to enter the finals of the Army and Air Force championships which were held at Rawalpindi.

On the 28th February, two Wireless Packs turned out in full battle order to give a demonstration before the Brigadier and his staff. The Brigadier complimented the unit on their show, and we think he is contemplating reducing the ten minutes halt as all that time is not necessary to open up, pack up and load to be away again.

Corporal Kenny H. had hard luck in just losing the hammer throwing event in the All India Olympic championships to a competitor from the United Provinces. Keep training, Pip.

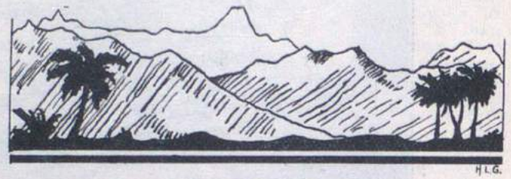
Departures.—Sergt Shardlow (as a class "B" invalid) with family, Corpl Stanley R. with family, Sergt Conyers J. and Sigmn McLeod A.—all on transfer to home establishment. Corpl Milne J., not yet. L/Sergt Scott H. on six months payment furlough. Sigmn Wright G. to Waziristan District Signals.

Course.—Signalman Bass J. is on a veterinary course at the S.V.H.

Sick.—Sigmn Adamson L., due to falling on something harder than usual.

Extensions and Re-Engagements.—Corpl Gratwicke S. for twenty-one years, and L/Corporal Bruton S. to complete twelve years (for the information of the Police and the Labour Exchange.)

KHANA.



H.L.G.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Monday 26th March.

Soldiering; or a Frontier Tale.—Six signalmen on guard, three wearing the ribbon of the Indian general service medal (N.W.F.P. 1930). Guard commander (recently from England) tells them to go carefully because they are in possession of live rounds. Strop up!

Arrivals.—By private enterprise. One Ford four-seater car of doubtful origin (chug, chug) ; one Essex four-seater coupe in its 'teens, transferred from No. 20 (A.C.) Squadron, Royal Air Force (chuckle, chuckle); and one small monkey, who has made himself very much at home in the Unit Kennel Club enclosure, to the disgust of the rightful occupants thereof. Also, enough bias binding to re-adorn our topees and pith helmets. Whilst on the subject of topees, I read a few months ago in " The Statesman "



Unit Headquarters, Peshawar District Signals.

Back row (left to right)—Signalmen Moore J., Keigher J. and Chadderton W., Sergt Fahey W., L/Corpl Woods G., Sigmn Lucas J.
Centre—Sergt Bennett G., Signalmen Dologhan J., Potts S., Wilson T., Heaps L. and Harrod C., L/Corpl Smith G., L/Sergt Grant A., M.M., Corpl Barlow J.
Front—C.Q.M.S. Stainer H., R.S.M. McGregor S., Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., Captain J. F. Charlesworth, Major J. Hawke, Sergt Prior W.



The Officers of Peshawar District Signals.

Back row (left to right)—Lieuts. R. J. Moberly and E. P. Blake, Captains T. A. R. Scott and G. S. Hurst, Lieuts. J. C. Hardy and E. Y. Nepean
Front—Captains J. F. Charlesworth and W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., Captain V. J. E. Westropp and Major J. Hawke



A Flashlight Photo of the interior of the Restaurant, Regimental Institute, Peshawar District Signals.

that the temperature inside a soldier's Wolseley helmet in the summer was above the outside temperature. Has anyone tested this?

Departure.—With the best of luck and many thanks for the excellent work he produced in such a short stay with us, Captain V. J. E. Westropp, to take up an appointment at the War Office.

Theme Song: No. 1 Company.—" Stormy weather."

General.—After finishing off the collective training season with one of the hardy annual Khyber mobile columns, half the unit, plus the married families, are now preparing to hie themselves to the hills for courses and scrounges. Otherwise, news is very scarce so far this year. Maybe we will get some more excitement on the Frontier soon, though, to while away another weary summer !

With these notes you will find informal photographs of the officers of the unit, and of Unit Headquarters, taken on the occasion of the visit of the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, in February, and also of a group in the Regimental Institute. The photos (copyright) are by Mela Ram and Sons of Peshawar.

This Month's Great Thought.—"Some people read for instruction, which is praiseworthy, and some for pleasure, which is innocent : but not a few read from habit, and I suppose that this is neither innocent nor praiseworthy."—Somerset Maughan in "Ah King." MttM.

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Headquarters.

Fort Akalgarh, 31st March.

The social season in Waziristan is in the stages of fading out. Headquarters will shortly be moving to Razmak for the summer, and the ladies will have left D.I.K. for Murree, Topa, etc., which are not seaside resorts. One hill station is said to be reached by balloon.

The cold weather has been most enjoyable, entertainments having been frequent and excellent. The thanks of all ranks in D.I.K. are due to Mrs. Roberts and her niece, Miss Willett Ram, for their energy and unfailing interest in our social events throughout the season. We all hope to see them again next winter. L/Corporal Poole and his dance orchestra have been invaluable during the season, and we should like to thank them. We shudder to think what would have happened without them. During Northern Command Signals Week in Rawalpindi they had two engagements, and remarks overheard increased our already high opinion of them.



Our Dance Band.

During December, Headquarters were selected to perform two (for us, unusual) tasks. For three days we mounted guard over His Excellency Lieut.-Colonel Sir Ralph Griffiths, Governor of the North-West Frontier Province, and although we say it who should not, our sentry drill will take some beating. Our second unusual task was to proceed to the landing ground, excessively early on a cold Sunday morning, to keep the ground such time as the Secretary of State for Air, Lord Londonderry, took off for Quetta. The escort took off in formation, which was interesting to see so close up.

On Christmas Eve a party of carol singers broke barracks. They were so much appreciated at their early ports of call that they did not complete the circuit. This was preceded in the afternoon by an excellent Christmas tree party in the sergeants mess, where community singing by the children was led by Tommie Stevens, aged eight years.



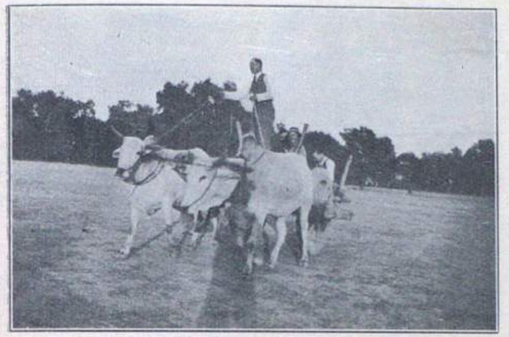
Christmas, 1933.

Christmas was celebrated as hilariously as could be. Major-General S. B. Pope, C.B., D.S.O. (our District commander) accompanied by Colonel Radcliffe Smith (A.A. and Q.M.G.) visited the other ranks at dinner, the General making a speech. He also inspected the beer very thoroughly and approved of it. Colonel Radcliffe Smith said goodbye to the n.c.o.s, thanking them for their assistance to him. We on our part are very sorry to lose a friend at court such as Colonel Radcliffe Smith, and wish him good luck in Bengal.



Christmas, 1933.

Boxing Day found us well and fit, and arrangements were made for a pagal gymkhana. Races in sacks, four-legged races, camel races, push bike races, rides on donkeys, and rides in wheelbarrows were on the programme, culminating in a grand relay race. This included the use of sacks, wheelbarrows, camels, push bikes and bullock carts. We were delighted when the General and Mrs. Pope came along unexpectedly and joined in. Mrs. Pope's team won the relay race. Although they did not go round the course in their bullock cart, they certainly went very much farther than any other team. The first team past the post were disqualified for taking the professional driver of their cart with them. They were, however, allowed to go round again without the driver, and were last seen going hard in the direction of the city!



Mrs. Pope's Team, winners of the Relay Race.

Quite one of the most exciting events was the old soldiers race, in which the General and Lieut. Cussens started level with fifteen yards start in front of the young fellows with only eighteen years service. The General paced out his own start with the longest yards ever seen, not realising that Lieut. Cussens was equal with him! The result was a dead heat between them.



The Four-Legged Race.

Shortly after Christmas the representatives of the unit gathered in Bannu to defend our title as British hockey champions in the District tournament and to make a bid for the football cup. We were successful in our hockey and did not disgrace ourselves at football, in which we lost to the champions, the Highland Light Infantry. At hockey we were fortunate in being able to arrange a fixture with the 2nd Battalion 14th Punjab Regiment, and we had the experience of playing against Naik Dhyan Chand of Olympic fame. They ran us off our feet in a game of twenty-five minutes each way, scoring two goals to nil.

On our return to D.I.K. we were immediately inspected by our District commander, Major-General S. B. Pope, and we acquitted ourselves as well as usual.



The Start of the Old Soldiers' Race.
(General Pope in the centre foreground)



The Children during the Sports.

The Fort had only just time to get dusty again when Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., C.S.O. Northern Command, accompanied by Lieut. D. Veron (Australian Staff Corps) came on his annual inspection. Once again we were proud of the results our work produced, and we are sorry that this is the last inspection which Colonel Barker will carry out as our C.S.O.

General Pope came up in mufti, one morning at the end of February, to say good-bye to all ranks. We are more sorry than we can express at losing such a commander, who knows our unit as well as we do ourselves and who was always our friend. We wish both General and Mrs. Pope the best of luck and happiness in the Southern Command. An extract from the General's speech follows.

" I had hoped to get up and say goodbye to you on a parade, but owing to lack of time I have not been able to do so. However, I want to say a few words to you before I go. I have been in this district for the past seven and a half years. I have worked with your Signal Sections in Bannu and Razmak and with your headquarters here in Dera Ismail Khan, and I have never once been let down.



The Start of the Children's Race.

" I have realised throughout the necessity of signals to a commander, who is deaf and blind without them. I know what being in Signals means. On column you are first out in the morning and last home at night, and your work does not finish when you

get into camp. When other people—physically tired—are taking their rest, Signals—though also physically tired—continue to work through the night ; and on your work depends the safety of the column and the success of operations, and in a lesser degree the other troops depend on you for their rations.

" During these years in the district, I have been very struck by the bearing of all men of this unit. It indicated ' I belong to Waziristan District Signals. I belong to the best unit in India. And who the hell are you?' I hope you will keep up that attitude. Goodbye and good luck to you all."

A very enjoyable children's party, organised by Mrs. Roberts and a splendid party of assistants, took place in and about the regimental theatre: races, performing bears and lucky fish pond, leading to a most entertaining dance by Captain C. A. Oliver in disguise and, last but not least, a cinema show. The films and apparatus were lent and worked by Mr Fairs of the P.W.D. There being no cinema in Dreary Dismal Khan, it can be readily realised what a treat this was—and not only for the kiddies! We saw Felix, Charlie Chaplin, a film of the previous Everest Expedition, and various films made personally by Mr. Fairs, to whom we express our thanks for the climax of a splendid party.



Three of the Children.

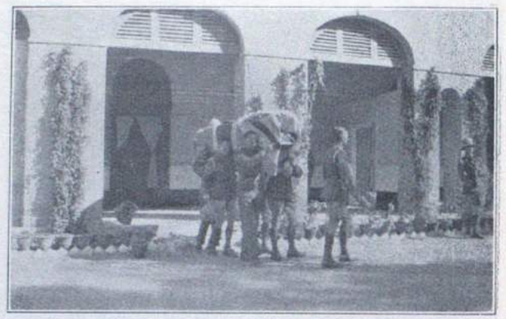
In the first week of March we sent a party to Pindi for Signals Week, in which we entered for everything except the mounted events and, as far as I know, the photographic competition. Would-be entrants for the latter were defeated by the weather, umbrellas and rain coats being a poor substitute for parasols and spring frocks. Our party were put up by the 1st Indian Divl Signals, and we must thank them for their hospitality to all ranks, British and Indian.

Columns for the protection of our new British battalion, the Devons, somewhat interfered with the selection of our teams, but we sent strong combinations. They lost through not being able to play down to the weather conditions as well as did their various opponents.

Some sprinting took place just before we left for Pindi. The unit, led by the C.O. and followed by a mad dog, sprinted across the inside of the Fort, ultimately taking cover in the signal office. Captain Allen and L/Corpl Geere, armed with a buckshot rifle and a 12-bore respectively, blew holes in the Fort at places where drains were obviously required. The dog ultimately got in the light and died, but not before it had bitten a lady, a child or two, a mali, Sergt Read's dog, some assorted dogs, and (dreadful to relate) Sergeant Woolhouse, our star hockey centre-forward—just then at the top of his form. An ambulance removed the unfortunate victims to Bannu next day for treatment. Our centre-forward is remustering as a pin cushion, group E.

What with mad dogs, column training and promotion examinations (which prevented two officers from going), we were somewhat handicapped at Pindi. On our return we were chagrined to learn that during our absence a farewell dance to Mrs. Roberts and Miss Willett Ram had taken place. We wish we could have joined in this, but we say au revoir and wish them all good luck.

Early in December we were shocked by the sudden death of C.Q.M.S. Potter, who had only recently arrived in the unit. He



The Bearers leaving the Hospital.

was buried with full honours in the Dera Ismail Khan cemetery. The sympathy of the unit with Mr. William Potter and family in their bereavement was communicated to them by the commanding officer. Photographs of the funeral ceremony are sent with these notes.



The Firing Party " Present Arms " as the body is placed in a Motor Lorry.

We have said au revoir to Captain C. A. Oliver, M.C., who has left us for Meerut, and we hope he will enjoy his new station as much as we know he enjoyed Waziristan. Captain R. H. Wall has taken his place and has gone to Razmak.

We had two more inspections in rapid succession, firstly by Colonel Hickman, our new G.1, and secondly by Brigadier Mills,



The Funeral Cortége on the Tank Road.

who is no stranger to us and is temporarily officiating as District commander. Again we showed what we could do, with less than twenty-four hours notice in one case and less than forty-eight in the other (including a Sunday). It is understood that Government of India calendars are printed with five-day weeks only. We can only recommend the perpetrator of this new system of time to try Waziristan!

The Fort area was recently disturbed at night by laughing dogs, when the rumour got about that the Cantonment dog shooter was only a third class shot. In order to give the dogs a chance, the Cantonment supply a single barrelled 12-bore gun, the trigger guard of which falls off when a round is fired.

Wana Signal Section.

Tuesday 6th February.

General.—First let apologies be made for the absence of notes recently. The omissions were unavoidable. In view of this, a slight review of Yuletide festivities should suffice.

Christmas, looked at as a whole, was an outstanding success. Our worthy carol singers made the usual tour of all officers messes and eventually rolled, staggered, or were carried home in the small hours of the morning. The dinner, thanks to Corporal Jarvis, was excellent.

On Boxing Night the officers of the Brigade invited all B.O.R.s to an indoors sports tournament, which consisted of a whist drive in the library and various games such as darts, bagatelle, etc., in the Brigade lecture room. It was an evening well enjoyed by all. In addition to the tournament, there was a cinema show which afforded much amusement, for movies are rare in Wana.

January 1st brought the inevitable Proclamation parade, held on the aerodrome. As usual, " the straight steady line " succeeded in passing the saluting base without mishap.

During the month of January the only item of outstanding importance was the C.S.O.'s inspection on the 17th. Though not present myself, I am given to understand that everything was satisfactory.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Section L/Sergt Frampton E. H., L/Sergt Butler C. and Sigmn Morrison A. G., who have joined us from the U.K. via D.I.K. L/Corporal Rawcliffe from D.I.K. replaces Sigmn Brown W. as Section clerk on the latter's posting to Bannu Signal Section. May they all enjoy their stay in this Frontier outpost.

Departures.—Sigmn Davis has left us for duty with H.Q. Section, and Sigmn Crichton for the U.K. May the former be happy in his new sphere. We have no doubt that the latter will be. Sigmn Bolam F. has left us for a sojourn amongst the horsey community of Risalpur. You always loved those four-footed creatures, B. Now's your chance to be happy.

Finale.—Till the next time. WANASECT.

Wana Signal Section Sergeants Mess.

For perhaps the first time in the history of Wana, the Sergeants Mess contribute the two following paragraphs as their share towards WIRE notes.

Arrivals.—The welcome mitt was extended early this month to L/Sergts Frampton and Butler, who unconsciously wandered through picquets, barbed wire, etc., into our camp. Having two responsible positions vacant in the Section, we are keeping them.

Entertainments.—On Monday 5th February Sergeant Beckley invited the members of the Mess to listen in to the Empire broadcast, which was successfully reproduced on an S.H.S. four valve short wave set in his tent. At the end of the programme the audience congratulated him on the wonderful reception, and both promised to come again.

Finale.—No doubt, the above is a bit of a shock. If it is, then we advise you not to read next month's edition of THE WIRE.

A.B.C.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—Having seen a lament in the March issue, let me hasten to assure you that Kohat is still some forty miles from Peshawar, and McQueen Lines still hold that precious unit Kohat District Signals.

It is usual, when an editorial note of this description appears, for someone to apologise or plead a feeble excuse. We do neither —least said, soonest mended, etc. You understand?

Summer has progressed far enough for the families to separate and go to the hills for their summer vacation—some to Topa and some to Cliffden; and of course Northern Command Signal School will eventually claim its quota from this unit in the way of courses, instructors and duties—some to gain the extra " tanner " and some to spend it.

Then there will be the usual leave ramp (visiting family at their authorised station for the first time, etc.),and leave period—which is not a ramp for the veteran who does the guards, etc., and who, white faced, goes to Sandes Home or the Uniacke to recuperate, or laze or khud climb, whichever he pleases after the heat of the Plains—a month off the chain. What a glorious feeling to be free for a whole month!—to be able to walk out when you please ; to be able to eat well and sleep well.

Major C. A. Murray has left us for Jubbulpore. The best wishes of the unit go with him to his new station. At the same time we extend a hearty welcome to our new C.O., Major B. G. Rowley, who joined us on 11/3/34.

Sergt Turner and Sigmn Clarke have arrived from the U.K. —the former to take on O.R.S. and the latter to help Uncle John in solving some wireless problems. We wish them both the best of luck and health during their sojourn in India.

The following veterans left for U.K. on the *Lancashire* on 14/3/34 (many tribesmen without beards will haunt the home stations when this is published, complete with the gong they have earned with so much hard work). L/Sergt Thomas, Corpl Jones, L/Corpls Reed, Bunce, Goodman and Gay, Signalmen Melly, Harris, Husband, Evans, Gasson, Hine, Bellis, Westbrook, McLean, Shaw, Humphreys, Goldsworthy, Hirst, Clifford, Barnecutt and Gregory. Good luck to them all in their new spheres. Kohat Signals look for great things in respect of these worthy veterans. Our loss—someone else's gain.

On 24/3/34 Major Rowley presented the I.G.S. medal to Sergt Murphy G., Corpl Jervis, L/Corpls King J., Talbot F. A. and West, and Signalmen McDonald, Price G. and Page. He also presented the clasp " N.W.F. 1930-31 " to C.Q.M.S. Small and Sgt Ivey J. E. T. "Q" looked rather surprised when asked if this was the first time. What about the other four?

Entertainment.—Another all ranks dance was held at the S. and D. Club on the 3rd March as a farewell Band benefit dance. Not so many turned up as expected, but an enjoyable evening was spent. This was the last dance of the season—or at least it appears to be, as we have had no success in obtaining a pianist to replace Corpl Jones, who has proceeded to the Blighty Cantonment. We shall miss his brilliant touch, not forgetting the " tense," and if his successor can hold the boys of the band to the high standard of proficiency attained under Corporal Jones' supervision, we shall be very fortunate. We also lost one of our violinists in Sigmn Gasson, who has been with this unit's band for a considerable time. Jenn and Ellertons have lost a good customer for bcws, and I expect their regret is as great as ours.

On the 10th March a farewell limber gunners hop was held in the mess room in honour of our now departed veterans, complete with medal ribbons. The band functioned again with several old favourites. Free refreshments were provided—until they ran out —and the jollification went on until the early hours. Numerous were the thick heads among the departing draft next morning, and although happy to be leaving this pleasant (?) country, their expression did not signify such at the station. However, there was a steady two days train journey in which to sleep it off, so we hope they reached the boat feeling a little happier in mind and body.

During the course of the " hop " our late C.O., Major C. A. Murray, made a short speech as a farewell to the draft on the part of the unit, and another speech as a farewell to the unit from himself, as he was leaving us to proceed to Jubbulpore. The adjutant made a return speech, and the roof of the mess room rattled to " He's a jolly good fellow!"

A sketch entitled " Nothing ever 'appens round 'ere " was presented by Costello's Sob Opera Company, compéred by that eminent announcer Sergeant Wally Wagg. Naturally, it was a humorous sketch and not entirely free from risque jokes. We can always trust Uncle Alfred to put over a show that the lads can enjoy. The " hop " finished at midnight, but the hops carried on until late—or perhaps it should be early—and so another of our too few social functions came to a happy ending.

Sergeants Mess.

It is the last month prior to the break-up, and much has been happening in its own Kohatish way.

Orders of to-day told of the allotment of mountain chalets for the ladies and heralded the parting we are all so reluctant to endure. Several of the families will be in Cliffden this year and the remainder at Upper Topa.

This is the last straw in a month of farewells, for during the past few weeks we have said goodbye to some of the Old Lady's oldest friends. From the Mess we lose L/Sergeant and Mrs. C. Thomas to home establishment and Sergts Wall and Howard and families for eight months leave.

Our evergreen entertainments committee have kept us happy this month with a dance and three tennis at homes. These latter have been in connection with the Station cup—a triangular tournament with the R.A.F. and the S. and D. Club. So far we have Nutt-all done very well, and with one more match to play, we shall have to out-Wimbledon Wimbledon if we want to do any good.

We have poshed up our billiard table (what an expensive child to rear!) and now the playing is " cushy." This has led to our playing off for the Henderson cup, which eventually went to an attached member, with C.S.M. Spracklen as runner-up.

An at home evening was given to the officers of the unit as a farewell to our departing C.O., Major C. A. Murray, and also to Lieuts. H. L. B. Kealy and W. B. Rowett. " Time like an ever-rolling stream. . . ."

A merry picnic to Bona Springs (Cos wanted to raise his hat to the Old Lady of the Hills) provided some snappy happenings and some happy snappings. One merry member did *not* remind us of Olympia as he prepared for tent pegging on a docile little donkey!

We are grateful to the corporals for a most enjoyable farewell party on the occasion of the C.S.O.'s visit. To those who responded to the invitation, a right royal evening was given.

L/Sergt Starling has gone to the Centre for a 'tricity course, and in him the S.T.C. have a worthy tennis player with whom to crack racquets. Beware his silvery laugh. Weak!

Sergt/Instr. Ware has left us for the seat of learning—and gas—at Belgaum. Happy days, but be-Ware!

We bid all who have gone a grand adieu and can only wish them what they gave us here, happy hunting and good comradeship.

We welcome Sergt/Instructor Chinnery (and family) as our new Schoolie. May all his firsts be specially good and his specials be first class!

Corporals Mess.

The farewell dinner was a huge success (as was predicted in the last notes sent in) and very orderly, even at the singing stage. Thanks are due to Robo for his excellent catering arrangements, and also to those who assisted in the jollification.

It may be mentioned in passing, however, that the " married but not quartered quartet " has been disarranged. Shoey has had the luck to be admitted to M.Q.R. and is making full use of his promotion to that happy band of pilgrims, the married pads.

Heard on the Q.T.—Who left his wife stranded on Karachi Pier? ('Cos he couldn't help it.)

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Sunday 1st April.

General.—It's nice to think that old hands at home remember us or the unit, and nicer still when an old WIRE correspondent (living a sheltered life and holding, by virtue of graduation at A Corps, a staff job in an English Divisional Signals) gives you a hand with notes. The following lines, pending correspondence with the poet, are copyright.

H.E. LAMENT.

No Eastern foam,
No desert sand,
No khuds to roam—
Just memories and
Eyes to the East.

No club house tales,
No frogs or flies,
No Murree ales,
Few sunny skies—
All in the East.

No Lido lore,
No Plaza dope,
No mid-day snore,
But still there's hope—
Hearts in the East.

Good stuff, I think you'll agree. My only criticism is that his artistic sense momentarily got the upper hand of his common variety (no offence, E.D.).

Those lines remind me that all our repatriations for 1933/34 are finished. Questions have now started as to the positions occupied by individuals on the 1934/35 Honours List. Why everybody is in such a hurry to get home, I don't know. Don't you realise that by staying until say 1939/40 trooper, you may find such boats as the *Majestic, Aquitania*, etc.? I say, you *may*. Then again, where at home will you be able to get handsome—I mean, slightly sun-burned—in one day like you all did over Easter? What a time you had at Sandspits: excellent cuisine, surf riding, and all the other joys of a picnic on the sands. Just think! Holidays by the sea and a skin the colour some of you have become an expensive matter in Blighty, and should put such morbid thoughts as boat lists out of your heads. Be like me—don't worry about the 1934/35 trooper. Anyway, I'm not affected until 1935/36.

It seems impossible to keep the Club out of the notes these days. Apart from present members, I daresay there are a good many of the old ones who remember the good times they had there and are interested in how it is progressing. The time-honoured " tin and bottle " (modified for India) and dance was featured the other day. R.S.M. Bayliss and L/Corpl Lovell distinguished themselves at tennis, the gigolos at dancing, the band as it usually does, and the ladies at cake-making. With regard to the latter, opinions varied as to the best culinary effort, but when I came to look for a second piece of Mrs. Trapmore's jam tart about two minutes after its arrival on the premises, all that could be found was a few jammy smears round the committee's faces.

Perfectly True.—The Line Company dhobi corporal had occasion to chase some washing the other day. Arrived at the dhobi ghat, he found that the articles in question were already on their way to him. As he was about to return, the dhobi handed him a slip of paper, murmuring " Chitthi, sahib." On his return to the bungalow he commenced to check the bundle with the articles enumerated on the slip of paper. Who is it in No. 1 Company who has his toothpaste, razor blades and tobacco washed?

Individual Training.—That modern classic Vol. V. comes into its own again, now. Old stagers are of course conversant with this monumental treatise on the functions of the Corps. To those who aspire to great technical qualifications, I would say not only " Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest its contents," but " Refer it as you do to certain books that form part of your kit or last Friday's air mail letter."

Distinctions.—One of the most sought after honours in Karachi, especially among the civilian element, is the local snooker championship. For years certain " cracks " of this unit have striven for the title, and this year, from a large entry, we produced both finalists: R.S.M. Bayliss and Sergt Andrews T. The R.S.M. proved a good and modest winner.

The same gentleman was honoured in being requested to officiate as referee in the Western Command football tournament, but I expect he's rather used to these little things now: no match of any importance, European or Indian, takes place in Karachi without his being invited to referee it.

Agonies.—These are being experienced by most of the unit—from sun-bathing.

Boxing.—An article on " How we nearly won the Army boxing championship " is printed on another page of this issue.

Mystery.—Who are the two men who were fooled by a certain lady? Potter knows you're not so sharp, Blunt. Jerry.

S.W.B.

Zhob Signals, Loralai.

Sunday 1st April.

General.—Aren't we all? Maybe you, too, have noticed the date. Believe it or not, we are become a bigger people. Anyone who shouts " Fat " or even " Oozy " is liable to be killed by the resultant rush.

An examination for the first class certificate was held recently, and several faces wear an " M.A. failed " expression. At the inquest on the question papers, the verdict was " They are easy "—meaning, we presume, the candidates.

Social.—The artistic way in which these modern youths drape themselves around an armchair is a feature of our newly decorated institute. The silence is so intense at times that one dare not drop even an aitch. In the near future, we hope to install a wireless set and listen to light symphony concerts or (let me whisper, in case our older members should hear) perhaps a little dance music. Anyway, come up and see us some time. It is quite in order that you should awaken the barman—gently, of course—if you should require (shall we say) a lemon.

Fashions.—It would not do to pass over an opportunity to mention our chic head dress. " The Loraliar " says " The new style is very becoming ; it provides just that touch of colour which military millinery has needed," etc. (the new " flash," in fact).

Inspections.—The annual inspection of the unit by Brigadier J. C. McKenna, D.S.O., was carried out on Friday 9th March, and we were awarded a first class report. The next inspection, by the Q.M.G. India, takes place at the end of the month.

Arrivals and Departures.—To 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, Signalmen Harrison W. and Kenneally J. To A Corps Signals, Karachi, on completing their tour in the Zhob, Signalmen EdwardsT. and Watson C., who were relieved by Signalmen Byrne H. and Hill H. of A Corps. L/Cpl McGlinchey J. to rejoin 2nd Indian Divisional Signals after spending five months here on "Q" duties. From 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, U/L/Corporal Howard N. and Sigmn Taylor E. We extend a hearty handshake to all who have arrived, and a tear-stained handkerchief to our late departed.

Extensions of Service.—Sigmn Cotton E. to complete twelve years and Sigmn Harrison W. to complete eight and four.

Things We Hear.—On good authority, we understand that Smudger went into hospital immediately he arrived in Quetta. Why? Couldn't he face the march with Jerry, who now boasts that he possesses blisters much larger than ever he acquired in the Zhob. It's a cop, eh, Harry boy? O.B.C.T.

Hindubagh.—We again apologise to our readers for the absence of news this month.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Some of the pice referred to in a previous issue have been used and we now have a nice new dining room and cookhouse. We have moved into the dining room, which is a huge success: it allows more room for expansion. The O.C. has provided us with some pictures for the walls, and the place looks quite posh.

Some one noticed a big mozzie prowling around the bungalow the other night, so we all put up our nets, but I understand that it was only looking for Byrne. It will have plenty of time to catch him if he does another five in the country.

Mobile Column.—Corpl Bartlett and Sigmn Lapsley formed the mobile wireless detachment which escorted the Devons from Fort Sandeman to Gulkach, where a detachment from Waziristan District Signals relieved them. This was an exceptionally stout effort owing to the fact that continual watch was maintained throughout the march. Sigmn Lapsley rose to the occasion and did his bit on the set: all transmitting was done by hand. We are glad to say the detachment came back intact, although " Fought and bled " is inscribed on Corporal Bartlett's topi. We shudder when we read it!

Celebrations.—We celebrated the Festival of Id on Monday 26th March. We were all invited down to our Indian ranks' bungalow, where a table groaned under the weight of the goodly viands thereon. Bearers staggered to and fro with huge lashings of curry and rice. Smudger paled a little as about half a stone of rice was placed before him, but the way Buck Taylor sank those chuppatties was an education to any native. Not satisfied, he wanted to pocket a few to try with pozzi later on. Goat was served with the curry: quite a nice drop of goat, too, but I don't care for it that way. " Honi soit qui mal y pense." What say you, Bob Mac?

Sport.—Ping pong is the most predominant game at the moment. We have a posh new table and a number of experts at the game. Tubby is training hard with a view to getting his own back on Byrne, who beat him once. Paddy dodges the return match on the excuse that he is just about to varnish the table every time he is challenged. A certain amount of beverage is necessary, and Tubby has tapped another barrel.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Jamieson from Loralai, complete with Burma medal. L/Corpl Howard and Signalmen Johnson, Franks and Taylor from Quetta—and how they miss the city lights!

Departures.—L/Corporals Malvern and Smith H. and Signalmen Murray, Lapsley and Stolliday have all gone to 2nd Div.—just in time for spring camp. I hear that Malvern has a pack. How are your feet?

Agony.—Smith J. C. wants that snap of Dutchy Holland taken beside the river Goa. Franks wants to know how the Narks are.

Things I Want To Know.—Who is doing Joe now? (A Section 2 Div.) How many days to go? (Ginger, Pesh.) Can Smith make enough money in the bar to go on leave next year? Who pouched the nuts at the Festival of Id? Is there plenty of jam left?

APOZAI.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Thursday 22nd March.

General.—Since our last notes were written, very little excitement has been experienced in the Troop. Most of the annual sports held by units in the station have now finished. In almost every case where an open event took place the Troop entered teams, and although they didn't carry off any trophies, they gave a good account of themselves and managed to take second place each time.

We were not very successful with our entries in the Imperial Horse Show, but Lieut. Bradford, Corpl Lourie and others are to be congratulated on their efforts. During Delhi Week the B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s each made up bus parties for the show and gave the Troop entries their usual support.

The past month has seen us with more inspections, and we have been kept very busy in preparing for the visits of the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command, the A.D.V.S. Eastern Command, and the D.A.Q.M.G. Meerut District. We trust they were all satisfied with their respective inspections.

Old Troopites will be interested to know that the Eastern Command short wave W/T station has disappeared from our lines and re-appeared at the headquarters of Meerut District, which is now at Dehra Dun. The whole outfit (complete with Black Watch personnel) made their way out of the station during the early hours of the 9th March. The building that was occupied by them is now being used for a stable picquet room.

A certain amount of training is going steadily on. This includes rides, short wave W/T training for attached personnel, and musketry instruction prior to firing our annual course. Remount training will shortly have to be carried out on a larger scale than usual, as we are now short of eleven horses owing to recent castings. (Lieut. D. M. Smyth, late of this unit, will be interested to know that No. 90 has at last gone.)

Courses.—Sigmn Meese C. qualified in a stretcher bearing and first aid course, and L/Corpl Wilson G. was successful in passing the British ranks Urdu test.

Departures.—Corpl Thomson H. M. on six months privilege leave to the U.K. and Corpl Mundy J. for six months payment furlough. Both sailed on the 16th March.

Signalmen White C. and Ward S. have also left us for six months courses at Jubbulpore for upgrading in their respective trades.

Extension.—Sigmn Fish J. has decided to make his present engagement up to twelve years with the Colours.

Hospital.—Signalmen Hurt F. and Dorsett E. are at present having a spell in hospital owing to accidents, and L/Corporal Roberts E. R. has now been discharged after a short spell there.

Postings and Transfers.—The Loch Ness Monster to Elie.
G.E.

No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals, Cairo.

K Section.

What about those WIRE notes? What, already? Who gave me the job, anyway? I want to sleep. I have been buffing up for the gymkhana every spare moment, so the lying down championship reverts to Bibb. B-r-r-r! All I get is "You shouldn't bob."

Brigade Training.—We start on preparations for camp now that the gymkhana is over. A sets get "acked" and commissions are given to helio cleaners, while we get the cold nights under the Pyramids and the glamour (?) of the moonlight on the romantic Desert, not forgetting the rum ration which never seems to reach us.

Corps Gymkhana.—Judging by the amount of cleaning kit I have lost, we shall be able to clean the remaining saddlery in the harness rooms for next year's event. Anyway, it was a great success, as we anticipated, and my losses (the lying down championship, the cleaning kit, and some elbow grease) enabled us to take first place for single rider's best turn out and also for complete W/T Pack set, pony and three men. Badgy Burke (ex-A Corps Signals) and Busty (Mister) Dyason were the performers, Busty being assisted by L/Corpl Scott and Sigmn Smith A. D.

The drivers' jumping was good and was concluded by a re-jump between Drivers Hall (B Cable) and Jeffrey of our Section for second place—the first being taken by Driver Hughes (B Cable). Driver Jeffrey made a good second.

Wrestling on horseback was next, and we met our old friends of J Section in the first round. It eventually finished up with a single combat between Sigmn Toogood (J) and Driver James, all the others biting the dust. What a scrap! J rode out winners and also finished up by winning the contest. Good luck, J!

Mrs. Bald, the wife of our C.S.O., very kindly presented the prizes, and as some were in cash big suppers, etc., were much in evidence at the canteen. But it was a great day, and Busty and Ginger, I am sure, are no worse off for their several duckings under the bucket.

Annual Inspection.—This is our next infliction, but as we have it to come I think it will be best to leave it until it *has* come.

Agony.—Oh, Blackett, where art thou?
To Dixie Dean, ex-A Section Colchester and now somewhere in India:

Can't tha' borrow pen an' ink
And scrounge a bit o' pad,
Then scratch thee heed and drop a line
To Egypt, quick, me lad? F.H.

Moans.—Credits are low. Rumour has it that the annual inspection is to be in serge this year, and it is more expensive than drill.

This Month's Twister.—If a certain lorry driven by a Scotsman does four miles per gallon, how many foot lbs. of energy are required to push a lorry through half a mile of soft sand? [2 foot lbs.=one signalman; ½ foot lb.=one n.c.o.]

Decorations.—We have been ousted from our rooms to let the painters have the floor to paint and the interior to decorate while we decorate the stores for the annual inspection. Amid the paint and distemper which is being added for our comfort, and the moans and groans of those who have been having a holiday on the Command scheme, I have to think out a few notes.

Back from the blue they came, footsore from marching and sore from riding, with beards prominent owing to the dirt gathered in them. They didn't know Africa was so big until last week. Everyone had a pukka beefy look about him through that tinned stuff called bully. Even the horses still roar and growl when feed time comes round.

Still, it is all over now, and all the scroungers who stayed behind had the pleasure of cleaning up paint, etc.: but everything looks great—bar the "snowing" atmosphere. The rooms have been newly whitewashed and distempered, while the Gippy workmen seem to have made quite a good job—of the floor.

Training.—We motored to Helwan, and having had Section training there, we thought it would be easy and that we would know the country, but rocks and hills instead of sand shook our tranquillity and our map reading. But we proved the semi-uselessness of mechanised armies, for we went where lorries refused to go. Pack ponies loaded with A sets and camels loaded with stores made up the convoy, and we looked like sheiks, while it proved a good thing that K are trained—to walk. Rum rations were plentiful and good, but one member of K thought otherwise—didn't he, Andy? Then we returned to Abbassia, some to assist in the Command scheme—riding in trains and pushing lorries.

Rumour.—A boat is about to arrive at Alex. to bring reliefs and to remove some of us. Anyway, quite a number are saying the number of days to go—and the number diminishes each time!

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 7th April.

In common with so many others, we are now back to ordinary labours after our Easter holidays, but we regret that, owing to the torrential rainfall which we experienced in Gibraltar, we are more "washed" than refreshed. (This, incidentally, may be taken as an apology not only for the brevity but also for the standard of these notes.)

Although from previous years' experience it would appear as if the weather clerk has had an adjustable time table for our rainy season, made to coincide with the arrival of the Fleet, this year he has slipped up and made it agree with their *departure*. We have had heavy and almost continual rain ever since our home and Mediterranean friends left; but, sad to relate, we are still several inches below our annual rainfall!

The two troopships which called at Gibraltar during the past month sadly depleted the strength of the unit, and we make use of that over-worked remark "What is our loss is another unit's gain." L/Sergt Betts and L/Corpl Cook (posted to home establishment on completion of tour), Sigmn Pope (to Army Reserve) and Sigmn Burton (for discharge on completion of twelve years Colour service) embarked on the *Neuralia* on the 23rd March; while Sigmn Morris (to Army Reserve) and Signalmen Burt and Goodanew F. (to home establishment) embarked on the *Lancashire* on the 31st. To those who are venturing into the dangers of civilian life, we wish every success. We are sure that the units fortunate enough to secure Cook and Burt will find them more than useful in almost all realms of sport.

Despite the exercise of our best means of persuasion, the half-promised notes relating to Lisbon and Algiers have not been forthcoming. Perhaps the fact that *The Daily Express* has been first in the field in publishing vivid descriptions of their correspondent's experiences in Spain had a damping effect upon our amateur scribblers.

A visit was paid to the unit by Lieut.-Colonel F. R. S. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., late commanding officer of the 51st (Highland) Divl Signals, T.A. All ranks are deeply indebted to him for the very handsome challenge cup which he kindly presented to the unit.

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Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1

Easter Camp.—To those who did not attend Easter camp this year, may we suggest that you speak to someone who was there and find out what you have missed. Then, next year, we are sure that we shall have a much larger attendance. It is said of Easter camps that we have "quality, not quantity," but actually we should like to see many more there, as it is such an unrivalled opportunity to gather experience in preparation for the annual training camp.

The journey to Blackdown was less eventful but certainly quicker than last year, and it may be that the lack of excitement caused the argument between the bus and an Austin Seven on reaching camp. After careful consideration we have awarded the prize to the Austin, as it gained most marks!

Our busiest day was Saturday, and on this occasion we laid two cable routes and set up three visual links, afterwards opening communication and disposing of large volumes of traffic. A notable feature of the scheme was the very complete narrative which explained the positions and movements of the two opposing forces. The presence of an anti-tank gun near the canal bridge must have caused some consternation amongst the local inhabitants. That it was effective is proved by the ease with which we were able to bring up reinforcements from Brookwood Station through the enemy lines!

A considerable improvement was noticeable in the operation of the visual stations, and we are glad that this improvement can be traced to the classes held throughout the winter. By the time that we go to Manston, the standard of efficiency in this direction should be very high.

On Saturday we were pleased to be visited by Major-General H. F. Salt, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., and our own commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins, with Major G. J. Morley Peel and Captain W. S. Wasey. On Sunday morning Colonel O. W. Nicholson, our honorary colonel, led the church parade to the Garrison church, where we attended the service held by the Rev. J. Thom, M.C., M.A. May we say how delighted we were to see Colonel Nicholson, and we hope that he will come again.

The last day of the camp came far too quickly, but we all felt that we had learnt a good deal, although the time was so short. During the resumé of the week-end's work, we had the pleasure of seeing Colonel A. A. S. Younger, D.S.O., who spoke of the value of these camps.

An interesting ceremony took place later, when C.S.M. Hopkins was presented with a tankard as a mark of our appreciation of his services, particularly in respect of the Easter camps.

Having tried our hand at film work, we are now busy preparing for our contribution to the Royal Tournament at Olympia. Who wouldn't be a Territorial? H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

General.—We are lively at present, as camp is only five weeks away and everybody is anticipating that this year's training will beat all records. Scarborough will have a very difficult task to live up to expectations, and as it is generally known that we are to camp near the Regulars, it is recognised that, for the sake of the good name of the Terriers, there must be no lessening of keenness in any quarter.

On Saturday and Sunday 7th/8th April a unit week-end training was held, and nearly two hundred officers and other ranks attended. Saturday afternoon was devoted to the issuing and checking of stores, and on the Sunday morning, in glorious spring sunshine, the unit moved off to the vicinity of Ashley, a Cheshire village, where some good work was carried out by all Sections. As these week-ends are the only opportunities apart from annual camp for work in the field, they are at times rather puzzling to newly joined recruits who cannot always visualise the scheme. During this particular week-end a recruit was answering on a D.iii. and the sergeant-major asked if he knew Morse. His reply was "No, sir. He's not with this Section." What the S.M. said is not reported!

Sergeants Mess.—The annual dinner took place on Saturday 17th March, and nearly seventy members and guests were present. Our C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley) attended, together with Major C. B. Delaney and Captain Lea. We were also pleased to welcome our late C.O., Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., A.M.I.E.E., who during his command of the unit worked very hard to make the mess cheery and comfortable for the members. R.S.M. Grist proposed the toast of the King, R.Q.M.S. McVittie the health of our officers, and C.S.M. Murphy the health of our guests.

Lieut.-Colonel Ashley, in a bright little speech, gave us a few details regarding the camp and pre-camp training. We are to have an all-night scheme on the 28th/29th April in the neighbourhood of Pickmere Lake, a well-known beauty spot, and our camp programme includes a ceremonial parade, general inspection and a thirty-six hours scheme.

Colonel Newton, responding to the toast of "Our Guests," said that it was exactly thirty years since he became a sergeant—one of the proudest days of his life. He was pleased to see so many other units represented that night, as it was good for the Division to have the sergeants of various units meeting each other and creating good understanding. Colonel Newton congratulated the Mess on the progress it had continued to make since his retirement, and spoke of his work for the unit, although outside it, and of his efforts on behalf of the Signals Old Comrades Association, mentioning the memorial to the R.E. Signals which is to be erected in in our drill hall. The scheme has received most sympathetic consideration by Colonel Ashley, and although the date is so far uncertain, it is hoped that the ceremony will be one which will impress our worthy parentage upon the unit's present younger members, and encourage them to carry on its traditions.

An entertainment arranged by R.Q.M.S. McVittie followed and was much enjoyed by all present. The function was a great success. One member reached home in the small hours of the morning and found he was minus his latch key, but quite cheerfully sat on the door-step all night and thought it was worth it!

We are pleased to announce that our adjutant (Captain H. E. M. Swan) is now discharged from hospital, and we hope that when he returns from sick leave, he will be well enough to carry on as usual. KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—This month sees the commencement of Section training in the unit. The results of the operators' trade tests give much satisfaction, and it is hoped that the Sections possessing the successful candidates will benefit. The instructors in each case deserve recognition, particularly in No. 3 Company, where two n.c.o.s did remarkably well—one obtaining 100 per cent. in all tests, and the other rising from N.F.R. to B.iii. The results of the linemen's trade testing, which takes place this month, are expected to show improvement in that branch.

No. 1 scribe is once more at home, and notes from that source are welcomed. No. 2 scribe is thought to be suffering from strain, as his notes have failed on this occasion—which is unusual. No. 3 scribe creates a diversion by producing notes for the Sports section. Apparently they are undaunted by the fact that the local R.A. people walked away with the Divisional boxing trophy in February. Though unsuccessful in each local competition, No. 3 did not present their opponents with a walkover. I was very impressed as a spectator with the keenness of our youngsters, and I observed some promising talent which should, with practice, help the unit in its efforts next year. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

It is regretted that for the past few months notes from this Company have been missing, but we hope that in the future we shall be better correspondents.

Arrival.—We welcome Mr. G. D. A. Clover to the Company, and we hope that his stay will be both long and happy.

Departure.—We regret to record the resignation, through ill-health, of Mr. E. C. Lee-Wright. We have not seen much of him lately, but we hope that he will soon be restored to much better health.

Training.—A Section have finished their operators' trade tests, and we congratulate all who have gained additional ratings and those who have retained their old ones. To those who have failed, " Stick to it, and next year you will be keen to show that your form at present is wrong."

B Section have yet to have their tests, but when these are over we shall be full steam ahead on the cable wagons.

A word to the recruits: Your attendance has been excellent. Keep it up. An inefficient soldier is a burden to himself and to the Company. The higher the standard of efficiency you gain, the better you will enjoy yourself.

Summer training is now starting. Sunday 15th April sees our n.c.o.s exercise, and on the following Sunday we have our St. George's Day church parade at the Cathedral. We hope to see a good muster.

We hope that more use will be made of all the sports gear at our disposal. A revival of the games in the drill hall is required, and it is hoped that everyone will join in. Let us all pull together in all branches of the Company's activities and make it a real bumper season.

We Want to Know.—Where are all the badminton experts? Who is the n.c.o. who requires a short wave set for 5/- (we hope he gets it!) Who lost the Woodbines and didn't pay up?

More next time. ONECOY.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

This month marks the end of the individual training period, and from now until camp officers and senior n.c.o.s assume that worried look, and are only to be glimpsed brooding quietly in dark unfrequented corners or heard softly caressing Section stores behind closed doors. In other words, they are weighed down with responsibility and must not be worried on trivial matters.

This year, however, the results of the trade tests have been so extraordinarily good that the old difficulty of making one operator perform two jobs has been simplified. All the successful candidates are to be congratulated, but particularly L/Sergeant Hutchinson (who classified B.ii. with 100 per cent. in all tests) and Sergt Addelsee (who qualified B.iii. in one jump)—and our enthusiastic permanent staff instructor, who of course has made the successes possible.

Boxing, under the guidance of 2/Lieut. A. S. Crocker, is becoming very popular in the Company. Home and away matches with the Devon and Cornwall Heavy Brigade (Divisional champions, 1934) resulted in two defeats—by 4—1 events in each case. Sigmn Ferrand won his fight in the first meeting, and Sigmn Darch in the second. All the contests were well fought, however, and at least two were very close indeed. Our men are improving, and the Gunners were surprised. Results appear on another page. THREECOY.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, Derby.

It is with great regret that we learn of the death on the 11th April of Mr. I. Heyburn, ex-R.S.M. of this unit, after a short severe illness. All old comrades, old friends and all members of the unit express their deep sympathy with his bereaved family. Mr. Heyburn was the first R.S.M. of the unit. His long service commenced as a boy, when he saw service in the South African war. As a C.S.M. he served in France with the 46th Division Signal Company during the Great War, and was awarded the M.S.M. After the war he returned to Bedford, from whence he joined the present 46th (N.M.) Divl Signals on its formation in 1920 and served as R.S.M. until 1925, when he left on pension. As a civilian he was employed in the C.R.E. office of the 46th (N.M.) Area H.Q. He leaves a widow and five children.

No. 1 Company.

Training activities are looking up. More people are coming along and getting down to work. The weekly P.T. class under Sergt Field (P.S.I.) is still very popular, boxing being in great demand.

Our Cable Section (and, therefore, the unit) received some boost owing to their excellent lines at Donnington Park. Here, on the motor race track, from its five most dangerous points to the base report centre, are our lines and telephone communication. On race days these points are manned by men of the unit, and it is good to hear the running commentary announcer pat us on the back occasionally.

In the near future Sunday schemes will commence. Let's hope for good weather and attendances.

The new D Section is still only a nebulous quantity. We need more recruits of the right type. Lieut. Waldron, i/c, is looking out for work to do, but with a class of only four men he is not busy enough.

The Wireless people are still busily employed, and the Cable Sections still waiting for their cable wagons. However, despite many little snags, we are progressing.

Congratulations to the Boys Company S.T.C. (India) and to their present instructors on their progress. From an old boy.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

With the coming of lighter nights and the passing of square tacking (some—not all!) we are hoping to get down to some real hard training. We have lots to do, but now that our establishment has been reduced (poor old Oneco!) and we have to provide only Infantry Brigade Sections, we should be able to put up a much better show.

Sections have been made up and O's i/c and Section sergeants appointed, and it is hoped that all concerned will join in helping their particular Section to become sab se achchha.

Recruiting.—Wonders will never cease. Since the change of establishment we have been right up to strength! Wonderful. Ah me! if only the Regular Army were, too. Work in connection with the latter still goes on, bless it. Posters still get lathered with paste, and so do the P.S.I.'s breeches and puttees, and we still get agents, but *no* recruits.

Re a recent issue of J.B. We don't like going to the talkies and being greeted with (anti-) soldier-like phrases. Khuch fikr nahin! Soldiers don't care, and Singers are cheap now, and some can still go (intact). Clynos and Morrises are pretty good, but give me a Riley ; them's 'em.

Miscellaneous.—We bet you had a good time with the boys on their camp trek, Bram. We liked your notes ; let's have some more.

Congratulations to the P.S.I.s and others of the 49th who were fortunate enough to draw a horse in the last Irish Sweep. Even dead 'uns are not bad, though we admit that where there's life there's hope. Roll on, and let's have another dip in the jolly old bag.

A certain P.S.I. (no names, no trips to Davis Theatre, Croydon) wonders how that famous stalwart Wee Tosh may be these days? and is there any news of Jock Welch?

Porky says that J. J. can't play skittles, which is wrong.

Salaams to all members of the Corps, and from J.H.E., particularly to all old Jubb wallahs.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6

General.—On the 4th April our headquarters opened again after the Easter vacation. Unit training, however, did not start until the 9th, although the instructional courses re-commenced on the 5th.

The fine weather which prevailed over the holiday reminded us of what a good thing Easter training would have been had we had any. The thoughts of many of us went back to what seems years ago, when we spent such happy days at Ditchling and the 'Shot. We wonder whether we shall ever have another Easter training! This, of course, depends entirely on the amount of the training grant allotted to us.

On the 17th March about eighty members of the unit, including several recruits, proceeded to Chertsey for a week-end training. A very interesting and instructive time was spent by all. We took our cable and telephone wagons with us, and several lines were laid as part of a general Divisional scheme which was carried out with a pretty good margin of success. The C.S.M.s, C.Q.M.S.s, workshops and orderly room sergeants were employed on a billeting scheme. They were given the village of Brunshot in which to find accommodation for a whole Div. Signals. We understand it was a bit of a squeeze, but after much walking around, debating and the study of maps, which incidentally only showed about one third of the likely billets, suitable accommodation was found for the whole personnel, horses, transport, etc.

Owing to our unit being now mechanised, riding drill ceased as from the 1st April. We expect some of the horses are grinning in their mangers about that—ho(a)rse laughs from the stalls, as it were!

The composition of our unit now includes M Section. We've got a sergeant in it, and are hoping to get some signalmen to go with him in due course.

Recruits are still coming in in fairly good numbers and it is hoped that our strength will be well up by the time we go to camp this year—which we are definitely informed will be at Colchester from 29th July to 12th August.

A linemen's Trade Board was held on 25th March. Fourteen candidates attended and thirteen passed. On the same day fifteen senior n.c.o.s attended an examination to let us see how much knowledge they had assimilated on their course. This course covered a good deal of useful ground, and the subjects were necessarily varied and numerous. Twelve n.c.o.s passed, so if anyone wants a few tips on signal tactics or military law, the above address will find us.

Then, on Sunday 8th April, we had a Trade Board for the instruments and map reading course. The result here was most gratifying, for of the twenty-six heroes who ran the gauntlet down the line of examiners, only one failed to gain pass marks. The tests were not a gift, so we are confident that those who passed know their job pretty well.

Officers.—We welcome Lieut. W. A. Tomlinson from the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals and 2/Lieut. E. A. Bennett from the 55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals, who have transferred to this unit now that they are resident in London.

2/Lieut. P. W. Shaw, 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, is attached to us for training, and we hope that he, too, will shortly become a member of this unit.

Ten officers of this unit attended the annual dinner of the 47th (2nd London) Division at the Junior United Service Club on the 22nd March. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the speeches by three members of the Army Council were greatly appreciated. It would appear that the Army Council is out to assist the Territorial Army in every way possible—at least, so they said.

The monthly dinner was held at Fulham House on the 5th April, and twelve officers attended.

Sergeants Mess.—The Mess has been presented with a very fine cover for the billiard table by the members of the 25th Cyclists Battalion O.C.A.

Ex-Sergt Spud Murphy has kindly and sportingly presented a cup which has been christened " the Murphy snooker cup." Competition is confined to members of the Sergeants Messes of the 47th (London) Divisional Royal Engineers and this unit and the members of the 25th Cyclists and 47th Divisional Signals O.C.A.s. The first round will be played at our headquarters on the 26th April.

O.C.A.—We take this opportunity of stating that an O.C.A. of the 47th Divisional Signals has been formed, and any ex-member of that unit is cordially invited to join. Full particulars may be obtained from the hon. secretary at our headquarters.

Social.—The St. Patrick's carnival dance was a great success in every way, and everyone spent a most happy time. We finish our ordinary winter dance season with dances on the 12th and 26th May. EFFEMMA.

We Want to Know.—Whether the well-known cricketer from Aldershot who was discovered wandering on Wimbledon Common with a lorry load of stores, and armed with a very small A.A. map of London, ever discovered Woolwich Dockyard?

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—With the approach of summer thoughts turn to matters affecting the training of Sections. Every individual has now come " off the stocks," so to speak, and has been fitted into his Section, and all that remains is for him to do his job.

Tuesday nights, right up to camp, will be devoted to encouraging the team spirit through the medium of miniature schemes on the indoor lines, while Thursdays will be occupied with improving the operating.

Training.—The first official parade of the year was held on Sunday 18th March, when all three Companies rolled up in their hordes to draw their pay for attending the evening instructional classes held during the winter. And what a parade! Everybody wore a smile and his best uniform. The adjutant spoke encouraging words to the assembly, in which he gave a general outline of the approaching season's programme and expressed satisfaction with the measure of success already accomplished. Pay was then issued (although by now that's all forgotten).

The trade tests which commenced on the following day went off quietly, and there was no rioting. They ran for the best part of a fortnight and were by no means so severe as most had anticipated. The results are not yet to hand, but judging by the satisfied smile on every face . . . . .

Sunday Exercise.—On Sunday 8th April there was an indoor exercise for No. 1 Company for the purpose of blowing away any cobwebs that might have accumulated during the winter months. The newly-constituted Sections quickly settled down and a considerable bulk of messages passed.

Birth.—Our hearty congratulations are extended to C.S.M. Wood E. G. of the permanent staff, to whom a son and heir was born on Sunday 8th April. Boy, 1948, eh?

Sergeants' Dinner.—This *was* a success, and no mistake! The Mess was honoured by the presence of no fewer than five colonels: Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D., Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel H. Mc Laren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C. (who, many years before this unit took its present form and when it was still the 2nd W.Y.V.R.E., came as second corporal instructor). The gathering was most enjoyable and without a dull minute.

?.—What happened to our team for the 49th (W.R.) Division cross-country run at York on the 24th March?

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now !

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 179. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.



Is this a Record?

The accompanying photograph is of five serving members of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals who have to their credit *unbroken* service for a total of 148 years between them.

Standing (left to right)—C.Q.M.S. Whittaker T. (27 years), C.Q.M.S. Dalgleish J. (33 years), C.S.M. Joynes W. (25 years).

Sitting—C.S.M. Allen R. D.C.M. (36 years), R.Q.M.S. Tebbs F. D.C.M. (27 years).

Come on, old timers, and remember—*unbroken service only.*

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—There is little to report this month. Obligatory training is now in full swing, and the turn-out on drill nights (Mondays and Wednesdays) is quite satisfactory.

Recruiting.—We now want two despatch riders to complete our establishment, but these vacancies should be filled by the time these notes go to press.

Week-end.—A most interesting week-end was spent at Darlington on the 7th and 8th April, when all officers and senior n.c.o.s of J, K and L Sections, together with the officers and signal sergeants of the units in the Third Brigades, had a series of instructive lectures and practical work on the running of a Battalion Signal Section. Those of our members who were present left on Sunday night, feeling that they had gained a lot of very useful information, and are now looking forward to the respective week-ends arranged with our Brigades to put into practice what they learned.

Boxing.—We are fortunate to have two members from this unit going to London next week to represent the Territorial Army in the Imperial Services championships: 2nd/Lieut C. W. Belas and L/Corpl McGuiggan. We wish them the very best of luck.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—Training was resumed on the 3rd April, and the first few parades of the season have been thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. Our popular medical officer, Captain David P. Levack, lectured the troops on military hygiene on the first drill night, and if his excellent advice is followed, there will be nae mair sair feet at camp, nor sair heids in the morning.

Of the thirty n.c.o.s and signalmen who were tested for trade ratings on the 5th April, there were only three failures ; and they, it is understood, just require more Morse practice and should qualify at the next Trade Testing Board before camp. Instruments are always available in the signal school for those who want to put in some practice, so " Come up and see me some time!"

Mechanisation.—A long farewell to our long faced chums. We will miss them. To the younger soldiers and those who never will be riders, this may seem a blessing ; but it is with sad hearts that our essentially horsey men, Sergt Allan and his picket-line myrmidons, pack up the saddlery and harness for return to Ordnance.

It is not correct that we are being issued with monkeys in lieu of horses. The fittters, however, on the strength of the new "M" Technical Maintenance Section, have already been dubbed with this fitting nom-de-guerre, and it looks like sticking. So far these fitters have nothing to fit or to fit with, and having regard to the swarm of applicants who wish to qualify as monkeys it seems that "M" workshop will fairly take the place of horse lines as the parade dodgers' paradise at camp. Aye, they ken fit's fit ; which, being literally translated from Fittee, means " What's what." (Only 22 carat Aberdonians will detect this joke!)

Guid Sakes, Veesitors!—We were pleased to have Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland of 1st Divl Signals visit our headquarters on the 14th April, but were sorry he couldn't stay to see us at work. Captain J. H. Brown, M.M., our adjutant, showed him around, and it would have pleased us if he could have seen us busily training.

Sergt Watt of Chitral fame, who has recently joined the 3rd Div. at Bulford, also visited us during the month and spent a pleasant evening with the sergeants. We hope he will visit us often when he is on leave again in Aberdeen.

Entertainments.—No. 1 Company's talent is gathering thegither to form a concert party. As the saying is, weel begun is half done. We are to have a concert on the 24th April: a smoker to celebrate the presentation of T.E. medals to Sergeants Rollo, Cormack and Allan, and Corpl Gregor. Man, it wull be just grand! Nae charge for admeession! LANKA MK. II.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—This month finds recruit training continuing, and the progress made so far is encouraging. Having made quite sure that the left foot is on the same side as the left arm, and mastered the difference between the " slope," " present " and " secure," we feel sure that they will soon now be fit to appear on the same square with their more trained brethren.

The operators are hard at it, endeavouring to read that extra few more words per minute which are going to make all the difference between a pass or a fail when the June Trade Board comes along.

To those who successfully passed the March Trade Board we offer our congratulations. Probably the others who developed cold feet at the last moment are regretting it now. Never mind, the best of luck in June!

Shooting.—We hung on to our lead in the second round of the inter-Company rifle shoot ; in fact, we increased it by twelve points. As we are the present holders of the trophy and our team are shooting really well now, I think we shall eventually retain the honour this year. However, from the improvement shown in the last shoot by Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, we are taking no chances. Our last score must be our best.

Golf.—The officers of this Company have entered a team for the inter-unit golf challenge cup for units of the Scottish Command. They have as opponents the 5/6th Black Watch and should have played off their round on the 10th April. The match was, however, cancelled owing to snow and will now be played at a later date. The best of luck from all ranks.

Boxing.—Sigmn McLean W. of this Company, who recently won the welter weight championship of the Territorial Army, has been selected as the welter weight in the team which is competing in the Imperial Services boxing championships at Uxbridge on the 17th April. We wish him all the very best of luck, and trust that he will meet with success similar to that on his last trip to London. In connection with this team it is most gratifying to note that Royal Signals Territorials are represented by three entrants, one officer and two other ranks. This is the largest number from any Territorial unit. We wish all three the very best of luck.

Agony.—F.O. 1st (I.) Divsigs: Next time I write, shall I send the stamp as well? Salaams from Uncle Bob and Tubby.

TUCO.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Individual training is continuing up to the end of April, and Section training will commence on the 1st May. It is hoped that by then most of the recruits under training will be prepared to join their Sections. A batch of recruits under C.S.M. Maynard is at present under training in squad and rifle drill and showing good progress.

Shooting.—Our air rifle team have collected two trophies during the past month against some tough opposition. They beat the Gasworks in the final for the Gaskell bowl, and the Ninians in the final for the Councillor Wall shield with a score of 323—the highest that has been recorded for many years.

Our team suffered their only defeat in the league from the Ninians, and the Ninians and the Signals will shoot off for the League championship.

On the miniature range No. 2 Company again qualified for the final of the Webber cup, having beaten No. 245 Company Royal Engineers in the semi-final by 27 points: 294 to 267. The final will be fired off on a neutral range on the 27th April against our old rivals C Company 6th Welch Regiment.

Social.—The w.o.s and n.c.o.s of the unit were entertained to a games tournament with the Penarth Branch of the British Legion, a very enjoyable evening being spent. This was our first introduction to this fine club, and all are looking forward to the return match at Park Street.

Ex-Sergt Parsons was presented with a clock by the W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess. He had served ten years with this unit and had proved himself a very efficient n.c.o. We are very sorry to lose such a good member. THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Although it is regretted that at present our social activities are at the lowest possible ebb, a certain social element is being mixed with the " stir " now proceeding here. Now read on, for a perusal of the following notes will explain more fully.

Training.—From now on until the end of the training season, we are to hold some very interesting and enjoyable week-end camps. Following on the Cable and W/T Sections' schemes in April, we have for May a Trade Board, a week-end camp for the V/T team plus a " Classes " camp, and at Whitsun "A" W/T and "B" Cable Sections make merry. This training programme is to be repeated during June and again during July. In August, of course, we go to annual training camp—this year, at Brighton—and during September the lucky "A" W/T and "B" Cable Sections will enjoy another week-end camp.

On all drill evenings you can find us very busy swotting up the various things. For instance, the V/T team are already hard at it, and those who are going in for the Trade Board are putting in their final touches, as it were, and others are busily engaged in preparing for the week-end camps. Consequently, there are no spare files knocking around—hence the " stir."

By the way, details of the above training are published in the usual way, so no one has any excuse for not being in the know.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—Evening classes with pay have finished—leaving, we hope, an appetite for more in the members who have come, listened and learnt, in addition to gaining an insight into what they have to cover to get the coveted Group E. The next step, then, is to continue the good work on drill evenings and dazzle the examiners on the Trade Board in May. Let us hope for the best.

Our V/T experts are carefully weighing up form and sorting out the sheep from the lambs, to discover the four members who will represent the Company in the final test. We shall *not* neglect the buzzer this year, No. 3 Company, so give the cup a polish for us.

This month also sees the commencement of week-end camps. Though we have lost our four-footed friends, we get a motor van and lorry, and are looking forward to some real fast cable laying in the near future. Of these enjoyable little exercises, more anon.

Social.—No 2 Company held their annual dinner at Bay Lodge on Saturday 24th March. A really enjoyable evening was spent,

and the efforts of C.S.M. Hooper W., L/Corpl Anderson T. and the committee were well appreciated, both in the well decorated hall and the excellent fare provided. Our O.C., Captain W. J. Wardle, in his speech mentioned that we were only a few under strength, owing to the new establishment, and that now was a ripe opportunity to make history by getting a 100 per cent. strength Company. A smoking concert, with card tricks by Major F. Manley, T.D., community singing, and other items (including an exhibition of lightning shoe repairing by the R.S.M.) concluded a very entertaining show. We hope to repeat the dose at Brighton during annual training.

Heard at the Dinner.—Recruit: "Can you send fast?" Old Timer: "Well, when I really get going, the shadow of the key usually wears a hole in the wall" (!)

Kohdist Sigs.—Welcome back to the pages of THE WIRE. Who has replaced Tich? V.F. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—We have now come to the end of the paid classes, and the results have been very good. Training for annual camp has now started, and an excellent turn-up was seen for the first evening's drill. An interesting programme, including many week-end camps, has been arranged, and this should be the means of enticing many of the older hands to come along.

Social.—A recruiting supper was held during March, and quite a good number attended. A concert was given by the Tramway concert party, and all agreed that this was a very good affair. A cinema show followed but this was not quite so good as expected, owing to the fact that the films had to be picked "blind." Six possible recruits were interviewed, but as they could not attend annual camp we were compelled to reject them. S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—We have just concluded our eight weeks paid evening classes, having had very satisfactory attendances throughout the course.

Our n.c.o.s have been under a course of instruction with the R.S.M., and we hear that they have learnt quite a lot in the short time he has had them.

Sergeants Mess Dinner.—Two of our members availed themselves of the pleasure of attending the unit Sergeants Mess dinner at Stratford. The dinner was a great success and very well worth the journey down from Bedford. We hear on good authority that our two representatives had the misfortune to fall asleep in the train on the return journey and eventually woke up at Kettering. It speaks well for the dinner committee's efforts. Must have been the exceptionally good food, Bill. BEDFORDIAN.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

(City of London Signals)

Signal House, 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12

Our annual prize-giving took place on Saturday 10th March. This event usually takes place in October or early November, but owing to our recent move to Signal House, Clapham Park, the event was necessarily postponed until a later date. Fortunately, it gave us the opportunity of seeing in person and welcoming our new hon. colonel, Colonel J. C. Denison Pender (chairman of The Imperial and International Communications Ltd.) who presented the prizes and certificates. Colonel Denison Pender takes up his appointment vice Colonel J. Waley Cohen, whom we trust will have many pleasant recollections of his tenure of duty with us. Major-General Winston Dugan, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 56th (1st London) Division T.A., remarked that he was extremely glad that his Signals had for hon. colonel an officer such as Colonel Denison Pender. This is probably the last opportunity we shall have of seeing Major-General Dugan, as we regret to say he shortly leaves us to take up a civic appointment in Australia. The good wishes of all ranks of this unit go with him. Prizes and certificates were awarded as follows.

Company and Section awards.—Inter-Company efficiency cup, T.A., No. 2 Company. Inter-Company efficiency cup, S.R., No. 1 Company. Inter-Company challenge cup, T.A., No. 3 Company. Inter-Company Trade Board cup, T.A., No. 3 Company (14). Inter-Company cricket cup, competition not completed, 1932-1933. Inter-Company football cup, No. 1 Company L. of C. Inter-Company musketry bowl (the Cuthbert bowl) No. 2 Company. Inter-Section commanding officers' trophy, awarded to best Section of the year, F Section, No. 2 Company.

Individual awards.—Subalterns' cup, T.A., Lieut. M. M. Cuthbert. Waley Cohen Morse trophy (a) Corpl Coe, No. 1 Company; (b) L/Corpl Barry, No. 3 Company. The Admiral Grant recruiting cup, Captain F. C. McMurray. Trained man with highest number of drills during year, T.A., Corpl Walker, No. 2 Company (142); S.R., Sigmn Bolton, No. 3 A.W. (73). Recruit with highest number of drills during year, T.A., Sigmn Brett, No. 3 Company (101); S.R., Corpl Romain, No. 3 A.W. (78). Trained man with best musketry score, T.A., Sigmn Hall, No. 2 Company; S.R., Sigmn Cope, No. 1 Company. Recruit with best musketry score, T.A., Sigmn Harvey, No. 1 Company; S.R., Corpl Romain, No. 3 A.W.

The evening closed with a dance. I have since heard that local tradesmen are doing a roaring trade in picture frames.

About sixty other ranks of this unit attended Easter training at Aldershot from Good Friday until Easter Monday, being attached to our parent unit 2nd Divl Signals, whose hearty co-operation helped to make the week-end a success. We all realise that such things as Easter training prevent a certain number of n.c.o.s and men of the 2nd Divl Signals indulging in the privilege of Easter leave, and we would have them know that we are extremely grateful to them for all the help and instruction received during our training. All n.c.o.s of the rank of sergeant and above were occupied on a course of Quartermaster duties, with gratifying results. Arguments regarding the relative merits of various Army Forms were heard, sometimes lasting until the early hours of the morning. One was heard to remark with all the wisdom of a hardened Q.M. that rations, after being "exhumed," could not be written off on A.F. P.1925. However, I am sure the knowledge gained will make our R.Q.M.S.s look to their laurels. All other ranks were out on schemes daily with a Cable Detachment, C sets and No. 1 sets, and it is hoped that the knowledge gained will be passed on to the less fortunate who did not attend Easter training.

The congratulations of all ranks are extended to Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan, commanding the Line of Communications Signals affiliated to this unit, upon his promotion to that rank in succession to Brevet-Colonel A. A. Jayne, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., who has retired on reaching the age limit. Colonel Jayne will be remembered by many ex-boys of the Corps who have since profited by his kindly counsel and advice.

No. 1 Company Line of Communications Signals held their annual smoker on Saturday 7th April, and were entertained by a first class concert party. Among the guests present was Major G. Brown, the Deputy Engineer to the Chief of the Post Office, who was accorded a hearty welcome. He forged a link in the Lines of Communications Signals chain on their formation in 1926, and his presence was greatly appreciated by all ranks. The officer commanding, Major G. Gray, in a speech referring to the possibility of his relinquishing his command consequent upon his appointment as Postmaster of Westbury, spoke of the excellent work of No. 1 Company during his association with the Line of Communications Signals. Promotion in the Post Office has already robbed the Company of one O.C., but we trust that Major Gray will find it possible to still continue in his present capacity. Lieut.-Colonel Allan, commanding Lines of Communications Signals, was called upon to present a small token of respect to the late permanent staff instructor of No. 1 Company, Sergt Cook L. G., which was done to the strains of "He's a jolly good fellow," etc. Sergt Cook travelled from York to be present at the smoker, and was warmly welcomed by all, especially the naval element of the Company.

We Should Like to Know.—What is "spade work"? Who was the "very refained" individual who thought that a Naval Sloop was a nautical deviation from the perpendicular?

M.T. reminiscences: If the jack is too high, make a hole in the road. C.E.S.



Army Boys Football Cup.

The two semi-finals were played on the Command Central Ground, Aldershot, on the 11th April. The first match commenced at 2.30 p.m., the Irish Guards comfortably defeating the Hampshire Regiment by 5—0 goals. The Guards won on their size and superior football, though they are by no means an unbeatable team.

Semi-Final: Royal Signals "A" Team v. "D" Platoon, Army Technical School, Chepstow.

Our opponents started off by pressing and scored after the first two minutes. The tables then turned, and we had the best of the game for a long period until an unfortunate slide of the left half gave the A.T.S. a penalty from which they scored. The spectators were then becoming depressed, though fortunately our team were not. A dangerous charge shortly afterwards gave us a penalty from which Bennett scored. Less than a minute later a magnificent bit of combination between Bennett and McQuade ended in another goal being scored by the former. The score remained at 2—2 at half time.

In the second period the ball was seldom in our half, and after ten minutes Bennett scored two more goals in quick succession, the second being a particularly brilliant one. The final whistle sounded with the score: Signal Boys 4, A.T.S. 2.

Our team was as follows: Goal, Lancashire; backs, Beenham (captain) and King L. D.; half backs, McDonald, Adcock and Humphries; forwards, Kendall, Bennett, McQuade, Garfield and Fry.

Bennett and Adcock (the centre half) were outstanding throughout, but the rest of the team played a very good game together. A great feature of our team is that even when two goals down, they are never down-hearted and have won several uphill fights in this way. We look forward with confidence to the final against the Irish Guards on Saturday 14th April.

We are very grateful to Aldershot Signals for the large number who assisted us with their enthusiastic encouragement. The telegrams of good wishes from Colonel Tillard and others were much appreciated.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Depot Battalion Rifle Club.—When, last October, I appeared in THE WIRE after a lapse of some years, I promised a further instalment shortly—and here it is.

The winter season has seen further improvement both in our numbers and the results obtained. We finished third in the Yorkshire Winter League, Division II., and were definitely unfortunate in losing two matches by a single point in each one.

	Fired	Won	Lost	Aggregate	Points
Bradford "B"	18	16	2	10496	32
York City	18	14	4	10416	28
Depot Battn. R.Signals	18	13	5	10520	26

Despite our position, we finished with the highest aggregate of points in our Division, and we hope for a higher place in the summer.

The following officers and n.c.o.s fired for the club: Lieuts. R. H. Copeland and R. G. Muir, C.S.M. H. J. Bale, Sergt G. R. Seabrook, L/Sergt G. Salmon, Corpl C. P. Walker, L/Corporals D. D. Poole, R. W. White and W. Jenkins.

Last month we were again honoured by the selection of Sergt Seabrook, Corpl Walker and L/Corpl Poole to shoot for the Army in the inter-Services match. No results have yet been published.

Interest is being maintained in outside competitions, as we have candidates for honours in the Palmer postal competition (in which Lieut. Copeland scored 297 and L/Corpl Poole 296 out of 300 in the first round) and in the Queen Alexandra cup (in which L/Cpl Poole scored 396 out of 400).

The Mackworth trophy, Inter-Company League ("A" teams) was deservedly won by the Mounted Wing, hotly pursued by D and E Companies. The aggregates show an improvement of over 100 points in most cases compared with those of last year.

	Shoots	Won	Lost	Aggregate	Pts.
Mounted Wing	10	8	2	7515	18
D Company	10	7	3	7517	17
E Company	10	7	3	7397	17
School of Signals	10	4	6	7341	14
Dismounted Wing	10	4	6	7231	14
F Company	10	0	10	6800	10

A welcome sign is the return of the School of Signals to a good position in the table. We have lost a very useful member of the Rifle Club team in L/Sergt Bailey, posted to Bulford in November last. We wish him every success in his effort to build up a team there.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

Standard Athletic Tests.—The initial training for these tests has commenced. Several have shown promise of being able to qualify at all events, with but a few failing to pass at least half of them.

Cricket.—Our quarterbloke has almost completed his fixture list for the coming season: not a large one this year, as we have an extensive training programme.

Tennis.—The courts have opened and a number of enthusiasts have commenced practice. We hope to form a very useful team this year, and look forward to the annexation of a few trophies.

Swimming.—Quite a number of enquiries for this form of recreation, but held in abeyance until the allotment of the Command baths.

General.—Lastly, there is the inter-Section competition to be held shortly. Training of individuals has already commenced, as this leads on to the unit and inter-unit events.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

We must apologise for our lack of Sports notes during the past three months, but "discretion is" etc, etc., and it's so easy to cluck, look round and find no egg (No. 3 Company, please note). The winter season closed yesterday, and results are as follows.

Hockey.—First round v. No. 2 Company, won by 1—0; final v. No. 3 Company, won by 6—0.

Rugby.—First round, a bye; final v. No. 2 Company, won by 6—3.

Cross-Country.—The final placings, after a re-run, were as follows:—No. 2 Company, 1st; No. 1 Company, 2nd; No. 3

Company, 3rd. This event did not go quite to plan. We were unfortunate in having two good men in hospital, whilst No. 3 Company evidently found it easier to walk away with a trophy than to run for it.

Football.—First round v. No. 3 Company, lost by 0—6. The final placings in the inter-Company trophy are now:—Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, 9 points each; No. 3 Company, 6.

No. 2 Company.

Cross-Country Running.—The honours of the inter-Company event belong to No. 2 Company, for they were successful in showing the way home in the deciding run. Great work!

Rugby.—We played No. 3 Company in the inter-Company competition, and after a hard game, with extra time, we won by 7—3 points. At the end of ninety minutes the score was even at three points each, and our win came through Mr. Thomson, who scored a beautiful drop goal. And now for No. 1 Company!

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

Looking back over the past season and taking all things into consideration, we have not done so badly after all. Both in hockey and football we have managed to reach the semi-final rounds of the Garrison cup competitions, and that is no mean achievement for so small and scattered a unit.

Football.—Obtaining a bye in the first round of the Garrison cup tournament, we met the 11th Hussars (P.A.O.) in the second round and, contrary to all expectations—they having beaten us in both league games—we beat them by four clear goals after a very hard first half. We were leading by one goal to nil at half time, and up till then the final issue seemed very doubtful, but on the resumption of play our team took complete charge of the game and ran out comfortable winners by 4—0 goals.

In the semi-final round we met the 2nd Battn Loyal Regiment, but after a very close and hard fought game we emerged on the wrong side, losing by the odd goal in five. Early on in the game the Loyals gained two quick goals, and it was some time before we replied. They then scored again, but after this our team settled down and held them very well, scoring once more before the final whistle.

This is, I believe, the nearest we have ever got in this particular cup competition, and next season we hope we may go farther still.

Other results to date.—League v. 9th Lancers, won by 8—2. Friendly v. Bristol C.S. won by 3—2. League v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards, lost by 2—4. League v. R.A.O.C. drew at 2—2.

Hockey Results.—v. E Troop, won by 7—2; v. 1st R.W.F. lost by 2—7; v. 9th Lancers, lost by 2—3; v. Staff D.C.R.E. won by 5—3; v. Salisbury Theological College, won by 3—2; v. Bristol C.S. won by 4—2.

Rugby Results.—v. R.A.O.C. won by 5—0; v. K.O.Y.L.I. lost by 0—9; Garrison cup v. K.O.Y.L.I. lost by 0—6.

Inter-Section Competition.—Some very keen games were witnessed. The object of it was to ensure that most of the personnel of the unit got a game at one branch of sport or another. The events included cross-country, football, rugby, hockey and netball, and truly the results were surprising. The Sections taking part were Headquarters, the combined Tank Signal Sections, and E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals. Points were awarded for each game, and the final results were again in favour of Headquarters, with E Troop running the Tank Signal Sections very close for second place.

Results.—Headquarters, first with 21 points out of a possible 31; Tank Signal Sections, second with 14; E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, third with 13.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—The past month has been rather a red letter one for our team. Of the last four matches we have won two and drawn two, and as a result have gone up one position in the Area League. With only six matches before the conclusion of the season we should, if the team keeps up its present form, go up at least three more places and finish about half-way in the list.

v. 1st Battn K.O.Y.L.I.—Our opponents had previously beaten us in the S.P.A. cup by 3—2 (after extra time) and our lads were naturally keen to have their revenge—or, at least, to show that we can always come back smiling. It was undoubtedly a bad day for the K.O.Y.L.I., for they could do nothing right. This does not signify that we could do nothing wrong and had the game all our own way. As a game it was not particularly exciting, although one or two spasms and shots at goal by Beard (senior) and Drysdale raised a thrill. Unfortunately, Drysdale was crocked in the second half and will be out of the team for the rest of the season. Actually a score of 7—0 against K.O.Y.L.I. should have been registered, but we were well satisfied with 4—0.

v. 9th Lancers.—Here was an occasion when we should have really obtained two points. From the start we went off with a rush and scored three quick goals, but the Lancers fought back valiantly and held us to finish at 3—3. If we had won, which we should have done, we should have been one position higher up the league table.

v. 9th Field Brigade R.A.—In this match we beat the aspirants to second place in the league to the tune of 4—2. Although the writer was not present, it is understood from our one consistent spectator that our team played their best game of the season. The Gunners thought we were easy meat and only played what they termed a reserve team, but reserve or not, our men showed their best form and deserve full marks for a splendid game.

Hockey.—Garrison Cup. We had hoped for an all-Signals final, but this was not to be. No. 3 Company were defeated by 2—1 by No. 14 Light Battery in the semi-final after extra time. On the play No. 3 Company certainly should have won, but the fact remains that they didn't.

No. 1 Company defeated No. 2 Company in the other semi-final match. There were some exciting and breath-taking moments for both sides, especially when No. 2 Company narrowly missed scoring a couple of goals in the first few minutes of the game. It was a good match and some good hockey was seen. The score ended in a victory by 2—0 for No. 1 Company.

No. 1 Company and No. 14 Light Battery met in the final round on Wednesday 11th April, the result being 1—0 in favour of No. 1 Company after extra time. The play was fast and furious, and in front of goal our forwards were inclined to be erratic. L/Corpl McKenzie made no mistake with his only opportunity and Corpl Parry played a sterling game. No. 1 Company team comprised Sigmn Cook, L/Sergt Luck, L/Corporal Robinson, Lieut. Winterborn, L/Corpl Burrell, Corporal Parry, Sigmn Spearman, Sigmn Mitchell, Sigmn Softly, L/Corporal McKenzie, C.Q.M.S. Smith.

We might mention that only one goal has been scored against No. 1 Company during the whole of the cup matches, the goal tally being 26—1.

No. 3 Company are promising all sorts of things for next year. Well done, No. 1!

Cross-Country—The Army championships took place at Windsor Great Park on the 20th March. It was wet and muddy rather than cold, but a lot of the going was good. We finished eighth out of eleven teams, which was a come down from previous years. We had had a few casualties during the previous days, it's true, bue we were squarely beaten.

The other ten teams were from Infantry Battalions. In the past, the number of such teams has been few. One surmises that the two periods of outstanding performances by the D.C.L.I. and the Buffs has set up a spirit of rivalry amongst other regiments. If so, this is all for the good of the sport.

Our team, drawn from a unit much smaller in numbers, put up a very good show and beat three Infantry teams. Page finished tenth and Cotterell eleventh, thereby concluding a successful season as far as they were concerned. The former is unfortunately going on draft now; otherwise we might have seen big things from him in the near future. We cannot end this note without once more congratulating Sergt Cotterell on his continued fine running. It is now fourteen years since he came into prominence, which we imagine must be nearly a record.

Billiards.—We are happy to record that No. 1 Company were successful in winning the inter-unit billiards cup presented by the Y.M.C.A., and have the honour of being the first Signal Company to have their name inscribed on the cup. The final game (played against the 15th Battery R.A.) was fought out in good spirit, and our opponents had to admit defeat by 48 points. Detailed scores were as follows:—

Royal Signals—L/Sergt Brooke 100, Corpl Ashford 97, L/Cpl McKenzie 80, Sigmn Sherwood 100, Sigmn Way 100—Total 477.

No. 15 Battery R.A.—B.S.M. Richards 75, L/Bdr Kay 100, L/Bdr Shortell 100, L/Bdr Phillips 88, Bdr Knight 66—Total 429.

CORPORALS ROOM—Garrison Junior N.C.O.s Mess Billiard Cup. This was competed for amongst the junior n.c.o.s messes of the Garrison during last winter, each mess having to play the others at home and away. Here again we have to report success. Our junior n.c.o.s won the cup against very strong opposition from the R.E.s, who finished only two points behind us.

We lost one of our most consistent players when Corpl Woodbury was required for service overseas, but found another useful wielder of the cue in Corpl Adams.

The team consisted of Corpls Adams, Ashford and Hipwood, and L/Corporals Etchells and McKenzie. L/Corpl Etchells ably acted as team captain in his play and arrangement of fixtures and refreshments. The real surprise of the tournament was when Corpl Hipwood beat the star man of the R.E.s (Corpl Bishop) enabling us to win the match by 5—2 points. Will Corpl Woodbury of Colombo please note?

SERGEANTS MESS.—After a very strenuous and sporting game the Sergeants Mess of the 3rd Divl Signals finished as runners-up, losing the final of the Garrison Sergeants Mess cup to the 5th Light Brigade by five points.

Golf.—The Southern Command Meeting was held at Tidworth from 9th to 14th April, and we made a bold first-time bid for honours. Strenuous practice, hearty language and flying divots paved the way to a fair measure of success. (I nearly forgot to mention the acquisition, at his wife's expense, of a complete set of seemingly countless new match clubs by one of our players. He *was* tired at the end, too!)

The unit team comprised Lieut. Winterborn, Major Penney, 2/Lieut. Charlton and Lieut. Gambier. In the first three rounds our success was mainly due to Lieut. Gambier's sweeping victories. We disposed of the Tanks by 17—6 holes, the Royal Engineers (holders) by 14—5, and the 9th Lancers by 12—7. In the final we met the K.O.Y.L.I. and a most exciting finish resulted. In the first match we were one down, in the second one up, and in the third all square. We lost the fourth by four holes, our representative being up against a much lower handicap player who was on form. It was a good effort, and we hope for complete success next time.

In other events Lieut. Winterborn won the Command scratch championship over thirty-six holes and was third in the handicap. 2/Lieut. Charlton was second in eighteen holes medal play on handicap, and Lieut. Winterborn and Major Penney tied for first place in foursomes against bogey.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Hockey.—The season has now drawn to a close and we can look back over it with satisfaction: 22 matches were won, 7 lost and 4 drawn.

The final of this year's Army cup was of special interest, as it was won by the 2nd Battn K.S.L.I., who only managed to beat us by the odd goal in the third round. It is gratifying to know that they regard their match with us as being their hardest encounter throughout the tournament. By defeating the Queen's Regiment by 4—1 in the replayed final, they registered their seventh Army final win in nine seasons—a wonderful record.

We have lost the valued services of our captain, Lieut. C. D. Gardiner, who has proceeded to India; but fortunately the last draft from India was kind to us in regard to players, and indications are that our team next season will be of even higher standard than before.

Rugby.—v. R.E. Colchester, 22/3/34, lost by 3—11. The forwards were evenly matched, but Signals outsiders were weak in attack and their tackling was not up to standard. At outside half Sigmn Delaney cut through on his own and scored one try—a very good effort. The match was disappointing.

v. H.M.S. *Ganges*, 27/3/34, won by 11—6. With many of the customary First XV. missing, we were lucky to win this match. A good hard game, producing two excellent dropped goals by Delaney and one try by Evans.

v. Northern Blues, 15/3/34, lost by 0—14. In view of our somewhat easy victory on the previous occasion, Signals fielded only five of the First XV. Sigmn Haines (2) and L/Corpl Hall scored. We should not have lost this match.

Soccer.—The following games have been played since the last publication.

FIRST ELEVEN.

14/3/34 v. Beds and Herts Regiment (E. and S.B. League), home, won by 5—1
17/3/34 v. Heybridge (E. and S.B. League) away, lost by 1—6
21/3/34 v. Beds and Herts Regiment (E. and S.B. League), away, drew at 2—2
24/3/34 v. Chelmsford (East Anglian cup) away, drew at 0—0
28/3/34 v. Chelmsford (East Anglian cup, replay) away, lost by 0—2
9/4/34 v. Stowmarket (E. and S.B. League) away, lost by 2—4

SECOND ELEVEN.

15/3/34 v. 7th Field Company R.E. (Thursday League) home, won by 3—2
22/3/34 v. Middlesex Regiment (Thursday League) home, won by 8—2

Our remaining First Eleven fixtures comprise the final of the Garrison cup, in which we meet the K.S.L.I.; the semi-final of the Braintree charity cup, when we meet the Spartan League side Crittalls Athletic; and the final of the Pearson charity cup, in which we meet the winners of the Colchester Town v. Crittalls Athletic game.

Our Second Eleven have five matches to complete their fixture list for the season, and could they obtain maximum points, they would finish at the head of the local Thursday League.

Hearty congratulations are extended to the Boys team of the Training Battalion on reaching the final of the Boys Army cup, and our best wishes for a grand success in the game.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Tennis.—In a friendly match against B Corps Signals, played on the 18th February, on B Corps courts, the following results were returned:—

L/Corpl Graham and Sigmn Bundy beat L/Corpl Jerram and Sigmn Cant by 6—5; beat Sigmn Durkin and Sigmn Barry by 8—3; lost to Sergt Smith and L/Corpl Jarvis by 2—9; and lost to Sergt Parker and Sigmn Hogg by 2—9

Captain Morgan and Lieut. Good beat L/Corporal Jerram and Sigmn Cant by 7—4; beat Sigmn Durkin and Sigmn Barry by 10—1; lost to Sergt Parker and Sigmn Hogg by 5—6; and lost to Sergt Smith and L/Corpl Jarvis by 1—10

Lieut. Minshall and Sigmn Arnott beat Sergeant Smith and L/Corpl Jarvis by 6—5; beat Sigmn Durkin and Sigmn Barry by 7—4; beat L/Corpl Jerram and Sigmn Cant by 7—4; and beat Sergt Parker and Sigmn Hogg by 7—4

Lieut. Stewart and Sergt Ellerton-Long beat Sigmn Durkin and Sigmn Barry by 7—4; beat L/Corpl Jerram and Sigmn Cant by 8—3; lost to Sergt Smith and L/Corpl Jarvis by 5—6; and lost to Sergt Parker and Sigmn Hogg by 3—8

Result—1st Div. 10 matches, B Corps 6.

Some excellent tennis was witnessed, and in the match of Lieut. Minshall and Sigmn Arnott against Sergeant Smith and L/Corpl Jarvis we saw tennis played as it should be. B Corps' same pair played brilliant tennis to beat Captain Morgan and Lieut. Good by 10—1, but the latter pair had their revenge in beating Sigmn Durkin and Sigmn Barry by the same score.

Tea was generously provided by the members of B Corps Signals Tennis Club.

Football.—In the semi-final of the Rawalpindi District football tournament, Combined Signals played the 2nd Battn Welch Regiment. Losing the toss, the Signals kicked off against a strong breeze and, playing brilliant football, they kept the Welch in their own half, but at half-time the score sheet was blank, mainly owing to the ineffectiveness of the Signals forwards in front of goal.

After the interval the Signals, having the breeze, launched attack after attack and after ten minutes opened the scoring through Sigmn Managhan. This lead was maintained until three minutes before the close of play, when the Welch scored from a penalty which was hotly disputed by players and spectators alike. Even the Welch players were dumbfounded when the referee pointed to the fatal spot. Desperate efforts were made by Signals to retrieve their lost lead, but brilliant goalkeeping by the Welch custodian frustrated their efforts, and the final whistle blew with the score all square.

Extra time was played, but the Signals team seemed to have taken the penalty to heart, as they never looked like scoring. The Welch took the lead after ten minutes, and only some excellent goalkeeping by Sigmn Walsh prevented them from gaining a more decisive victory.

Cricket.—A friendly match was played against the I.A.O.C. The 1st Div. scored 109 and 59 for four wickets (declared) and the I.A.O.C. replied with 70 and 45, thus leaving us the victors by 44 runs.

Hockey.—Some good hockey has been witnessed during the month. A report on all matches would be a rather lengthy business, but no outstanding match was played. We hope that we shall be able to report more on this sport in our next contribution. Some good hockey is looked forward to during the forthcoming Signals Week.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football Results—

25/2/34 v. B Company Dorsetshire Regiment, away, won by 3—0
26/2/34 v. B.M.H. Sialkot, home, won by 7—0
28/2/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, drew at 0—0
6/3/34 v. B Corps Signals, at Rawalpindi, lost by 0—4
14/3/34 v. A Company Dorsetshire Regiment, home, won by 2—0
18/3/34 v. D Company Dorsetshire Regiment, home, lost by 2—4

An early injury—Sigmn Adamson L. (goalkeeper) was finished with the game in the first minute—took a good deal of interest out of the side, and at half time we were three goals down. However, one or two changes were made and we had more of the play, but were unable to take advantage of numerous chances, and in the second half B Corps added a further goal.

Team.—Sigmn Adamson L. ; Sigmn Alderman R. and L/Corpl Connor G. ; Signalmen Mackie P., O'Connell F. and Barrett F. ; Signalmen Robertson J. and Grant A., Corpl Gratwicke S., Signalmen McDonald J. and Bass J.

Hockey Results—

v. H.Q. Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 1—0
v. Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat, at Rawalpindi, lost by 0—1
v. B Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 2—1

The game with W.E.S. Cherat proved very evenly contested throughout, and only in the last few minutes did our opponents score the only goal. Team—Sigmn Robertson J. ; Corpl Gratwicke S. and Sigmn Gratton H. ; L/Corpl Connor G., Signalmen Burrell F. and Alderman R. ; L/Corpl Brown G., Sergt Standen R., T.S.M. Hebberd R., L/Corpl Adamson J. and Sigmn Adamson L.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Pindi Week.

As usual, it rained! In this instance, it rained heavily!! In fact, it rained continuously for six days out of a possible seven!!!

Football.—Our team were fortunate in having the only fine day on which to play their match. They met the 2nd Div. and lost by 0—8. This was not surprising to the spectators or to any member of our team after the first few minutes play. Our team were hopelessly outclassed, and the opposing side showed a far greater knowledge of team work.

Hockey.—In this also our team were beaten, but under the circumstances this was not surprising. The match took place on the Div. parade ground, in football boots and in pouring rain. The result was 1—0 for B Corps.

Cricket.—Our deciding match against the R.A.F., referred to in the last issue of our Sports notes, resulted in a defeat for us. The match was notable in that no chances were experienced by either side. We won the toss and batted first. Here is the result.

KOHAT SIGNALS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Greenhalgh		6	b Bushnell-Wye	0
Price J.		4	c Walker b Sinnock	4
Sergt Ware (A.E.C.)		15	lbw b Braye	16
Lieut. Worrall lbw b Braye		1	b Sinnock	21
L/Corpl Bunce b Younghusband		1	b Braye	0
Corpl Ray c Perkins b Braye		1	b Thompson	1
Luckhurst c Stamp b Y'ghusband		1	c Walker b Stamp	1
Rose c Braye b Perkins		15	c Braye b Y'husband	12
L/Corpl West not out		4	c Cronin b Stamp	7
Caulfield c Cronin b Bushnell-Wye		1	not out	10
McMahon run out		2	b Younghusband	0
Extras		12	Extras	2
Total		63	Total	74

R.A.F.

	1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
P.O. Younghusband b McMahon	0	not out 13
L.A.C. Perkins lbw b McMahon	7	b Ray 35
L.A.C. Walker lbw b McMahon	29	not out 1
F/Lieut Huddlestone b McMahon	0	
Sergt Stamp c Ware b Ray	12	
P.O. Braye c Bunce b McMahon	5	
Corpl Bushnell-Wye b Ray	1	
Cronin c Ray b McMahon	13	
Thompson c Worrall b Ware	7	
Sinnock b Ware	6	
Saunderson not out	1	
Extras	7	Extras 4
Total	88	Total 53

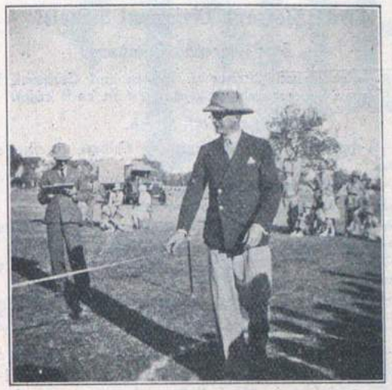
Unit Sports Meeting.

The meeting took place on the Brigade parade ground. The general turn out was extraordinarily good and the competition very keen. There was plenty of unknown material in the running, and former champion Sections, having lost their old sweats, had to give way to the superior form shown by H.Q. Section. Here are the results.

	H.Q.	A	D	J	K	C
110 yards relay	12	2	8	3	5	1
880 yards relay	12	3	5	2	8	0
Long jump	12	5	3	8	1	2
220 yards relay	12	2½	0	2½	8	5
Mile team	8	3	1	12	5	2
High jump	8	2	3	12	5	1
Putting the weight	8	12	3	2	5	1
440 yards relay	12	1	2	5	8	3
Totals	84	30½	25	46½	45	15



H.Q. Section Team.



Major B. G. Rowley measuring the "Puts."

The best all-round athlete's cup was won by Sigmn Price J. of H.Q. Section, the runner-up being Sigmn Prabh Dayal, also of that Section. Price showed up well in all the running events and also in the long jump. He held an advantage over the runner-up Prabh Dayal in that he showed much higher class in the events he entered for.



Mrs. Rowley presenting the Inter-Section Athletic Cup to H.Q. Section.

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Hockey.—This game is the piece de resistance of D.I.Khan sport, the football ground being only a selected piece of desert. Hockey is so popular that the ground is seldom out of use in the evening. A feature of games in D.I.Khan is that anybody who wishes may play, however lacking in proficiency. Occasionally the ladies have joined in and some most enjoyable mixed games have resulted, the ladies' lack of practice being counteracted by various handicaps on the men. The ladies have also been caught playing basket ball.

Football.—It is difficult to find opponents in D.I.Khan, and most of the games have been between two teams of B.O.R.s. The final trial for the team to represent the unit in Rawalpindi was the best game witnessed during the season, all twenty-two players being apparently equally deserving of being selected.

Tennis.—Various at homes have been held in the unit this season. In a recent match, with four couples per side, the Wireless Section and Workshops defeated the A and Q Branches by one game.

Cricket.—Some very pleasant Sunday matches with the City Gentlemen have been played. Dr. Datta's side is usually just a little too good for us, but that does not detract in any way from the enjoyment.

Waziristan District Tournament.—The tournament was held in Bannu in January. Teams for both British hockey and football were entered by us. We retained the hockey cup, but were knocked out of the football by the champions, the H.L.I.

Signals Week, Rawalpindi.—We entered for British football, British and Indian hockey and cross-country, and two tennis teams. We had no success with any event. If one has been practising on a desert, the change to a bog is rather distressing. The committee of Signals Week were badly let down by the weather, but they have our sympathy and admiration for the way the show was carried on. Sigmn Bell, our football centre half, was seriously hurt in the early stages of the semi-final and was unable to play after it. One of our hockey halves contracted malaria and so we lost his services.

Headquarters, British Ranks.

Results of Hockey Matches with Outside Clubs.

October 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. Police lost by 1—2 ; v. 5 M.T. Company drew at 3—3 ; v. Police lost by 0—4
November 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. Police drew at 2—2 ; v. Police won by 6—1 ; v. 5 M.T. Company won by 6—0 ; v. Police lost by 3—5 ; v. 5 M.T. Company won by 3—2
December 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. Police lost by 1—2 ; v. Police won by 3—2
January 1934—at Bannu—v. I.A.S.C. drew at 2—2 ; v. 4/15th Punjab drew at 2—2 ; v. 2/14th Punjab lost by 0—2 ; v. R.T.C. drew at 2—2 ; v. R.T.C. won by 4—1 ; v. H.L.I. won by 2—0. At D.I.Khan—v. 5 M.T. Company won by 2—0 ; v. Police won by 1—0 ; v. Police lost by 2—3
February 1934—at D.I.Khan—v. 5 M.T. Company won by 2—1 ; v. D.H.Q. won by 2—1 ; v. Police lost by 0—4
March 1934—in Pindi—v. 1st Divl Signals won by 1—0 ; v. Peshdist Signals lost by 0—1

Football Results.

October 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. D.I.Khan Gaol drew at 2—2 ; v. Goldminster Club won by 3—0
November 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. R.T.C. won by 1—0 ; v. City Gentlemen won by 6—0
December 1933—at D.I.Khan—v. City Gentlemen won by 15—1
January 1934—at Bannu—v. City Gentlemen won by 2—1 ; v. 2/5th G.R. won by 3—2 ; v. 2/3rd R.G.R. drew at 2—2 ; v. H.L.I. lost by 1—4. At D.I.Khan—v. H.L.I. Band won by 10—3
February 1934—at D.I.K.—v. City Gentlemen won by 8—1
March 1934—at Rawalpindi—v. 1st Divl Signals lost by 0—2

Cricket Results.

February 1934—at D.I.Khan—
Officers and n.c.o.s 59 and 97 for five (Corpl Barron 47) ; City Gentlemen 82 and 72 for three, declared (Lieut. Cussens, five for 35). Won by two runs in the last over.
W.D. Signals 90 (L/Corpl Whittle 30, Lieut. Cussens 21) and 106 (Corpl Watts 27) ; City Gentlemen 130 and 107 for two, declared. Lost by 41 runs.
W.D. Signals 90 (Sigmn Oates 46) ; City Gentlemen 113 (Lieut. Cussens, seven for 18). Lost by 23 runs.

Bannu Signal Section.

Hockey.—Three games were played recently, and the results were: v. I.A.S.C. Headquarters, drew at 1—1, won by 7—0, and drew at 2—2. In the first game we fielded a combined British and Indian side, but the players did not work well together. For the other two games we had the help of one n.c.o. of Brigade Headquarters. In the last game the I.A.S.C. put out a very strong side and we were lucky to draw with them.

We shall soon be losing the help of Sigmn Thompson, who has been posted to H.Q. Section. Our loss will be their gain.

The I.A.S.C. are having another crack at us next week. Lectures on hockey have been given by some of our leading players, and these have been greatly appreciated by the beginners. Criticism has been free, especially from the non-players.

Swimming.—In a match v. No. 9 Armoured Car Company (R.T.C.) each side scored nine points.

Football.—We have been unable to field a team owing to some B.O.R.s being away on courses.

Fishing.—Record catch: Sergt Bigg, 3¼ ounces. But that is nothing compared with that which got away from one of our other fishermen.

Wana Signal Section.

Football.—In the recent contest for the Walmac trophy only one match was played, which resulted in a win for the Signals by one goal to nil, Sigmn Johns H. contributing. Our opponents struggled hard to equalise and more than once caused us some anxiety, but the combined work of Campion, Martin and Carter kept them at bay. It was easily the most interesting match played in Wana for some considerable time.

In the Brigade football cup, the competition for which has just commenced, we succeeded in defeating the Sappers and Miners in the first round by 8—1 (Johns 5, L/Corpl Oliver, MacGratton, Healy). Further notes on the Brigade cup will be given next month.

Hockey—This has been more or less at a standstill owing to the interest centred around football. No doubt, when the cup tie fever has faded away, the sticks will come into action once more.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

With the close of the football season and the regretted departure of the Fleets, we take this opportunity of thanking our many friends in the Navy (particularly to H.M.S.s *Searcher, Windsor, Westminster, Watchman, Velox, Vortigern* and *Achates*) for the many pleasant games and evenings we enjoyed with them. Exercises and bad weather, combined, curtailed our month's fixtures a lot, and the only matches played were:—

v. H.M.S. *Achates*, lost by 1—3
v. M.C. *Antioquoia* (Colombian Destroyer) won by 5—1
v. H.M.S. *Watchman*, drew at 1—1
v. H.M.S. *Ardent*, drew at 3—3
v. No. 28 Company R.A.M.C. drew at 3—3

The result of our season's play is shown below, and if not exactly brilliant enough to take us to the head of the table, it is one of which we are very proud, as without exception every one of our games was against opponents whose numerical strength was much greater than our own. Incidentally, our best games were as a rule against the recognised "strong" teams of the Garrison.

Played 45, won 14, lost 20, drawn 11. Goals—for 96, against 106.

Games played by members of the team—Signalman Morris 44, Corpl Hayden, L/Corpl Cook and Sigmn Pendlebury 40, Sigmn Burt 39, L/Corpl Sumner 36, Sigmn Carr 34, Signalmen Taylor and Pope 33, Sigmn Fuller 24, Sigmn Blake 23, Sigmn Goodanew A. 22, Sigmn Harvey R. 21, Sigmn Palmer 11, Sigmn Tavender 8, Signalmen Bull and O'Neill 4, Sigmn Cole 3, Sigmn Rawlinson 1.

The following is the record of goal scoring:—Sigmn Pendlebury 27, Sigmn Taylor 20, Sigmn Fuller 17, Sigmn Carr 8, Sigmn Pope 6, Sigmn Harvey 5, Sigmn Waller 4, L/Corpl Sumner 3, Signalmen Palmer and Cole 2, Corporal Hayden and Signalman Tavender 1.

We have played two games tournaments during the month, the results being as shown.

v. H.M.S. *Achates*—Billiards, Royal Signals 4 games, H.M.S. *Achates* 1. Darts, Royal Signals 3 games, H.M.S. *Achates* 5.
v. H.M.S. *Watchman*—Owing to night exercises, this tournament was confined to billiards only, and to our surprise we were no match for our opponents, as the scores show. Royal Signals: Sigmn Carr 115, Sigmn Blake 125, Sigmn Harvey 65, Sigmn Waller 78; Q.M.S. Harris 71—Total 454. H.M.S. *Watchman*: P.O. Martin 125, P.O. Davidson 75, (?) Lee 125, P.O. Lewis 125, (?) —— 125—Total 575.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

Boxing.—Results of matches v. Devon and Cornwall Heavy Brigade (Signals representatives given first in each case).

Tuesday 20th March.

Bantam—Wright was knocked out by Gilbert in the second round.
Feather—Williams lost to Leary on points.
Welter—Dawe lost to Mitchell on points.
Light—Patterson lost to Prinn by a knock-out in the second round. Ferrand beat Scallan on points.
Middle—Smith lost to Hawkins by a knock-out in the second round.
Exhibition—Phillips v. 2/Lieut. Wiltshire.

Tuesday 10th April.

Bantam—Darch beat O'Leary by a knock-out in the third round.
Feather—Prout lost to Scallan by a knock-out in the second round
Welter—Ferrand lost to Mitchell by a knock-out in the third round.
Light—Smith lost to Harris on points.
Catch-weight—Williams lost to Jinks on points.
Exhibition—Fry v. Wright.

Football.—The Company team played a game with our old rivals the 4/5th D.C.L.I. on the Brickfields, and the result was a draw at 1—1.

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THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY AND EDITOR:
Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1,
to whom all Correspondence and Notes for THE WIRE should be submitted.
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VOL. XV.—No. 172 JUNE, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

It will be of great interest to our readers to know that a suitable memorial to the late Lieutenant John Agar is being arranged by the officers of the Corps.

There is scarcely any need to recapitulate the details of Lieut. Agar's gallant action when he gave his life, last August, in rescuing men under his command from drowning.

Lieutenant Agar's parents were honoured by a letter from His Majesty the King, and the Royal Humane Society and the Carnegie Hero Trust Fund registered their special appreciation of his action.

An officer of outstanding merit, his tragic death was a great loss to the Corps, and it is fitting that his heroic exploit should be suitably commemorated.

The Corps Committee recently met to discuss the matter, and after examining various proposals it was agreed that the most suitable memorial would be a prize at the Royal Military Academy, to be known as "THE AGAR MEMORIAL PRIZE."

The prize will consist of a sum of money to be presented each Term to the best qualified Cadet entering the Royal Corps of Signals, and will thus be similar to other prizes already established for the Royal Artillery and the Royal Engineers. It will be accompanied by a simple written account of the act which it commemorates.

❀ ❀ ❀

The Antarctic Expedition, 1934.—An important Antarctic Expedition is being organised under the leadership of Mr. J. R. Rymill (a member of the Watkins Arctic Air Route Expedition). This is scheduled to leave England for Graham Land in the autumn of this year and to return in the spring of 1937.

There will be several Naval officers accompanying the Expedition, and among the Army representatives is Lieutenant I. F. Meiklejohn, Royal Signals, who will be in charge of the wireless communications.

His Majesty the King is being kept informed of the arrangements, and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be the Patron of the Expedition.

❀ ❀ ❀

It is notified for the information of all concerned that, with effect from the 1st June 1934, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., will take over from Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O., the duties of Administrator of the Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Will Branch Hon. Secretaries and Unit Representatives please note this change? ❀ ❀ ❀

We are indebted to Mr. Peter Berry, late of Rhine Army Signals, for an article entitled "Salome" which is published on page 226 of this issue.

❀ ❀ ❀

Exchanges.—Subaltern lately returned to Home Establishment is prepared to apply for exchange with another officer detailed for foreign service during 1934 trooping season. Replies to "Subaltern," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Captain, due for foreign service in the coming trooping season or early 1935/36, would like to exchange with Captain or Subaltern serving at home, low on the Foreign Service Roster, or with an officer abroad due for posting to Home Establishment. Bonus offered. Replies to "Captain Z." c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

❀ ❀ ❀

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Marjory Wicketts (wife of Sergeant W. H. Wicketts, Eastern Command Signal Company) at the Military Families Hospital, Chatham, on Sunday, 15th April 1934. ❀ ❀ ❀

Cruising.—What happy pictures are conjured up by that one word! All the pleasures which were hitherto reserved for the enjoyment of the rich and leisured classes—those who could afford to take holidays of two or three months—have been brought within the reach of everyone by the new policy of the great Shipping Companies.

What can be more enjoyable than to set sail for, say, the Mediterranean and its scenes of colour and music? To see the world in which we live, and mix with the native peoples, watch their customs and observe their traditions, while all the time the giant liner (your floating home) is nearby, waiting to receive you and enfold you in its comfortable arms when you return happy and weary at the day's end—what better way of spending a holiday can you imagine?

Remember, too, that there are no long and tiring train journeys, no passport difficulties, nothing to bother you at all. You just step aboard your ship and you are at home. Indeed, the days at sea are considered by most people to be the best of all. The variety of amusement is so great. Whatever your idea of a holiday—whether it is to be violently energetic or to have a complete rest—you will be satisfied. For the strenuous there are deck games requiring strength and skill, swimming galas, athletic contests of every conceivable kind, dancing and competitions ; while for the less actively inclined, what can be more enjoyable than to lie on deck and bask in the sun, or browse among the varied selection of books in the ship's library? The peaceful ease of life aboard ship cannot be experienced anywhere else. As the ship casts off from the shore, every passenger aboard feels his or her cares and troubles disappear, too, and the joyous freedom of life at sea begins to assert itself.

The White Star Line has once more arranged for their great liners "Homeric" (35,000 tons) and "Doric" (16,500 tons) to make a number of short cruises during the summer. Details will be found on one of the advertisement leaves in this issue.

❀ ❀ ❀

We would again remind our readers that an Old Comrades Reunion is being organised for the North of England and will be held at Scarborough, Yorks, on the 9th and 10th of June by kind permission of the Officer Commanding 5th Divisional Signals, Burniston Barracks, Scarborough.

The organisers hope that as many Old Comrades as possible will attend this function, as it is hoped to inaugurate a new Branch of the Signals Association for active work in that area.

Accommodation can be arranged in barracks for those who make *early* application, but as this is limited it cannot be guaranteed to those who do not send in notification immediately.

In order that our Scarborough friends may have some idea of the number they may be called upon to cater for, will those who contemplate being in attendance kindly send a postcard *at once* to the Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, 5th Divisional Signals, Burniston Barracks, Scarborough, stating whether they intend (1) being present on both days or (2) attending the Church Parade on the 10th June only. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

We have frequently called the attention of our readers—and paricularly those who are contemplating discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve—to the obvious advantages gained by a course of training at one of the Vocational Training Centres.

The following letter from an ex-L/Corporal of Royal Signals is typical of many received, and needs no further comment.

"Leeds, 13/5/34.

"Dear Sir.—I beg to thank you for your attention and consideration on my behalf on returning to civil life.

"I am pleased to say I was fortunate in obtaining this employment so soon after leaving the Service, as there are a lot of unemployed at present in Leeds. I am employed by a Painter and Decorator at Dewsbury; my pay is 1/2 an hour for 48 hours a week ; and it is the same kind of work as I had whilst on my vocational course. We are painting, paper-hanging, etc., on some private houses on the outskirts of Leeds, and there seems to be plenty of work to get on with.

"I like the boss, and I am given to understand that he is satisfied with my work—thanks to Mr. Rowe. I would be very pleased if you will convey to him my kindest regards, and thank him for all he taught me during my six months at the Centre.

"Yours faithfully, —— ex-L/Corpl. R.Signals."

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	Houseman
2	Ex-N.C.O., London	Messenger
3	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Collector
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
7	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Biscuit Hand
8	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Mental Attendant
9	Ex-N.C.O., London	Clerk
10	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Cook
11	Ex-Signalman, Hove	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Staffs	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Houseman
15	Ex-Signalman, Edinburgh	Insurance Agent
16	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Agent
17	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Electric Welder
20	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Electric Welder
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
22	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	Gardener
23	Ex-N.C.O. Kent	Cook
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephone Cleaner
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
26	Ex-N.C.O. London	Cleaner
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
28	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer

Benevolent Fund Notes.

It is notified for the information of all concerned that, with effect from the 1st June 1934, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., will take over from Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O., the duties of Administrator of the Signals Association Benevolent Fund. Will Branch Hon. Secretaries and Unit Representatives please note this change?

The Administrator gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Officers Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
Lieutenant J. H. A. Hallett, M.M. (Supplementary Reserve).

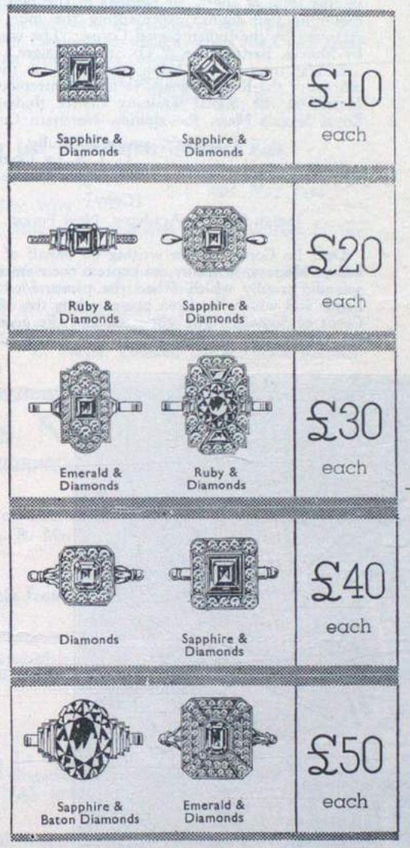
GIFTS OF CLOTHING from:—

Lieut.-Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C.
Colonel G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C.
Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Dublin.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
2	Ex-Signalman, Surrey.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
3	Ex-Signalman, Darlington.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
4	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth.	Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
5	Ex-Signalman, Stafford.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
6	Ex-Signalman, Essex.	Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
7	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
8	Ex-Signalman, Essex.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant.
9	Ex-Signalman, Southampton.	Temporary difficulties. £4 grant
10	Ex-Signalman, London.	Financial difficulties. £4 grant
11	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £5 grant
12	Ex-Signalman, Hastings.	Temporary difficulties. £2/5/0 grant
13	Ex-Signalman, Ireland.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
14	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £4 grant
15	Ex-Signalman, Kent.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
16	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury.	Domestic difficulties. £5 loan
17	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham.	Temporary difficulties. £1 grant
18	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury.	Temporary difficulties. £2/12/10 grant
19	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle.	Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
20	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury.	Temporary difficulties. £3 loan

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



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Correspondence.

A Sports Trophy for Indian Cadets.

ARMY HEADQUARTERS, INDIA.
General Staff Branch, Simla, 24th April.

The Editor, "The Wire."

Sir.—I send herewith a photograph of the trophy presented by the officers of the Royal Corps of Signals to the cadets of the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, together with a letter which I have received from the Commandant of the Academy. I hope that you will be able to publish these in THE WIRE.

The Indian Military Academy has been inaugurated in recent years to train cadets for commissions in the Indian Army and to be the Indian counterpart of the R.M.A. and the R.M.C. The Indian Signal Corps expects its first cadets therefrom this year.

The idea of this presentation originated with Brigadier H. Clementi Smith. Its fulfilment was helped by co-operation on the part of the Corps at home, whom I wish to take this opportunity of thanking heartily on behalf of the Corps in India.

The letter from Brigadier Collins, Commandant of the Indian Military Academy, is adequate indication of the appreciation with which the presentation has been received.

It is intended to make the trophy a perpetual one for inter-team boxing, in compliment to the many successes of the Royal Signals in this form of sport. It consists of the figure of Mercury surmounting four figures representing the four classes of Indians recruited by the Indian Signal Corps. The work was carried out by Messrs. Barton, Son & Co., of Bangalore.

Similar trophies are being purchased, as the property of the officers of the Royal Signals, to form centrepieces for the Officers Messes at the Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore, and Royal Signals Mess, Rawalpindi, Northern Command.

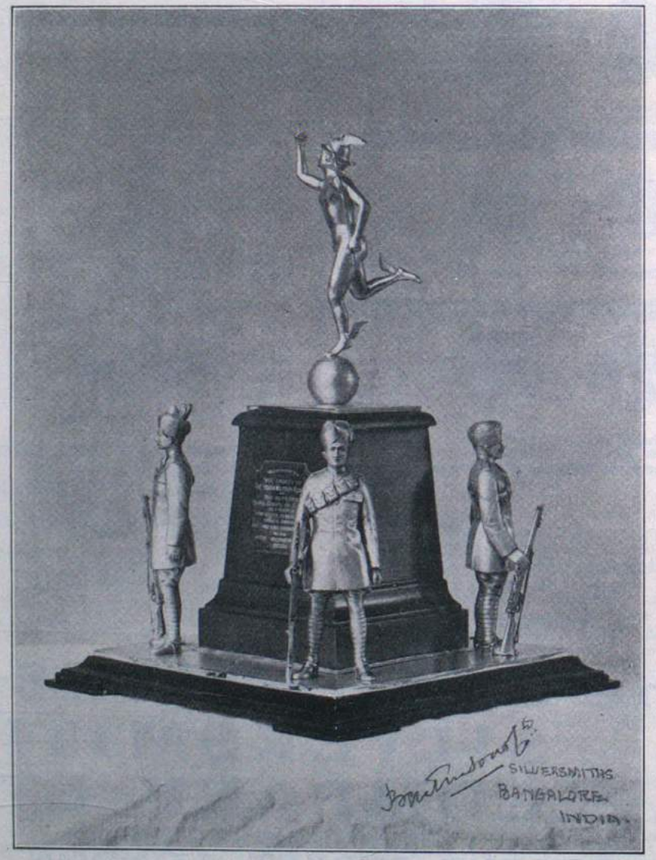
I am, sir, yours faithfully,
C. J. S. LE CORNU, Brigadier,
Signal Officer-in-Chief in India.

[*Copy*]

Indian Military Academy, New Forest, Dehra Dun, U.P.
12th April.

Dear Le Cornu.—I am writing on behalf of the cadets of the Indian Military Academy, to express their sincere thanks for the splendid trophy which I had the pleasure of receiving at your hands and which has been presented by the officers of the Royal Corps of Signals. The gift itself and the goodwill prompting it are very deeply appreciated, as also is the admirable and most appropriate inscription on the trophy, which expresses, if I may say so, the spirit animating the Indian Army: a spirit which the staff of the Academy have endeavoured to inculcate from the beginning, which we believe is in existence, and which we feel sure the cadets will continue to uphold when they take their places in the Indian Army as its officers.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) L. P. COLLINS.



The Trophy presented to the Cadets of the Indian Military Academy by the Officers of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
15th May 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the June 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 25/5/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieut. P. R. Hyde from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. (Q.M.) A. R. Manley to Catterick (S.T.C.) on appointment.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 20/4/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain and Brevet-Major F. H. Dallison, M.C., from Regular Reserve of Officers, R.Signals, to be Major, 21/3/34.

War Office 24/4/34

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., is granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst employed as Signal Officer-in-Chief, Army H.Q. India, 17/2/34.

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Captain L. A. E. Tozer, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Instructor (Cl. CC), School of Signals, 30/3/34.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W.) Divl Signals—H. W. Fenwick to be 2/Lieut. 25/4/34

War Office 27/4/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—T. S. K. Andrew to be 2/Lieut. 28/4/34.
D. P. Greenwood to be 2/Lieut. 28/4/34.

47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals—Captain W. L. Gartland (Lieut. Reserve of Officers) resigns his commission in the T.A. 28/4/34.

Air Defence Brigade Signals—2/Lieut. G. R. Anthony is removed from the T.A. on conviction by the Civil Power, 7/2/34.

War Office 1/5/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Captain V. J. E. Westropp, R.Signals, to be G.S.O. 3rd Grade, War Office, 24/4/34.

Captain G. St. J. Martin, R.Signals, from G.S.O. 3rd Grade, War Office, to be Staff Captain, 1st Division, 24/4/34.

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., from 51st (H.) Divisional Signals, is appointed D/C.S.O. for T.A. duties, Scottish Command, 24/4/34.

51st (H.) Divl Signals—Major E. B. Reid to be Lieut.-Colonel, 24/4/34.

War Office 4/5/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Captain W. U. Tyrrell, R.Signals, to be Staff Captain, Eastern Command, 28/4/34.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W.) Divl Signals—R. W. Day to be 2/Lieut. 5/5/34.

War Office 8/5/34

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel (temporary Brigadier) H. C. Smith, D.S.O. (now retired) retains the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst employed as Signal Officer-in-Chief, Army H.Q. India, from 20/1/34 to 16/2/34.

War Office 11/5/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. J. H. Cunningham to be Captain, 17/2/34.

War Office 15/5/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W.) Divl Signals—Captain W. J. L. Cornelius to be Major, 10/4/34.

47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals—Captain T. S. A. Campbell resigns his commission and retains his rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform, 15/5/34.

- Plain Tales -

Crazy Cameos.—No. 1. Founded on fact.

"Squad! At-ten-shun! Move to the right in fours—form fours. Hey, you! what's wrong with you, man—can't you form fours?"

"No, sergeant."

"Starve the crows! You mean to say you don't know how to form fours? How long have you been here?"

"A week, sergeant."

"Did you pass off the square before you came?"

"Yes, sergeant, but I was a permanent blank file in my squad."

No. 2. Just hearsay. A large gaily dressed crowd thronged the railings behind the saluting base. It was a brilliant morning, and a great occasion: the New Year's Day Proclamation Parade in a certain station in India. You can imagine it, of course. The troops were marching past in line and made a brave show. Whispers were heard running through the crowd: "This next lot are the Signals—aren't they smart?" Just as the leading Company came up to the saluting base something went wrong, but the crowd did not appreciate the tragedy of it. One dusky gentleman turned to his wife and remarked: "Look sharply, woman. Isn't that clever? 'S' for Signals."

• • • •

Sporting and Dramatic.—The officers of the 3rd Divisional Signals were beaten on the miniature range by their senior n.c.o.s. No doubt, with a little practice they may put up a better show later on. At the moment the sergeants need no more experts, but I may run up myself one of these days.

In fairness it must be recorded that the officers have at least one really good marksman, and he admits it. The question now arises, shall I apply to be posted or shut myself in the office?

Tom Sayers and his Crazy Crochets continue their successes. Come up and hear us some time (advt.). Why not have N.A.A.F.I. dances run by the N.A.A.F.I. in their own Institute? What an opportunity! Read my powerful article when I write it one day: "What's wrong with the N.A.A.F.I.?" In seven volumes. Freeman Hardy & Willis. 25/- net.

• • • •

Auto-Suggestion Corner.—The range officer, on being informed that the day's shooting had been carried out with no 'itches, at once commenced to scratch himself.

• • • •

Livestock.—Anyone having information that will lead to the running to earth of Uncle Alfred is requested, etc., etc.

• • • •

Oriental Note.—The Indian rope trick has crept into the papers again. A special enquiry has even been held, and it has been decided that there is no such thing as the Indian rope trick. After all the trouble I went to in India to investigate this, it is most disheartening to learn that there are still people who doubt my word. How many people know that on the Karachi-Jhansi air route, the rope trick was so common that the authorities had to request the performers to curtail their activities? The air was positively full of spare ropes and small boys that had been thrown up and forgotten. Perhaps the committee will tell the S.T.C. (I.) Jubbulpore that they never saw Professor Rama tear two motor cars in halves, or allow a pack of cards to run over his chest. Or something.

• • • •

On the Air—In the Royal Command variety performance broadcast from the Palladium the other evening (I never remember dates) Henry Hall's band reached the peak of its efforts in the first number. As a rule, this band is stodgy and rather overloaded with bass—I don't mean what you mean.

Billy Bennett was disappointing, and George Robey very ordinary. Christopher Stone, as usual, was painful to listen to. Apart from that, the show was excellent. The people concerned will be awfully glad to know that, won't they?

I do wish a certain Welsh C.S.M. in the 3rd Divl Signals Mess would leave the blinking switches and controls alone.

The Plugger Moves.—Ukann Larfe took a deep breath and swung gaily across the field. He felt full of beans and at peace with the world. Things were going well. He took a run at the stile barring his progress, caught his foot on the top rail, and would have crashed heavily into the main road had he not landed quite safely. He removed his boots and polished them with a silk handkerchief. As he straightened up to resume his walk, he observed a saloon car about three feet away. He whipped out a telescope and satisfied himself that the car was stationary. Near it stood a tall good-looking girl, crying bitterly.

"Hallo! hallo! hallo! and—er, hallo!" said Ukann with old-world courtesy.

"Whatcheer" said the vision in a little watery voice. "Do you know anything about cars?"

"Yes. But first let me warn you that anything you say may be taken down and written up for THE WIRE. Whatcher name?"

"Pansy."

"Anything else?"

"Yes. Buttercup."

Ukann Larfe took a long pull at his flask and felt better. "What's the trouble?"

"Car won't go. I've had all sorts of trouble, including a puncture, but I've mended that."

Ukann Larfe examined the ground thoroughly and put several dandelions into his pocket book. The girl watched him with deep interest. She almost spoke when he tapped the windscreen with a hammer. "Ha!" said the sleuth. "That's broken." He brushed the pieces of glass into an envelope and went to the back of the car. His face lighted up. He blew it out quickly. "Perhaps if you removed the jack from under the rear wheel, your car would move."

The girl blushed prettily. "Thank you, Mr. Larfe."

"Don't mention it, Mrs. Lacey. Goodbye."

Ukann Larfe sat on the grassy bank mopping his forehead, and addressed a large worm: "I wonder how she knew my name?"

"Did I see you talking to a lady, Uky?"

Our hero turned very white and slid to the bottom of the bank as Hermione Larfe approached. "Not exactly, dear. I was just—"

"Hold that, you weed!" Hermione flung the turf with remarkable accuracy and then, woman-like, helped to remove it from her husband's face. "Listen, Uky. Inspector Faceache has definite evidence that the Plugger——"

"Gosh! What's that?" cried Ukann. An aeroplane swooped down and fired a burst of machine gun with the ease born of much practice.

"That was pretty near," said Hermione, gazing at the rapidly spreading bloodstains on her husband's clothes.

"Was that the Plugger, dear?" asked Ukann weakly.

"It was, darling."

"Well, blast him! These are new flannels."

Read next month how Ukann chased the aeroplane with bicycle and balloon and never caught the Plugger. More tripe to the square inch than any other author. Film rights reserved.

BARLEUX.

Salome.

From "The European C.S.A. Journal."

"What's the matter, old lady?" said "Malindi" Martin, laying down the book he was reading and stroking the head of the fine grown leopard lying beside his chair. At the sound of his voice, the animal raised its beautiful head and purred softly.

The light from the reading lamp reflected in its eyes and turned them into pools of living jade. Its ears quested sounds inaudible to the man, and something vague in the night caused it to rise silently and pace to the verandah door, to stand gazing into the blackness of the night.

From a distance came a low mutter of thunder and the lightning flickered and stabbed, revealing an army of storm-clouds rapidly blotting out the stars. A cold wind rustled the trees with a sudden gust, causing the dead leaves, swept from the branches, to patter against the verandah window panes.

"The storm is making her uneasy," reflected Martin. He shivered as the chill of the wind swept along the house and heavy drops of rain beat on the corrugated iron roof, the forerunners of the tempest soon to break. Rising, he turned the lamp dim and went towards the bedroom, calling as he did so: "Bill, Salome, come along, bed time!"

Bill, a full grown terrier, ran along in front and, entering the room, sprang on to a chair by the side of the bed—his usual place—and curled up. Salome, silent as a shadow, padded softly in and took up her place on a mat near to the foot. Brought up together from puppy and cub stage they were now inseparable friends, and Martin often marvelled at the way they got on together and the affection they displayed so openly to himself. He was pleased that he had not destroyed the leopard when he had pulled it away from its dead parent, and he did not relish the idea of having to part with it in the future, as he dimly realised he would have to.

Outside, the rain drummed and swished. The wind tore at loose shutters and bent the quivering trees. Inside, the bedroom was a warm refuge, and, lulled by the storm notes, the inmates slept—except one, which gazed with jewelled eyes at the fitfully lighted window or silently paced to the door and listened to little sounds that even the raging winds could not drown.

Some three days later, as Martin returned to the house from a safari, his *shamba boy Omolo awaited him with a tale of woe. "Bwana, three of your fowls are dead and two are missing. I think †chui 'S'lom' did it."

"Did you see?"

Omolo made a negative sound.

"You must watch more carefully, Omolo. Perhaps the mongoose killed them. Salome never touched them before. Set a trap for the mongoose."

The native went away, shaking his head and muttering to himself. He was general factotum around the house and the garden, and his job was to feed the fowls and the animals. The fowls that Martin kept were Rhode Island Reds he had paid well for, so he did not regard their loss lightly. Compared with the scraggy long-legged native breed they were plump and big, and Omolo cherished them. Omolo watched and set traps, but it was with tears in his eyes that he showed to his master a mass of bloody feathers which on the previous evening had been the remainder of the birds.

"The chui, bwana; the chui. I know. Not the mongoose—the mongoose too little to climb over wire."

Martin was worried. It never occurred to him that Salome had done the killing. The fowls had always pecked around her fearlessly, and since her cub days she had never appeared to notice them. It must have been the mongoose. They were noted for their fowl-killing forays. He comforted the boy and went into the house.

The leopard was lying in the sunny corner of the verandah, and as he came up the steps she arose and ran to meet him, rubbing against his legs like a big house-cat. As he stroked the short silky ears she looked up at him, the very picture of innocence. He closely examined the fur around the mouth but could not see the smallest sign of a blood stain. It was not for food she would kill fowls, as she was well fed at regular times. He decided it was the other little marauder, or perhaps a jackal.

Martin was sitting on the verandah of the Roberts' bungalow after dinner one evening, smoking and talking desultorily. The night was close, sultry and still. "When are you going to get rid of Salome?" asked Mrs. Roberts from where she sat sewing under a shaded lamp.

"And why should I get rid of her, dear lady?"

"I think it is time. It makes me feel all creepy at times to see her following you about so silently. She will be breaking out some day, no matter how fond of you she may be. What do you think, Squidge?"

"Give her to some Zoo," her husband replied. "Funny animals, leopards; like women, have moods."

"I know Salome and her moods," laughed Martin.

"Hope for your sake she does not show her affection like her namesake did," Roberts jested.

"There is no fear of that. Besides, thieves give my house a wide berth, knowing she is about. She sleeps by my bed."

"Fancy sleeping in a room with a leopard!" Mrs. Roberts gave a little shudder. "Why, I should have nightmares imagining that it was only waiting. . . Good heavens! what is that?"

Shrill through the still air came a shriek of mortal terror. It ceased abruptly. Then came the noise of a dog barking furiously, to be followed by sounds of combat. Cries of agony pealed out crescendo through the night, then died away into silence.

Martin had sprung to his feet. He recognised the notes of Bill in those last cadences. "If you will excuse me"—he turned to his hostess—"I will run over and see what the row is about. It seemed to come from my quarters." He picked up the hurricane lamp he had brought with him, turned up the wick, and passed out into the night. Making his way quickly along the quiet road, he came at length to his bungalow. All was quiet and still: the light of the verandah lamp burned dimly.

As he passed the boys' quarters, a door opened slowly and Omolo peered out. "Chui, bwana. ‡Baya sana." He did not attempt to come out, but stood watching and listening fearfully.

Martin ran towards the steps, calling "Bill! Bill!" Bill ought to have been with him by now on hearing his footsteps, voicing his joy. The silence made him fearful. The verandah door was partly open, he noticed, as he entered. As he turned up the lamp, a tragic scene met his gaze. Lying in a welter of blood, torn, stretched in death, lay his terrier. Bill had evidently made a gallant fight against hopeless odds, as the wreckage on the verandah showed, before he gave up the ghost. The lips were curled back from a blood-stained mouth in a savage snarl.

As Martin stood and stared at his little friend, his eyes moistened and a choking filled his throat. He grieved. Then his thoughts turned to the slayer, and all at once a murderous rage shook him. That beast! He was a fool not to have realised before that she was a treacherous brute. The fowls, then trusting Bill. To rend and slay a playmate! By God! he would teach her a lesson before he put a bullet through her black heart.

He snatched down from the wall a heavy long switch of hippo hide, and with furious eyes gazed around.

"Salome! Salome, you swine! where are you?" he called hoarsely. A noise from the darkest corner of the verandah and glowing eyes watching his every movement told him. Without hesitation he rushed forward and swung the whip. Down it beat

* Shamba = garden. † Chui = leopard. ‡ Baya sana = very bad.

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unmercifully on the body of the snarling beast. The animal flashed out from the corner, knocking over the lamp-stand. Only the hurricane lamp remained to show up the room dimly. He followed, slashing unmercifully. Fear of the animal he had none; only a lust to strike and maim and kill. Around the room, backwards, forwards, the beast swirled, trying to escape the avenging whip that beat on its body like a flail. Cornered, it sprang at him; but he slipped behind a heavy chair, and as it sprawled he hit it in the face with the heavy handle. The very picture of fiendish hate, it snarled foam-flecked lips from white gleaming fangs. Its eyes were blazing. It sprang away, and he followed, beating, beating. The bloodstains appeared where the whip struck. As they swung down the room the door swayed open gently in the wind, and the leopard saw it. With a lightning swerve it sprang for the opening, knocking the man reeling sideways; a steel-meshed paw tore his arm in passing, and the beast vanished into the night.

Dazedly Martin recovered, his breath coming in deep gasps. Dropping the whip, he wiped the sweat from his eyes with his sleeve. The sight of his bloodstained hand cooled his rage, and he sought for a handkerchief to wipe it. He could not find it, so he turned slowly and went towards his bedroom to bathe and bind the wound.

The lamp was turned low in the room, and as he opened the door he stood in the doorway staring, staring, whilst icy thrills lifted the roots of his hair. There, rising from the bedside mat—her usual place—Salome the leopard, yawning, languorous, beautiful, skin smooth and satiny in the lamplight, paced to meet him.

Then the other——?

PETER BERRY.

The Corps Golf Meeting.

In accordance with notices which have appeared in earlier issues of THE WIRE, the Corps Golf Meeting was held at Brancepath Castle, County Durham, on the 17th and 18th April.

The first day's play was for the Royal Signals championship, and was open to all Regular serving officers of the Corps for a challenge cup presented many years ago by Lieut. Cochrane, R.A. Captain J. E. S. Walford, M.B.E., who had come from Woolwich (where he is now a Company officer at the R.M.A.) was the winner. His morning round was 84 and his afternoon 78. The weather was fine, but there was a high wind blowing and his afternoon round was a very fine performance. Captain M. Duke, from Catterick, was second with a score of 7 strokes more.

A 2/- sweepstake on handicap was held on both rounds. 2/Lieut. M. A. Charlton (handicap 17) from 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, won it in the morning with a score of 78. Captain G. C. Winckley, M.C. (handicap 17) from Scarborough was second with a score of 79. In the afternoon, Captain Walford and Lieut. T. H. Winterborn were equal with a score of 75.

Next day the weather was again fine and the wind was not so strong. The competitions that day were open to Territorial officers, and everyone was very pleased to see Lieut.-Colonel G. H. Walton and four of his officers from the 50th Divl Signals, T.A.

The morning round was a handicap competition for a challenge cup presented by the Officers' Games Club. Lieutenant T. H. Winterborn improved on his round of the previous afternoon and won the handicap and sweepstake with the very good score of 70. 2/Lieut. A. V. Benton (handicap 18) was a good second with 71. Lieut. C. Fairweather of the 50th Divl Signals, T.A. (handicap 15) was third with a steady 74.

After lunch a final round was played for a challenge cup presented by Major-General F. V. Turner, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. This competition was foursomes under handicap against bogey. The winners, who both came from Catterick, were 2/Lieut. A. V. Benton (17) and 2/Lieut. G. O. T. Harris (18), one up. There was a tie for second place, as Captain Winckley and Lieut. A. J. G. McNair were one down, as also were Major G. Tayleur and Captain Duke.

A few ladies had motored over to Brancepath during the afternoon, and when all the competitions had finished Mrs. F. A. Heymann kindly gave away the prizes. So ended a very pleasant meeting.

There were twenty-six competitors, but next year, when the Meeting is better known, it is hoped there will be a still larger entry.

Golden Retriever Puppies for Sale.

Dog Puppies by Champion "Haulstone Marker" out of "Wilderness Saffron." Beautiful, strong and healthy, with dual Field Trial and Show Champion pedigrees. Born on 29th March 1934.



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Much Ado About Nothing.

Q? Perhaps you will say I should have put this at the end of this epistle; but if you do, I would humbly draw your attention to the heading, which counteracts any "query" on the point.

No matter what you will say or what you will think, it is a well known fact that "Q" occupies a very exalted position in our lives.

Of course, to the ordinary layman it may stand for "Queer" or "Quad"; and on visiting a couple of holiday resorts in England, I may say I've met some of the Queerest in Quad (that's by the way, of course).

To the labourer, who may be a layman or a leader (it really doesn't much matter) it may be "Quid." Not the quid we used to handle before the war, but just "Quid." As quite a number of you cannot understand what that means, you may if you like "chew the cud" about it.

To the lad who doesn't hoist the mainsail and perhaps has never seen one, although he probably salutes abaft the mainmast, visions of the exploits of Captain Campbell, V.C., crop up. Yet his knowledge may not be as up to date as ours, whose idea of a "Q" boat is the Bay of Biscay and swobbers at 4.30 a.m. (shades of the Shires, spare us).

To some of the old 'uns who serve in this country when it's 120 below zero (?) it only means "Quench with a Quart," or better still "Quaff a Quantum"—it goes down just the same.

And now I've reached the point where I can discuss what "Q" actually is.

He is the only chappie in our alphabet that "U" will always have to follow. That's why he stands aloof from ordinary mankind.

His qualifications are many. He is a walking encyclopædia in all matters pertaining to the quadruped and biped, and he knows the pedigree of everything alive or dead. At one glance he can tell you whether the "iron" has entered the soul of a farrier, or whether a wireless op has become a "fan."

He has the art of philanthropy at his finger tips. The way he gives away articles of personal attire and the wherewithal to keep body and soul together would make any Aberdonian scream with envy.

He is also an amanuensis. Not only can he write the name of the (St.) ledger for next year, but he'll tell you exactly what's written about thirty other odd ledgers that are run by his department.

His skin is as tough as that of the rhinoceros, and he is known for the hardness of his "neck." Otherwise, how could he withstand the thrusts, pleadings and the sublime "choke-offs" that are presented to him by the inhabitants of a wicked world?

And yet, under this exterior of concrete, he possesses a heart of gold—a heart full of the milk of human kindness, as can be verified by all the unwary. How often has one heard the remark, "Bless old Q; he's a gentleman"?

Without "Q" we should be like children in the wilderness, sheep without a shepherd, a ship without a rudder; so say a prayer to-night for the man who has provided the "cosy" bed you sleep in. I'm sure, if he heard you, he would tuck you in and rock you to sleep—perhaps a long one at that.

You may wonder how I come to know so much about him.

In the palatial palace where I spend my waking hours, under electric fans to cool the sweated brow, reside three humans. On my right is "Q.1," on my left "Q.2," and in the centre is little me "Q.3"—the triple entente, the three in one, Unity—and their motto is "Fide, sed cui vide" (*Trust, but in whom take care*). Bung'o.

TIM.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Commissioned.

1861302	W.O.i. (S.C.) Manley A.	1/4/34	3

To be W.O.i. (R.S.M.)

2306274	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) Bevan R.	1/4/34	5
2306259	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) Dorrington A.	1/4/34	5

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2307579	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Spindler E.	1/4/34	6
2306444	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Tilford V.	1/4/34	6
2306354	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Noonan M.	1/4/34	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2306530	C.Q.M.S. Strange F.	1/4/34	14
1855177	C.Q.M.S. Thomas T.	1/4/34	14
2306322	C.Q.M.S. Terrell W.	1/4/34	14

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2306738	Sergeant Harrison B.	1/4/34	15
2309685	Sergeant Tracey J.	1/4/34	15
2308849	Sergeant Wattley H.	1/4/34	15
2306807	Sergeant Field C.	1/4/34	15
2308519	Sergeant Newman R.	1/4/34	15

To be Sergeant.

2313998	L/Sergeant Marchant M.	1/4/34	28
2314489	L/Sergeant Andrews F.	1/4/34	28

To be Corporal.

2313711	L/Corporal Eason A.	1/1/34	50
2314378	L/Corporal Harris P.	2/1/34	50

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2317012	Signalman Golding A.	1/1/34	
2319117	Signalman Barnett G.	2/1/34	
2316506	Signalman Fry H.	3/1/34	
2318424	Signalman Webster R.	3/1/34	
2320098	Signalman Jones H.	5/1/34	
2316175	Signalman Hawkins R.	6/1/34	
2318582	Signalman Gillott F.	11/1/34	
2319509	Signalman Field E.	18/1/34	
2319811	Signalman Allen C.	18/1/34	
2318966	Signalman Mitchell H.	20/1/34	
2315298	Signalman Wood R.	26/1/34	

To Army Reserve.

2319363	L/Corporal Shipman E.	18/5/34	62

Discharged.

2311231	Sergeant Dann A.	14/4/34	14
2306826	Sergeant Thompson P.	22/4/34	15
2313905	L/Sergeant Heath C.	22/4/34	27
1850295	Corporal McKee T.	7/4/34	33
*5172539	Corporal Pallett J.	10/4/34	78
2314737	Corporal Leslie H.	17/4/34	45
7810801	Corporal Byrne E.	23/4/34	37
2314718	L/Corporal Steel A.	5/4/34	

* *Special Roster (India).*

Combined Horse and Motor-Cycle Display.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

Once again the Display is starting off on a list of summer engagements. We have our Press "view" on Thursday 17th May and then embark for Belfast on the 29th.

The Display is being run on similar lines to that produced at Olympia last year. We have increased the double ride from twelve to twenty-four performers, and we have introduced a tandem drive in which horses are driven in front of motor-cycles. A few new stunts and comic turns alter the Display just sufficiently to make it "new" to those who saw it last year.



"Patch," the skewbald pony, has gone back to her owners, and we have replaced her with another one named "Ginger" (shown in photograph with her trainer, Driver Pearce) which can do all Patch's tricks and many more besides. She can jump through hoops and work a see-saw, and has several new tricks.

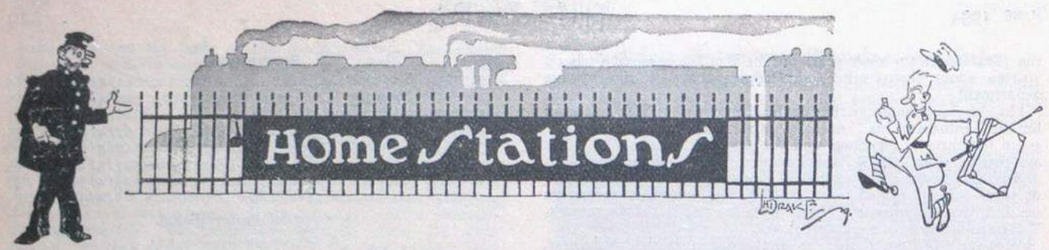
Performers, 1934.

Training Battalion—Captain H. R. Firth, Sergt Angell, Corporals Blight and Patching, L/Corpl Fry, Signalmen Major, Tyler, Tompkins, Dannan, Hawkins, Packman, Taylor, Hearne, Smith, Redhouse, Nix and Fleming.

Depot Battalion—Lieut. H. N. Crawford, Sergeants Bennett, Hill and Carnegie, L/Corpls Bull, Burgess and Glynn, Drivers Pearce, Houghton, Johnson, Button, Meikle, Lowe, Proudlock, Ratcliffe and Price.

Engagements during 1934.

May 30th—June 2nd	Belfast.
June 7th—9th	Scottish Command Pageant, Edinburgh
June 12th—14th	Three Counties Show, Leominster.
June 15th—16th	Leicester.
June 20th—22nd	Lincoln.
July 1st—14th	Northern Command Tattoo, Ravensworth Castle, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
July 21st	Huddersfield.
August 2nd	Dumfries.
August 6th	Durham (Sunderland).
August 9th	Bakewell.
August 22nd	S.T.C. Mounted Sports.
August 25th	S.T.C. Gymkhana.
September 19th	Altrincham.



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—I have managed to find a quiet corner to scribble a few notes and so keep Dismounted Wing before our public. With the whole of the S.T.C. in a turmoil, preparing for the annual inspection by our Commandant, that is not such an easy job as it sounds.

Our Wing stores staff are awaiting the inspection with bated breath. We were told that the Dismounted Wing stores were one of the show places of the S.T.C. last year, and judging by the glint in the Irish eyes of our quarter-bloke he is evidently determined to outdo himself. You should have heard what he said to one of our bold drill instructors who walked over a place that had just been painted!

We now have all the floors of our barrack rooms polished, but there is no truth in the rumour that recruits will hold dances thereon next season.

Personal.—Just at present one requires a lock and chain on anything that shows to advantage. I even caught someone trying to pinch my beautiful border of primroses round the garden to which I have devoted many hours in cultivation. We will mention no names, so he can blush unseen.

Promotions and Appointments.—We are sorry we cannot publish one or two every month. I know one or two people in this Wing who think they deserve to figure under this heading. Unfortunately, the powers that be seem to think differently: they usually do.

Education.—How about the recruit who told an educational instructor at the School that you *spelt* the " interest " on one's account quite differently from the " interest " you take in a hobby.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new O.C. Administration, Captain C. V. L. Lycett, and hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one. Also Corpl Clay from India, as an addition to our pay staff. May he give us many big pays and never run us into debt.

Departures.—Sigmn Smart to the Eastern Command Signal Company, London. The name of his station sounds good, and we hope he successfully survives his stay in the Smoke.

Agony.—To 411 at Quetta: How about a line to your brother-in-law? Can't you afford the postage? Pye.

To T. E. Smith, A Corps Signals: Thanks for answering my little reminder in last month's WIRE. Northampton.

Finale.—I think that is all for this month, so you can heave your sigh of relief in peace and comfort. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Change of Command.—Captain E. G. Sinnott took over command of the Company at the beginning of this month, vice Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E., who has taken over the duties of P.R.I. We welcome you, sir, and trust your stay with us will be long. We are sorry to lose Major Fuge, but have the satisfaction of knowing that he is not far away from us.

Annual Inspection.—The annual inspection by the Commandant commenced to-day with the Battalion parade and march past. According to reports received, it was a good show. The weather was rather cold, but this did not deter us from showing our paces. The inspection of kits takes place to-morrow, and to-night will see most of the men " dossing " on the floors of the barrack rooms. Will Corpl A. please give me back my soap as soon as possible?

Arrivals.—Sigmn Last from E Company on 28/4/34; also Sigmn Burnham on 1/5/34, for employment as sergeants mess cook. Corpl Joe Huggins from Hong Kong (with King Kong) on 30/3/34: another one for the guard roster.

Departures.—Signalmen Adams R., Banks J., Couzens S., Easdown, French A. and Forster G. to Air Defence Brigade Signals on 27/4/34. Signalmen Gregory R., Greaves W., Hill J., Spriggs, Jackson J. and Goodwin C. to A Corps on 27/4/34. Signalmen Aldridge, Brown and Marshall to 1st Divisional Signals on 28/4/34. Signalmen Potts, Robertson H. and Wallwork to Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals on 4/5/34. Signalmen Glover and Loughlin to A Corps on 4/5/34. L/Sergeant Finley (the Clothing King) to 1st Divl Signals on 12/5/34. We trust all will find their new units to their liking.

Births.—Pending.

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Maddison, McConnell and Wylde and Pte White on obtaining their first class certificates of education, and especially to Pte White, who obtained " distinguished " in three subjects—English, maths and map reading. Well done!

" Where Was Yer Brawt Oop?"—Heard in the Corporals Mess room. L/Corporal A: " These plates ain't very deep, Joe." Joe: " Blime! we'll get you half a dozen soup plates."

Transfer to the Army Reserve.—L/Corpl Shipman, having had enough of early morning frolics, decided to try civilian life, so he said goodbye to us on 4/5/34. The best of luck to him. We trust he will soon obtain suitable employment.

Sigmn Shreeve purchased his discharge and proceeded to his home address on 3/5/34. This is the second time.

Still Sprouting.—Uncle Walter's boils. E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

" Tobeginwith."—Outside the fact that E Company still remains in the same position on the camp, very scant is the information therefrom. However, there are a few matters of interest that have happened since the last issue of notes.

Captain R. C. Woodbridge resumed command of the Company on the 30th April, and Lieut. H. C. B. Rogers has now been posted to D Company. Lieut D. W. R. Burridge has been posted to this Company from India.

An item I forgot to mention last month is that the new school situated beside the Kemmel Lines bus stop is now completed and in use. I believe an article appeared last month in the local newspaper under the heading of " Brighter Schools for Soldiers," or words to that effect. The school has central heating, is large and airy, and has an electric clock on the spire and a " Jimmy " over the front door. The whole show is very encouraging, and we hope now to see the documents clerk getting fed up with entering " specials " on A.F.B. 271's (i.e. attestation forms).

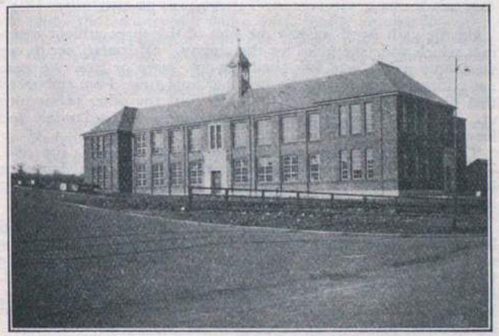
Corpl Saunders T. has procured a photo of the school which you'll find with these notes. Now I know what he was after on the N.A.A.F.I. roof, though at the time I was thinking about a young man's fancy and the spring, etc. Anyway, take a good look at the photo: the clock is registering correct Catterick mean time. Now that's clear, let's get on to the Company itself,

Arrivals.—During the past month, practically none. We welcome an additional mess orderly in Sigmn Mathews, posted from F Company. Apparently, from the way he is settling down, he means to be with us quite a while.

L/Corpl Smith R. surprised us with his arrival from Palestine. At present he is on a month's furlough, so you'll get our opinion of him later on. He is, I'm told, to assist in the good work of training men to do their stuff on keys and flag drills, etc.

Sigmn Waterton has imposed on the generosity of the n.c.o. in charge of the cookhouse to let him have a job in his " shop." He tells me there is no place like Catterick; it is better than Colchester, from whence he came. He also tells me that he finds the air so bracing around the cookhouse and that the vocal efforts of the spud peelers relieve him immensely.

Since the last issue we haven't had any squads from the Depot. Of course, we expect at least one, because without the incoming of a squad, well! the place doesn't seem to be normal. However, we are to have one before the next issue of notes, so if they " make 'em," we'll " learn 'em "—and the rest remains to be seen.



The New School.

Departures.—A draft of four—C.Q.M.S. Kendall (and family) and Signalmen Roberts, Hilliard and Mallet—left us with the usual pomp for Egypt last month. What their voyage was like, I cannot tell, but we hope they had a pleasant trip.

Sigmn Burnham after a very short stay—about a month, I think—has left us to " skivvy " in the sergeants mess. He mentioned to me something about the mess needing a good cook, but he went just the same. Well, we wish him the usual hot-potch of luck, and hope he doesn't do for the mess what a bannock did for me.

No one has left us for civvy street, but I know several who would like to.

Squads 175 and 176 have left us for Divs during the month, and we wish them all the best.

General.—Spring drills are gradually coming to an end, with everyone eagerly looking forward to musketry commencing. After all, these mornings may seem early and one feels awfully tired, but look at the exercise! as good as a box of Beecham's to anyone, and what a " digester " for breakfast. This, by the way, is information for those who have never seen a spring drill, or sheep dog trial, as the nickname goes. Personally, I'm not a bit sorry. I've seen them.

However, derived from this exercise is another affecting the junior n.c.o.s and known as the junior n.c.o.s drill course. This commenced about the 20th April and is still in progress. I spoke to one of the n.c.o.s about the course, and he convinced me that it is a very sound idea. He laid particular stress on the " fine body of men " phase of it, and said that he often woke up at night shouting " Hi de hi de de hi " to the local Cenotaph. In his spare time he practises on the moors, and yesterday he swore he'd made a complete war-like movement with a flock of sheep that had innocently strayed from the local farm. However, the course is progressing famously and will be still on in the next issue (I think).

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In the no dole line, we have one who is willing to continue serving. L/Corpl Philpott C., the n.c.o. responsible for our size and weight, signed his name on the dotted line to fulfil a further contract with the Government, enabling him to complete twenty-one years under the said contract. Clauses of the contract we all know, and so does he, so here's wishing him every hope during his employment.

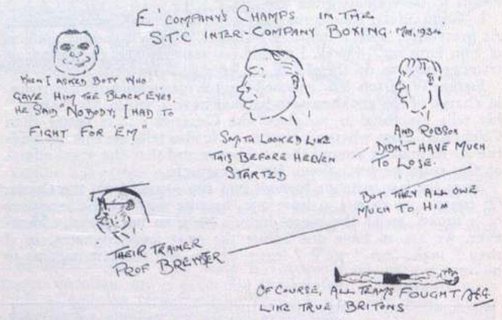
The Commandant's inspection is very near now. It will take place in the Company lines on Tuesday 15th May. The usual procedure is still maintained, and everything is spick and span. To-morrow (Thursday, 10th) is the Colonel's inspection, and everything will go with a swing. Men who have practically forgotten their parades are being caught this year. Don't ask me their names, but a few who see this will blush, I bet. It's just too bad if you can't guess, but anyway that has nothing to do with the inspection, so let it go.

Sports.—The challenge I put in the last issue was accepted. I knew E Company would come out on top—and if we didn't, we very nearly did. We succeeded in winning the Mackworth trophy for the year ending 31st March 1934. Below I've copied a table of the results, and it took me a long time, so don't tear them out.

	M.W.	D.W.	D.	E.	F.	School
Athletics	10	8	4	12	6	2
Cricket	3	6	9	12	3	3
Shooting	12	5	9	9	2	5
Cross-Country ...	6	4	8	10	12	0
Hockey	3	6	9	12	3	3
Rugby	3	3	12	6	3	9
Football	9	6	3	3	12	3
Totals	46	38	54	64	41	25

We thank all the competitors who helped us to gain the trophy, and hope they are now doing even better for someone else.

This year we have been slightly unlucky. We lost against the Dismounted Wing boxing team, but I've heard that the result will not be included for the trophy; something about practice, I believe. To balance that, we beat the D Company boxing team; and if we go on "balancing," we stay where we are—that is, at the top. Anyway, when we've won the cup I'll have a photo put in THE WIRE and then you can cut it out.



On the 25th April we had the first of the three athletic meetings which will take place for the trophy. Of course, seeing we were only giving our folk their try-out, more or less, we were not positioned too far up the list; but next time, I am convinced that the honours will be ours. That is, if the other teams turn up, so here's wishing our Spartans plenty of good wind and lengthy paces.

The water polo team are beginning to shape well, I'm told. They compete for something to do with the Garrison, but as it has not happened yet, I don't know much about it. When it does, we hope it will be something to do with success.

"Toendwith."—Some rather interesting things have been said lately. One fellow wanted the Company gardener to collect some worms in a tin for week-end fishing. Now, if you knew the Company gardener, you wouldn't ask such things. After all, he's quite harmless; but I'm afraid that if any more come along, he's going to run around "stabbing people in four places at once" with his fork—and that goes for the worms, too.

Another party discovered that the checks used to ensure that every table gets a meal—or in other words, so that they can't come the double—were under a very weighty layer of pie crust, camouflaged to look like an apple pie. Luckily, the mistake was discovered in time and kept secret until now.

We also have a fellow who suggests that we should be paid on a Saturday because his insurance agent collects on that day. Another took an old pair of boots to the C.Q.M.S. to enquire whether he could sell them or not. Their names will die with them, I hope, but just look around when you read these notes and see if anyone is "going red" or describing me to the fullest of his ability in a very foreign language. You'll probably know then who these mysterious jokers are.

Jew's mail, there is none; S.O.S.s, none; but Lieut.-Quartermaster Hepburn's pony has suddenly produced its first foal—the first one to be born on Whinny Hill—of which I'm sure both are proud.

Telegram to Dillo, Don Forrester and Shewring, Gordon, Jimmy Ananias and Chota Robbo and gang: I never got my income refund from India. See you on the boat. Robbo. W.N.R.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The end of spring drills and annual inspections is in sight, and in a few days we shall once more be settled down to the usual routine. Games and sports are being organised for the Whitsun leave period, and we hope to have as good a time as we did during Easter.

The hot spell was very pleasant while it lasted, but Catterick weather has once more resumed its normal standard.

Isolation.—The recruit boys are at present in isolation, as an epidemic of measles has started.

Marriage.—Sigmn Adcock to Miss Cissie Ellis.

Departures.—Au revoir to Signalmen McCready, Lee (the WIRE correspondent now resigns his post) and Naunton to 2nd Div. Aldershot. Sigmn Mathews to E Company.

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Arrivals.—We welcome Sigmn Leah from A.T.S. Chepstow, and Recruit Boys Allen T., Barker E., Birkett G., Bosten A., Bowles R., Boyes L., Halford R., Martin V., O'Marah R., Owen G., Pugsley P., Page A., Roberts D., Rowe T., Valentine C., Whythe D. and Waterfield G.

We must apologise for the lack of news this month, but everyone seems to have been so busy getting ready for the Commandant's inspection that nothing worthy of note has occurred.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Tuesday the 8th May: A Corps leave Mons Barracks to take up residence at Easthampstead Park for the W.O. exercise which commences on the 15th. The camp site is one of the best yet seen, the countryside being very similar to that found at Hindhead. Everything is ready for the big push, and all ranks are eager that it shall go down in the annals of A Corps history as being a huge success. Maybe "After duty Saturday till morning Tuesday" has something to do with the enthusiasm shown by all.

No. 6 Heavy has been disbanded and not replaced, thus leaving the Mediums and Lights to work the oracle alone.

We are pleased to report that the two fearful diseases (mumps and measles) have left us after many weeks of isolation and fumigation for the individuals concerned.

Departures.—C.S.M. McGregor, discharged. Those who knew him will agree with us when we say we have lost a first class tradesman and sportsman. (Good luck, Mac!) Sigmn Drover I. on medical grounds. 13 W will miss you, Ivan.

Promotions.—Apart from Paddy to cook's mate, and a General dying in the Chinese Army, there is nothing to report.

Agonies.—Who slept at the Asylum and lost his hat? Besides, sailors climb riggings, not fire escapes.

P.S.—Heard the cuckoo yet, Dick? DIXIE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Signals Association.—We notice that the Branch hon. secretary at Rawalpindi complains of lack of information received in respect of new arrivals. We sympathise, as the same applies at this end. Drafts from overseas are continually arriving minus any information—not even "Subscriptions are paid to December 1933," as Rawalpindi quotes. We would appeal to Branch hon. secretaries abroad to co-operate in supplying sufficient information to enable us to maintain our records with the minimum amount of labour. It is rather late in the season to make this appeal, but some Branch secretaries may remember it next trooping season.

Camp.—This is the main topic of the day. We go to Thursley on the 12th June for three weeks, and everyone is hoping the unit camp will be as successful as in previous years.

Appointments.—Just a little piece of Part II. Orders; but no one will object to our telling the world that our draughtsman has sketched for himself a tape—in other words, we congratulate U/L/Corpl Jackson A. E. on his appointment to that rank.

Anti-Gas Training.—Unit H.Q. were well supported on the "no exemptions" parade at the gas chamber during May. We all enjoyed the exercise in getting there, whilst in the chamber, and returning to barracks. Someone said "Good heavens! it's hardly worth starting work now it's nearly lunch time" (one of the posh people who have lunch).

One interesting incident in connection with the parade. The C.S.M. gave the detail "The first party in the chamber will be the ten senior w.o.s and n.c.o.s. Fall in here, that party." Now, how was it that the n.c.o. we have just congratulated included himself in the party? It was rumoured that he said something about accelerated promotion.

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Congratulations.—We congratulate our boys team on getting into the final of the Army (Boys) Association football cup, and on the splendid game they played in that match. It was a good game, and although some said they should have won, the popular belief is that it was a very fair game, and just hard luck on our boys that they did not get the winning medals for "keeps" (they had them for a time, anyway).

Conclusion.—Apart from the fact that the coal issue has ceased and heath fires have started, we have nothing further to say.

BONCELESS.

No. 1 Company.

These notes would not be complete without mentioning the departure of Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe for India. As a major he was our Company commander, and everybody was sorry when he relinquished that appointment prior to his going on embarkation leave. We hope he will accept our congratulations on his

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promotion to his present rank of Lieut.-Colonel, and our best wishes for his future go with him to his new station at Quetta.

We have now finished individual training for this year, and we take this opportunity to congratulate all who were successful in obtaining higher trade ratings. Better luck next time to those who were not so fortunate.

Section training is now in full swing and C set lorries are flitting about like flies ; and the swans on the Basingstoke canal have, I understand, already raised an objection to our spoiling their tow-path scenery with coffee wagons and tents telegraph. D Section are carrying the can for that.

The despatch riders have also visited various East Coast seaside resorts on a preliminary run. An overland trip to the Riviera generally concludes their training.

Another important piece of news is centred around gardens. The neatest and most picturesque will receive a prize. One hut had already distributed the prize money (on paper) when they found out that Woolworth's wax models would not stand the heat of the day, so they are now frantically trying to coax various kinds of flower seeds to show themselves by placing the empty case (with a picture showing how the flower should look) on a piece of stick in the ground directly above the seeds. They are hoping the seeds will take this as the height of their ambition.

Personal Column.—According to Part II. Orders our R.S.M. is still desirous of serving under the Colours and has extended his present term of service still further. Unfortunately, personnel of his rank do not wear dodgers on their tunics, so his reason for continuing his service is not to get an armful of the aforementioned. How many would he wear if that were his ambition? (27½ years). Anyone with likely suggestions may send them in, but I would advise him to mark them " private."

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Chappell from No. 3 Company goes to D Section to take charge of a coffee wagon. L/Corpl Hills has arrived from Scarborough, so we are looking forward to a brighter football season for this year. Sigmn Vickers from the Training Battalion has increased the D.R. strength. To all these, we extend the usual greetings and duty roster.

Departures.—Although we are a little late with the news that Sigmn Burns has embarked for service in Egypt, we would ask him to remember the " Better late than never " slogan when we wish him all the best in his new station.

Whilst talking about drafts, we may as well give L/Corporal Smith C. G. (late B Cable) a little publicity. He should have embarked at the same time as Sigmn Burns—not for Egypt, but for Palestine. Unfortunately, he had to go sick the day previous and was sent to hospital. I wish to make it quite clear that this was a genuine disappointment to the n.c.o. Who wouldn't be downhearted at missing such a station? We hope he will be more fortunate next time (if there is one).

Our other departure of note is that of L/Corpl Morris F., who has gone to 5th Div. A few valuable hints to 5th Divites seem opportune. In the first place, watch your milk supply. N.A.A.F.I. Secondly, should any of his room mates find newspapers a month or two old around his bed space, please do not use them for lighting the fire, as he will not have read them so soon.

Mistletoe.—Several vocational people have been attached to us from overseas whilst they undergo training for civilian life at the A.V.T.C. Aldershot. Amongst them is one who suffers under the name of L/Corpl Smith A. E., who will be well known by members of No. 2 Company, as he had only time to go to India and back ; and taking the latter fact into consideration, his knowledge of the Hindustani language (and habits) is quite good.

Births.—As the peace establishment is now up to strength owing to the large influx of last month, we are now concentrating on the recruiting campaign via Thursley Camp.

Marriages.—Nil. All is not gold that glitters.

To Malta.—There are several of your old associates over here who are anxious to know whether there is any Signal Section left. Sigmn Bill Dunn seems to be worrying most, but speaking quite candidly, I think he wanted me to let you know he is now being paid at B.i. lineman's rate.

Overheard.—In No. 38 ablution room: " Roll on, the 19th May " (R.A.O.C. Journals, please copy). EASY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The scheming season is here again, and everything points to our having another fairly energetic year—though not so energetic as last, for (many sighs) there shall be no Larkhill for the unit in general. Of course, one can never tell when a heath fire will break out, and I hear that a lot of sleep can be lost through these things. However, here's hoping that it will be a mild summer.

No. 2 Company is deserted at present ; all Sections are scheming at Deepcut, Okehampton or Brighton. Not until September or thereabouts will the old familiar faces make their return, and out of respect we shall have to listen to their glowing descriptions of what they did to the wicked tribes who always seem to hang about these summer days. Perhaps we shan't have to listen to them long, for the good old annual drafting return has been placed at the tender mercy of the unit office staff.

Apology.—I must apologise for our boxing bard's absence from this month's notes, for he is not at all willing to sing praises of No. 6 Section's famous attempts at rowing. Stepping into the breach, I will nobly take his place and try to tell you what happened.

One Sunday afternoon, about half-past one
(Just when the taste of peaches and custard had gone)
Four energetic youths wended their weary way
To pass the time in boating—or try to, I should say.
The hero of the day, with camera fully equipped,
Jested and laughed as we walked along (or shall I say
" nipped ").
He decided to take a single—one of those topply things, you know—
And began to show the natives the only way to row.
My friend and I had started—easy like, of course ;
Our hero lay behind us, pulling like a horse ;
My attention to him faded—sleep *may* have been to blame—
But when I looked again at him—his boat was not the same.
It looked so very funny—water out and in ;
We stopped to investigate at once, flesh creeping 'neath our skin.
A bobbing blot was near it, moving for the shore,
And close inspection revealed our hero, looking very sore.
From all accounts he'd fallen out ; of course, I did not see—
I only saw him swimming out : a soaking mess was he—
And to this day I see him still, solemnly sitting down,
Pools collecting where he sat, his khaki murky brown.

The poetry should go on to say that the hero was one of those " never say die " persons, for he had another try at conquering the canal, but the second attempt was not so exciting and you are lucky that you have not to put up with any more of my " verse."

More about No. 6.—Some of No. 6 Section are trying their best to imitate the Red Devils, but instead of doing a trick on two wheels they do it on four ; and instead of planning acrobatics, they usually wait until they happen. Perhaps I may be mistaken in saying this, for they may be practising taking a guy for a ride and bumping him *out*. At any rate, whatever it may be, I know that my stock of accident reports has decreased considerably, and my knowledge of making them out vastly improved. What are you going to do next? J.C.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The Company is at present undergoing vigorous training in preparation for the unit camp at Thursley, and by the time these notes are in print we shall be almost ready to pack up for it. However, Section schemes and route marches are the order of the day, and the quiet English lanes are once again brightened by the colour of khaki and the singing of the lads as they proceed on their joyous way full of beans (and other obnoxious ingredients). Perhaps a number of us suffer with blistered feet and have to go sick the following morning—not, mind you, to evade the day's route march, but. . . well, there are feet and feet, y'know.

Sport.—Very little has happened in the way of sport during the last month. At the close of the running season congratulations go to Sigmn Copestake, who distinguished himself, and also

to the C.Q.M.S. who mustered a rare turn of speed in the last lap of the half mile. Well done, Q.

A few weeks ago the commanding officer presented sports medals and shields for the inter-Section football, hockey and running. It was noticeable that No. 3 Company won the lot. Well done, L and K Sections.

Congratulations.—To the undermentioned, who successfully dazzled the Trade Board to the extent of the following ratings:
B.i., Corpl Brunton, Signalmen Chatfield, Coldicott, Lintin and Miller.
B.ii., L/Corpl Webster and Signalmen Jennings and Stubbs.
C.ii., Signalmen Donnelly (clerk ii.), Bracegirdle, Cameron, Holmes B. and Shinn.
C.iii., Drivers McClounan and Parrish.
D.ii., Signalmen McDonaugh, Millington, Brooks and Russell, and Driver Good.
Also to the undermentioned, who obtained education certificates as shown: Sigmn Falconer, first class ; Sigmn Rose, second class.

Agony.—Will 305 Jock Fox (somewhere around Meerut) drop a line to Paddy O'R.?

Pun.—Ask a certain D.R. in K Section what to do before signing for an inter-tube. Did you run out of patches, Lofty?

Agony (now relief)—Heard in the canteen: ". . . and to think I put in for draft. . ."

Purl.—Hot spiced gin and beer!

Purr.—A murmur pertaining to No. 3 Company. . . . now pleased.

Latest.—Heard in J Section: ". . . . don't ask me, ask my brother!"

Situation Wanted.—Soldier, keen footballer, do anything, capacity 2¼ barrels, go anywhere, requires situation in (first choice) Egypt or (second choice) Egypt ; user of Pyramid collars ; profile of Sphinx. Dates from Cairo—done it before. What can you? J.A.D.

[*Stop Press*]

Gallantry.—Even during these piping days of peace, England still possesses a few of the gallant knights of old.

It happened one sunny April evening. Sir Cuthbert Brunton (the fat one, not Billy) was doing a steady ten miles per hour on his B.S.A. Sports machine alongside the Basingstoke canal. Suddenly he was awakened from his dreamy romancings by the appearance of a full-fledged 1934 flapper, who sailed merrily around a corner on her latest Super-Sports cycle.

Sir Galahad did some rapid thinking. It was either the maiden or himself. What was he to do? could he see a young maiden struggling in the water? No, sir. But. . . eh, the water did not look too inviting. Whilst he was trying to make up his mind, the damsel did it for him and provided a timely solution to his troubles. Throwing discretion into the canal, she got his off-side wheel ; loud screams rent the quiet countryside ; a man's voice was heard. . . .

Sir Cuthbert slowly dragged his wet and aching limbs out of the filthy mud, heaving a B.S.A. Super Sports machine after him. The maiden mounted her machine and with a polite " Thank you, kind sir " continued her way. Sir Cuthbert, looking the picture of misery but inwardly glowing with pride, wended his way homeward, thinking out a good one to tell the wife to account for his lamentable condition.

P.S.—It's your turn now, Billy. Don't let your big brother go one better than you.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Sincere.—Congratulations to F Company boys on their magnificent struggle in the final of the Boys' Army Cup. The Company, with the exception of those on duty, turned up in full force on both days and gave their vocal chords some practice. We are all agreed that the game against the Chepstow boys was the best we've seen on the Command ground this season (and we haven't missed many). Well played, F, and hard luck. Come down again next year, and we'll help carry the cup down to the station.

Spring Cleaning.—The painters have been in and done their stuff. The dear old station now looks lovely, having been garbed in those two very delightfully fashionable Army colours, dull grey and dull red (both very dull). Even if the superintendent doesn't get up with a liver, he always gets one by the time he has run the gauntlet of grey-red-grey (recurring).

Arrivals.—Sigmn Lundie J. joined the unit on 7/5/34. The electricians' shop receive him and welcome him with open arms.

Good News for Otley.—The Duke has 864000.275 seconds to go before he joins you for good (or bad).

Thanks.—And many of them, to D Troop for the numerous games of hockey we have shared with them during the season just ended. It has been a great pleasure to turn out for them, and we hope that we may have very many more opportunities of doing so in the future.

Bits and Pieces.—Supt. (to operator on duty): " What are you supposed to be doing?" Op (with dreamy look in optics): " Amusing myself, sergeant." [Collapse, exit, etc.]

Lancers.—The horror of horrors for most of the Company has now finished for another year. The end came with a grand assault on Ash ranges, when through some unforeseen circumstances the "bulls" on two targets were almost obliterated. Sergt Guy Rodwell Bishop (Manchester and Colney Hatch) went to the head of the river with a snappy 77, and Corpl Chamberlain (Pompey and Wembley) dropped back to tie for second place with Sigmn Bateman (the School of Orthodox Bridge and Broadmoor) by obtaining a not so snappy 72. If anyone wants to know the name of the wooden spoonist, send me a stamped and addressed envelope and a complete set of fag cards, and the unfortunate individual's name will be disclosed.

Lancers, strange to relate, were very rare—about ten in the whole Company, of which Austin claimed five in succession and established a personal and Company record; even the Duke in his prime never did a thing like that. By the way, the Duke did not attend the meeting this year ; he says that you don't need to be a first class shot to draw the dole.

The O.C.'s prizes for the top score and the greatest number of " bulls " are being held over until the casuals do their stuff.

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Personally, I hope one of the casuals beats 77! I have suffered so much from Manchester just lately that I should hate to see another prize go there.

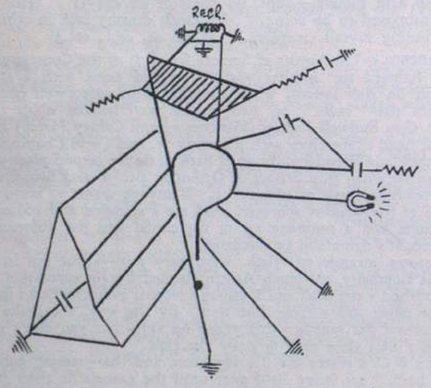
We Can't Understand.—How the Chocolate Kid managed to run fast enough to score a try for the School of Signals in the first round of the Mackworth trophy competition. He certainly must have changed from his A.C.S.C. ways. By the way, Pip, our addresses remain as per.

Conversation Piece.—Now that the daily Press have revived our old friend the Loch Ness Monster and given us a photograph of the aforementioned beast, bird or fish, as the case may be, we feel that it is only right and fair to the British public that our monster (no, not the Duke) should be brought to their notice.

For want of a better name, we call it the Command Monstrosity. Unlike the Loch Ness Monster, it is not nature's idea of a joke ; it's simply a man-made snare.

During the intervals between the last couple of hundred showers, Corpl Chamberlain and his band of very willing (?) and cheerful (?) amateur (very) linemen have been sallying forth into the compound, loaded with masses of nice shiny wire, heaps of awfully nice looking black and white poles, mauls, pickets, and all the rest of the whatnots which go towards making a line. With much cunning and the learning of a completely new set of curses, they have constructed an aerial of the Beverage clan which traps all signals from the Egypt direction.

When the C.Q.M.S. has found out for certain what they have actually pinched from his line store, and providing there is enough wire left in England, they are going to train one of these fearsome arrays on China, and another on India if they can confiscate the Queen's Parade for its erection. Having done this, they will all be in receipt of old age pensions, so they'll just collect their O.B.E.'s and sit back and watch results.



Knowing how very interested in technical descriptions our readers are, I am not going to start any arguments ; I am simply going to enclose a photograph which our Press man obtained at great personal risk. He was suspended for hours from a sky hook before a favourable opportunity occurred of getting a bird's eye view of the Command Monstrosity. The result of his hazardous experience will be perfectly clear to most readers, but those who cannot see it should apply the formula, M sin mx+ BM=1 dollar (Mex.) 3 annas 5¼ francs. Having applied this formula, you'll join me in Colney hyphen Hatch.

LATER.—The aerial has now been put into commission, and we find that signals are only picked up when the wind is coming from the nor-nor-east by west direction and when atmospherics make reception impossible. On melting down the formula, we discovered that this was entirely due to dust getting into the magneto and causing a feed back from the second frequency doubler.

Agony.—To Draper (Jack) somewhere in India: What about a letter? Mac (J.)

AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

Full strength! No reference to beer, by the way. It means that, for the first time within the memory of the oldest inhabitant, the strength of other ranks of the unit is complete to establishment. Here, then, is material, man power and newsscope. And here sit I, pensive-like, wondering from what source my next line will spring. But who cares? Personally, I enjoy sitting pensive-like. And if it's of any interest to you, I might mention that a firm attachment has sprung up between the typewriter and myself. It absorbs my varying moods, and should I wish to be pensive it denies me not. When busy fingers cease to play, no clatter of keys intrudes upon my solitary muse. . . . Aside: Two aspirins, please. . . often. . . . about two a minute . . . he might recover!

There appears to be a lot of news this month. Numerous chappies have arrived from dotted chunks of soil which are for ever England. Apologies, naturally, to those who twist their mother tongue into sounds of " wallah " and the like. There is a subtle difference, isn't there? Of little use, however, to mention the arrivals in detail. We welcome them none the less effusively. Personal greetings will be exchanged on application at the office portals. One or two landmarks are leaving the unit shortly. There's old Tinkler wallowing at Aldershot on a vocational course, and young Rose straining at the leash to join him. It's a bit hard to be losing Tinkler. He's kind of handy about the place—one gets used to him. After all this time, it's somewhat akin to losing a cherished chimney pot or something snappy in oils. . . . .

Then there is the story of two other elder members of the unit who have been jibbing. It appears they got married. Well, that's perfectly o.k. with me, providing they keep outside the domains of bigamy. Didn't we duly publish the fact that they were married, and congratulate them, and stretch forth the glad hand, and all that? We did! Be it ever placed to our credit. In due course, and following the natural sequence of events, they were blessed with children. It appears we overlooked this important news. We failed, in the good old American journalese, to deliver the goods. Bad staff work somewhere—I must needs look into this. To soothe the savage breast, we are only too happy to publish these joyous events now.

Our congratulations, then, to the following. To L/Corpl and Mrs. G. Pfeiffer on the birth of a son, Garth Anthony. A bonny lad withal. A chip of the jolly old block. I know, because I've nursed the young hero. Sleeps and feeds well—takes after his father, you know!

To L/Corpl and Mrs. L. Robinson, also a son, Allan John. Looks wise for his age—that's the fault of having Robbo about the place. Another Bulleteer?

Our staff will have to dash around more. Here's another overdue announcement just come to hand. Really! To Sergt and Mrs. H. French a daughter, June Marion. That's one of the prettiest combination names for a girl I've heard this year.

To all of the above, we repeat our sincere congratulations, and apologise for not recording these happy events at the time of their happening.

By the time these notes appear in print, C.Q.M.S. Kirby H. and Corpls Fisher N. and Bell S. will be preparing to leave us for civilian life. We wish them the very best of luck, and hope they become successful in a big way.

Further congratulations are due from us, and generously given, to L/Corpl O'Malley B. on receiving his unpaid appointment. Maybe some of those tall yarns he spins were effective? Good luck, Bernard lad! Nice name you have. If you would only whittle a few of your stories down a little, some kind editor would be only too pleased to give you publishing space.

On Sunday 13th May the construction and maintenance party left for A.A. Practice Camp, Watchet, Somerset. The maintenance party will remain until September. I've never been to this west country spot myself, but those who have assure me that it's idyllic—whatever that may mean. Charmingly sited, sea breezes, verdant pasture and glorious leafy lanes and bowers. Typically English. Cyder, too! The real hotcha stuff. Small and old-world population. Oh, boy! should that camp be hard work? Atchaa!

My fan mail should now be increased, methinks, but I doubt me that bouquets will arrive. When those Watchet laddies read this description of a soggy field dotted with a miserable tent or

two, a deserted and muddy harbour, and a strip of beach that gathers unto its bosom the real pre-historic size of boulders and the latest thing in sea-weed straight from the Saragossa Sea, I can but guess at their feelings. Anyway, George is down there, so it cannot be too bad.

We wish to thank our C.O. and officers for a very enjoyable little sports meeting which took place on the afternoon of Thursday 10th May. Everyone spent a very pleasant afternoon ; there were no hard and fast rules to worry one ; and it was more like a very happy and sociable afternoon tea party. I speak for those who did not dash around in the room relay and quarter. After completing those two events myself, I felt anything but sociable!

We finished up with tea, of course. This *was* popular. O'Malley again beat Sandy in the tea stakes. Fifteen cups, and a saucer to fifteen cups only, I think the result was! That was before the remainder of us had left the table. They occupied a fresh table when we left. . . .

I don't quite know which won—"G" or A.A. Brigade Section, I think. Headquarters got one point. That was in the tug-of-war. They were the better losers, if you follow. They had a hefty side, though. I don't think they quite understood the idea of this tug-of-war game. Sergt French would insist on sitting down every now and then. In some inexplicable manner Jock Glass followed suit. At odd intervals young Jeff performed an erratic kind of step dance. Jock Davidson gave weird yelps, utered a cry of " Hotchaa!" at moments of great stress, and looked fit to pull a battleship when the team was over the line! The strange thing about the pull is that, when asked afterwards, they earnestly assured one another that they *were* all pulling! They pulled the other losing team, though! Now, that was a great pull. . . sorry, we haven't time!

By Request.—To George from Hopeful: Am doing o.k. Erbie.

To Meerut: Is Jim Fish afraid of struggling? From Sandy, Burchett and O'Malley.

To Johnny Dewhurst, India: Eddie thinks you're gaining flesh! You'll hear from me soon. Thanks for letter!

To Dave Ackroyd, Home Waters (?): I owe you one, too!

B.A.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The main items of interest for this month have been the conclusion of the musketry period of training and the departure of all the Signal Sections to join their respective battalions of the R.T.C. As a result, the unit lines seem very quiet and peaceful.

On the rifle ranges we achieved a first class average for the unit, and some very consistent shooting was seen. Prizes were given for the highest scores, and the competition was very keen. Signalmen Hodgson and Houghton tied for first place with scores of 80 out of a possible 95, and as a result both have changed their first name to Dead-eye.

No. 1 Tank Signal Section have submitted notes for inclusion in this month's issue of THE WIRE. We sincerely hope they will keep up the good work, and that the other Sections will follow their lead and let us know how they are getting on away from the mother unit.

Departures.—R.Q.M.S. Smart A. E. and family left us on 13/4/34 for a stay with Egypt Signals. All ranks wish them the very best and hope that their stay will be a very enjoyable one. Although R.Q.M.S. Smart had been with us but a very short time, it was with great regret that we wished him au revoir—we would have liked him to stay with us for good.

Sigmn Blundell C. to civvy street from the A.V.T.C. Hounslow on 6/5/34. Best of luck, Sugar, and may you always prosper.

Sergt Sharp D. on 10/5/34 to join No. 1 Tank Signal Section at Farnborough. Another vacation.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Whitehead R. on 8/5/34 to join the Light Tank Signal Section at Perham Down. Hope you pick up the reins soon, in preparation for the pukka stuff. Ask Tich: he knows all about them Tanks.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Tickle G. on his marriage to Miss Gladys Elsie South at Banbury, Oxfordshire, on 31/3/34.

To Sigmn Harrop W. on his marriage to Miss Mary Kelly at Northwich, Chester, on 23/12/33. Oh, how are the mighty fallen! Y'know, we all get that complaint sooner or later. S'funny, ain't it?

To L/Sergt Coy B. on obtaining a pass at the M.T. course for Royal Signals n.c.o.s at Feltham.

To R.Q.M.S. Noonan M. on being promoted to that rank w.e.f. 1/4/34. I heard there was a barrel in the stores—but it turned out to be rifle oil, I believe.

To Sergt Moss P. on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal, with gratuity. Isn't it queer how these old soldiers are never found out?

To U/L/Corpl Speakes F. on obtaining that high rank w.e.f. 4/5/34. There's still a chance for you to reach for the baton, but have patience.

To L/Sergt Yorke A. and Sigmn Kennard H. on being awarded the Indian general service medal with clasp " North-West Frontier 1930-31." And I thought you were both T.T.s!

To the following on passing trade tests as shown. Sigmn Adcock J. op. sig. B.ii. Sigmn Brand R. lineman C.ii. Signalmen Guile S. and Carter A. despatch rider D.ii. Signalmen Ashford and Bristow S. inst. mech. A.ii.

To the following on obtaining educational certificates as shown. Signalmen Bristow S., Hancox N., Songhurst J. R., Graham J. and Wilsdon A., first class. Sigmn Williams F. passed in map reading. Signalmen Carter A. and Henry D. second class. Sigmn Price E. J., English "C" towards his special certificate. L/Corpl Steele H. R., British history towards his special certificate.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—All ranks of the unit extend a hearty welcome to the following arrivals, and hope that their stay with us will be a long and a happy one. Sigmn King L. from the Training Battalion on 16/4/34. Signalmen Potts J., Wallwork H. and Robertson H. from the Training Battalion on 4/5/34. Signalmen Barnes J., McConnell-Wood F., Everard J., McGinn J. and Perrins H. from the Training Battalion on 14/5/34

Spun Yarn.—It was a dark and stormy night, sir, and the skipper said to the mate "Spin us a yarn." This is the yarn that the mate spun.

You may not Bailey-ve it, but I was at the University, living at the Star Chambers, when this affair happened. Being a Freeman, I was chosen as Cox for the College boat—Hancox was no mean job with that crew. As Ives-aid before, the Lake where we practised had a Marsh bordering it ; all Moss, Liley(s) and Clay, y'know, situated in a Dale. There were we, Alltoft up in our Brand new Coates ; blue they were, with Brown Buttons.

Now, our stroke was a Coy sort of a chap, but had all the Guile of a Fox, and when he got a sNorton, he seemed a Newman.

" Now," said the stroke, " we'll try canoe practice this Morning—ton weight she is, too ; so Yule all Neal and get in some muscle exercise."

That started us all Crebbin like mad, and No. 2 was a Crossman if you like. You see, it meant he'd have to do Moran his share of work. " Oliver walk ashore," he said to stroke ; " McCann do my share." " You Wallwork," said stroke, " if I Wills it ; and if I Speakes to you agin, I'll stand you down for a few Weeks—and Sharp." " Oh! you Wood, would you?" said No. 2, " Wilson see about that. If you're going Tebbey that way inclined, I'll Tickle that Whitehead of yours with a paddle."

" Why don't you chaps stop Warren with each other? There's not a War man. Pack in, or we'll all be getting wild and Woolley," said No. 4.

" Ryder, cowboy!" yelled one ; and " What Price stroke?" shouted another.

These cries so enraged the stroke that he went up to No. 2 Andrew him off one. " Addlesee you through," said he. " I don't want any more Rowse, so File away, or I'll Fletcher another one."

" And you promised mother you wouldn't Harmer hair of me head," yelped No. 2.

" Look here, Henry," said stroke. " Not so much blarney, and let's get going."

And we got going. We got into the canoe and knelt so that Legg Metcalfe, and sat on our Heale(s) with our Baxter the rudder, Allen a row. No. 2 didn't Cotton on to it at all, and said so. " You old Hen dry up, or I'll Collyer and throw you overBoard man," admonished stroke. " I'll stArcher off when you're Read(y) " bawled the coach.

Off we went, but we hadn't gone far when we observed a girl swimmer in difficulties: it seems she was caught in the Reed(s). We paddled over to her and took her aboard, and then paddled to shore.

"Carter to the boathouse," said stroke. "What time is our Cardew?"

"Not for another hour yet," said No. 3; "but here's the club Clark in his Crosley—I'll stop him."

The girl was placed in the car by No. 2, whereupon stroke said "Don't Cooper up like that: make her comfortable."

"Aw! (s)Harrop!" said No. 2. "You keep on yapping at me like a Cooter. You're for ever (s)Houghton at me."

Anyway, we eventually got the girl to the boathouse, called a doctor, and parked ourselves in another room to talk over the occurrence.

"Isn't she the girl who lives in that Garrett over the Tuck shop?" asked No. 5.

"Yeth," lisped No. 6. "Her father ith a dethent thort and that Galbraith(s) hith heart with the trickth she getsth up to."

"You know Roberts the car King," said No. 2. "Well, her dad's old Robertson—I know him only too well. Haslam(med) the pub door in his face once, and he never forgave me for it."

By the time the girl was brought round and sent home, it was Noonan we had no time for practice, so we went in to tea. After having Etwell, we started a small binge and we had to put Hol Bert on the sofa before very long. He usually turned up like a bad Penney the day after, but he could ill afford to train by drinking out of big Potts. Steele, there you are: these things will happen. "He'Scott a nerve," said the stroke, "doing that sort of thing when in training."

"Let's Tap Lin and see if he'll row for us. He is going to Yorke soon, but if we are quick we could catch him at Barnes, where he is training. He always did train Everard, although he is still a bit Raw, Cliffe," said No. 3.

"McConnell-Wood row for us too, if I asked him, I reckon," said the coach. "He's not like No. 2 there, always McGinn and sPerrin about."

At this juncture the old boatman came in and stroke said to him "Paw, sey if our car has arrived yet, will you?"

"Well, that's my yarn spun," said the mate. "It's time for my watch now, but it just goes to show what drivel people will listen to, let alone read—eh, skipper?" And with that he went out.

[The characters in this story (?) are not entirely fictitious, and most certainly do have a bearing on living people.] RUSTY.

No. 1 Tank Signal and Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Sections.

Attached 2nd Battalion R.T.C. Farnborough.

Surprise.—Yes! at long last we have been able to tune into THE WIRE—and we hope we do not oscillate too much on our readers.

General.—The above Sections duly arrived here from Tidworth on Wednesday 4th April. We are on the strength of C Company 2nd Battalion R.T.C.

The Sections—mostly new hands—vote this station the best ever. We have, of course, some old hands with several seasons of experience behind them. "What! do they know the ropes?" Well, there is a saying about old soldiers—and you know the rest.

The first week here was spent in locating the elusive tanks; most of them were completing their winter hibernation in field stores or Ordnance. In the second week, we came to grips with them and burdened several with a wireless set. Then, in the third week, we unburdened some and burdened others—and so we will continue until the end of our time here.

So far, the schemes undertaken have proved successful as far as wireless was concerned, but by the blue air from the hangars, I gathered that some tanks were not so successful.

The latest business here is making the acquaintance of two new pattern wireless sets. One is a grand piece of work, but the other looks like Epstein's art—all angles.

We have two new arrivals in the form of the latest medium tanks. They are a great improvement on the old mediums. In fact, they have real seats in them, and we wonder why "Pullman" has not been painted on the outside. Talk about the outside of these particular tanks! we have one member of the Section who has a job to get *inside*. It can be done, though, with one fellow pulling and another pushing—can't it, Busty?

The Sections have now been partly re-dressed, the forage cap being all the rage now. Of course, some of the Indian veterans have their own.

Training.—We have embarked on the annual revolver course, and I hope to have some good results for publication next month.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Henry D. on his double success: second class certificate of education and despatch rider D.iii. So the local crooner can do other things as well!

Marriages.—Shsh! watch these notes.

Snooks.—Re last month's notes from A.F.V. Rusty, we don't know how you did it. 'Tis a pity the unit C.I.D. representative is so far away now.

Tripe and Like.—Overheard in the tank park: "You fellows may go for a ride in a tank if you like." "Oh, yeah? and get bumped off. Not likely!"

Another pair of Kohat Twins are here.

Who is the lucky (?) lad to ride the Section bike and then hike back from the tank park daily?

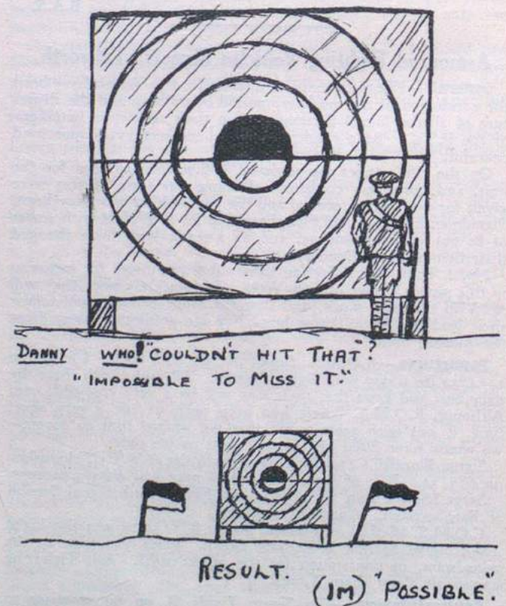
Departures.—2/Lieut F. P. Rickard to the Army School of Education, Shorncliffe, on 12/5/34, for an all-too-short tour by the sea.

Where Are You?—Gowpee: L/Corpl Whitwell R. apa kabba. Jock Fowler: The lads are hungry for news of you. Bill Pemberton, Spike Island: Still kicking the gong around—Richards 22. Wally and Jack Ivey: Love from the Twins. PANJANG.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

"Jot down all the interesting events and happenings of the past month, and just put them together so that the average reader can understand them." How easy it seemed when I was told that was *all* I had to do when writing unit notes.

My first attempt was greeted with mild surprise; my second nearly brought me into a libel case: and my next effort was a disappointment—hence the absence of more last month.



This month, I am going to start the ball rolling again by congratulating Sergt Sayers on his splendid effort in the annual musketry in scoring 88 out of a possible 95. (It was said by someone with more bones than flesh that if he had such an ample air cushion to lie on, *he* could fire just as well.) L/Corpl Richardson and Signalmen Fall and Robertson tied for second place with a score of 77.

Our monthly pool shoot is still well supported, and provides keen competition in the three divisions into which the Troop is divided. The experts who lead Division I. are handicapped by one point per month, and up to date Sergeant Sayers leads with minus three. If he wins the pool this month, well, any jam factory would prosper with him as a manager. The winners of Divisions II. and III. were Signalmen Mullard and Rogers respectively.

After getting a few "cowboy" magazines, to get the right atmosphere, our daredevil riders (D.R. brand) staged a revolver shoot. Signalmen Blake and Lovegrove tied for first place.

The six-a-side football tournament wherein six teams of the unit competed has come to a successful ending—for one team. L/Corpl Richardson, the captain, led his conquering team up to receive the silver cups presented by the O.C.

Field events organised on lines similar to the football tournament will now provide our sports programme for the next few weeks.

A question of great importance was raised on a recent Troop scheme. A D.R. was given a map reference of a church and told to report to a certain individual whom he would find waiting there. A church was found at approximately the right map reference. The D.R. halted, and as the individual he wanted wasn't in the vicinity, he prepared himself to wait. Minutes passed, and then the church began to move: it was of the mobile variety. Question: What should the D.R. do—wait at the spot where the church was, or follow it?

A ping-pong table has made a home for itself in the Troop easy room. Of course, the experts who have played before quickly made themselves known.

The tennis season has opened with the usual enthusiasm, and several dark horses in the sporting world have come to light.

Departures.—Sigmn Ould is attached to the R.A.P.C. Chatham on six months probation. May he be successful!

E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Owing to an increase in establishment, the Troop has been subject to a more or less complete internal reorganisation. Secret conferences have been the order of the day. Now, however, all has been settled satisfactorily, and the sub-satellites beam contentedly upon their new assistants.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporal Speakes F. on his appointment. Unfortunately the Corps roster is at present suffering from seniority complex, so we shall not be performing the "wetting" ceremony until a later date.

To Signalmen Wilsdon L. and Graham J., who were successful in the recent examination and have been awarded the coveted first.

Special congratulations to Sigmn Lafford E., who passed in three subjects, obtaining "distinguished" in maths. He started halfway through the course and, unfortunately, was only permitted to take three subjects. Judging by the results, we shall soon have a complete Troop of firsts.

Corpl Penny C. passed in physics (E. and M.) for the Army special certificate.

Troop Cameo: No. 5.—Harry the Pawz. Oscillates at an uncertain frequency at sundry times—one P.A. and a Leyland would complete the Pawz transmitter mk. i. (many stars). Honorary Knight of the Knobs, receiver, spindle pattern, and prospective candidate for the King's bounty. Pet aversions: the Squadron orderly corporals and Edgar. An apt pupil of Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant, Harry has reduced the disappearing trick to a fine art—12.30 and 4 p.m. daily (prompt). Cycles daily at a sedate pace to and from the ancestral halls. Special half back of the R.S.M., who would miss the morning break were it not for the renowned Pawz push-bike.

"Fools Go Where Angels. . . ."—The Bold Fleck, now a sadly disillusioned mortal, has decided that holsters, pistol, should be distinctly embellished with three stripes and a crown if they are meant to remain inviolate. A typical example of a person biting the hand that feeds him.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to the under-named who have joined us from other units. L/Corpl Reed A. (ex-India), Signalmen Robertson, McConnell-Wood, Barnes, Wallwork, McGinn, Everard and Perrins, who have recently arrived from Catterick.

Late Arrivals.—Bunker, our tame Lombard, has recently acquired a mechanical scorpion. Rumour has breathed that he received it in part exchange for a set of "Jimmy" buttons. Anyway, it will do the Ludgershall trip in forty-five minutes when the wind's in the west.

The F-of-S., having spent several days and sundry pots of black enamels in an endeavour to repair the ravages of time on the famous "combo," was distinctly peeved when a tactless person asked if the chariot had been mixed up in a tar-spraying contest. Much liver flopped about the office for some considerable distance. I.M.s went to A.F.V. for spares, and Bunker took refuge behind the altar of Troop detail. The man who bid half a guinea at Tattersall's had nothing on the unfortunate individual who uttered the seditious words.

We congratulate Edgar on his performance in the Squadron sports: second in the long jump. Apart from the fact that Edgar's rôle is usually in the high jump, we have reason to believe that it was the first occasion on which he has ever possessed seven and six on a Thursday night. The Adriatic and the Baltic were stirred to their very depths. Never mind, Edgar; what did the nice kind lady say to you on the steps of the "Hero"?

Agony.—Thomo: Whyfor you no write me ver' long time? Ten times the clock he go round me, and still you no answer.

To Whom It May Concern.—Bill Lewis, Fish Alley's most eligible bachelor, has taken the plunge and now spends his spare moments with a Rizla. Poor old married man!

Addendum.—We regret that in our previous month's notes the third highest score amongst the "dead eyes" was not included. Pungent remarks and meetings of indignation make it necessary to report that our noble Troop sergeant, to wit Sergeant Archer W., scored 46 points out of a possible 50. As this was his first revolver course, the result is extremely gratifying. Unfortunately, owing to years of service in the *near* East and on Clapham Common, he was not considered a young soldier and did not gain the coveted spoon. R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football has given its last kick for 1933/34, and after a walk over, a win and a loss in our last three league fixtures, we finished twelfth and with five teams below us. Our record is:—Played 32, won 10, drawn 4, lost 18; 24 points. We've had our ups and downs, but on the whole have not much for which to blame ourselves. We have the nucleus of a very good side for next year, and hope to improve considerably then.

The bat and ball enthusiasts have started, and in the first Garrison trial Captain Watts, Lieut. Harrison, L/Corpls Burrell, Taylor, Jerram, Surfleet, Marsh and Thomas took part. The main difficulty here is grounds, and until the position in that respect improves, unit games are very problematical.

The advent of Sergt Murphy from Egypt has given a fillip to our athletic training. We have a lot of ground to make up in the next four weeks, but any lack of success will not be for want of trying.

For the rest, summer comes and goes in patches, and we try to fit the proverbial quart into the inelastic pint pot.

We have finished our first musketry period with fairly good results. The revolver fellows have surprised everybody, even themselves, with their scores, and I suppose those extra days leave will soon be in great demand.

Congratulations to F/S/Sergt Garnett on his third prize in the shoeing competition at the Southern Command Horse Show. He was up against stiff opposition, but did very well.

Raffles and Bonzo and Layton and Johnston represented the unit in the light draught class, but failed to catch the judge's eye. Nil Return and Not Yet, ridden by L/Corpls Cowe and Bailey respectively, were entered for the best trained troop horse, and the former did particularly well.

Captain Solly with Simon just failed to repeat his success of last year in the officer's chargers and had to be content with second place. We understand that his groom, Driver Phillips, had something to say about it!



L/Corporal Cowe on Nil Return.

Major Prescot (A.F.V. Signals) and Lieut. Hay (Colchester) were other representatives of the Corps, and we congratulate them on their respective successes.

Widespread regret is heard on all sides that neither the Royal Tournament nor the Tattoo will see a Signals display this year. Their popularity is most marked.

We were proud to read in the last issue of THE WIRE the words of farewell addressed by General Pope to Waziristan Signals—not that we contributed, but these things all add a bit to the chest measurement of the Corps. BULFORD.

Arrivals.—The following may now be seen in the vicinity of Bulford Camp, having no doubt been lured hither by glowing reports of the sunny south (we hope that their stay will be a long and pleasant one). C.Q.M.S. Field from 2nd Divl Signals. Corpl Freeman and Driver Wilkins from the Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion. L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Perfect, Signalmen Briant, Martin and Penton from Egypt Signals. Corporal Lee from the Training Battalion.

Departures.—To compensate for the above increases, and further to impress on us that a military life is indeed nomadic, the powers that be have severed our personal connections with the following:—Signalmen Barrow, Pew, Robertson D., Williams and Driver Brooking to Egypt Signals. L.Corporal White and Signalmen Kirkby and Page to Palestine. Corpl Parry to Gibraltar. L/Corpl Kay to Chisledon to investigate the intricacies of civvy work. Signalmen Richardson and Clarke L. to Army Reserve.



L/Corporal Bailey on Not Yet.

Examinations.—The results of the second class examination held in March are far too numerous to show in detail; suffice it to say that they were, in the majority of cases, satisfactory. The remainder were no doubt as disappointed as the instructors, but the fact that there were no absolute failures is reassuring.

Sigmn Woods C. is to be congratulated on obtaining his first class certificate with "D" in maths. Don't rest, Chippy; further heights may yet be scaled. Others whose names are legion passed in various subjects, and we hope that next time will see the desired result achieved.

U/L/Corpl Fenton passed in map reading and is now regarded as having his special. Lord Trenchard has nothing on the Signals.

Courses.—The undermentioned have attended courses as shown and have obtained satisfactory results. Congratulations are, of course, liberally strewn on the intelligentsia concerned. L/Sergeant Butcher, regimental signallers instructors course. U/L/Corpl Barter, sergeant cooks course (the result is already apparent, as we now have lemon flavouring in the rice pudding). U/L/Corpl Mitchell, M.T. course at Feltham. U/L/Corporal Abrahams, P.T. course at Aldershot. U/L/Corpl West, Creed teleprinter course in London.

The following have left us to attend courses, and we hope that their efforts are crowned with success. L/Corpl Hartard to do six months hard on an equitation course at Catterick. L/Corpl Kerr to Catterick for regimental signallers course.

Discharges.—Having no further interest in this eventful military life, Corpl Pallett and Signalmen Connolly and Adams F. have set out to seek their fortunes in civvies. We wish them all luck and hope their search will not be prolonged.

Extensions.—Evidently there must be something attractive about the uniform existence in military atmospheres, since the undermentioned have signified their willingness to continue. U/L/Corpl Shorrock and Sigmn Harris to complete twelve years with the Colours. L/Corpl Kerr to do his pontoon. L/Corpl Whittle and Signalmen Kennedy, Hall and Hughes for a buckshee six months, during which period they will be in training for the great fight for a living in civvy street.

Appointments and Promotions.—Congratulations, together with a certain fluid, overflowed on the occasion of the promotion to C.S.M. of C.Q.M.S. Thomas.

Our own congratulations, without the fluid, must suffice for the undermentioned. Signalmen McGivern, Surfleet and Black to be U/L/Corporals.

Sergt Field was appointed C.Q.M.S. and at the same time posted to us. We welcome and congratulate him in the same breath.

Individual Training.—The second period of individual training has passed, and the results are now widespread. We congratulate those who are the happy recipients of extra pice, and exhort the others to make fresh efforts. Not much consolation, I know, but it's the best we can offer.

Miscellaneous.—For the information of anyone interested, we notify all readers that Signalmen Hall and Hughes (late of Egypt Signals) are now in residence at their country seat at Chisledon—the while, being held on command by this unit.

Births and Marriages.—Congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Pain on the birth of a son, Robert James, on 3/4/34.

Success on life's journey is all we can wish L/Corpl Robinson A. and Miss E. Breen, who have decided to run in double harness. Their wedding ceremony took place in the precincts of Bulford Camp on 2/4/34.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

Introductory.—Just in case any "old school tie" wallahs take the trouble to read these notes, may I remind them that Onecoy is still going strong; and although we have not yet set the eastern counties afire, it's never too late to mend and we still have hopes.

Eastern Command Spring Exercise.—On the 28th April the Company, plus a needed few from No. 3 Company, proceeded to Newhaven to take part in the Eastern Command spring exercise. At Newhaven we were reinforced by members of the 44th and 54th Divisional Signals (T.A.) which brought our numbers practically up to war establishment.

The first exercise took place on the 30th April and finished next day. From the Signal point of view, I am assured that it was a great success, communication being established and maintained with as little delay as possible. Examination of the registers at the close of the scheme showed that the operators had not been idle.

The second phase of the exercise was held on the 3rd/4th May. In this, also, we succeeded in doing our job, the amount of traffic running well into three figures before the end of the exercise.

This finished our work at Newhaven, and on Sunday 6th May we returned to Colchester, happy in the knowledge of a job well done.

Before leaving the subject, I should like to point out that the old maxim "All work and no play," etc. was not forgotten. Several bright sparks of the Company are now fully conversant with the attractions of Brighton, and several more are still full of hope.

Attachments.—A goodly number of the Company are now attached to Nos. 2 and 3 Companies—primarily to help them in their training, and secondly to show them how 'tis done.

Departures.—Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley to No. 3 Company. Signalmen Beckett, Wilson and Hall to the Army Reserve. They know we wish them well.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Nicholson and Sigmn Kendall from the S.T.C. Catterick.

Tailpiece.—Heard at Newhaven: "Through by pigeon." MASKEE.

No. 2 Company

Arrivals.—Fourteen other ranks from No. 1 Company, including L/Corpl Moody, who cannot stay away without being homesick.

Departures.—Sigmn Knight and Driver Spencer to Egypt Signals on the 13th April. Sigmn Randell to Palestine. Congratulations to C.S.M. Terrell (now posted to No. 3 Company) on his promotion.

Courses.—L/Corpl Russell to Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion, on an equitation course. Sigmn Kerr to A.V.T.C. Aldershot on an M.T. course, complete with petrol lighter.

Trade Ratings.—Congratulations to the following on obtaining higher ratings: Signalmen Peck, Mullholland, Quaintrell and Smith P.

Education.—Once again, congratulations—to L/Corpl Watson H. on obtaining his first class certificate of education, and to Corpl Maddison on passing in map reading towards his first.

Air Mail.—To Barleux from C.S.M.: Please let us have a little less of the Uncle Alf in your "Plain Tales."

Agony.—Who borrowed the sergeant-major's bicycle, gave it a bottle of Bass, and gently placed it in the C.S.M.'s back garden? and did the sergeant-major whistle when he had to walk home? HAPPY.

E Section, No. 2 Company, Shorncliffe.

General.—After a month of Brigade training at Shorncliffe, we moved to practice camp with the 22nd Field Brigade on the 5th May, and remain there until the end of the month. At Shorncliffe we got through a number of schemes, in spite of the indisposition of nearly all the drivers. We also introduced all new members of the Section to the joys of equitation. There were surprisingly few volunteers!

Sport.—The Section is producing two teams of four for a Lloyd Lindsay competition, and some tent peggers for the Shrewton Horse Show.

The cricket enthusiasts have started practising, and we are to have several matches with the Batteries in the near future.

Trade Ratings.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Hall and Signalmen Nisbett, Webb, Wilce, Quaintrell and Redman on improving their ratings.

We Want to Know.—Why three flu germs all had to select drivers as victims from a Section of twenty-eight men? (Regarding the flu epidemic among drivers, the C.S.M. has his own ideas.) NOBBY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Now that the Eastern Command exercise at Newhaven is a thing of the past, the Company have commenced Section training.

So far no official reports have been received from H.Q. Eastern Command in regard to the above exercise, but first class reports are being looked forward to, for the Staff were very pleased with everything they saw and each scheme was a complete success. Fortunately, the weather was quite good during the schemes, and everyone taking part gave of their best. Well done! keep it up for the remainder of the year.

It is regretted that sheet two of my May notes failed to reach the Editor's office, but they will be included in this issue. It has been suggested that Public Enemy No. 2 was the cause of sheet two not being despatched.

Arrivals.—We welcomed the following to the Company from overseas on 5/4/34 (may their stay with us be long and pleasant): Signalmen Gaukrodger R., Nicklin, Hetherington, Brett and Stratford from India; Sigmn Pipe from Aden.

Departures.—L/Corpl Steel A. is now a full blown civilian w.e.f. 5/4/34. Here's wishing you the best of luck, Taffy, and we hope to hear soon of Police Constable Steel A. K.

Marriages.—Two to report as having taken the plunge, and one too late to change his mind. We wish them every happiness, and may their only troubles be small ones. Sigmn Hardy A. took the plunge at Bridgend, Glamorgan, on 29/3/34, with Miss Edith May Austin; Driver Hinchcliffe was married in Colchester to Miss Ruby Swain on 28/4/34; and Sigmn Robinson R. V. has fixed his happy day for next Saturday.

I Should Like to Know.—Is it a record to run four miles (from Seaford to Newhaven) in thirty minutes, greatly handicapped by breeches and puttees?

If the record breaker wore the seat out of his breeches when running along the railway track?

What the policeman thought when asked the time by the abovementioned record breaker? (Time was 23.50 hrs. and he still had a little way to go.)

'Gratulations.—To Stumpy on breaking such a long standing record. Unit distance runners, look to your laurels. Three Company have a dark horse in training.

Sports.—The Section football and hockey knock-out tournaments are now at an end, and K Section are congratulated on reaching the final of both. M and B Sections being unable to play off their semi-final game for the hockey cup owing to training, the final was not played. In the final of the football K Section met and defeated D Section after a very hard and clean game, and the latter deserve to be congratulated as well as the winners.

The unit mile relay team are to be congratulated on their fine performance in winning the open relay race at the Beds and Herts regimental sports. Every unit in the Garrison entered a team in this race, and we won in 3 min. 47 sec., incidentally beating the Army champions. The team comprised 2/Lieut. D. A. Pringle (880 yards), Lieut. Goldsmith (440) and L/Corpls Wilbraham and Gillott (220).

Final.—We have heard of rackets, but this ricky racket wins.

Conclusion.—We have heard that lots of people in the Signals are mad, but we have a Madder. THREE COMPANY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—I suppose the humorous side is the first that some persons can see in any matter. An order was published to the effect that a whistle would replace the trumpet, and certain blasts would be blown for certain parades. The unit wit said "Reveille is sounded by a succession of blasts blown by the R.O.S. through a whistle; yet from the men on being awakened come blasts—but not through a whistle."

Many of the other ranks of the unit are awaiting the launching of "Coquette," one of the yachts of the S.S.C. These initials may be taken either for the Signals Sailing Club or the Scarborough Sailing Club. As a matter of fact, I do not know which is correct, as the yacht was purchased from a member of the latter club. Many hours have been spent by the members of the crew in repainting the yacht, and it is hoped that the pleasure derived during the summer months will repay them for their labour.

The sayings "Where is he now?" and "There's that fellow again" have been the cause of merriment in certain places during the last month. These remarks have been included in these

notes in order that they may be placed on record, and in time to come unit readers of the bound copy of THE WIRE may smile again at happenings of the past.

" Do you need all?" or " Can you spare?" or " That needs splitting " are sayings applicable to the gardens of the unit. To the unit gardener the last applies ; but to whom the first applies, I will leave it to unit readers.

Whilst on the subject of gardening, we have in the unit a signalman who has been given the job of brightening up the spare plots of earth, and well is he doing this job. Judging from the number of plants he has obtained and planted, he must have asked all householders in the vicinity of the barracks " Can you spare me so and so?"

The necessity of having various kinds of fruit or vegetables must be the first thought of one married gardener, for he went about four miles to procure a black currant tree—of course, all on the " free stakes."

Inspections.—These are to the fore in this unit. I do not think that a month passes without either a barrack inspection, one or two " annual " inspections, or a change in the Divisional or Area Staff necessitating a visit to the unit. This month, we had a visit from Major-General G. W. Howard, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who has just taken over the 5th Division ; and the A.D.R. inspected the animals of the unit.

Sergeants Mess.—Nothing of particular note has taken place during the month under review. It is not known whether the air of Scarborough is responsible, or whether the "spring feeling" has attacked certain members at a later stage than is usual, but Cupid appears to have been at work and fired some very fine shots. Keep an eye on these notes, Catterick units, for you *will* be surprised when the matter becomes public.

Musketry.—By the time these notes are in print, the unit will have completed its annual musketry. At the moment the highest score recorded (88) was obtained by Sigmn Costigan of No. 3 Company. A very good score ; you are now earmarked for "A" team of the Rifle Club, Costigan.

Courses.—Corpls McLean, Coaten and Badham and L/Corpls Bergman, Lane and Coles have departed to the School of Signals for a course on the No. 1 sets, for the forthcoming training season.

L/Corpl Webb H. to the Army School of Education, to discover how to impart the necessary knowledge to obtain those elusive and very desirable seconds.

L/Corpl Webber, of cook-house fame, has departed to the Army School of Cookery to test the accuracy of those Pathe films that we have seen recently. We hope that he will not decide to give the Ritz or the Carlton the benefit of his polished art, and implore him to let us sample his skill—for a little while, at any rate.

Appointments.—We extend our heartiest congratulations to Signalmen Ransom and Boniface on their recent appointment as U/L/Corporals. Keep it up, fellows: it's the first step towards that baton, and it is only a matter of time now.

After a period of sweating, U/L/Corporal Cooper has been appointed Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster w.e.f. 13/2/34.

Discharge.—We all extend our best wishes to Sigmn Harlow, who was discharged from the Service on 24/4/34.

To Army Reserve.—Whilst on the subject of discharges, I am reminded that another of the clan has worn his canvas for the last time, and that henceforth he will be referred to as Mr. Croft. This late comrade of ours left us on 7/5/34, and I suspect that many tears were shed by certain local lassies as the train carried him away from Scarborough's sunny shore.

Births.—That very benevolent and sometimes *too* generous bird, the stork, has visited certain members of the unit recently. Our congratulations are extended to Corpl and Mrs. Daw, who are now the proud parents of a daughter, Regina Anne Lydia, born at Scarborough on 17/4/34. We must also congratulate Driver and Mrs. Hazelgrave, who have also been given a daughter, Violet, born at Newby on 10/4/34.

Postings.—To the following arrivals from units as shown, we extend a welcome and the oft-repeated phrase " We hope that their stay will be a long and pleasant one." L/Corpl Morris F. from 2nd Divl Signals. Sigmn Smith L. H. from D Company, Training Battalion. Signalmen Whittaker, Meek and Pullinger from E Company, Training Battalion. L/Sergeant Carnell from India. Signalmen Johnson, Pillow and Woodwark from S.T.C.

L/Corpl Hills has left us for 2nd Divl Signals, and Sergeant Schofield and Sigmn Kilpatrick for Egypt, just prior to going to press.

Marriages.—It is still a source of pleasure for the single members of the unit to watch another victim heading towards his doom. Anyway, we proffer our sympathy—no, sorry! congratulations to Sigmn Orgill on his recent plunge into matrimony. He was married to Miss Freda Dunn at Scarborough on 21/4/34, and although the boys were unable to attend in numbers, they were there in spirit. Anyway, the best of luck, Orgill.

Continuation in the Service.—Congratulations are extended to our popular new R.S.M. on his decision to remain in the Service beyond twenty-one years, to complete five years in the rank of W.O.1.

Re-Engagements.—We must also congratulate Sigmn Smith J. E., who has elected to remain in the Service to complete twenty-one years Colour service.

Educational Certificates.—We congratulate the following on having something to show for their recent hard work in wrestling with intricate problems in maths, tricky passages in English, awkward spots of geography, and unknown conventional signs, etc. At an examination held at Scarborough on 6/4/34 the following were successful in securing their second class certificate of education: Signalmen Steenson, Thompson, Bell, Lawton, Sant, Vickers and Voller.

Sigmn McBeth also succeeded in winning his first class certificate at the same examination.

Whilst extending our sympathy to the following in qualifying only in the following subjects towards their first, we congratulate them and hope they will soon be in possession of the complete certificate. Sigmn Crozier, maths and map reading. L/Corporal Chaffey, maths and map reading. Sigmn Dove, map reading. Sigmn Langley, maths. Sigmn McIntosh, maths and map reading. Sigmn McTerman, English. Sigmn Todd, maths. Sigmn Toogood, maths and map reading. Sigmn Cutter, map reading. Sigmn Britnor, map reading. L/Corpl Done, maths and geography. Sigmn Lee, maths. Sigmn Machin, English and map reading. L/Corpl Brunton-Douglas, maths.

Signalman Pullinger qualified in map reading and maths ("D") whilst at Catterick recently.

FIFTHDIV.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, Co. Cork, 11th May.

Births.—The Section unites in congratulating Captain and Mrs. F. I. N. McOstrich on the birth of a son and heir at Rushbrooke on the 4th May. Another stranger came along on the 6th May, when the wife of Sigmn L. J. Thomas presented him with a daughter.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Hopgood A. from Dover arrived at Spike Island on the 25th April. Welcome, Tony! May your stay be a long and good one.

Education.—First class certificates of education continue to come our way. Sigmn Osborne A. L. is the successful one this time. A little Bennett goes a long way!

General.—A wireless class of twelve picked R.A. signallers from these Defences has been held under the Foreman-of-Signals, and the whole class is now fit to take charge of C mk 1. W/T sets for the ship-to-shore communication—we hope.

L/Corpl Wilson C. and Signalmen Parker and Richardson are swotting for higher rates. We wish them the best of luck, and hope that it will not be very long before they try for more laurels.

Agony.—Has the Foreman-of-Signals Gazette died a natural death?

Prescot 973: The half seat has been repaired and railings renewed. B.

Where was the Aberdonian Lanka Mk. II. last month?

Sigmn D. O'Sullivan 662 (ex-Guards) would like to hear from J. (Jock) Ewart 101.

LANKA MK. IV.



UNITS ABROAD



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company.

Saturday 21st April.

General.—Apart from sport, which is reported elsewhere, I am afraid life in Jubbulpore has been rather uneventful lately, and up to the time of writing nothing has happened about which we can " tell the world."

Sergt Noakes and L/Sgt Baker have each had a " loud speaker" installed in their quarters, and at regular intervals one may hear sounds such as have caused Pop to pace the floor, right down from Adam.

The Hugh Rose Lodge of the R.A.O.B. held a fancy dress dance in the Regimental Institute this evening, and it was a great success.

The Golf Club is still proving popular, and Captain Barton (our O.C.) has very kindly presented a cup to be competed for annually. This is our first cup, and we feel we are now more settled on the permanent highway of the royal and ancient game. It will be competed for next month, and we are hoping for some real " News of the World " results.

Departures.—L/Corpl Campbell to Peshawar District Signals. The "S" Course personnel have now returned to their respective units, and we trust that they enjoyed their stay with us in Jub.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Richardson from Peshawar District Signals, and Sigmn Sanders from A Corps Signals, Karachi. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Births.—To Sergt and Mrs. Nokes a daughter, in March. To L/Sergt and Mrs. Baker a son, in April.

Congratulations.—To Corporal Gourlay on passing the "S" Course.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Sunday 8th April.

General.—Signals Week, Northern Command, has come and gone. The weather was some of the worst we have experienced for a considerable time, with the consequence that events had to be fitted in as weather and time permitted, and the whole of the programme was thrown out. Many games of hockey and football had to be played in a downpour of rain, to allow those who had come in from out-stations to get back to their units ; and most of the games did not get the support they usually secure during this week, as very few would turn out to brave the elements—and in general the week was spoilt.

Entertainments.—The B.O.R.s dance in the regimental theatre on Tuesday of Signals Week proved a huge success, but the floor was very crowded and dancing was not what it might have been.

The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess dance held on the 7th March proved all that was expected, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by those present.

The Waziristan District Signals band rendered the music at both these functions, and our thanks go to them for the splendid help they afforded.

The weekly whist drive and dance in the B.O.R.s mess room is still as popular as ever, going a long way towards making the social side of the unit all that it should be. As the hot weather is drawing near now, there is the possibility that these will be discontinued, as dancing in a closed-in building is not popular during these months ; and with most of the married families at Upper Topa, the ladies will be very scarce.

Sports.—For all sports news, see Sports Notes.

Arrivals.—To the following we extend a hearty welcome, and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Lieut. and Mrs. Walker and Lieut. Gardiner from U.K. A draft of thirteen B.O.R.s arrived on the 10th March. C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Young and Sigmn Mullins from W.E.S. Cherat. Sigmn Bancroft from A Corps Signals, Karachi. L/Corporal Laurie and family from U.K.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Stevenson, Sergt Hay E., Corporal Blakeman and families, Sergt Thompson, and five B.O.R.s to U.K. on transfer to the home establishment. L/Sergt Davies and Corpl Bainbridge to U.K. on six months leave. Sigmn Rowley to S.T.C. Jubbulpore. Sigmn Lock to A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Agony.—Don't forget the old Indian wallahs, Ted ; and a line when you have a couple of pence to spare will always be welcome.

A Bright One.—Musketry instructor, to one of his would-be first class shots: " One thing to remember, my lad, is that the harder you pull the trigger, the farther the bullet will go."

ONEDIV.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Thursday 19th April.

It is very difficult to get down to writing like Edgar Wallace about a small Cavalry Troop, but with the aid of Part II. and the horses, I will try to drag something out.

During the month the unit sent representatives to the North of India Horse Show held at Rawalpindi, and enjoyed a certain amount of success as a result. The commanding officer, Captain C. M. F. White, had a busy time, riding Stag and Tilleywhim to second and third places in the handy hunters, and again to third and fourth places respectively in the open jumping for privately owned animals. Stag was loaned from Lieut. Powett (R.Signals) for the occasion. Sergt R. (Tich) Standen, on Arab, had to be content with third place in the open jumping after tieing for first place and riding off three times. Zev (No. 38) ridden by L/Dfr. Mohd Akbar, proved the best Indian Cavalry troop horse. It will be recalled that Zev could only obtain third place for the same event at the Sialkot Horse Show, another of our horses ridden by the same Indian n.c.o. taking first place.

The Chief Signal Officer and the Brigadier have finished their inspections for the time being, leave and three horses per man becoming the normal routine. The contractor, I understand, had authorised chitthis for sixteen tins of various coloured paints but actually disposed of some forty odd tins. Why the difference? and where did the paint go? The visual bay was looking well painted.

Several B.O.R.s leave to-day for Topa for higher grade courses. This means that a certain admi. cannot pick the proverbial chip for at least a couple of months. Don't worry, you chaps ; the remainder of the Troop go to the khuds for the second half, and someone has to take over the remounts.

Sigmn Barrett F. has gone to Jubbulpore for a course as electrician fitter.

I hope to be able to send some interesting snaps of the jumping and football teams for the benefit of Paddy Grafton, Jimmy James, and a few more of the bygones.

The writer would like to know if Tubby Reeves has seen the Loch Ness Monster or any of its relations during his week-end leaves. It was last heard of making its way towards Brighton.

Results of sports to date are inserted in the Sports columns.

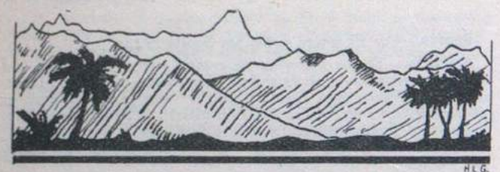
Arrivals.—We welcome Corpl Vine J. from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, who has come to fill Sergt Conyer's boots.

Departures.—More next October.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal (Pip) Kenny, our orderly room sergeant, who has been presented with the third for turning out the range party at five minutes notice. Waziristan papers, please copy.

Agony Column.—4th Indian Divl Signals dooserah naiks, from Pilah naiks: Wot about a line? Stamps are plentiful. How is the cousin?

To Hank, 4th Indian Divl Signals: Oh, you big bad man! Bug Tash. KHANA.



H.L.G.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Piscatorial.—

By Budni's banks they sat and wept:
The fishes would not rise.
In spite of Cheddar's crooning songs
And Paddy's hand-dressed flies. IZAAK.

(I know who will bite now!)

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Campbell A. from the S.T.C. (India) and Sigmn Birkett W. from B Corps Signals.

Step-ups—not step-ins. The usual congratulations to L/Cpls Dumville H., Day W. and Collett E. on reaching pages 64/65 of the Corps Promotion bogey.

Medals.—This unit was also entitled to the I.G.S. with clasp "N.W.F. 1930-31."

Idle Thoughts—(1). The other day I came across an adage in some periodical or other: "Never pass judgment upon another without first mentally putting yourself in his place."

This saying is very applicable in one way to the Army, inasmuch as there must be hundreds of excellent soldiers (of use in time of war and not the barrack-room-adorning type) lost to the Service every year just through being first misjudged and then probably not receiving a chance to make good. Quite a disgraceful affair, if one energises the old grey substance enough to ponder over the whys and wherefores of such matters. Also, the fellows, maybe, get unsuitable reports for civilian life—and there again they are handicapped. Why? Because someone, in the first place, did not "mentally put himself in another's place"—just took something for granted.

Of course, I grant there are (may I say) the desperate characters who, finding that the Army is not to their liking, make themselves nuisances wherever they go until their service finishes in an inglorious way. These people deserve no sympathy and seldom receive any.

On the other hand, the pukka soldier who slips once or twice and gets heavy punishment instead of, say, a warning (to err is human: first witness, Adam) loses far more than the habitual criminal with his book of conduct sheets. Why? Because the average person gets discouraged and says "Hang the Army!"—and there we are: a good soldier lost. When the time comes to collect his A.F.B.108, he receives promises, etc., of employment, but it is eventually the Signals Association which fills the breach. Esprit de corps!

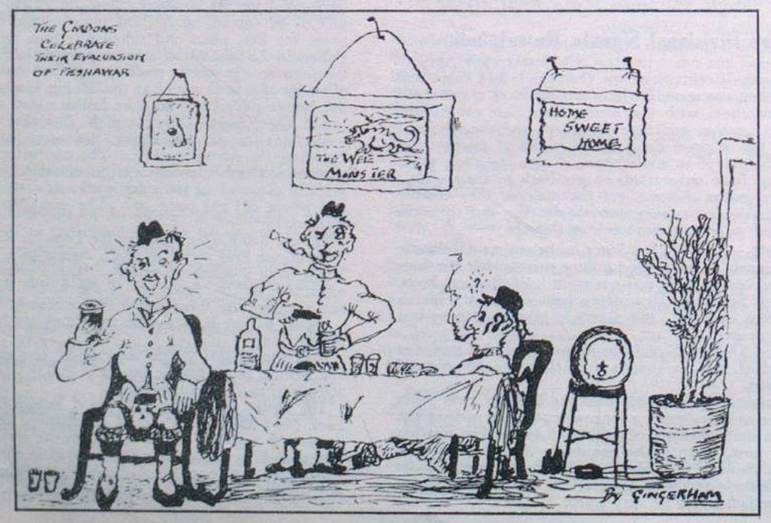
Gaelic Press.—To "Snivellers, snoozers, snoopers and wompers" at Jubbulpore: I got a horse now. Where is Lila? Who's the fellow who found the secret pass in No. 2 nullah? What's a jigger? Champ.

Art.—As the accompanying sketch may seem to cast aspersions on the 2nd Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, I would say here that it is an excellent battalion in every way and one to be welcomed in any station.

Books Worth Reading.—"Round the Smoking Room Fire" by Major G. E. Radclyffe. "Matador" by Marguerite Steen. "Ninety-two Days" by Evelyn Waugh.

General.—Except for the routine of technical training, leave, exodus of married families to the hills, whist drives and billiard tournaments run by the Signals Association, everything is very normal. Even the weather.

This Month's Great Thought.—"Only those who are strong enough to keep silent about self are strong enough to be sure of self" (Galsworthy). MIIM.



Landi Kotal Detachment.

Hello! hello! hello! So you did not know that there was such a place as Landi Kotal, eh? Of course, we are rather remote—far more so than our brethren in Peshawar, that station somewhere in the south. However, you will be hearing quite a lot from this far-flung outpost in the future, for we are here to boost it up. The "we" means, naturally, that there are more than one. As a matter of fact, there are two of us: one who will inform all and sundry about the sporting world, and the other who will chip in now and then.

Training.—Now that the Section has quite a number of attached from Peshawar in search of ratings, we are having very busy times. The course personnel are now in their third week of technical training, and there is no *sine* of the enthusiasm *lagging*.

General.—We can now boast of at least one home comfort—a piano has been delivered unto us. No questions, please; it sufficeth that it is here.

The Detachment will probably be appearing in public soon. The Khyber Crooners and the Yusuf Khel Yodellers are having rehearsals every evening in the recreation room-cum-library-cum-wet canteen.

We were given a break on Sunday 8th April, when our Risalpur friends visited us in full force; and we hope that they enjoyed their visit as much as we did seeing their cheery countenances. After lunch we played them at hockey. We are sorry about the result, but we just couldn't help it!

Arrivals.—Sergt Quick P., late of the 51st Highland Divisional Signals (T.A.). In his case, it is rather a happy return, though. Signalmen Rogers, Young, Wood, O'Hara (McGinty), Smith and Young from Peshawar, to do some hiking around the khuds. A hearty welcome to all, and may all your blisters be little ones.

Departures.—Our O.C., Lieut. W. A. Purser, on leave ex India. Sigmn Allnutt to Peshawar for a scrounge in the disorderly room.

Promotions.—Our heartiest congratulations to Sergt Wilson E. (I.U.L.) on his promotion to that rank.

Picy Corner.—L/Corpl Collett desires epistles from L/Corpl Oliver (Sigs Wazirdist) and Sigmn Charlton (believed to be in the land of the Pharaohs). P.C. 139 wants to hear from Rockall, Quetta.

We Want to Know.—If Bungalow 110 is now called the Chamber of Horrors? Is the skeleton message for use with the phantom circuit?

Stop Press.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. R. C. Yule, who took over command of the Section on the 6th March. We hope his stay in the Khyber will be a long and enjoyable one.

Tailpiece.—Come up and see us some time.

COLOSSAL TWO.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Sunday 29th April.

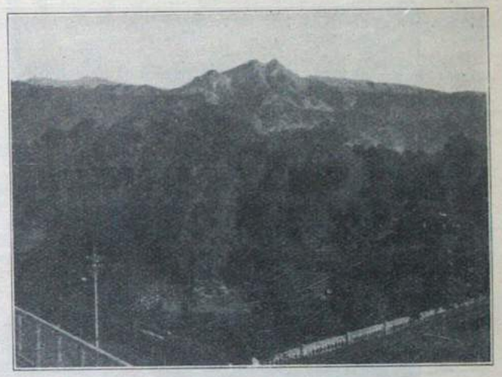
April arrived with a jolly Easter welcome for us all. Easter was spent by some of the unit in tripping to places of interest: the Khyber Pass or Thal. . . . along the Great Wall of India. Glorious weather for the most part, with Kohat looking most inviting during the latter end of March and beginning of April, urges us to make the most of this spell which always precedes th really hot days—and makes us wonder why? Why have they gone? Why have our birds migrated to other lands?

Summer has come; ma lass has gone the noo
For sojourn long, has gone by car and rail;
And now there is no female left to woo,
Save but her script—to wit, the female mail.

The weather certainly seems to be entirely changing, for here we are at the end of April with lots of rain, cool breezes (I almost said zephyrs), very few mozzies and not over many sand flies. Is the time coming when Kohat will be a hill station? (sweat on).

The P.F.F.R. Week, which old Kohatites know so well, was enjoyed by all, as usual; and, also as usual, the "Week" was at home to all families and the Sergeants Mess at the football final. (Incidentally, this almost coincided with the depositing of yet another old Colour in the wee church here.)

We have been inspected by the Commander-in-Chief, and the complimentary letter which was sent to units after the ceremonial parade speaks well of our turnout in general. The accompanying photos speak better still of our line in particular as we marched past. We are still wondering just what it was that so captured His Excellency's attention as our line drew near. We cannot help but recall that when H.E. visited the station three years ago, he was unable to carry out an inspection owing to temporary illness.



The "Old Lady" of Kohat.
4727 feet high, about three miles out from Kohat.

The C.S.O. has also paid us a visit: this time to have a final look over the unit and to say farewell. In saying goodbye he mentioned the hard work which the unit had put in, and how pleased he was that it had such a fine name amongst the other units and the staff of the district in which it lived, worked and played.

In saying adieu to Colonel Barker, we would also welcome Colonel A. Fitz-Drayson as our new C.S.O. He commanded this unit some years ago.

Many have been disappointed this year owing to the few vacancies allotted to us for courses at Topa. We have a bevy of bright boys keen for the khuds and for knowledge—to say nothing of the—er increase in salary. These had to be thinned out by a most complicated system of averages, and eventually eight have gone for upgrading. We hope that as they go on to the Trade Board, they will assimilate and accumulate electronic energy and prove what Lachi and Kahi men are made of.

Other disappointments in the lack of vacancies for vocational courses have been met by our next R.O.T.B. crowd. Undaunted, they are making the most of a bad job by fastening on something locally, but it is not such a good substitute with which to tackle the great adventure of civvy street.

We trust that the unit incubator was working at the correct temperature when we were ordered to produce a tall, a short, a fat and a thin B.O.R. for the fitting of blue patrols. In the absence of a pianist the piano has been returned to stores for the summer, and we sadly miss the strains of "Shoobird" and "Chopping" in the afternoons. We are keenly hoping that a pianist will join us for next season. Any volunteers? By the way, sir, was the piano medically examined prior to its return? It seemed to be very highly strung!

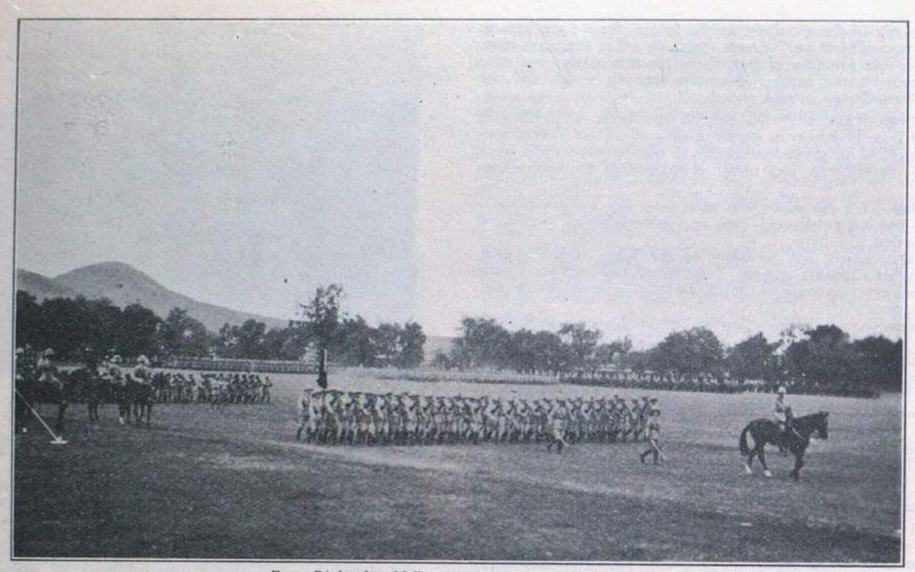
It was good to read in the April WIRE of the various ancient Frontier warriors who at some time served in this station being presented with the I.G.S. medal. Brave boys. The Old Lady salutes you and says "Don't get chesty."

We offer our congratulations to C.S.M. Bardoe V. on his several recent honours.

Have you ever met a twin? Sigmn Caulfield was visited by his brother, Sergt Caulfield of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and between them they bewildered us for a week: alike as two peas in looks, and even the same in mannerisms, voice and expression. One would meet him in civvies at the door, and less than a minute afterwards hear him answering to his name on parade. Such a likeness is not a parallel; it's a crime!

The idea of a summer at home has called some of our number to the shores of Old England. Captain E. V. F. MacSwiney and family and Lieut W. B. Rowett all sailed in April.

Corpl Robins P. A., L/Corpl Langley C. and Signalmen Madgwick and Barnsley have also gone to recuperate. Our advice is—beware! It is not the knot, but the knotty problems afterwards which cause us to say "Beware!"



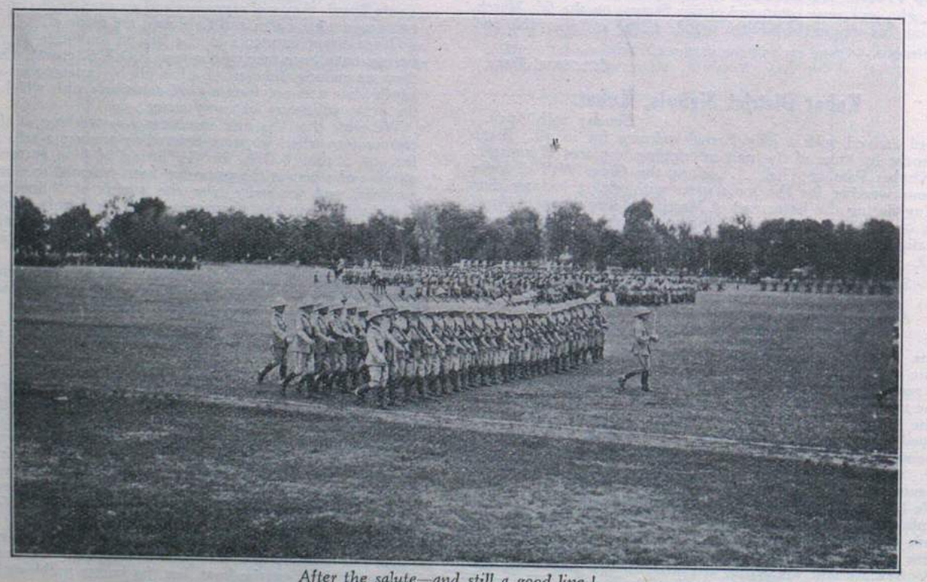
Eyes Right for H.E. the Commander-in-Chief.

We learn with regret that after being at home for some months on the sick list, L/Corpl Kelly J. A. has been transferred to the home establishment. We wish him health and happy days.

Lieut. J. T. Addenbrooke joined the unit a month ago and has been busily engaged in getting to know its members before the hot weather sets in. When that happens, he will be busy getting to know the hot weather.

Corpl Smith A. T. has returned from the "S" Course at Jubbulpore. He is now breathing pith-balls and electroscopes, but for a month or so will be busy tracing the circuits of a rissole and forming a plan of attack for a stomach-kake.

Entertainments.—The Easter of India, very like the Easter at home, has come and gone. As there was no other entertainment on for Easter Monday, the unit held an all-ranks dance to



After the salute—and still a good line !

enlighten a somewhat cheerless holiday. An open-air dance on the tennis courts was planned, and the committee spent six hours in straining up tarpaulins, hanging purdahs and arranging sinister alcoves. Unfortunately, open-air dance floors are not all-weather models, and when the shower came in the early evening that hard-worked committee cursed their luck, put their ideas of an open-air show back into the old oak chest, and prepared the S. and D. Club. The irony of it was that at 10 p.m. it was a brilliant, inviting moonlit night.

However, dancing started at 9 p.m. with a good attendance, and with the presence of our C.O. (Major B. G. Rowley) and Mrs. Rowley and the officers, things went with a good swing until 1.30 a.m. By this time our pianist (Lieut. C. H. Barker), unused to such strenuous playing, was beginning to feel an ache in his finger joints.

We fully appreciate that it is much more congenial " tickling " five chip notes as an accounts officer than knocking out jazz tunes for hours on end. The band played well, as usual, and it was noticeable how small was the bill for band drinks—resolutions, I suppose.

Wimbledon Warblings.—Our tennis secretary very successfully arranged a novices tournament ; all the local hard-hitters were barred. Sigmn McCann took the first prize, a racquet and press (who took McCann back?) but he is long enough to win anything. The second prize, a Thermos flask, was won by Sigmn Cribb, who is nearly as long—so he can't crib.

In an all-in chance-your-arm doubles tournament, the entrance fee for which was a packet of fags, L/Corpl Talbot and Sigmn Caulfield carted the smokes. Sigmn Brown won the hidden prize with a wonderful forearm drive over the purdah and the ration stand and halfway to Hangu.

To old members of the Tennis Club now sporting their flannels and racquets in Blighty, we should like to pass on the news that we can still turn out a good team, that our membership stands at fifty, and that we have temporarily taken over a spare court from the Sergeants Mess, which considerably shortens the sitting-out period.

The sun is beginning to glare ; the perspiration is beginning to pour ; the afternoon nap is becoming more of a necessity than a luxury ; and so entertainments will be less frequent. Some of our numbers have been fortunate enough to join the very select few in the khuds, and they will certainly not lack entertainment. The rest of us are hoping that the entertainments committee will keep cool and arrange a smoker or two to while away an evening and break the monotony.

Sergeants Mess.

Despite the skill and style displayed by so many of our members, the final matches with the R.A.F. did not bring glory and honour, or cups, into the mess. We lost the final day's play by about twenty games in 160 and thus left the R.A.F. the winners of the triangular tournament. This always provides us with some pleasant afternoons, however, and one day we *shall* win.

On the 3rd April a farewell tea-dance was held in the mess to kiss the families goodbye and to hear the solemn rendering of " Hubby's Lament." The families themselves kindly provided the cakes for refreshments. Although there were not many present, we had a very happy evening. Owing to the motherly care of the president of the committee there were sufficient cakes left —oh, most worthy Mother Beeton!—to allow of our inviting the S. and D. Club down the following day to a tennis at home. Our retiring committee, headed by Sergt Ivey, pass on (gratis) the information that cakes can be kept beautifully fresh for an indefinite period by the judicious use of cabbage leaves and " a harspirin in the water."

When we had recovered from our desolation at losing the swish of the skirts—and the apron strings—we held a games evening to which the corporals were invited. This took the form of a tennis match, followed by a high tea. The scores of the tennis are unknown because Slim Benson was found sitting on the blackboard. So passed the evening, darting here, shoving there and cribbing elsewhere—the smooth running being assured by keeping the innards well lubricated.

Owing to depleted numbers in our tennis playing members, we have as a temporary measure let one of our courts to the Men's Tennis Club. Increasing our talents, to brighten theirs, sort of thing.

WOG.

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Individual Training.—This is most prominent these days. Things on that side are running so smoothly that it is expected we shall be able to omit the word " failed " from the trade test ceremony.

Departures.—In the matter of postings, we have parted with Signalman Sanders C. to Jubbulpore, Sigmn Matthews J. B. to Waziristan District Signals, and Corpl Mottram J. to 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta. In Sigmn Matthews, Waziristan District Signals have the ideal man to keep 'em back ; and Quetta, by Corporal Mottram's presence, has gained an authority on " shooters."

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Corpl Turner F. and Signalmen Bench R. and Dawton L.

Promotions.—These have been showered upon us. " About time, too," is the general remark of those recipients whose pay is affected. They should, however, remember that everything comes to those who wait—long enough. Here they are. Sergt Steed H. to be C.Q.M.S. Corporal Cosens G. to be L/Sergeant. U/L/Corpls Berry W. and Brakenberry B. to discard the " unpaid "; and Signalmen Wilkins G., Richardson W. and Gales H. to be U/L/Corporals.

Lesser Distinctions have been attained by L/Sergt Cole V. in re-engaging for the well-known figure, and by U/L/Corpl Lamont W. in aspiring to a humble eight and four. The latter's worried look of recent weeks has been due to his not knowing whether he was in the Army or not.

Vacations.—The leave camp at Manora is in full swing now, and our jaded city men are being restored to their natural selves in bundles of fourteen (each bundle being restricted to a visit of ten days).

Sergeants Mess.—Judging by the notes I get for publication, I doubt if such an institution exists. This may rouse them, though.

Corporals Mess.—The Mess is pursuing the even tenor of its way : always jolly and having fun—but not much to write about.

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Monday 7th May.

Interval.—To enable sensitive readers to get over the shock of seeing notes from this unit. In an attempt to bridge the gap left since our last contribution, we give a short account of our activities since last summer.

The Story So Far.—During the training season, at odd intervals, we have demonstrated the mysterious workings of a D.iii. to the Staff College, Western Command, Baluchistan District and others who find charm and fascination in evolving battles against an imaginary enemy, who are usually established on the far side of innumerable miles of best Baluchistan boulders.

After assisting at various exercises, we went under canvas for a few weeks prior to manœuvres (1933). Those who did not go into hospital with malaria or exhaustion (which is a rather useful complaint, calculated to bluff the most conscientious M.O.) went on manœuvres. Those who survived the ordeal now consider themselves tough.

Speaking of tough guys. In October Sigmn Williams J. J. forsook the pleasures of Karachi and penetrated into the wilds of Baluchistan, where he set about spreading the cult of toughness among the hitherto amicable members of the unit, with the result that we soon had a boxing team who acquitted themselves nobly in the Baluchistan District team championships. Meanwhile J. J. went off to Calcutta, whence he returned as light weight champion of India, complete with a big belt and a silver statuette. (But, of course, you have heard all about this on the wireless and read of it in your daily papers, months and months ago.)

The net result is that we now consider ourselves, individually and collectively, tough guys who are entitled to 100 per cent. of the sidewalk.



The Unit Camp at Bostan.

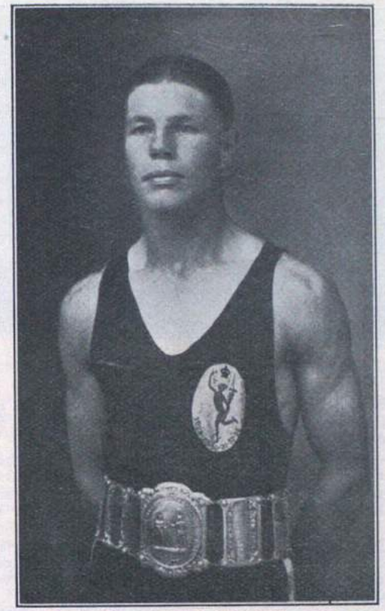
"Wire" Notes and Why.—In the manner peculiar to all boxers, the tough guys of the unit muscled in on literary circles and threatened to put everyone concerned on the spot if we failed to run a scare line in next month's WIRE.

Ever since our last scribe died of a broken heart, consequent upon the loss of his notes (declared missing) during the first Afghan war, we have been frantically searching for someone willing to take on the job.

The qualifications for this job are (a) an Army second and (b) enough brassneck to take it on. The authorities afterwards decided that condition (a) was not necessary—so I got the job. Now read on.



The 2nd Indian Divisional Signals Team in the Final of the Bostan Cup.



Sigmn J. J. Williams, Light Weight Champion of India.

Sufferings and Sergeants—We have just returned from camp at Bostan, a charming little country place consisting of a railway station and a camp. When the camp is not there, there is still a railway station.

In the matter of schemes, the powers that be were kind to us this year. We had two unit day schemes and one night-hop. If this rate of improvement is maintained, we may hope that next year messages, checks and the fine old custom of whitewashing stones may be abolished. During our spare time we played football, volley ball, deck tennis, rounders and housie housie. The Sections, the N.C.O.s messes and the Indian ranks turned out teams for most of the games, some of which were occasionally played in accordance with the book of rules.

The great sporting event of the camp, however, was the final of the Bostan all-in football competition between K Section and the Sergeants Mess. The former were the favourites, but there were present that inevitable section of the public who always shout "Well played, sergeant!" or "Good old sergeant-major!" Contrary to expectations, the sergeants won by four goals to one. After the match a cup and medals, cast specially for the occasion by Messrs. Jarvis and Gerrish (engravers to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals) were presented by Capt. G. H. Plummer amid thunderous applause. Owing to the state of public feeling before the match there had been some difficulty in engaging a referee, but Sigmn Devlin nobly stepped into the breach, for which act of valour he was decorated with a medal closely resembling a V.C.

Through by Chae Wallah.—(Our Urdu specialist assures us that "char" is spelt "chae.") Sunset on the desert. By the dim light of a hurricane lamp, the stout hearts in a signal office are nobly carrying out their duties (we hope). Outlined on the skyline is seen the figure of a chae wallah approaching on his errand of mercy. He has just left a neighbouring signal office—left them full of chae and wads, and also well in debt. Placing his tin on the ground, he walks up to the counter clerk and hands him a message for delivery and a D.R.'s docket for signature. Well done, No. 1 Company! Our cartoonist offers you a further suggestion.

Answers to Correspondents.—(Note: all characters in this publication are fictitious—we think.)

Rosie, Quetta: The Bibby steamships sail from Bombay and Karachi. The busiest season is from October to March.

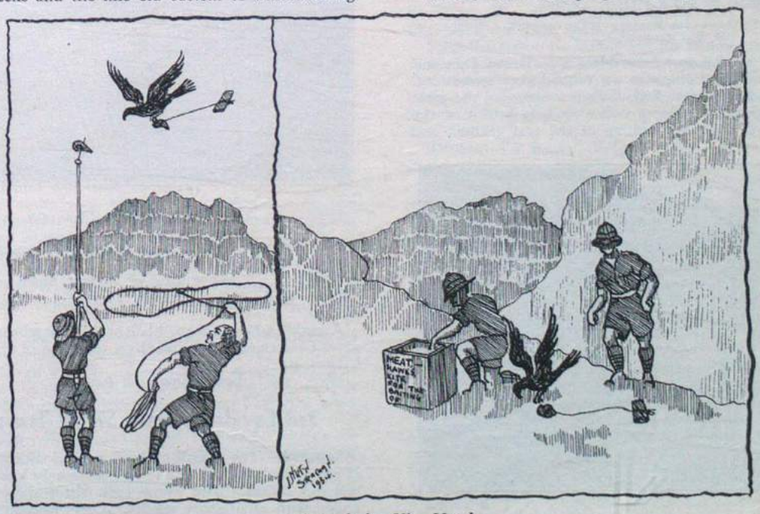
Curious, Catterick: No! the expression "Appointed L/Corpl w.e.f." does not mean "what ever for?"

Electrician, Quetto: The method you suggest (watering a metallic return) is not likely to improve reception.

If you are in trouble, if you have lost your rating or missed the boat, write the details on the back of a ten-chip note and send it to us for advice.

Agony.—Jock Otton: What about a line to your towney? Straw.

Snaith, '661: Stamps gone up again? Toby. JANGLI.



Through by Kite Hawk.

EASTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Chakrata, 21st April.

On Monday 2nd April No. 2 Company (*the* Company) started on their annual move to the hills—this time, not to Ranikhet. Speculation was rife as to what our new hill station (Chakrata) would be like. One point on which there was no doubt at all was that the journey included a five days march. But after all, what's a five days march? It is merely an interlude to our two Company warriors.



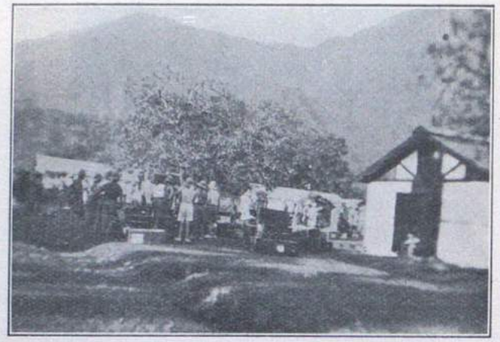
Finals of I.O.R.s Deck Tennis.

Presentation of the Cup to the Winners (H.Q.) by Lieut. Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C.

The first part of the journey from Meerut to Dehra Dun was completed by rail and, being new to us, proved very interesting. On arrival at Dehra Dun, a complete day's rest preceded the great advance to the heights of Chakrata. One striking feature of the march was the very good organisation of the rest camps ; and



Saihai Rest Camp.



Kalsi Rest Camp.

believe me, they were *used* for their purpose. We won't go into details of inclines and gradients, but it was some march. Shades of Kandahar!

At last the dizzy heights (7000 ft.) were scaled, and here we are, miles from anywhere, surrounded by some really marvellous scenery and not much else. Social amenities are practically nil, so for the present hockey and football are the order of the evening.

Individual training is in full swing under the supervision of Lieut. Conner and Sergt Gavey. How much does 6d. per day at 5 per cent. simple interest for four years amount to? Work it out, lads.



Church Hill, Chakrata.

As usual, a few howlers have issued forth in moments of strain. Here are one or two of them.

Instructor: "What kind of current flows in the 'mike' circuit?" Pupil: "A pulsating, varying in identity, unidirectional current."

A pupil, when told to "balance" a baseboard, was found ten minutes later with the board on the edge of the table, trying to balance it.

Well, well! these things will happen.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Sunday 29th April.

General.—The month of April opened with the commencement of our annual shoot on the range, commonly known as the weapon training course. The event took three days to complete and ended with satisfactory results. Corpl Robson L. G. and Sigmn Pauline F. tied for top score.

As usual at this time of the year, the Troop is shorthanded owing to I.O.R.s being on leave and B.O.R.s in training at hill stations or on leave in the United Kingdom. We have also further quietened down by the loss of twelve attached infantrymen who have completed their course in short wave W/T training and have been dispersed to their respective battalions.

We have recently received a kind donation to the Troop in the shape of eight remounts. Under Corporal Lourie and the assistant "roughs," they are beginning to look more like horses.

D.R.s and operators are getting down to the normal summer programme: going through the motions in their respective trades, in readiness for next winter's war. Rides for B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s are also in progress.

L/Corpl Wilson G. and Signalmen Tift and Frettingham have proceeded to the hills for technical training.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Yates E. on qualifying on the last "S" Course at Jubbulpore ; to L/Corpl Wilson G. on passing the British Service Urdu test (other ranks) ; and to L/Corpl Hill H. J. on his appointment to paid rank.

Posting.—Sigmn Neves P. R. H. to B Corps Signals. Our loss is their gain.

Ghoras.—The following few notes have been compiled with a view to assisting the newcomer to a Cavalry Troop in India. They are the result of many years experience, investigation and observation. Arranged alphabetically to facilitate easy reference, they should prove of incalculable value to the embryonic trooper and, it is hoped, of some assistance to mounted men in other Signal units. Now read on.

Ankylosis—Not a fictitious disease, but a genuine equine complaint. Do not assume that it affects a horse's ankles—no respectable horse has such things.

Bits—Beware of this term: there are so many types of bits. The main purpose of all, however, is to join the loose ends of the rein to either side of the horse's mouth. When asked if you have a bit on charge, do not make the mistake of saying "A bit of what?"

Colic—The only other thing besides shoeing about which the average farrier knows nothing.

Dana—An esoteric name for Feed. You are not expected to use this in the first three years.

Exercise—An ingenious arrangement whereby the horse does an hour or two at work and the man gets the credit. Similar to Rotten Row, where people are honest, call it pleasure, and pay for it.

Feed-Major—Should not be saluted—his rank is an honorary one only. He is the man who supervises the stable menu. Should be (but rarely is) capable of distinguishing green grass from hay.

Gram-Orderly—A vulgar name for Feed-Major. Only used by mounted infantry, e.g. Divisional Signals.

Gripper—Divided into two categories: (1) he who grips a horse with his knees and (2) he who grips an audience. If you are good at both, you are qualified for Remounts ; if at the former only, you are qualified for the W/T Section ; if at the latter only, you are put in the V/T Section. The poor unfortunate who is mediocre at both will find himself among the staff employed and will have to work.

Horse—An animal embodying all the virtues and having few vices. Unfortunately, through inherent modesty, it hides the former and exaggerates the latter.

Jhool—Equine negligee. Called by the uninitiated a horse-rug.

Lane—A kind of obstacle course cunningly devised to tip up even the most watchful of horses. Is directly the cause of excessive Government expenditure on the upkeep of R.A.M.C. personnel.

Mechanization—The depths of degradation from the point of view of a Trooper (i.e. from the back of his neck).

Near—The port side of a horse. Owing to an oversight it does not carry a red light, but it is easy to distinguish, as it is the side up which one clambers aboard and bears the scars of many arduous climbs.

Off—The other side. Avoid getting *off* this side, despite its name. It simply isn't done except at the urgent request of the beast itself.

Pani—What the horse drinks. Sometimes called water—but not this side of Suez.

Remounts—Horses before they are spoilt by Roughs.

Roughs—As their name implies, men who maltreat inoffensive remounts of tender age. (See also Saugor and Weedon.)

Syces—Natives who, for a nominal sum, do enough work to enable you to come off stables perspiring from watching them.

Saddle—A kind of chair (less legs) used for placing on the horse's back and sitting on. The only other known variety of chair equally painful is the electric chair.

Saugor—A breeding ground for Roughs (modified for India).

Weedon—The Blighty breeding ground for Roughs. Its products can be picked out from the Saugor variety by the absence of the "Saugor roll," and the "Italian seat" (which is not backward in coming forward).

Young—A condition which a soldier never admits after a few days with a Troop.

The writer is indebted to the following authorities for information: Manual of Horsemastership, L Company Orders, and the Corps Roster.

NON-NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

I very much regret that I must commence these notes with the heading one unfortunately too often sees. I sincerely apologise to all for the non-appearance of notes recently, and I should really like to say how sorry I am to have let K Section down. They sent in their share of notes, which have not been relayed until now. I again beg to be excused this time, and hope that their faith in me has not been too much shaken. Much of the following will be stale, I am afraid, but here goes.

Strength Increase.—Corpl Berry has joined us from Waziristan, and we are glad to see his smiling countenance.

F/Corpl Welch arrived from 1st Cavalry Troop, Risalpur, and Corpl Alexander has been posted but has not yet arrived from that land of green fields.

A distinguished draft arrived comprising four lance-corporals and one signalman. One lance-corporal has, however, since picked up another stripe, and has also picked up his bed and left us for Rawalpindi. I refer to Corpl Harris, whose stay with us was very short. The other new faces are L/Corporals Tupper, Small and Simmonds and Sigmn Fairclough. They have already settled down and, I hope, are getting accustomed to our strange ways.

C.Q.S.M. G. Kingman's wife and family have joined him here in Trim. We all welcome them, and really hope that they will like being out here with us.

Sergt-Instructor G. Dakin and his family arrived from Ahmednagar. They are not strangers to us, and in fact it is expected that demands for cigarettes from the contractors will go up to twice the normal amount. (Demand and supply—you may remember, he is the gentleman who suffered with the "Gimmes" or "Gotter.")

Births.—To Peggy (Fillips) twins. Even dogs have their moments.

Strength Decrease.—The following have left us for that pleasant land of milk and honey and long week-ends. Lieut. and Mrs. Mountford, L/Corpls Macdonald, Coker, Roberts, Dockerell and Robinson (whiat price pozzy, Robbo?), Signalmen Andrews, Gilding, Walker, Mair, Church, Costigan, White, Port, Birley and Cole (phew! what a list). Sergts Gibbard and Moult and Signalmen Clutton, Jamieson and Hughes have left for U.K. leave.

We hope all will settle down in their respective vocations, and that there will still be one or two soft spots for us to fill when we follow them.

Willie Ward, our late prize camera man and gentleman of other diversions which shall be nameless, has migrated to wild and woolly Waziristan. Tex Stringer also said goodbye and can be seen somewhere in Pindi.

Our commanding officer, Major D. A. Brown, M.C., is now on U.K. leave, and we hope he will have an enjoyable time. Captain S. J. Fielder, our second-in-command, after a brief stay in dock has gone to Poona as officiating C.S.O. Southern Command, leaving Captain L. V. Younie to take over command of the unit.

Lieut. E. J. F. Heap has joined the station to command the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sergt-Instructor C. G. Mort (A.E.C.) has left for Belgaum. While we wish him success in his new station, we were sorry to see him go and look forward to seeing him again.

Inspections.—Prior to our commanding officer's departure, we were inspected by the District Commander, Major-General H. B. D. Baird, C.B., C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., who seemed very satisfied with all he saw. The C.S.O. Southern Command, Lieut.-Colonel P. B. D. H. Foot, also carried out a technical inspection.

General.—Collective training has passed and we are now busy with individual training. Quite a small class is in progress, but the next B.i. Course is expected to be much bigger.

Corpl Field E. recently attended an "S" Course at Jubbulpore and was successful. Sigmn Boulter went to Poona with the idea of learning the art of making the proverbial rissole. Whether he did or not—like the underdone sausage—remains to be seen. Meanwhile, Signalmen Bailey and Mitchell are now at Jubbulpore swotting (we hope) on a Fitter and I.M.T. Course. Good luck to them.

We congratulate Sigmn Green R. on getting his special, the British Service Urdu test, and also the lower standard Urdu test—quite a collection. Also those others, too many to mention, who managed to collect such little things as British Service Urdu certificates, part special, first class, part first class, etc.

Sigmn Ginger Milburn is now in Bombay on probation as a policeman. He is busy studying law, we presume, and in his spare time sits on the Vigilance Committee or else controls the traffic.

Our hill party this season consisted of L/Corpl Barnett G., M.M., Signalmen Williams, Briggs and Hearn, and (I nearly forgot!) Corpl Berry—the latter for his health. We have had no news as yet and wonder what they are doing these days.

Social life still maintains its low level. We have had no dances and but few whist drives. The Sergeants Mess have, however, re-commenced their weekly social, which shows promise of becoming even more popular.

We struck two bright spots when we went again to Himayatsagar for moonlight bathing and picnics, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Sergt and Mrs. Peerless again did their stuff, making things very comfortable for all.

Very little else of note has happened except the Viceroy's visit to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and the M.C.C.'s visit to Secunderabad. Both occasions caused the Garrison to wake up temporarily from its reverie.

A Section went on their annual outing to Bombay, on the coastal shoot. They all came back looking very brown, bringing the latest Bombay scandal—and, oh, those bathing suits!

Sport.—We still manage to meet local competition, in spite of the small numbers of B.O.R.s. Results of recent happenings will be seen in the Sports section. [No details of these have been received. ED.]

"Parson's Nose."—To Fred, China: Mislaid your address. Paddy (ex-Scotton).

To Ferdy: How about a line? Pdi '772.

To Doug, Fort Lonan: How did you do it? Ex-Dunree.

To Roberts-Bulford, Abyssinia: One man and a dog.

K Signal Section, Fort Ahmednagar.

General.—Well, another month has rolled by and it is time for me to stir my lazy bones and write some notes.

An event of some importance has taken place in the Fort since my last notes were written. After much thought and labour, our new hockey ground was officially declared open on the 14th Feb.

The first match provided a real battle between the Section and the Royal Fusiliers details in the Fort. We made our own rules for this match and nothing was barred (except biting and scratching). I did not record the score as I happened to be one of the combatants, but I believe that we did get at least one goal, because I remember hearing our supporters (stationed on the Fort wall) sending fruit over the ether.

We have since played two or three pukka matches and have not done too badly, considering that we have only a very weak team.

We also played the Royal Fusiliers Section at cricket but lost by one solitary run in a very good match of one innings each. The scores were K Section 116, Signal Section 1st R.F. 117.

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Green R. F. and Holt J. on being successful in the lower standard Urdu and British Service Urdu tests respectively. Keep it up!

We Would Like to Know.—Who is the B.O.R. who suddenly decided to wear an Angola, and did it make him sweat?

Agony.—Listening to Time-Ex's and Indian music.

PORKY.

[*Later.*]

General.—There is not much to report under this heading this month, as nothing unusual has happened here of late. We are now only a very small band, as departures have been fairly numerous and arrivals nil. By the time these notes appear in print we shall be still further depleted, as half our present personnel (six) are due to leave for Trimulgherry in May.

Congratulations.—To the Royal Signals boxing team on reaching the final of the Army and Royal Air Force boxing championships, to be narrowly defeated by the Shropshires. We in Ahmednagar followed their progress to the final with interest, especially after their overwhelming defeat of the Royal Fusiliers (who are stationed here) by ten fights to one. Hard luck! Congratulations on a magnificent display.

Departures.—Sergeant Hamlin and family left us for U.K. per the s.s. *California* on the 15th March, and the best wishes of the Section went with them. Sigmn Johnson also left for Trimulgherry, on posting, on the 16th March.

Sport.—Hockey is still the chief sport here, and we have played a few good games since our last notes were written. Our team has suffered by the departure of two or three members, but we still manage to give our opponents a hard game.

Howlers.—Signalman (to Fusilier): "I think the accumulator has run down." Fusilier (to Signalman): "It can't have run down, because the acid is up to where it says 'Acid level.'"

Fusilier (discussing car): "Why, the speed thermometer did 60 m.p.h."

We Would Like to Know.—Why certain B.O.R.s of this Section do not like the mystic number 6.

Tailpiece.—Come up and see me some time. PORKY.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Monday 30th April.

General.—Much water has run in and out of our highly ornamental water trough since our last notes appeared. Our silence in the interim has been largely owing to the departure to the wild and woolly Frontier of that promising young journalist Pilah Naik. Now that the Section is well and truly settled down for the hot weather, however, a regular supply of notes is assured for a few months.

Much fluttering of female hearts was caused recently in Jubbulpore when we were booked to return to Trimulgherry for the summer (old Dan Cupid wields a wicked arrow in this Section) but by the kindly intervention of the powers that be, we are left to recuperate here until October.

After our long silence, I will fill up the gap by giving a short account of the outstanding events of 1934.

In January our O.C., Lieut. H. D. Mountford, left us and proceeded to the home establishment, being relieved by Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy from Kohat. Also in January, Sergt Penfold made another addition to the Section's collection of trophies by winning the S.T.C. (India) jumping competition for other ranks. This feat was performed on No. 33 (Bess), whose consistent jumping is well known to all old members of the 4th Div. Sergt Penfold also put up a meritorious performance in the individual tent pegging competition, taking second place.

About the same time a legacy which had assumed the standard of Billy Bunter's postal order actually *did* arrive, but contrary to our John's oft-expressed desires he carried on his usual occupation, as do all working men in story books when they come into a fortune.

In the 15th Field Brigade R.A. boxing tournament Signalman Wright J. staged a come-back by defeating L/Bdr Chapman, brother of L/Corpl Chapman (late of the 4th Div. and now at Scarborough) in a special contest.

In the N.V.H. point-to-point races we had our usual entries, but although they put up a good show, they were unable to fill

any of the leading places. Corpl Peake C. had very bad luck in his race, as he came down when he held a commanding lead on the one and only 39 (Frank).

Now we look forward to the Monsoon point-to-point to retrieve the Section's fortunes, as we have several young horses coming along in fine style.

In the football and hockey world we combine with Headquarters 15th Field Brigade R.A. owing to lack of members, and though not very successful, we still keep trying. We lost to R Field Battery R.A. by 0—3 in the first round of the Garrison cup, and in the first round of the Wallace football cup we suffered the same fate—again to R Battery R.A.

Departures.—Sigmn Hughes to U.K. on six months leave. One guitar, part worn, and (we hope, soon) one ukelele banjo.

Marriages.—Well, one never knows.

Agony.—The expression on our John's face when he works out (?) his square roots. HANK.

North China Signal Section, Tientsin.

[*Received too late for the May issue*]

British Headquarters.

General.—Our scribe has departed to a more chilly and ancient city of China, so I will attempt to take up the good work where he left off.

The winter has been very mild, the mercury dropping below zero only a few times; and we are looking forward to an equally mild summer, hoping that King Sol will not be so cruel to us this year as he was last.

We have been keeping the home fires burning very brightly, but I warn all future China-ites—if such a word be permissible—that China is not all bees and honey, as some romantic novelists picture it. However, we will give you all a very warm welcome if you happen to sail East.

Departures.—Corpl Bowie J. G. and Signalmen Williams and Michael to the U.K. per serial 11: the latter for transfer to the Army Reserve. Mrs. West and two children also left on serial 11. Unfortunately C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) West could not be spared, but he is sailing with the Navy on serial 15. Good luck to Sigmn Michael in civvy street and all the others in their new units.

Signalmen Allen and Griffiths to Peking Detachment. There seems to be a great attraction for red-headed men in Peking—or do they like it?

One more departure: one dog's leg.

Arrivals.—Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker and wife, Corpl Neeve and Signalmen Blackett and Cann arrive shortly from Blighty. We



A Typical Side Street in Peking.

hope they enjoy their stay in North China. Signalmen Cunningham and Oakey from Peking Detachment (long may the dancing season last!)

Promotions.—To the acting rank of unpaid lance-corporal, Sigmn Woolcott W. Quite a habit, Bill.

Things We Want to Know.—To Sigmn Martin: Have you found out how long it takes Chang to change the buttons on a borrowed blazer? Anxious.

Is a Spud-Can Scotch?

From Duke Williams: Do armatures and string function well together?

Agony.—To Wally, H.K.: Still waiting for that letter. Jock E.

More Agony.—Trooping season 1934-35.

Tailpiece.—"Now switching over to Bedshires." Cheerio, everybody, until next month. STANOCK.

Peking Detachment.

[*Received too late for the May issue*]

General.—Peking bursts into print mainly to ask a question: Who is Peking Mills? The number one cookhouse boy has no recollection of anybody called Mills, and our oldest inhabitant



Peking Railway Station.



The First View on Arrival: Chien Men Bungalow.

(the hoary one) is very curious. We have with us now radio man Hoare and several other celebrities, but no Peking Mills is inscribed on our roll of honour.

For the benefit of the optimists who are writing "China" on the volunteer draft list, here is a brief description of our happy home.

Peking Signals are a small detachment of the North China Signal Section, whose headquarters are in Tientsin, so that we have experience of both cities. Living in the Legation, famous in Boxer Rebellion history, our main job is operating the Legation wireless station—a job which everyone who has been on it likes to see noted in his pay book. The military signal office accounts for three men who keep in touch with H.Q.

Peking itself is very old and very Chinese, the European influence being very small in comparison with Tientsin and Shanghai. The result is that sightseeing is our main occupation when off duty, and facilities are given to enable us to indulge in it to the fullest extent. In fact, most of us are now camera and curio fiends. Of course, the usual civilised entertainments are also at our disposal.

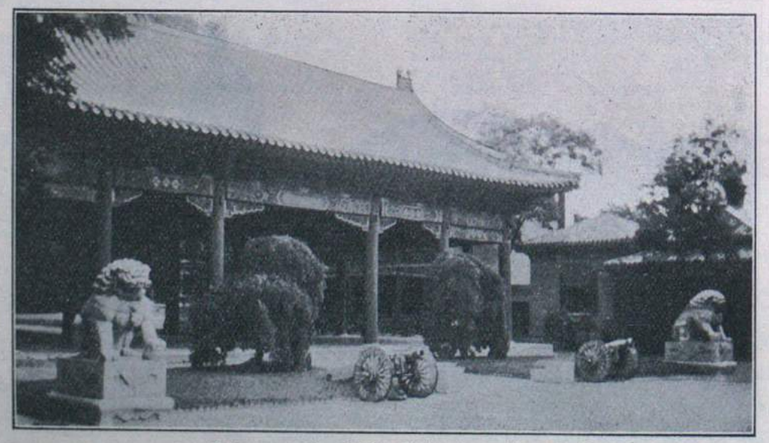
Departures.—Gramophone Bowie and Mick Michael have left us for Blighty—the latter for civvy street. Michael has been in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking and Shanhaikuan, so he has not done too badly in his four years abroad. We wish him all the best in civvy street. Any unit seeing Corpl Bowie J. G. on its arrival list may scrap all gramophones and loud-speakers—at the same time, indenting for cotton wool: they are sure to need it! Still, if his voice is a nuisance, his feet are useful on the football field.

Duke Williams is leaving Tientsin with them, and local society is desolate. When he leaves, the G.E.C. lose the opportunity of snapping up their technical adviser. That's perfectly true—he told me so.

Arrivals.—Where are they?

Lost.—One Corps roster. Finder will be suitably rewarded (unless he is T.T.) by whatever Mess he is in. I'm in an awful mess, myself!

Agony.—Pip, 43rd Wessex, Southampton: Look where you landed me. What about a line, Bob? Ari.



Entrance to the British Minister's Residence.

Mac, Scarborough: What about a line? Syd.

More Agony.—Snozzle's scandal column.

Appendix.—With these notes we enclose four snaps of Peking.

Tailpiece.—We're finished now. Cheerio. SPUD-CAN.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

[*Received too late for the May issue*]

Whitefield Barracks, Kowloon, 9th March.

General.—March '34—another trooping season finished; at least, as far as we are concerned. The *Neuralia* arrived on the 10th February, bringing us what looked at first sight "a load of rough." However, within two hours of landing they took on a semblance of human shape and by 7 p.m., when we sat down to the welcome dinner, they looked quite good. When the beer began to flow all doubts were dispelled, and they were made very welcome; quite a number lived up to name and reputation, and we were all pleased.

An enjoyable dinner was served, the duck being quite recognisable as such, and the good old mixed fruit well in evidence, both at the dinner and at the concert which followed. Corpl Page and Sgt Willis put in an appearance, obliging us with a couple of natty numbers, but I think the best appreciated act of the evening was given by Corpls Page and Sugg. It was a pity that Corpl Page had to go on to Shanghai, but we're thankful for his evening's entertainment. Other items were rendered by four of H.M.S. *Medway's* concert party. Fitz of the R.A.S.C. gave a speech on behalf of the details.

The *Neuralia* arrived back from Shanghai on the 22nd February and sailed the next day for U.K. Many old friendships were renewed on the boat, but Carl Jones was bashful and hid away in a corner where nobody could see him; the provost sergeant was very hard hearted. We said goodbye to C.Q.M.S. Potts, Corporal Huggins, and Signalmen Pryce, Convey, Scott and MacLoughlin. Very sorry to see them go, but I guess they deserve the rest. The fall in of the maskee draft was well worth seeing; it fell in on one spot and finished up about twenty yards north-north-east. A few more months and we say goodbye to the next lot; at least, they tell me it will be the first boat for sure. Here's hoping they are right—the sooner they go, the sooner it is my turn.

The new draft has settled down very quickly. 5th Divisional Signals will be pleased to know that their contribution has been thankfully received and the Wireless Section has had a strong moral uplift; in fact, we've gone all "old schoolish." Many happy hours have been spent lately in discussing our old schools—Borstal, etc.—and many an eye was wet as our Grunda rendered "The Old Borstallian Blues" just before lights out.

Deep regret was expressed yesterday when the chappie who embodies our ideal of the old school spirit openly admitted going to the Island barber shop for two haircuts and three shaves in two days. After two days in "Coventry," he is expected to shave once more at the unit nappi's.

On the 2nd March the G.O.C. China, Major-General Borrett, inspected the unit on parade and the unit lines. The inspection went off o.k. and everyone was pleased; the main reason for the pleasure being the fact that it's all over until next year. The G.O.C. told the A.D.C., who told the chief clerk, who dropped a hint to a lance-corporal, who was telling his pal when the No. 1 boy heard him and told me, that the General thought the Signals—now, Corpl Denbow, no cause for alarm—were a fine body of men, but I can't vouch for that.

The Band.—Sigmn May to be big drummer. Sigmn Shove from big drummer to music carrier.

The Glad Hand.—To Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Aslett, Corpl Hodges, L/Corpls Funnell and Sugg, and Signalmen May, Cole, Hirst, Middleton, Shuttleworth and Roberts: May your stay be not too long but happy.

To C.Q.M.S. Potts, Corporal Huggins, and Signalmen Bryce, Convey, Scott and MacLoughlin: All the best in your new stations, and we'll be seeing you.

Obituary.—All ex-boys will regret to hear that 2319315 ex-Sigmn Brownjohn C. A. (Charlie) died at Radford, Coventry, on the 14th January after a long illness.

Before I Forget.—The aforementioned duck was a goose.

The Old Scandal Column.—Whose old school song is "Alice, where art thou?" Who oozed too much S.A. on night duty? What caused the lady with flat feet to transfer her affections?

Who fell out with the Syndicate the day before he expected a parcel? What happened to our Grunda the night he went out with the Biggleswade goat fancier? Dirty doings.

A famous saying: "Going for a walk round." Another one: "Going for a run—training, you know."

Till next time. MATI HARA.

Tuesday 10th April.

General.—Apologies again for the lack of notes in the WIRE. Somehow I can't get the mail time right; I'm always pushed.

Easter is here once more, and the rain arrived with it; in fact, it looks like being here for Whitsun. As holidays don't make much difference out here, we aren't very worried about it; the only thing we miss is the sport.

The hockey team have at last struck a winning patch. On Thursday last we won our fifth successive game. The results will be found in our Sports notes. Signalmen Martin, Dilley, Whitehead and Larking have had trials for the Small Units team, and at least two of them look like being selected. Sigmn Cord has gained international honours, being selected to play for the Scottish team in the Colony international tournament.

For the information of old Hong Kong-ites who may be interested, the Rumjahn cousins won the Colony doubles championship for the tenth successive year, and the S.W.B.s have beaten South China in two cup finals—and look like doing so again next week when they meet for *The Sunday Herald* cup.

The signal office is being chopped again, as we are taking over C.R. and a new transmitter is to be accommodated here. You chaps who are coming out here on a second tour won't know the place. Signalmen Bryce and Convey will be interested to know that I am now on duties with Boy Cragg, and many a happy hour do I spend in telling him of those far-off days when we had a sounder line to West Fort, and "all" the signal office was in "that little place at the back." As there is no one here who can chip in and tell him when the exchange was in the signal office, I'm quite happy. Maisie is up at the Fort. Can't you imagine how I'm revelling in it?

Musketry is now in full swing, and we fire our course about the 18th April. I'm looking forward to seeing some of these first class shots perform 'neath the Lion Rock.

The annual war between the Line and the Wireless Sections is now in full swing. This comes under the heading of "competition for Section trophy," which is as good an excuse as any. The Wireless Section won the football by 4—0, the billiards by 28 points, and the ping pong after a replay; and the Lines ran away with the darts—also after a replay. Brown, who was first reserve for the dart team, was not called upon, and he is now contemplating the cancellation of his sports subs. Tennis, hockey and cricket are still to be played. I may be able to put the results in the "Stop Press." Of course, opinions vary as to how and why we won. Whitehead was seen buying the soccer referee a supper after the game—which looked fishy; but there's really no need to state how we won the billiards: Mills was there, with the Twickenham joss well to the fore. As for the ping pong, a push in the back at the right moment is always handy. I could not attend the indoor games, as I was on duty. I got all this information from two chaps in the Line Section. Of course, they may be prejudiced, but there it is.

It is with deep regret that we say goodbye to Major Bagnold, our C.S.O., who is being invalided home on the *Somersetshire*. We all wish him a speedy return to health in England. Major Parkes, the new C.S.O., is due here in June.

Appointment.—No. 2321561 Sigmn Rousseau to be U/L/Cpl w.e.f. 19/3/34.

Agonies.—Sigmn Wylde D. (? in England): The R.A.F. would appreciate a few lines. Me, too. Austen H.K.S.S.

F Company.—Please note. The man "with a will of his own" desires the answer to that quotation. Does it mean in regard to "hops" or perhaps the joy of a bully beef sandwich amongst a few n.c.o.s? Please enlighten me.

Badgy S. Bulford: Isn't one G.B.S. enough? Tich F.

Till next time. MATA HARI.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Tifeng Road Camp, 7th March.

Shanghai Taels.—It was only by bringing into play great powers of snooping and scrounging (that finally resulted in the provision of a decent typewriter) that I am able, with malice aforethought, to bang out some notes of the doings of this Section during the past month or two.

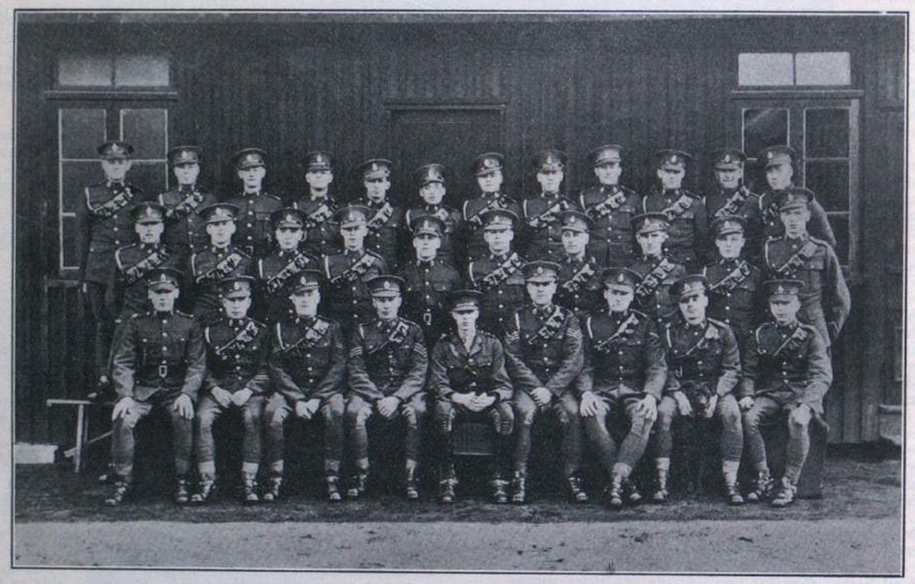
A perusal will doubtless move someone to say that I have faithfully copied out Part II. Orders. Who knows? and what's more, who cares? Anyway, I'll shoot.

Departures.—We said goodbye last month to Sergeant and Mrs. Higham and Mrs. Griffiths and her two children, who left us for Blighty by the *Neuralia*. All of them have been here for the past three years. Sergt Higham will long be remembered for the excellent work he did during the Shanghai emergency in the early part of 1932.

Several familiar faces from Tientsin appeared amongst us on their way home to Blighty. We noticed Corpl Bowie and Signalmen Michael and Williams in the party.

Education.—With much burning of midnight oil, the use of wet towels, etc., Signalmen Birtles, Becker and Ekin obtained their second class certificates of education. Sigmn Franklin passed his first with flying colours (distinguished in maths, map reading and geography). The following have passed in subjects (as shown) towards their first class certificates: L/Corporal Binge, English; Sigmn Copinger, maths and map reading (distinguished in both subjects). Well done, lads! keep the good work going.

Trade Tests.—We congratulate the following on grabbing a few more elusive dollars: Sigmn Coleman to be clerk class ii. Sigmn Taylor to be op sigs B.iii. Signalmen Perkins and Billingshurst to be linemen C.i., and Signalmen Cook and Jones H. linemen C.ii. Sigmn Hesford to be despatch rider D.ii., and Sigmn Birtles D.iii.



Shanghai Signal Section, 1933.

Back row (left to right)—Signalmen Castle, Cavill, Pitt, Taylor, Jones W., Perkins, Birtles, Ekin, Ayres, Billinghurst, Riggs and Carter.
Centre—Signalmen Paris, Franklin, Oates, Cook and Hesford, Corpl Ralph, Signalmen Jones H., Coleman, Becker and Copinger.
Front—Signalmen Thompson and Oliphant, Corpl Whalley, Sergt Griffith, Lieut. H. V. Ewbank, Sergt Higham, L/Corpl Binge, Signalmen Heath (and "Peter") and Spencer.
(L/Corpl Stevens and Sigmn Whiting were too bashful to face the camera)

Corpl Tubby Ralph, the man with the hockey stick, and Sigmn Jones W., also with a hockey stick, left on the same trooper. Tubby must surely rank as one of the best all-round athletes in the Corps, and lucky is the unit which snaffles him. Jonah put up one long wail at having to leave Shanghai, and he and Tubby had great difficulty in catching the boat. They arrived on board only a few minutes before she sailed—so, at least, Dame Rumour has it. I wonder!

All ex-rats will know Paddy Whiting, who left us just recently to become a "sparker" on a local line of boats. Well done, Paddy! We wish you all the best in your new sphere of activities.

Arrivals.—The Section turned out in full force, with lorry, to welcome Sergeant Willis, Corpl Page V. and Signalmen Dawson, Lowe and Venner on their arrival from the U.K. From Hong Kong we welcome Signalmen Oates and Carter, and from Tientsin the one and only Tommy Ayres. We wish them all the best of luck during their stay with this Section, and hope they will refrain from using a sharp pencil in the bars and cabarets.

We have celebrated these efforts in the usual manner with that well-known Shanghai beverage known as "U.B."

Recreational.—At long last we have succeeded in getting a billiard table and a recreational room. Wonders will never cease, or it never rains without it pours. Our thanks are due to the O.C. and Sergt Willis for their good work in this new project, and we can only hope that the billiard table will remain the success that it was on the opening night.

We also take this opportunity of congratulating the hockey team on their efforts this season (see our Sports Notes).

True Story.—A certain n.c.o. who can boast of a few medals was once on a cross-country run, when a young officer overtook him and told him that he should be doing better. The n.c.o. replied, "Do you know, sir, I was in the greatest cross-country race ever known in modern history, and one of the very few to complete the course?" "Oh!" said the officer; "what school?" "No school," said the n.c.o.; "the retreat from Mons." (Collapse of young officer.)

[*Continued on page 262*]

- - THE "TERRIERS." - -

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Burlington Street, Manchester.

There is little of interest to report this month, as we are all busy packing stores for camp. Training programmes are being arranged, and the sale of Blanco in the canteen has been brisk. The posters of Scarborough lend a touch of colour to the interior of the drill hall, and everyone is hoping for nice weather. These rather hectic conditions are very pleasant to experience, but not very interesting to other people—hence the brevity of these notes.

On the 28th/29th April a very successful week-end training was held in the neighbourhood of Pickmere. All Sections were out, and at the conference held at the conclusion it was considered that the work was carried out in quite a satisfactory manner. This is a good augury for our trip to Scarborough.

Now that code names are changed to five-letter calls, we are anxiously waiting to see if it will be possible to hand in a message to Kumup and Semey some time.

KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—No. 2 Company has returned to the fold, so all's well.

Now that the Sectional training has commenced, the parades, though good before, show a marked improvement in numbers. It is a pity that a certain small percentage of each Company do not parade consistently during the individual training period, as they miss a very interesting part of their training. However, those individuals are the real losers, as many extra shillings a week go begging in consequence of their absence and failure to present themselves for trade testing. They will perhaps take a lesson from the increased number of successful candidates this year.

Musketry is again to the fore, and the annual weapon training course on the miniature ranges is now in full swing. An improvement is noted in this branch of training, and it is hoped the large number of recruits will do well on the open ranges.

Summer training in the form of Sunday exercises for the Sections of each Company is about to begin, and Company commanders are busy preparing interesting exercises for their respective Sections. Full advantage of these opportunities should be taken by all ranks, as the exercises are designed primarily to eliminate waste of time at camp during the first week in getting the Sections into their stride.

A very hearty welcome is accorded to the two newly-joined subalterns.

Congratulations to Sergt Stone G. E., P.S.I. of No. 3 Company, on securing permission to continue in the Service for a further four years.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

It seems but yesterday that I wrote the last notes; but I am warned that it is time for a few more, so here goes!

Since our last issue, we have again a word about our strength. We welcome to the fold 2/Lieut. H. W. Fenwick, and we hope his stay will be a long and happy one. We also welcome the recruits who have joined during the past month and, likewise, we hope *their* stay will be interesting to them and good for the Company.

We have installed a new quartermaster, namely C.Q.M.S. Webb W. A. Everyone who visits the store will find a difference, and those who draw stores will need to be able to write.

We have held a most enjoyable and instructive n.c.o.s exercise. The weather showed its approval of our efforts by helping in the only way weather can (no! not raining, but glorious sunshine all day). An interesting exercise had been prepared, and our thanks are due to the adjutant for the excellent way in which he kept the interest of all concerned at fever pitch.

Summer training is now in full swing. By the time these notes appear, both Sections will have had an outing (what a glorious view from Haldon!) but more of these next time.

Meanwhile, all eyes are on the Gould cup. Arrangements have been made whereby a little practice has been possible on the open range. It is very pleasing to find seven candidates of a high standard fighting for the three places in the team. The results will be known before these notes appear, but here's luck to Mr. F. H. Reeks and the "ploppers."

Now we have had a keen start in shooting, we hope to arrange matches with outside teams during the coming season.

It is pleasing to see so many "strange" faces on parade at this time of the year. We wish that these men, along with the regulars, would turn up during the winter nights. It is up to every n.c.o. and man of the Company to turn up regularly and not have to be "pushed" when it comes to bounty time.

Steps are being taken to have a bar in the men's room. What a beano when it opens! We hope that all those hands who now visit the outside places of refreshment will then come to their own. It is hard to have to sit indoors this weather, but when this bar opens there will be a place to quench that thirst.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is the man who thinks the billiard table is for his benefit only? and why is his right hand pocket always marked with chalk? Who is the champion cue tipper?

Things We Have Heard.—Instructor: "You have a short circuit on that." Pupil: "What is the length of a short circuit?"

One heard in the lecture room: "A fixed condenser is a tin of milk stuck to a table."

Business re 5/- shilling short wave set. All contributions will be thankfully received by the n.c.o. in question.

One of our budding poets sends the following:—

"Trade tests now are over;
Camp is drawing nigh;
A feeling of anticipation (or intoxication)
Steals o'er our P.S.I."

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

I have received anxious enquiries from my many readers (both of them) regarding the absence of my literary efforts in last month's WIRE, and in order to satisfy their souls I hasten to compile some this month. I offer no apologies; I forgot the date.

The next eagerly-awaited events are the Sunday schemes which give the Sections a chance of functioning as such, and many lessons will undoubtedly be learned.

We had a good example of "pride of uniform" the other day. The scene, the Company office. Two senior officers are discussing the vexed question of training. A knock at the door. "Come in!" Enter the last joined recruit, who had just drawn his kit. Said he: "How do? How do you like me in uniform?" The two officers in question are just recovering. They should be quite fit by Whitsuntide.

Next, please. Young officer (to man about to fire on range): "What is your name?" "xxxx T." "How do you spell it?" "Tock"—and down it went as such!

I hope these little episodes will explain why P.S.I.s and others go bald. What ho, Stoney!

PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

It was with most sincere pleasure that we heard that Sergeant Stone G. E., our P.S.I., had been permitted to continue in the Service for a further four years—that is, until 30th April 1938. The first instructor to be appointed in Plymouth, Sergt Stone has set a standard which it will be difficult to surpass. This Company has increased in strength and efficiency with successive camps, and last year won the Moore efficiency cup. The keenness and hard work of our instructor will not be denied, and the results are bearing fruit.

The recent trade tests were a great credit to all concerned, and the outstanding efforts mentioned below have been given special awards:—Sergeant Addelsee J. D. from N.F.R. to O.S. B.iii. L/Sergeant Hutchinson S. E. W. from O.S. B.iii. to O.S. B.ii. L/Corpl Gage J. from asst. op. sigs. "E" to O.S. B.iii. Sigmn Gould W. J. A. from N.F.R. to asst. op. sigs. "E."

Collective training is now in full swing, and we are " tuning up " for the curtain in July.

Mr. C. G. H. Govier is to be attached to the 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, from the 13th to the 27th May.

THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6

General.—There is not much to write about this time. Individual training has ceased, and we now commence Section training in preparation for annual training. That's the time to find out how much we have benefited by all the courses and training programmes introduced for our general good and efficiency. It's a time, too, when our hard-worked P.S.I. (they would no doubt prefer to be called P.S.S.: permanent staff slaves!) can—or cannot, as the case may be—see the fruits (not necessarily raspberries!) of their labours.

Joking apart, though, we take this opportunity of thanking them for their really hard and painstaking work in shaping the recruits (who will, of course, be still under their kindly but eagle eyes for some time yet) and polishing up the budding Field-Marshals to take up positions of varying responsibility in their respective Companies.

No. 2 Company spent a useful week-end training at Chertsey on the 5th/6th May. Four officers and fifty-five other ranks made a good muster, but the majority present were recruits who received their initial experience of field work. Three Artillery Brigade offices were established, and in spite of the elements (cold and wet, further outlook unsettled) a fair amount of experience was gained. The D.R. Section, as usual, went off into the blue. No doubt, they were Tickel'(d) to death, but they eventually arrived home minus one machine. All ranks appear to have enjoyed their work, and as far as the recruits go, their first impression of a week-end training was, we feel sure, very encouraging.

Officers.—The monthly dinner held on the 2nd May was the occasion of saying farewell to Captain T. S. Campbell, an old and very popular officer of this unit, who has found it necessary, owing to business pressure, to end his active service in the T.A. We must say that we all very much regret that this is so. Captain Campbell has commanded No. 2 Company very efficiently for the past few years, and it will be difficult to replace him owing to his extensive experience in war and peace both as a regimental signalling officer and an officer of the Corps. We wish him the best of luck for the future.

The reception given to officers of the London Territorial Divisions by the Corporation of the City of London was a memorable occasion. A large number of officers of this unit and their ladies were invited, and they spent one of the most enjoyable evenings of their lives. It was an event which will long remain in the memory of officers of the T.A., and cannot fail to inspire serving officers and encourage others to join this very important part of the Defence Forces of the Crown.

Sergeants Mess.—The first three rounds of the Murphy snooker cup competition have been played. Round one, between the 25th Cyclists and 47th Divl Signals O.C.A., left the former winners by 3—1 games. The second round, between the Sergeants Messes of the 47th Div. R.E. and 47th Divl. Signals, resulted in a draw of two games each. In round three the 47th Divl Signals Sergeants Mess drew with the 47th Divl Signals O.C.A. This leaves us one point up on the total, so far. Further rounds are being played off each Thursday evening.

Thursday evening, by the way, is our social night, and if any Mess member cares to come along with his wife or best girl and " try one " (or two, or so) he will be more than welcome. We have a very posh umpteen-valve super-what'sname radiogram installed now, and of course dance music is practically *ad lib.* Come along and hear it, even if you can't (or won't) dance.

Social.—Don't forget our flannel dances on the 9th and 23rd June.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 11.

General.—If dearth of news might have been accepted as an excuse for the omission of our notes last month, there is certainly none now, for things have simply been humming with activity.

Training.—This is going on at full pressure in all departments. A Section have been out on Sunday training at Temple Balsall, and there is a scheme for the Artillery Section on Sunday 13th May.

Recruits are still trickling in steadily, and there are definite hopes that our present under-strength position will soon be a thing of the past.

This year a great deal more attention is being devoted to telegraphy work, which should prove rather more fascinating than the monotony of phonograms; and most of the newcomers are being started on flag wagging. One squad is already showing remarkable progress.

The Hockey Match.—A sudden S.O.S. for hockey players rather took our breath away the other day. Nevertheless, quite a strong team Certa Cito-ed and turned out to play a scratch team raised by Mr. Ledsam. The game ended in a win for the challengers by 10—4 goals. The result is quite creditable to our hastily enlisted team when one remembers that their opponents were all practised players and included among them a county representative. Our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, played and succeeded in netting one of our four goals.

The Signals team comprised the Commanding Officer, Captains Bolton and Mannox, Lieutenants Ledsam, Simpson and King, R.S.M. Rowe, M.M., Sergeants Foley, Terry and Winter, and Sigmn Bennett.

No. 3 Company Concert.—On Tuesday 8th May, instead of the usual training, the Company enjoyed an excellent concert. C.S.M. Ryder took the chair. During the evening the R.S.M. made a speech on recruiting, and we hope that members of the Company will now bring in recruits. The opportunity was taken to bid farewell to L/Corporal Hayes, who has left us for the Royal Navy.

The artists engaged for the concert were Mr. Duval (ventriloquist), the Two "Alls " (banjo and a song), Mr. Bannister (baritone), L/Corpl Richardson (comedian), and the Tudor Dance Band.

Things We Want to Know.—Did the officers forget to do their turn? Did the ventriloquist's doll really tie the sergeant-major to his bed? Did Sergt Winter nearly score a goal at hockey?

NIG.

No. 2 Company Concert.—On Thursday 10th May, instead of the usual training, the Company assembled in the drill hall to spend a jolly evening. The officers present were Captain E. A. James (O.C.), Lieutenants Ledsam, Brooke and Waters, and 2/Lieutenants King and Danielsen. C.S.M. Realf took the chair.

The entertainment opened with choruses led by Mr. Mallabond and his band, in which everyone joined with gusto. L/Corporal Thompson obliged with a song and mouth-organ solo. Mr. Mallabond introduced the Lorton Sisters, whose remarkable dancing and singing acts, with which they obliged several times during the evening, called for the storm of enthusiastic applause which they fully merited.

Following the interval, we had a humorous turn by Corpl James S. H. which included what was evidently intended to be a " knock " for somebody, as instance:

Horse racing is a splendid sport,
Says Gordon Richards the jockey;
But the Signals have a sport of a different sort—
We think it's a game called hockey.
and
Of all the places I like best,
One is the town called Margate;
When you go shooting on the range,
Please stick to your own target.

Sigmn Coles was then called upon for violin solos, and he gave us a very able rendering of several popular melodies, in which the audience could not resist joining in unison if not always in harmony. After a further appearance of the Lorton Sisters, C.Q.M.S. Robins revived the ever popular " Damper " song with appropriate gestures (by the way, we hope our old friend Billy Sergeant notices this). Then one of the visitors sang " I wish I was single again "; and finally the Lorton Sisters, accompanied by the band, wound up with another versatile act and the chorus of "Cheerio." L/Corporal Portman's turn was given after everyone had gone home.

During the evening the O.C. announced the interesting news that the unit had been called upon to furnish a complete Signal Section to accompany the 68th Field Brigade R.A. (T.A.) in the autumn manœuvres, and that this honour would fall to G Section.

C.G.

Shooting.—This year a team will again be sent to compete in the Warwickshire Rifle Association meeting at Kingsbury ranges, and a party is at present hard at practice.

Dots and Dashes.—The annual church parade takes place on Sunday 27th May.

Congratulations to R.S.M. and Mrs. Rowe on the arrival of a son, Brian John, on the 14th May.

Sergt Winter has been awarded the Indian general service medal. We are sorry we omitted to mention this fact in our last notes. We are indeed very " prahd " of our Sergt Winter (of Trimulgherry).

It is rumoured that certain members of the hockey team (P.S.I.s, some of them, too) did not go straight home after the match. Where did they go? What did they do?

Sergt C.I.q.n. did *not* recite " Sam, pick up thy musket " at No. 3 Company concert.

They say the support from the touch line at Quinton was sometimes more vigorous than polite. Don't you think so, Mr. B . . . ke?

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

General.—With the approach of summer, training becomes of a more practical nature, and every Sunday right up to camp will be occupied with an outdoor scheme for one or other of the various Sections—the main object being to promote team work. Recruits are being broken in with foot drill in the evenings, prior to their introduction to Sections during next training season.

Training.—The first outdoor scheme of the year took place on Sunday 29th April, when the whole of No. 1 Company was engaged in an exercise over the countryside near Harewood. Fine weather favoured the occasion, and the scheme, taking it all round, was a success. It emphasised, however, how essential team work is for efficient working; and though the parade was not so large as it might have been, the experience gained was most valuable. Particularly was it so to one office, the personnel of which apparently thought such an insignificant thing as an " earth " was far to paltry to worry about. They now know the truth of the proverb "An earth in the earth's worth a dozen in the pannier." Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., was on parade with Major W. F. Jackson, M.C.

The adjutant, Captain W. L. Schneider, on the preceding Thursday used models on the drill hall floor (laid out as the actual country) to illustrate the form the exercise would take, giving hints on what to do and what to avoid—particularly talking. He said the cable man's motto should be " Shift and shut up." That, we hasten to add, does not apply to counter clerks: on one occasion, one of that noble band followed the motto and shut up and shifted—without telling his outlying W/T station that he was going. Result: several footsore W/T operators.

There was an indoor scheme for No. 3 Company on Sunday 6th May, when the indoor lines were used.

Tragedy.—The success of the scheme on the 29th April was marred by a tragedy which occurred in the drill hall just before the Company moved off. Our portable signal office—a wood and canvas structure—was hurled from a lorry and smashed by hitting the drill hall roof. We are glad to say that reconstruction work is proceeding.

Combined Signal Exercise.—All the officers of the 46th, 49th and 50th Divisional Signals met at Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, on Saturday 21st April for a combined signal exercise during the week-end. The scheme was arranged and set by Lt.-Col. C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O. Northern Command, who was helped by Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D. (our D.C.S.O.) and the three adjutants of the T.A. units. The interchanging of ideas between officers during the exercise was interesting and most instructive.

A guest night was held on the Saturday in the officers mess, followed by roller-skating hockey matches between the officers of the three units in the drill hall after dinner. We hope that the combined exercise will become an annual affair; and our next demand is for a combined camp in 1935.

A golf match between the 49th and 50th Signals was held on Saturday afternoon, the honours going to the home team; and as the inter-unit roller skating final between the two units was won by the 50th, we considered all things as level at the close of the week-end.

It is most satisfactory to feel that the officers of the three units are no longer strangers to one another, and we look forward to some keen and friendly competitions in the near future.

Promotions and Appointments.—S.R. Part II. Orders announce that Sergt Burnett H. has been promoted Warrant Officer class ii. w.e.f. 12/4/34. Hearty congratulations to him. Also to Corpl Webster J. C., promoted Sergt; and to L/Corpl Buck T. and Sigmn Bulfin A., promoted Corporals—all w.e.f. 21/4/34.

On the Territorial side Signalmen Cox W. and Northgreaves H. have joined the noble and patriotic band of acting unpaid lance-corporals. Stick at it, lads. It's the first step.

Attachment.—We welcome 2/Lieut W. Hawking from the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals, who has been attached for duty with D Section.

Appointment.—Lieut W. L. Hey has been appointed to take up the duties of assistant adjutant w.e.f. 1st May.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 2 Company.

General.—Summer training is now in full swing, and obligatory drills are being attended very satisfactorily. Training this season is very interesting, each Section having been allotted two week-end camps to be attended entirely by their own personnel.

F Section have completed their allotted week-ends, one being in the drill hall and the other with G Section in a combined signal exercise arranged by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. G. H. Walton. I understand that the training value of the combined scheme was very satisfactory, and many interesting points were brought to notice when the C.O. visited our drill hall to give us his criticism.

This week-end, 12th/13th May (at the time of writing these notes) two Sections, entirely self-contained, have left the drill hall to work with their respective Troops. E Section left for Newburn in Northumberland and G Section for Seaton. E Section will complete their week-ends with a final pre-camp week-end to be held in the drill hall on the 26th/27th May.

Each year, when local week-end camps take place, we arrange them on fresh pastures. We broke new ground this time with the combined exercise of F and G Sections around the area of Ingleby Greenhow in Yorkshire. This is a delightful little spot, and I am sure all ranks are looking forward to the next visit.

Annual camp is now not far off, and these week-ends that we are having are making a wonderful improvement in our training, so that I am sure when we arrive in camp a 100 per cent. show will be produced.

Miniature Rifle Shooting.—Since our last notes we have been challenged by No. 608 (N.) Bombing Squadron R.A.F. to a team match. The challenge was of course accepted, and the meeting took place in our drill hall. We had a good evening's sport, but we had to bow the knee to our rivals, who gave us our first beating as a team. We hope in the near future to reverse this state of things.

Badminton.—This is still in a healthy position, and the team are playing matches and seeking for fresh opponents to conquer.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—By the time these notes appear the annual camp will be upon us, and we are hoping that the weather will be better than it was when we last visited Scarborough in 1931. All ranks are looking forward to seeing that place again, and to meeting old acquaintances, of whom there are many. (Don't forget your beach pyjamas, J.W. and A.T.)

Training.—Our voluntary training class in the afternoons is growing, and one can hear sounders, buzzers and gears from every part of the drill hall—especially the grinding of the latter when our budding i/c drivers are endeavouring to change gear

as they go round the field outside. Still, they are making good progress and will, I think, pass out at the end of the course. In any case, after nearly two weeks of their going round and round the drill hall field, our lecture hut is still standing—although this may be due to the fact that a squad of Gateshead policemen are inside, undergoing a course of Morse reading.

An instructive week-end traffic scheme was held in the drill hall on the 28th and 29th April, under the supervision of our adjutant, Captain W. H. N. Dent, M.B.E. The attendance at this was very pleasing, and I am sure, by reason of the way the troops are turning out at these week-ends and at other training, we shall go to camp in good strength.

K Infantry Brigade Signal Section and No. 206 M.A.B. Signal Section went to Woodlands on the 5th May for a signal exercise. After a glorious week of sunshine, Saturday came in with rain and damped the whole show. This was unfortunate, as I know how much these Sections had been looking forward to this week-end, to show that they can and will run the communications required within a Brigade. As one sergeant said to me, "We'll show 'em!"—which is the spirit we want in this Company.

J Section are going to Newburn-on-Tyne on the 12th May for a week-end exercise with the 149th Infantry Brigade signallers, and we are looking forward to this Section doing its stuff.

Strength.—The D.R. sub-Section is now up to establishment, and when these despatch riders arrive with their steeds, crowds assemble outside our drill hall gate to see the start of the grass track race.

To K Section, one M.G. Midget w.e.f. 19/2/34.
To Sigmn Derbyshire a son, Ronald, at Newcastle, 24/3/34.
To L/Sergt Lumley T. a son, Donald, at Gateshead, 23/11/33.

Promotions.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to Corpl Lamb J. R. and L/Corpls Atkinson F., Taylor J. and Airey on their promotion.

Musterings.—We also congratulate Signalmen Milligan W., Davies and Ford on passing out as operator signals B.iii., and Signalmen Bradford J. and Ferguson as operator signals Group E; Sigmn Hill on becoming a full blown despatch rider D.iii.; and L/Sergts Jones B. and Lumley T. on their qualifying in the administrative examination for promotion to sergeants.

Sports.—We are about to start training for the inter-Company athletic cup which is to be competed for during the annual training in camp, and it is hoped that all ranks will make every endeavour to get fit by that time.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

The Big Parade.—We mustered two hundred and fifty strong for the Glasgow Territorial and S.R. church parade. The critics say we made a splendid show. The band of the Lowland Signal units was at its best. It is estimated that forty thousand people lined the parade route. There could be nothing more gratifying than the splendid spirit and keenness of the youthful members of our Signal units. What splendid and promising material!

It is seldom that we hand out bouquets to R.Q.M.S. Westlands and his super-business men, but we cannot refrain from congratulating the R.Q.M.S. on the splendid appearance of the units. It is no small problem to effectively clothe and equip the members of scattered units such as ours, and it is evident that great care and forethought is being devoted to the turn-out of each man.

The scene at St. Andrew's Hall was a memorable one. The tartans, the scarlet, the Air Force and Naval uniforms lent colour and brightness to a gathering numbering almost five thousand. The Roman Catholic service was equally successful, and the scene at the church will not be easily forgotten.

We must express our gratitude for the splendid catering arrangements. It is small wonder that the Monday morning civilian thought with pleasure of the Sunday afternoon soldier of the big parade and the big feed.

Medals.—A happy prelude to the church parade was the record presentation of medals, Lieut.-Colonel Robertson handing over no less than eight decorations. We heartily congratulate the recipients, and we share with the commanding officer his pride in this record.

On With The Dance.—Yet another all unit gathering! Is there no end to these efforts made on our behalf? We have to record one more all-unit all-ranks event. The dance recently held at these headquarters savoured of nothing but success. We often wonder how it is all done—free dancing, lavish catering and tasteful decoration. All ranks came to the ball, and most pleasing was the number of officers present. An attendance of three hundred and thirty taxed our large lecture hall to its utmost. Cheerfulness and gaiety ruled supreme. The arrangements were excellent.

"Officer, Tommy, sergeant-major and all
Were mortals unearthed at the Regiment's ball."

Good News.—Nothing has pleased us more for a long time than the appointment of acting C.S.M.s Tracy and Harrison to C.Q.M.S. Two popular members of our permanent staff, comrades Tracy and Harrison well deserve this rise in rank which means so much to them; and it may be assumed that their advancement is indeed recognition of splendid work as P.S.I.s and counsellors and friends of all ranks.

Diligent Dodds.—Our football and cross-country efforts under the direction of C.S.M. Dodds are being distinguished by continued success. We are now concentrating on important Divisional events. Things progress apace!

North and South.—As far flung as the winds are to be our camping grounds this year. 'Tis a far cry from Ayrshire to Aldershot! Training has commenced in earnest. Talk of mechanisation in Ayrshire and of big things expected of us at Aldershot is adding zest and pleasant anticipation to our training season.

1859.—We are fast approaching the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Glasgow Groups R.E., and we are direct in the line of succession to the original Signal Sections. The record is a proud one, of which we shall have more to say anon. This outstanding anniversary will no doubt be duly celebrated, but it is felt that a foreword on the forthcoming event of the Jardine Street units would not be out of place.

Jack Gray.—The more frequent visits of ex-R.Q.M.S. Gray to the w.o.s and sergeants mess is good to behold. It is gratifying to know that Jack is regaining physical strength. Few have done so much for these units as he has. His acumen for hard work and his brilliant organising powers did much to build up our present splendid formations, and it is with great pleasure that we note that he is on the way to renewed health and strength.

Y.E.B.—The anniversary of the commencement of the Gallipoli campaign having again come and gone, we would take this opportunity of reminding our younger members of the Lowland Signal units' connection with the Dardanelles venture. Surely it is good to recall the Lowland Divisional Signal Company's association with the Peninsula, the Anzacs, the 29th and Naval Divisions, and our sister Territorial Divisions. The memories of the signal office on the river Clyde, the beaches, and the nullahs are for ever fragrant. The Gallipoli men still serving with the Lowland Signal units heartily greet, through the medium of THE WIRE, their old comrades—a number of whom are believed to be still serving in Territorial and S.R. units.

Lieut.-Colonel Muirhead.—We note the retirement of Lieut.-Colonel Muirhead from the position of D.C.S.O. Scottish Command. We feel confident, however, that his interest in our own units will not lapse. His connection with us extends over many years. His ability and influence were time and again unstintingly given in our service. As a commanding officer, his good deeds will long be remembered. 'Twas his to ease many a burden: he made life brighter and better for many of those who served under him.

Officers Two.—We heartily congratulate our trusted friend, Captain T. M. Niven, on his elevation to majority rank. We welcome 2/Lieut. K. A. Maclay to our midst and as yet another subscriber to THE WIRE.

To Pony.—"Pity poor Pony's Pompey! pity poor Pompey's Pony!" So say we in Glasgow.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Section training has commenced, and attendances are improving every week. The Sections are busy wiring up the offices in readiness for traffic schemes. Each Section has a separate room for its office, and all the offices are permanently connected to each other by line.

Shooting.—Hearty congratulations to No. 2 Company on winning the *Western Mail* cup again this year. They put up a splendid performance in the final, beating the 6th Welch Regiment (T.A.) by 16 points. No. 2 Company have shot very consistently throughout the competition, and the final was very keenly contested on the miniature range at the barracks of the Depot, The Welch Regiment—neither team having fired on it before.

Shooting on the large targets, we were one point down. On the small target Sergt Baxter scored a fine "possible," giving us a lead of five points. This we held on to and ran out comfortable winners as shown above.

Our commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., presided over a subsequent supper, when F. Webber, Esq., of the *Western Mail*, presented the cup to Captain V. W. Hawkins, commanding No. 2 Company. During the evening we were honoured with a visit by Colonel A. Hier-Davis, D.S.O., T.D. (secretary of the Glamorgan T.A. Association). THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

Training.—Two Sections of the Company have now experienced their first week-end camp, and with the exception of the Saturday, when in each case it rained, the outing was thoroughly enjoyed. The numbers allowed to attend—unfortunately limited—were up to strength, and will be throughout the year owing to the waiting list.

B Cable Section went to Hainault Forest on the 21st/22nd April and pitched a camp at Fox Burrows. Everything went as planned, although it was their first mechanised scheme as a Section. Over three miles of cable were laid, perfect communication being established as per programme. Good for the Cable Section!

A Wireless Section also pitched their camp at Fox Burrows during the week-end 28th/29th April. The scheme, although not going quite as at first planned, was completely satisfactory, and much good work was done.

The messing in each case was excellent, everybody being satisfied—a rare occurrence in these days!

Both Sections are now busily preparing for their Whitsun camp, which is for three days and allows of a more progressive scheme being carried out.

In the meantime, our V/T team and those who are keen on learning will take a "rest cure" during the week-end 12th/13th May, also in the vicinity of Hainault Forest. Much is expected from our V/T team this year, but we will leave them alone for the time being because they are getting along very nicely, thank you.

We provided the majority of the O.R.s who proceeded to Newhaven for the spring exercise from the 29th April to the 2nd May. Although we have not yet had their reports, we hope they thoroughly enjoyed themselves, for the weather has been kind to them.

Recruiting.—Although our strength is gradually but surely increasing, we would like to see many more claims for the twenty shillings which is the prize for securing four recruits. We have one or two men who are on the verge of claiming, but that elusive one to make up the four (get me?) seems rather difficult to find. Let it be understood, however, that those bringing up a recruit who is finally approved do not lose anything in the way of cash. In fact, it's all gain. So now another pull, lads!

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—With the aid of our newly acquired motor vehicles, training in the open has been much more simple. A gallant band sallied forth from Headquarters on the 28th April, putting their lives into the hands of our two drivers. Strangely enough, no casualties took place, though the passengers in the Sunbeam were heard uttering strange and weird prayers (I think they were meant for prayers, anyhow). The Section reached Hainault Forest in pouring rain, and provided a lightning exhibition of the way to rescue a lorry from a muddy grave.

The following morning proving fine, a complete Artillery Brigade scheme of communications was laid out in an area of 100 yards, and the whole thing was inspected and explained to our latest recruits. Then the various posts were manned and the business of the day began. The linemen, too, did their stuff, and it speaks well for those who put in extra time to run through the cable, to know that during the whole of the time the line was out speech was well up to G.P.O. standard. Well done, lads.

The scheme terminated during the afternoon, and a very enjoyable outing came to a close. I think we are all looking forward to the next one.

The annual Trade Board is the next big item on the list, and we are looking forward to some good results. Of this more anon.

A week-end camp for the V/T experts takes place on the 12th May, and (keep it dark) our star performer is turning out—and hopes for the cup are really high this year.

Congratulations.—To Captain H. S. Palmer and Lieut. L. H. Gentry on passing in subjects "C" and "A" respectively. To 2/Lieut. C. M. Galbraith on joining this Company. Don't forget that V/T trophy this year, sir.

We Want to Know.—Which is the best "petrol"—Mann and Crossman's, or Meux's? How many miles does the "Hooper" do to the gallon? TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—The only item of news this month is the week-end camp held at Hullbridge on the 21st/22nd April. Weather conditions were not very good on the Saturday, but Sunday turned out fine and the Spot Section worked a small scheme very efficiently. Hullbridge turned out quite an ideal spot for camp, with ideal surroundings for visual, etc.

Trade Board.—By the time these notes are read, the Trade Board will have been finished and those keen lads will know whether they will get extra pay at camp or not. Good luck to them! S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—The Detachment held a week-end camp on the 21st/22nd April, and had a very fine time. A good muster of two officers and twenty-five other ranks paraded at the drill hall and proceeded by lorry to Blunham, where we pitched our tents and settled down to some strenuous work. The weather was nice and fine, so that we had nothing to grumble about. The messing arrangements were excellent, as expected, and the general arrangements were very good, too. On Sunday we settled down to school work for the benefit of the operators who are going for their Group E very soon, and several hours of good swotting was done. We returned to the drill hall at 17.00 hours on Sunday—a very happy crowd, all feeling that it was a week-end well spent.

We are holding our next week-end on the 5th/6th May at Felmersham. Of that, there will be more next month. At Whitsuntide we are going to Turvey for three days.

Spring Exercise.—A party from this Detachment proceeded to Newhaven to participate in the spring exercises from the 29th April to the 2nd May.

Recruiting.—This is going on at a fairly brisk rate. We enlisted four other ranks last month, and have a few more on the books. If any readers of THE WIRE who live in the vicinity of Bedford would like to join a very good unit, now's their chance.

BEDFORDIAN.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Our Sergeants Mess annual dinner took place on a Saturday in April. To say that the event was a success would be a mere bagatelle. Sumptuous fare was provided, and all sat down to satisfy the inner man. Incidental music was provided, giving an added spirit of gaiety to the event.

Our guests included all Company commanders, but our O.C. (Lieut.-Colonel G. D. Ozanne) was only with us for the latter part of the evening owing to a previous dinner engagement with our Old Comrades (such are the trials of popularity). Colonel T. W. Vigers, C.S.O. London District, honoured us with his presence, and in his reply to the toast of "The Guests" he asked all w.o.s and n.c.o.s to do their utmost to foster the true Territorial spirit among their Companies and to encourage recruiting as much as lay in their power. After the dinner the hall was cleared for dancing. Those who did not wish to dance were provided with other amusements in which members of sergeants messes are reputed to indulge. A right merry evening was spent by all, and it is with regret that we draw the curtain on this happy function.

The inhabitants of Balham and district were startled out of their normal existence on Monday 30th April to find that a new establishment had been opened in Balham Hill, emblazoned with attractive posters showing how to join the Royal Signals, Territorial Army. The 56th (1st London) City of London Signals, T.A., had started their recruiting week. The shop, a double fronted one, was tastefully decorated with all kinds of signalling apparatus; in fact, the window dressing savoured of Harrods or Pontings, and our permanent staff are to be congratulated on the fine show they made.

Callers and enquirers were numerous, and although the immediate results were not great, it is hoped that they will have a lasting effect in the district and that we may add to our ranks every Tuesday night. It certainly brought home to the inhabitants the fact that they have a real live and highly trained technical force amomg them—one of which they can be proud and one which demands their wholehearted support.

The week was not without its humorous side. The elderly party who wanted to know if he could have the 120-watt W/T set on seven days approval was escorted sadly to the door, and recommended to visit the nearby wireless dealers who trade extensively in highly commendable "hiker's portables."

All members of the unit who took part in the recruiting week are to be congratulated. A great deal of disguised talent came to light in the shape of tact and persuasiveness, leading us to think that some of them are perhaps commercial travellers—for which we freely forgive them. However, it was a novel experience for all, and one from which the unit will never cease to reap benefit.

A sad tale is now to be unfolded of the ignominious defeat of our officers by the sergeants in a games tournament. This is the first of what is hoped will be many of these happy evenings, and ere long we trust that the officers will reach the already high standard of the sergeants. The results are as follows.

SQUASH.—Captain G. M. Welsford v. C.S.M. Storey C. 9—1, 9—7, 9—4. Captain F. White v. Sergt Hammond P. 8—10, 0—9, 0—9. 2/Lieut S. Lovegrove v Sergt Martin S. 7—9, 4—9, 5—9. Captain H. T. Mander v. C.S.M. Tyrrell F. 9—3, 9—2, 9—4. 2/Lieut. S. Lovegrove v. R.S.M. Grant N. W. 8—10, 9—8, 9—3. Capt. F. White v. C.S.M. Storey C. 7—9, 9—6, 7—9, 9—6, 4—9.

BADMINTON SINGLES.—Captain L. D. Goddard v. R.S.M. Grant N.W. 7—15, 10—15. 2/Lieut. Lovegrove v. C.S.M. Tyrrell F. 15—9, 15—10. Captain F. White v. Sergt Hammond P. 1—15, 2—15. Lieut. B. Houghton Brown v. Sergt Hammond P. 1—15, 1—15. Captain H. T. Mander v. Sergeant Hammond P. 1—15, 1—15.

BADMINTON DOUBLES.—Captain L. D. Goddard and Captain G. M. Welsford v. R.S.M. Grant N. and C.S.M. Storey C. 21—15, 21—15. Captain H. T. Mander and Lieut. B. H. Brown v. C.S.M. Storey C. and Sergt Silk P. 1—15, 2—15.

BILLIARDS.—Major A. V. D. Hort v. Sergt Silk P. 100—84. Captain F. White v. Sergt Hammond P. 47—100. Major A. V. D. Hort v. Sergeant Guile W. 100—84. Captain H. T. Mander v. C.S.M. Storey C. 41—100. Captain F. White v. Sergt Buttle W. 82—100.

The sergeants won by 12—6 points.

There was another pastime in which the officers and sergeants indulged, but as the issue was never in doubt it would be kinder to leave the results unpublished. The noble art of tossing the feathered javelin has been handed down from time immemorial (Robin Hood used to do it in a small way), and it is sad to think that such an art, which is almost on a par with the R. and A., has had such a lapse in some circles. Arrangements can, however, be made to remedy this provided that the officers can supply pupils with the necessary amount of power and concentration.

Technical.—Will a 120-watt W/T set work 8000 miles? Can accumulators be charged from a duplex set? C.E.S.

UNITS ABROAD NOTES—*Continued from page 256*

Shanghai Signal Section—*continued.*

News Item.—The following is an extract from *The North China Daily News*: "Professor Richard Unger, F.R.G.S., who has been on home leave, returned to Shanghai recently. It will be remembered that the Professor, who is an authority on Chinese goldfish, gave an interesting lecture before he left us on the laughing goldfish of Manchuria. He made frequent reference to his notes, which appeared to be written on the bottom of a glass. The Professor hopes in the near future to give us a lecture on his latest discovery, the oxometer—its origin, uses and abuses.

Orders That Don't Ring True.—"In future, beds will be made up as laid down."

Advert.—"Come to Shanghai—the centre of sensible sozzlers."

Cumshaw Column.—The Rut: Uncle thinks the world of you. Am using your name when casting my bread. Viv.
Taffy Hamilton: What about splashing some ink in the direction of Taffy Pitt?
Baker 232000009: Drop a line, China. Brighton.
Carr, Peshawar: What about a letter? Oates.
T. Barnes, somewhere in England: What about a letter? Noah.
Gunboat: How's Lena? Bunny. SHANGHAI.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 5th May.

After spending almost a month in pleading, cajoling and arguing in order to obtain material (or should it be termed copy?) for this poor effort, the sum total is a prize selection of Agony paragraphs! We regret to disillusion our would-be helpers, but even if our notes are on unavoidable occasions of a Part II. Order character, they have not yet earned the sobriquet of a Scotsman's Paradise.

Next month, at this time, we shall be in the enviable position of being able to say that our first annual inspection as a unit by His Excellency General Sir Charles H. Harington, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, has taken place; in other words, we are now in the midst of our preparations for the annual inspection, so further comment is needless. With a few days of good sunshine (and the continued assistance of Mr. Edwards) the flower display in our garden will give the exterior of the barracks a good set off and provide an example for others to copy.

At long last we are able to state that Corpl Parry, accompanied by his wife, has disembarked at Gibraltar. As he managed to achieve his long cherished ambition of a "packet passage," we must pardon the delay and trust his present stay will be as pleasant as his previous tour in the Fortress.

We were very pleased to know so many Signals visited Gibraltar ex the homeward-bound *Lancashire* yesterday, but regret that so few managed to locate our barracks. Needless to say, our very old friend Sergt Hitchen (accompanied by Sergeant Murphy and Corpl Tucker) knew his way to Wellington Front, and we trust that his visit was a profitable one.

Our sporting activities during the period between football and cricket have been confined to practice rowing. At the moment two crews, coxed by L/Corpls Poulton and Manning respectively, are undergoing steady and strenuous training for the annual Section race, which is to be rowed this month. We expect to see a very close and exciting finish if present form is anything to go by, but no doubt *both* the crews have other ideas of what the result will be!



F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Athletics.—The first two Mackworth meetings have come and gone, with very interesting results. All who competed and represented the Company showed great keenness, and are to be congratulated on putting up a very good show. In the first meeting bad luck prevented our total points being as high as they might have been, and we were placed fifth. In the second meeting, despite the loss of some of our stars, we were placed fourth.

As the great majority of the team are boys—and some of them under sixteen years of age—we have nothing to worry about, and we are looking forward to going up another place in the final meeting.

Now it's up to the Company huskies to buckle to and literally throw their weight about, and so bring us up to our proper place.

Army Boys Cup Final.—"A" Team Royal Signals v. Irish Guards. "A" team reached the final, following a succession of exciting matches. Unfortunately the left half was injured in the semi-final and the reserve had to play. The match commenced before a goodly crowd, Signals being predominant.

The Irish Guards started off strongly and scored their first goal after ten minutes through their centre forward, with a shot that Lancashire failed to hold. The Signals could not get going properly, the heading by the taller Irish Guards stopping many a pass. The latter scored again after another ten minutes from a beautiful corner kick. The Signals were now working together much better, and were pressing strongly when half time arrived.

The second half started with the Signals all out, and their efforts were rewarded by a good goal from McQuade. This was followed shortly afterwards by another, headed in by McQuade from a pass from Garfield. From the kick-off after this goal, however, the Irish Guards went straight through to score their third goal. This was a jar for the Signals, but they continued pressing strongly for the last quarter of an hour and the equaliser seemed nearly certain. However, the Irish Guards defence proved too strong and the final whistle went just a little too soon for the Signals.

It was a splendid game to watch, and the courage of the boys was tremendous in the second half against what must have been a great set-back in being two goals down. The game was very well fought, and the Irish Guards won on their merits. They showed very good team work in being in the final last year and this year winning the cup.

We have to thank the Signals for their great support, and hope that our next visit to Aldershot will provide them with the spectacle of a Signals team winning the cup. Medals and cups were presented to both teams, and so ended a glorious season. It was not discovered until later that we had walked away with the wrong medals, but this was rectified some days later.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 1 Company.

The last month has not brought any startling Company items, as the winter season has closed and there is bound to be a slight interval before the summer gets into full swing.

As regards cricket we are hoping to field a champion eleven, and the swimmers have promised to do their best.

On the athletic side we shall be assisted by Lieut. J. H. Panton, 2/Lieut. D. N. Deakin the high jumper, Corpl Harbin the all-rounder, and Nurmi Hicks, whose name speaks for itself.

All personnel of the Company under thirty years of age have undergone a standard test in athletics, but unfortunately the results have not yet been compiled, so we cannot mention any outstanding performances. Several people have had their tunics, etc., taken in after running (and walking) the mile! We hope to be able to furnish further information next month.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

D Troop Cavalry Signals and Command Signal Company Tennis Club.—The following are the results to hand of the opening tournament.

FIRST ROUND SINGLES.

Sigmn Ryan (D) beat Sigmn Harwood (Command) 6—2, 6—2
L/Corpl Mohrstadt (Command) walked over Sigmn Macken (Command) who scratched
L/Corpl Ransome (D) beat Sigmn Verlander (Command) 6—0, 6—2
Corpl Chamberlain (Command) beat Sigmn Hollingsworth (D) 6—2, 6—0
Corpl Stanley (Command) beat Sergt Bishop (Command) 3—6, 6—4, 6—4
L/Corpl Durand (Command) beat Sigmn Green (D) 6—3, 6—4
Sigmn Tuck (D) beat Corpl Jones (D) 6—0, 3—6, 6—3
Captain Morgan (D) walked over Sigmn Tysell (D)
Sigmn Oates (D) walked over Sigmn Dunkley (D)
Sergt Coleman (D) walked over Sergt Harvey (Command)
Sigmn Banbury (D) walked over Sigmn Greeves (D)
Byes—Captain Anthony (Command), Sigmn Appleton (D), Sigmn Tomlinson (D), Sigmn Boughton (D), L/Sergt Gatford (D)

FIRST ROUND DOUBLES.

L/Corpl Mohrstadt and Sigmn Verlander (Command) beat Sigmn Mills and Sigmn Appleton (D) 9—7, 6—3
Sergt Bishop and Corpl Chamberlain (Command) beat L/Sergt Gatford and Corpl Jones (D) 6—3, 6—3
Sigmn Banbury and Sigmn Tuck (D) beat Captain Anthony (Command) and Captain Morgan (D) 6—2, 4—6, 6—3
Bye—L/Corpl Ransome and Sergt Coleman (D)

Our first match of the season was away to the 2nd Battalion R.T.C., who won by 9—7 matches. After being behind by six matches to two at the tea interval, our last doubles pair started their match with the score 8—7 against us. They established a 3—0 lead, and things looked set for a drawn match when the Tanks pair suddenly went into action and won the set by 6—4 and the match.

The following team represented the Club: Sergeant Coleman, L/Sergt Gatford, Corpl Chamberlain, L/Corpls Durand and Ransome, Signalmen Appleton and Verlander.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Soccer.—Another season has closed down—a season that may be regarded by this unit as most successful from a league point of view. Since the entry of the Signals into Division I. of the Scarborough and District League, the end of the season has usually found the unit team amongst the stragglers at the end of the table; but now, after four years battling in the league, we have finished as runners-up. With a spot of luck, we should have finished second to none.

Our two defeats were administered by the Filey Town Club—a club that will be first to admit that the Signals were decidedly

unlucky in not annexing four points from the two encounters. Nevertheless, the Signals are proud to occupy second place to Filey and congratulate the " Fishermen " on their success.

A few words must be said about the return fixture with Whitby United at Whitby. Here, a great victory was registered by the Signals. Three goals down at half-time, and losing Corpl Gibbons at centre half, thirty minutes from the end found the Signals fighting with their backs to the wall. The final whistle blew with the score: Signals 4 goals, Whitby 3. A finer recovery resulting in victory, I am sure, will never be witnessed by the Whitbyites.

The Second Eleven did remarkably well in finishing so far up the table in Division II. The past season saw their first appearance in this Division, and from the experience gained, it will need a good team to prevent us from finishing as " champs " at the close of next season.

The unit has never been so well off for footballers as it is now, in spite of the fact that many old-timers have either left the Service or received posting orders. There is no reason why the high standard of football now reached should not be maintained and even improved, and I am sure that all who have given up their Saturday afternoons to support the Corps in Scarborough will feel rewarded by this season's efforts of the two elevens. Thanks to everybody!

Congratulations are bestowed upon No. 1 Company on winning the Inter-Company League tournament, and also upon D Section on winning the inter-Section knock-out shield.

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE: FINAL TABLES.

Division I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Filey	14	11	1	2	75—20	24
Signals	14	9	2	3	52—19	21
Whitby	14	8	3	3	56—27	19
Imps	14	8	3	3	40—23	19
Pickering	14	5	5	4	46—38	14
Hunmanby	14	4	8	2	41—47	10
Kirbymoorside	14	2	11	1	40—51	5
North Cliff	14	0	14	0	9—105	0

Division II.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Scarborough Juniors	23	19	1	3	122— 29	41
Filey II.	23	16	4	3	101— 36	35
Scalby	24	15	5	4	102— 34	34
Signals II.	24	13	6	5	75— 43	31
Imps II.	24	13	10	1	82— 63	27
Snainton	23	13	10	0	80— 87	26
West Leigh	21	8	9	4	64— 69	20
Gristhorpe	23	7	12	4	58— 69	18
Oriel	18	8	9	1	57— 41	17
Forge Valley	21	8	13	0	54— 94	16
Y.M.C.A.	23	4	17	2	34—128	10
Sherburn	21	2	15	4	34—105	8
St. Peter's	24	2	19	3	45—124	7

[It will be seen that most of the Clubs failed to complete their fixtures.]

INTER-COMPANY FOOTBALL LEAGUE: FINAL TABLE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals	Points
No. 1 Company	4	2	0	2	13— 6	4
No. 3 Company	4	2	0	2	8— 9	4
No. 2 Company	4	2	0	2	10—16	4

No. 1 Company were judged the winners by virtue of their superior goal average.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Football Results.—v. B Company The King's Regiment, won by 2—1 and drew at 1—1 ; v. Brigade Headquarters, won by 8—0 ; v. R Battery R.A. won by 5—3.

"B" team v. F Signal Section, won by 2—0 ; v. R Battery R.A. lost by 0—3.

Attached Section v. S Battery R.A. lost by 2—7.

Wallace Cup—Company team v. B Company The King's Regiment, won by 3—0.

Hockey.—v. B Company S.T.C. won by 3—2 and lost by 1—2. Jubbulpore Garrison Cup—v. H.Q. Wing The King's Regiment, won by 3—1 ; final v. R Battery, lost by 2—3.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Northern Command Signals Week Football.—The 1st Div. team played their first game on Monday 5th March and were fortunate to have excellent weather. Their opponents in this game were Kohat District Signals, who started off in very fine style while the Div. took some time to settle down. After the first fifteen minutes the Div. found their feet and treated the large crowd of spectators to a very fine display of football. Kohat District faded out after another twenty minutes play, and the Div. ran out easy winners by 8—0 goals, the scorers being Signalman Draper J. (4), L/Corpl Cleveland (2), Signalmen Mobberley and Cox.

In the next round of the tournament the Div. met Waziristan District Signals. This match was played in a heavy downpour which was all against good football, but for all that both teams put up a good show and gave the large crowd who braved the elements quite an exciting time. On the final whistle the Div. were the winners by two goals to nil. This took them into the final, their opponents being B Corps Signals. The scorers in this match were Signalmen Draper and Mobberley.

The final was a real " Derby " match and was played on the 9th March in a continual drizzle. Several good movements were seen, but much kicking out of play spoilt the game for players and spectators alike. Seven minutes from time the Corps were leading by two goals to nil, when Sigmn Cowan headed home the first goal for the Div. from a corner kick. The Div. now pressed hard and were rewarded when Signalman Draper J. scored the equaliser two minutes from time.

A replay took place next day on the Corps ground and under much better conditions. From the kick off the Div. made tracks for the Corps goal, but a well timed clearance by Sigmn Nichols transferred play to the opposite end. Play was then transferred to mid-field and both goals were visited in turn, but both goalkeepers made fine saves, the half-time whistle blowing with the score sheet still blank. At the commencement of the second half the Corps made a concentrated attack on the Div. goal, but the backs and goalkeeper rose to the occasion and play was transferred to the other end. In a raid on the Corps goal their keeper fumbled the ball and Sigmn Cox, running in, breasted it into the net. Play was from then on of a ding-dong style, each goal being visited, but neither keeper was seriously tested, and the final whistle went with the Div. the winners by the only goal of the match.

The outstanding feature of this match was the fine display by the Div. backs, Sigmn Thornton and L/Corpl Swinson, and excellent combination by the left wing triangle, Signalmen Bundy and Mobberley and L/Corpl Cleveland. On the Corps side Signalmen Nichols and Cant played an excellent game, and Sigmn Managhan was the pick of the forwards.

The football shield was presented to the Div. captain by Mrs. Barker, wife of the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, on Sunday 11th March.

District Football Tournament.—A team composed of six players of B Corps and five of 1st Indian Div. represented the Signals in this tournament against the Cheshire Regiment on Monday 12th March, but they lost by 2—5 goals. The team were very badly off their game, mainly owing to so much football being played during the previous week. The main weakness was the ineffectiveness of the forwards in front of goal ; the centre forward was given many opportunities by the wing players, but always managed to lose the ball before he was ready to shoot. The scorers in this match were Sigmn Cowan and L/Corporal Cleveland.

Two friendly matches against the Welch Regiment (home and away) provided some really good football. In the first match, on the Div. ground, the home team won by 2—0 goals (L/Cpls Hopwood and Cleveland). The second match ended in a draw, two goals being scored by each team (Signalmen Mobberley and Cox for us).

Hockey.—Signals Week hockey was looked forward to by a great number and some excellent play was expected, but very little was seen. This was, however, very largely owing to the disgusting weather experienced during this week. Only half of the matches were played in anything like hockey weather, and even then the grounds on most days were spongy and a great handicap to the class of hockey usually witnessed during this tournament. Making allowances for the weather experienced, some good games were seen, and those who braved the elements on two occasions were given a fine display of stick work and good sportsmanship. This was during the matches of B Corps Signals against Kohat District Signals and Experimental Wireless Section, Cherat. In the first match B Corps Signals won by the only goal scored. In the second, W.E.S. Cherat were the lucky winners, also by one goal to nil.

The finals were played in good weather. Peshawar District Signals reached these in both the British and Indian sections, and deserved the win in the Indian section. In the British final some first class hockey was witnessed, a good game being won by Cherat by one goal to nil.

In the Signals Week hockey tournament the Div. met Waziristan District Signals, and some excellent hockey was seen, but the Div. lost by the only goal scored. This result was due to the fact that the forwards were ineffective in front of goal. The only goal scored was due to a fine run by Sigmn Coleman which ended with the inside left scoring from close in.

Cross-Country Run.—This was run in the early morning, with a fine drizzle of rain falling practically the whole time. The Div. having entered two teams, it is pleasing to note that they finished first and second, with Kohat District Signals third. The first five home were all Div. runners: Signalmen Blakemore, Barnes and Neame, Lieut. Minshall and Sigmn Pollard—in the order shown.

This sport is now a weekly fixture, and since it has been instituted less talk has been heard about service. Before these runs were started by our new C.O. it seemed that approximately fifty per cent. of the unit were expecting that much-coveted medal, but as only duty men and those with over eighteen years service are exempt, it is easily seen that not *quite* that number have good grounds for their expectations. After the first run many groans were heard as men moved about or sat down in the barrack rooms. The unusual exercise had certainly made their legs ache, but subsequent runs have left little after-effect, and n.c.o.s and men alike now look forward to the next event.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Hockey Results—

19/3/34 v. H.Q. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 4—1
27/3/34 v. Sappers and Miners, home, won by 2—1
28/3/34 v. 10/12th Frontier Force, away, won by 4—1
30/3/34 v. Cantonment Club, home, drew at 2—2
1/4/34 v. Hodson's Horse, away, won by 6—1
3/4/34 v. B Squadron 13/18th Hussars, home, lost by 1—2
4/4/34 v. 10/12th Frontier Force, home, lost by 1—2
7/4/34 v. British Military Hospital, home, won by 9—0
10/4/34 v. 10/12th Frontier Force (Coghlan Hot Weather Hockey Tournament) away, lost by 1—3
14/4/34 v. Band, Dorsetshire Regiment, away, drew at 3—3
16/4/34 v. Hodson's Horse, home, won by 4—0

Football Results—

20/3/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, won by 3—2
21/3/34 v. D (M.G.) Company, Dorsetshire Regiment, away, lost by 0—1
29/3/34 v. British Military Hospital, away, won by 3—0
5/4/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 2—1
6/4/34 v. 13/18th Hussars (final Olympic Tournament, Sialkot) away, lost by 2—3
15/4/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, won by 1—0
17/4/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, home, drew at 2—2

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Landi Kotal Detachment.

Sport.—Three representatives of this Section went to Rawalpindi for the Northern Command Signals Week—Signalmen Bray and Hough for football, but I have not yet found out what the other fellow did.

The Section hockey team is fairly strong, but lacks " it." We heard strange tales from old members of the team until the present eleven beat the Gunners up here.

The latest games to be introduced in the Section besides Tug's darts are badminton and deck tennis. The latter was found to give the " October due homes " much incentive.

Here are a few results of hockey and soccer matches played within the last few weeks.

Hockey.—v. 2/9th Jat Regiment (H.Q. Wing) won by 2—0 ; v. Hospital Corps, lost by 0—1 ; v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles, lost by 1—3 ; v. Khyber Club, won by 1—0.

Football.—v. A Company 2nd Border Regiment, won by 5—0 and drew at 3—3 ; v. B Company 2nd Border Regiment, won by 4—3 ; v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles, lost by 1—3 ; v. the Drums, Border Regiment, won by 2—1 and lost by 1—3.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

We must first of all apologise to J Section for our mistake in April's notes. The cross-country was won by them and not by K Section as stated. Forgive us, J. You ran a good race.

Cricket.—With the departure of our late C.O., Major C. A. Murray, together with Lieut. H. Worrall, L/Corpl Bunce, Signalmen Barnecutt, Madgwick and Hine, and (last, but not least) our schoolie Sergt-Instructor Ware, our team has undergone a great change. Indeed, all our teams are being re-moulded owing to the big gap which our last batch of departures has caused.

Fortunately, our new C.O., Major B. G. Rowley (who played in our last match against Best's Eleven), C.S.M. Spracklen (now a regular player), Sigmn McMahon (a right arm bowler), and other older members of the unit who used to turn out occasionally, have filled the breach. The ultimate result is the formation of the following side: Major B. G. Rowley, C.S.M. Spracklen, Sergt Turner, Corpl Ray, L/Corpl West, Signalmen Greenhalgh, Price J., McMahon, Luckhurst, Caulfield and Rose.

Sigmn Angus has promoted himself from scorer to " humphigher " (what a wicket pun!)

We have played three matches during the last month—one against the R.A.F. which we lost by five wickets, and two against Best's Eleven which we won easily. In the second match against the latter team, Sigmn Greenhalgh scored 89 out of a total of 122: quite an achievement (and a new book, too, Joe!)

Hockey.—The team here, also, is in the making. At the end of the trooping season we were able to choose Corpl Benson and Signalmen McMahon and Cooper to fill the places left vacant by our star players such as L/Corporal Bunce, Sigmn Gregory and others. There is very little to choose between Benson and Cooper, who fill the positions of right and left backs very well. The following team is the result of careful choosing: Signalman Shannon, goal ; Sigmn Cooper and Corpl Benson, backs ; Sigmn Caulfield, Corporal Jervis and Sigmn Gunn, halves ; Signalmen Simpson and Jones, L/Corpl Talbot, Signalmen Price J. and Price G. forwards.

The results of the majority of our matches are very disappointing, but our pukka team has not been assembled en masse. Here are the results: v. C.I.M.H. at home, drew at 0—0 ; v. Paraders, at home, drew at 2—2 and lost by 1—6 ; v. 4/12th F.F.R. at home, lost by 0—7.

Football.—Here also new matter is being moulded into shape, for reasons already explained. Very few matches have been played, and only one of sufficient importance to merit reporting. Our team included Sigmn Hobden, a most worthy goalkeeper ; Signalmen Cooper and Simpson, backs; Signalmen Price G., Shannon and Harrison, halves ; Signalmen Race, Page, Jones, Maxwell and Robertson, forwards. They defeated the " Shining A " Eleven by three goals to one ; and considering that on the same day a cricket and a hockey match were being played and that hitherto our opponents had held an invincible record, this result was, to say the least, adequate compensation for the terrific beating we received at hockey.

Swimming.—A team is in training to enter the North-West Frontier gala to be held at Pindi in September ; that is, if they show sufficient progress.

Tennis.—Things have happened, but "Entertainments," whose opinion is that tennis is *not* a sport, has confiscated the whole shoot. We'll argue about that later, when I see him coming in from the courts streaming with perspiration.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

General.—The chief interest in the unit this month has been the Garrison small units hot weather hockey tournament, which we won last year. Unfortunately, however, after a replay we were beaten by the 49th Battery R.A., who on both days were the better side and deserved to win. Our chief failing was at forward, where there was a complete absence of any constructive play. Our defence—in particular, Sergeant Hayhoe at centre half and Sigmn Styan in goal—was very sound, but no amount of good defensive play will ever get goals. It is therefore up to us to unearth some new talent in that direction before next year.

Next month a similar tournament for football starts, and we are getting a team together that will, we hope, give a good account of itself.

Hockey.—v. 12th Field Brigade R.A., at home, lost by 0—1 ; v. 10/2nd Punjab Regiment, away, won by 3—1 ; v. Hornets, at home, lost by 1—2 ; v. Meerut College, at home, won by 2—1 ; v. Indian Ranks, at home, drew at 3—3 and lost by 2—4 ; v. Meerut Police, away, lost by 1—2.

In the Garrison cup v. 49th Battery R.A., at home, we drew at 0—0 (after extra time), but in the replay, also at home, we lost by 0—1.

Football.—v. 91st Battery R.A. won by 1—0 and lost by 1—3.

Tennis.—Home and away matches have been played with the Black Watch, with the following results:—Away, unfinished, Black Watch leading by 50—40 points. At home, lost by 68—72 points.

Swimming.—We have had four matches: two each against E Battery R.H.A. and A Company The Black Watch.

Against E Battery R.H.A., both matches resulted in a draw. In the first Signals won the diving, officers' race, back stroke and breast stroke ; and E Battery won the plunging, free style, medley race and side stroke. In the second Signals won the plunging, breast stroke and back stroke ; and E Battery won the diving, free style and medley race ; the side stroke event ending in a tie.

Against A Company The Black Watch, although we lost both matches—and the second rather badly—the racing was much closer, a head or inches deciding the result in most cases.

Back stroke—A Company The Black Watch. Our steering was somewhat erratic.

Plunging—Signals. Won by inches. Aggregates of 131 ft. 1 in. against 130 ft. 11 in.

Breast stroke—Signals. We have a good team which has yet to be beaten.

Free style—A Company The Black Watch. They were just too good all round.

Diving—A Company The Black Watch. We were worried by the spring board, but they would have won anyhow.

Medley race—A Company The Black Watch. Nothing in it.

Officers' race—A Company The Black Watch. Won by a touch.

In the return match two new races were introduced: a thirty lengths race for teams of six, and an all ranks race starting with officers having over eighteen years service and ending with signalmen and privates. We only won two events, but lost the all ranks free style and thirty lengths by a touch in each case.

Back stroke—Signals.

Plunging—A Company The Black Watch. An immense plunge of over 55 ft. by Lieut. Murray was the best ever seen in the baths.

Breast stroke—Signals won fairly comfortably.

Diving—A Company The Black Watch. Two very good exponents of the swallow dive.

Free style—A Company The Black Watch won by a touch. A new discovery in Sigmn Stevenson, who swam very well.

Medley race—A Company The Black Watch.

All ranks—A Company The Black Watch won by a foot. Our junior n.c.o.s just could not quite make the pace.

Thirty lengths—A Company The Black Watch won by a touch. Our team swam a length each in turn and so got a racing start each time, until the Black Watch discovered why they were losing, altered to our method, and caught us up.

Officers' race—A Company The Black Watch won by 3 ft.

North China Signal Section, Tientsin.

[Received too late for the May issue]

Sports.—The S. and D. Sports Club have had a fairly successful season, but are badly in need of young blood for next season. Lieut. Mullington, R.A.S.C., the mainstay of the hockey team, and Sigmn Williams left on serial 11. In them we lose two splendid all-round sportsmen. Sigmn Williams topped both the batting and bowling averages in the Tientsin League. Both were also members of the football team.

Football.—The S. and D.s are second in Division II. of the Football League, being one point behind the leaders. Our chances of winning the league are still rosy, as we have a few games yet to play.

Hockey.—The S. and D.s have completed their league games, dropping only six points in twelve matches, with 28 goals for and 11 against. Unfortunately, the league is not decided on goal average, and our nearest rivals—B Company 1st Queen's, who have lost six points, with 20 goals for and 17 against—have still three matches to play. We live in hopes of winning the cup yet.

Lieut. F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson and Signalman Addis represented Tientsin against the German hockey team from Shanghai. Despite the fact that Sigmn Addis scored two goals, the Germans managed to win by 3—2.

Peking Detachment.

[Received too late for the May issue]

As the Detachment is so small, we mix with the R.A.M.C. and H.Q. Detachment 1st Queen's and call our teams Staff and Departmentals (S. and D.). Here is our record this winter.

Football.—In the final of the Legation cup we drew with M.G. 1st Queen's, but lost in the replay mainly through changes in the team owing to injuries. The M.G. were no mean opponents, even for our strongest team. Signals were represented by Sergt Newmarsh, Corpl Bowie and Signalmen Cunningham, Potesta, Eastwood and Terry.

Hockey.—We more than held our own in the league, but lost by 1—2 in the semi-final of the cup—our last match to date. Sergt Newmarsh, Corpl Bowie and Signalmen Marsh, Oakey and Potesta were our stalwarts. Allen arrived here too late, but we have hopes for next season.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

[Received too late for the May issue]

Hockey.—Friendlies:—
8/2/34 v. St. Andrew's, lost by 0—2
20/2/34 v. 1/8th Punjabs (Battalion team) lost by 0—3
5/3/34 v. R.A.O.C. won by 5—3 (Shove 2, Whitehead 2, May)
League:—
26/2/34 v. No. 9 A.A. Battery R.A. drew at 1—1
4/3/34 v. United XI. won by 2—0 (May, Erridge)

Football.—Friendly:—
14/2/34 v. East Lancashire Signals, drew at 1—1
League:—
1/3/34 v. No. 20 Battery R.A. lost by 1—5 (Drake)
8/3/34 v. No. 24 Battery R.A. lost by 0—2

Sigmn Cord has been selected to represent the Army versus South China on the 17th March, when the Governor of Hong Kong will be present to open a new sports pavilion.

Tuesday 10th April.

Hockey.—League v. United XI. won by 2—0 (May, Neal).

Friendly results:—
4/3/34 v. United XI. won by 1—0 (May)
5/3/34 v. R.A.O.C. won by 4—2 (Whitehead 2, Shove 2)
11/3/34 v. Club de Recreio, lost by 0—2
11/3/34 v. China (Hong Kong) won by 4—1 (May 3, Shove)
18/3/34 v. R.A.M.C. Kowloon, won by 6—1 (Cord 2, May 2, Lieut. Lyddon, Larking)
23/3/34 v. Club de Recreio, won by 2—0 (Larking, Lt. Lyddon)
29/3/34 v. 1/8th Punjabs Signal Section, won by 7—4 (May 2, Higginbottom 3, Mills, Shove)

Football.—League, v. No. 24 Battery R.A., lost by 0—2.

Friendlies—v. R.A.M.C. Kowloon, won by 2—1 (Erridge 2) ; v. Kowloon R.A.M.C. lost by 2—5 (Whitehead, Farrell) ; Wireless Section beat Line Section by 4—0.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Hockey.—The season 1933-34 will long be remembered by us as the most successful one we have ever had—such as is unlikely to come again for a long time.

As usual, we entered in the Second Division of the Shanghai Hockey League and succeeded in sweeping all before us. In fact, we went on to decisively beat the leaders of the First Division, and it is no idle boast to say that we developed into the best team in the city.

Winning all our eight League fixtures, we scored a total of fifty goals and had only eight scored against us. Our detailed victories were as follows: v. Hockey Club by 6—3 ; v. German "B" by 8—1 ; v. R.A.M.C. by 6—0 ; v. United "B" by 4—0 ; v. R.A.S.C. by 5—0 ; v. German "C" by 8—2 ; v. Junior Athletic Club by 8—0 ; v. Municipal Gaol by 5—2.

The star turn of the team has been Corpl Ralph, who at centre forward scored nearly forty of our goals. However, one player does not make a team, and we have been fortunate in that, from the start of the season, the remaining ten have practically "picked themselves." The team was therefore able to settle down quickly into a smooth-working machine, and in this lay the secret of its success.

Cavill has been the " find " of the season. Starting as a comparative novice, but blessed with speed and a cricketer's eye, he developed into a really first class outside right. Jones, on the left wing, was equally useful and shot a number of goals, but he would be even better if he passed to his insides more often. Lieut. Ewbank, Corpl Ralph and Sergt Griffith were the inside forwards and usually managed to make the opposing defences look silly. The halves and backs were solidity personified, Cook being one of the most improved players in the team. Heath kept goal in excellent style.

At full strength the team lined up as follows: Sigmn Heath, goal ; Sigmn Cook and W.O.i. Corby (A.E.C.) backs ; C.Q.M.S. Tuck (2nd Worc. Regt.), Sergt King (R.A.P.C.) and Pte Toogood (R.A.S.C.) halves ; Sigmn Cavill, Lieut. H. V. Ewbank, Corporal Ralpt, Sergt Griffith and Sigmn Jones W. forwards.

Sigmn Jones H.—himself a very useful player—proved an excellent referee, and we greatly appreciate his services.

Finally, a small but faithful band of supporters seldom failed to turn up on the touch lines to give us vocal advice and encouragement. Hockey is not an ideal game to watch, especially when there are numerous other attractions ; so we add a word of thanks to those who took the trouble to come and watch our matches.

KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION.

To finish off the season, the Shanghai Hockey Association organised a knock-out competition in which all teams of both leagues took part. In the draws we were (in theory) unlucky, as we had to meet strong First Division teams all the way through. However, we managed to get into the semi-final, and would undoubtedly have won the competition had not the troopship claimed six of our team (including Corpl Ralph) just at the critical stage.

First Round. Beat the S.H.C. Crusaders by 5—1.

The Crusaders are one of the strong British sides who play in the First Division of the League. Jones put us in the lead with two excellent goals, one of which came from a brilliant solo run down the left wing. Ralph then proceeded to get his usual quota of goals, and Sergt Griffith netted the fifth from a dribble up the right wing by Lieut. Ewbank. All the team played excellently, Toogood being in very good form.

Second Round. Beat the 2nd Battn Worc. Regt. by 5—2.

This was our crowning triumph, the Regiment being leaders of the First Division of the League. As the *Neuralia* was in port, we called upon the services of Sigmn Williams (well known as an athlete in Hong Kong and Tientsin). The whole team rose as one man to the occasion and were far too good for the Worcesters. Ralph's last game was a fitting finale for him. He has never played better, and scored four goals. Williams scored the fifth. Our team was Heath ; Cook and Corby ; Tuck, King and Toogood ; Cavill, Lieut. Ewbank, Ralph, Williams and Jones W.

Semi-Final. Lost to the Sikh Police by 1—2.

This was a tragedy: only five of our team remained, the troopship having taken away the other six. The Sikhs were the weakest team we had had to meet in the competition, which makes the story even more woeful. As it was, we should have won: we did all the pressing and were the better side. However, the Sikhs scored two soft goals, to which we could only reply with a single one from Forsyth's stick.

Our team was Heath ; Cook and Sergeant Ranson (A.E.C.) ; Tuck, King and Jones H. ; Cavill, Forsyth, Lieut. Ewbank, Oliphant and Perkins. Sigmn Ayres very kindly refereed, and did so very well.



Area Headquarters, Shanghai, Hockey Eleven, 1933-34.

Standing (left to right)—Signalmen Becker, Cook, Jones H., Heath and Cavill, Private Toogood (R.A.S.C.) and Sigmn Perkins.

Sitting—Sergt King (R.A.P.C.), Sergt Griffith, Corpl Ralph, Lieut. H. V. Ewbank, W.O.I Corby (A.E.C.), C.Q.M.S. Tuck (2nd Worc. Regt.), Sigmn Jones W.



Area Headquarters, Shanghai, Football First Eleven, 1933-34.

Back row (left to right)—L/Corpl Spanner, Sigmn Jones W., Privates Collier, Wood, Simmonds and Hunt.

Front—Corpl Ralph, Privates Collins and Towers, S/Sergt Wetherall and Private Sutton.

Those who have left us will be interested to know that German "A" won the competition, beating the Sikh Police by 5—0. In the semi-final they played a drawn game (3—3) with the S.H.C. Harlequins, but in the replay they won by 3—2, extra time being necessary to obtain a decision.

During the season Lieut. Ewbank and Corpl Ralph played in the inter-port trials. Lieut. Ewbank, Sergt King, Corpl Ralph, and Sigmn Cavill played for Shaforce against Keio (Tokyo) University, the crack Japanese hockey side. Those who were at Catterick in 1926 will be interested to know that Sergt King was a signalman there in those days.

Football, 1933-34.—This season we entered two teams, one in each of the Third and Fourth Divisions of the Shanghai Football Association League. The First Eleven also entered for the Tze-Ling and Junior Cup competitions.

Corpl Ralph and Sigmn Oliphant were captain and vice-captain respectively of the First Eleven, Sigmn Perkins being captain of the Second Eleven.

Our First Eleven ended up fourth in the Third Division, having played nine matches, won five, drawn two and lost two, with 33 goals for and 15 against them. S/Sergt Wetherall (R.E.)—our indefatigable secretary—had eight goals to his credit (i.e. to his boot), Ralph scored three and Oliphant two.

The Second Eleven finished up fifth in the Fourth Division, having played nine matches, won five, drawn one and lost three, with 25 goals for and 33 against them. Corpl Binge shot three goals, Sigmn Hesford two and Sigmn Ekin one.

In the Junior Cup competition we drew with the Chinese Police (1—1) in the first round, Sigmn Whiting scoring our goal. We won the replay by 4—1, Corpl Ralph and C.Q.M.S. Tuck each netting the ball twice. In the second round we were unlucky to meet the Public School, who beat us by 1—0.

In the case of the Tze-Ling Cup we beat Tung-Wen (Japanese) College by 2—0 in the first round, Hesford and Pte Wood being the goal scorers. In the second round we beat a Second Division team, the Shanghai Recreation Club, by 4—3, Pte Towers (2), S/Sergt Wetherall and Pte Wood being the scorers of our goals. In the third round we drew at 2—2 with the Shanghai Municipal Police, a Second Division team, our goals being shot by Private Towers and S/Sergt Wetherall. We lost the replay by 1—3, Towers netting our goal.

Taken all round, the season has been a most successful one for us. We have had plenty of football, numerous friendly games having been played in addition to our league and cup engagements. Our best friendly game was that against Tung-Wha, a crack Chinese team and runners-up in the Scottowe (Senior) Cup competition. This game, which was played before a large crowd of Chinese spectators, was a very good one, although we lost by 2—5 goals.

Finally, we offer our sincere thanks to S/Sergeant Wetherall (R.E.) for his untiring energies as secretary of the Area Headquarters Football Club. We greatly appreciate the masterly way in which he carried out those duties, often under great difficulties.

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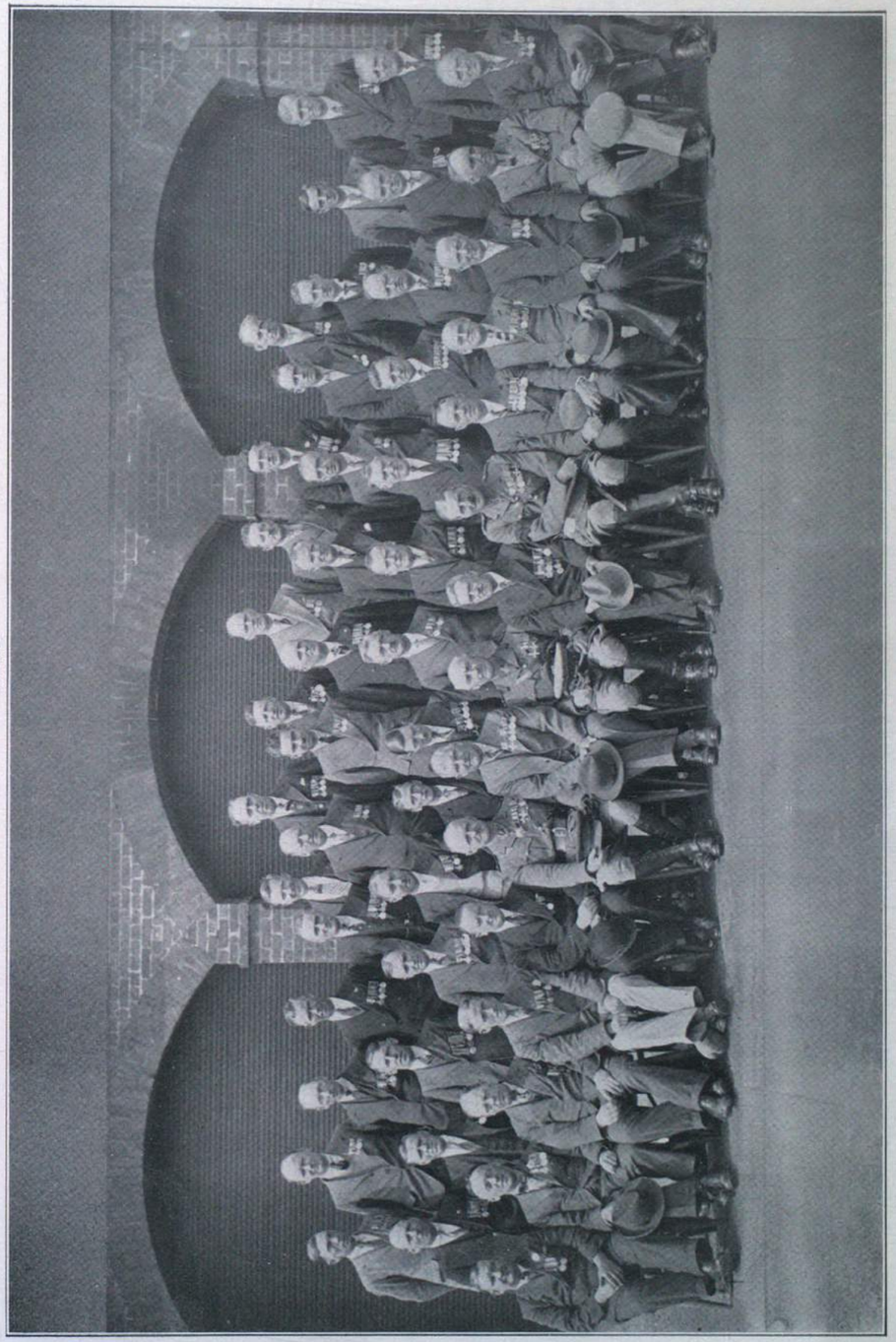
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Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

Supplement to "The Wire," July 1934.



Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunion at Scarborough, 10th June, 1934.

[*Photo by Walker's Studio, Scarborough*]

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XV.—No. 173 JULY, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

We have drawn attention to the handing over of the Benevolent Fund activities by Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O., to Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O.

Colonel French was, for fourteen years, at first President and then Administrator of the Benevolent Fund, and during that period he has dealt with many hundreds of appeals. Only those who had the privilege of being associated with him in this work can realise the amount of careful thought and personal attention which he devoted to each case. It is no small task to administer funds, subscribed by all ranks of the Corps, for the benefit of comrades who have fallen on bad times, and it demands an exceptional combination of business ability and sympathetic insight.

All Units and all Branches of the Signals Association will wish to be associated with us in our appreciation of these qualities and in our grateful thanks for his unselfish services over such a long period.

❀ ❀ ❀

Scarborough Reunion of Old Comrades, 9th-10th June, 1934. Once again Royal Signals Old Comrades have been entertained right royally by their serving brethren—and on this occasion by the Officer Commanding (Lieut.-Col. H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C.), his officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men of the 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

The first function of its kind to be held in the North of England, it was organised by Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate (Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, York) with a view to inaugurating a new and live Branch of the Signals Association.

The picture presented by Burniston Barracks and its sports ground on the cliff overlooking North Bay, in full gala rig, was one worthy of the occasion; and before the afternoon was far advanced, it rapidly became the scene of animated greetings between the serving element and their Old Comrade guests.

A very enjoyable day was spent in watching the Unit Sports comprising twenty-three events in a crowded programme, followed by a smoking concert during the evening, with the Corps Band, under the leadership of our old friend Bandmaster R. R. Ricketts, at their best.

Captain P. Jennings, M.C., and his enterprising Committee had prepared for every eventuality, and the former lost no time in coaxing his audience into a burst of community choruses which literally shook the building.

During a short break in the programme, in the course of his address of welcome to the Old Comrades, Lieut.-Colonel Fladgate informed his listeners that the chief object of this first Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades in the North of England was the formation of a Branch of the Signals Association to cover the industrial area of Yorkshire. It was proposed, he said, to have the headquarters of that Branch at York, with sub-branches at Scarborough, Leeds, Bradford, Darlington, and other towns within a given radius, wherever the demand for membership facilities warranted it. He extended a very cordial welcome to the Old Comrade guests and expressed the hope that they would all enjoy their visit.

Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, then addressed both serving and old comrade members of the audience. It was, he said, a tremendous pleasure to him to see so many Old Comrades present at this first North of England gathering; and on their behalf he expressed his grateful thanks to Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, his officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men of the 5th Divl Signals, for their cordial reception and for all that had been done to entertain their old comrade guests.

Such gatherings, he continued, were object lessons to all concerned. They served to inculcate that spirit of esprit de corps amongst serving ranks which functions of that description ex-

emplified, and they illustrated above all things that "*Love of Regiment*" which, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, would prompt old soldiers to visit once again the scenes of their early soldiering days. As one of the oldest soldiers present, he confessed that an Old Comrades Church Parade invariably stirred emotions in him which were difficult to analyse; and he ventured to assert that if he thought there was any Old Comrade present who did not experience a similar thrill on such occasions, he would have no hesitation in asking him to refrain from attending again.

The Brigadier expressed his gratitude to those who had already done so much to advance the interests of the Signals Association in past years, and particularly thanked Colonel C. W. Fladgate for having organised and made all preliminary arrangements for the present gathering. He reminded his Old Comrade listeners that arrangements were being made to inaugurate a new Branch of the Association for the Yorkshire area, and expressed the hope that not only those present, but also those who had been prevented from attending by force of circumstances, would support the movement and combine to make it the strongest representative Branch of all. He wished the Old Comrade visitors a pleasant stay and the best of good fortune in their respective vocations, and hoped to see them all again at next year's function.

Some amusing observations were overheard when it became known that the Church Parade for the following morning was scheduled to take place at 8.30; and when one humorist volunteered the information that the Church itself was six and a half miles distant, his badges of rank barely saved him from complete annihilation!

Sunday morning, however, found the Old Comrades in full "medal war paint," waiting for the "Fall in!"; and finally forty-one took their place as the leading Company under the command of Major F. V. Merchant, M.C., D.C.M. The anticipated route march through Scarborough to St. Mary's Church was pleasantly reminiscent of old times, and many townsfolk and visitors lined the roads to watch the contingent pass.

On their return to the parade ground, and before being dismissed by the Commanding Officer, Colonel Fladgate addressed the Old Comrade guests. It was, he said, an immense pleasure to him to see so many present, and the response to his broadcasted invitations had exceeded all expectations. He hoped that all of them would support the new Branch movement, and he asked each one to relay particulars to other ex-Signals men living in the Yorkshire area. He also expressed his thanks to Colonel Wemyss for all that had been done to make the Reunion gathering such an eventful occasion, and paid a tribute to the support and co-operation which had been extended by the officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men of the unit.

The parade was then dismissed by the Commanding Officer, and a group photograph of the Old Comrades was taken immediately afterwards.

Before dispersing to their respective homes, twenty-seven Old Comrades enrolled as members of the new Branch. Will others who wish to participate kindly communicate with the General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Rd., London, S.W.1?

Further notes on the Reunion have been forwarded by the 5th Divisional Signals (see page 294) and reproductions of some half dozen photographs will be found on pages 271, 273 and 275.

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The Tidworth Tattoo.—We have been asked to call attention to the forthcoming Southern Command Tidworth Tattoo, scheduled to take place on Salisbury Plain on the 4th and 7th to 11th August next.

Ticket arrangements—Covered Grand Stand, 10/-; Grand Stand Annexe (semi-sheltered) 7/6; other Reserved Seats, 5/-, 3/6 and 2/6.

Car Parks—Inner, 5/-; Outer, 3/- (the Tattoo cannot be seen from the Parks). Motor Coaches, Buses and Hackney Carriages, 1/-; Motor Cycles—Solo, 1/-; Combination, 1/6. Pedal Cycles, 6d.

Every seat is numbered and reservable, and commands a good view. Tickets may be obtained from the Box Office, Tidworth, and are also on sale at the gates and by various Agents. Please write to the Tidworth Tattoo Publicity Officer, Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury, for further particulars.

In addition, there will be Full Dress Rehearsals at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday 31st July, and at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday 2nd August. Twenty-four hours later, if wet, in either case. Reduced prices to all parts: Covered Grand Stand, 5/-; outdoor seats, 3/6, 2/6, 2/- and 1/-; standing room, 6d. Cars and coaches, 1/-. Pay at the gates. *No advance bookings or reservations for rehearsals.*

The Tattoo is a non-stop show of some two and a quarter hours, commencing at dusk and ending at 11.45 p.m. The whole performance is illuminated by searchlights and fireworks, and all events are accompanied by music. On occasions the whole of the massed bands of the Southern Command will be playing together.

17 Bands—4 Mounted
1000 Musicians in Full Dress
A Feast of Colour and Music

CAVALRY MUSICAL RIDE IN FULL DRESS
9th Lancers

LANDING AT ABOUKIR BAY, 1801
2nd Cavalry Brigade and 7th Infantry Brigade

"THAT FAR-AWAY ECHO"
4th/7th Dragoon Guards

INFANTRY DRILL DISPLAY
2nd Battalion The Hampshire Regiment

CAVALRY ACTIVITY RIDE
16th/5th Lancers

THE LOCH NESS MONSTER
11th Hussars.

TORCHLIGHT DISPLAY
Royal Artillery

CLUB SWINGING
1st Battalion The Royal Welch Fusiliers

GRAND FINALE
Assembly of 2500 Performers. Evening Hymn. "Last Post." "Lights Out."

Other units taking part in the Display, in addition to those named above, are Royal Engineers, Royal Corps of Signals, 2nd Battalion The Norfolk Regiment, 1st Battn The Green Howards, 1st Battn The Worcester Regiment, 1st Battn The Royal Sussex Regiment, 1st Battn The Prince of Wales' Volunteers, 2nd Battn The Loyal Regiment, 1st Battn The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 1st Battn The York and Lancaster Regiment, 1st Battn The Rifle Brigade, and Royal Tank Corps.

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"Cable, 1918."—The Duke of York's Military School, Dover, has a very fine gallery of military pictures for the edification of the boys who are educated and trained there. Most Regiments and Corps have in the past presented pictures to this gallery, and the boys take the keenest interest in them, deriving therefrom a feeling of pride in the traditions of the arms of the Service in which their fathers served, and in which the majority of them hope to serve. The pictures, in fact, do much to foster a high standard of esprit de corps in the earliest stages of the boys' military training.

In March, 1933, a suggestion was made that the Royal Corps of Signals might wish to present a picture to the gallery. The proposal was placed before the Corps Committee, who decided that the suggestion was an excellent one, and that, rather than present a copy of a picture already published, it would be preferable for an original painting to be executed—the artist to be a member of the Corps, if possible.

Major T. B. Gravely, R.Signals, eventually agreed to paint a suitable picture in oils of some Signals activity in the Great War. The subject selected was "CABLE, 1918." The choice is a happy one, for the Cable Detachment still holds a very important place in Army communications; and the years since the Great War, which have witnessed so many changes in signalling methods, have still left us with many problems which can be solved only by the use of field cable.

Major Gravely tackled his task enthusiastically, and as a result produced a fine action picture of a Cable Detachment at

Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunion at Scarborough



The Royal Signals Band.



Photos by Walker's [[*Studio, Scarborough*

Head of the Old Comrades Detachment.

work. We have obtained a photograph of it and a reproduction is shown on page 283.

The picture was framed, with a small brass plate suitably inscribed " Presented by the Royal Corps of Signals " added, and was despatched to the Duke of York's School on the 25th May last.

The Commandant of the School, in a letter dated the 30th May, requested the Secretary of the Corps Committee to "convey the thanks of the School to the Royal Corps of Signals for their very generous gift, which will be much appreciated by the boys. It will be a great addition to our picture gallery."

❀ ❀ ❀

We regret to announce the death of ex-Corporal Sansom, one of the most popular despatch riders in R.E. Signals during the Great War, who passed away on the 23rd May and was laid to rest in the picturesque churchyard of Chigwell Church on Monday the 28th.

" Sammy," as he was familiarly known to his many friends, was greatly respected by all with whom he came in contact. His ever ready smile endeared him to everyone, and his cheery disposition never once deserted him, despite the very acute distress he suffered as a direct result of his service in France.

At the annual reunion dinners of the Association of R.E. Despatch Riders, Sammy was invariably the first to arrive to welcome others who had travelled up from a distance, and he was greatly distressed because his illness prevented him from being present at the last function.

Ex-Q.M.S. J. Ford attended the funeral to pay his last respects to an old comrade and to represent the Association of R.E. Despatch Riders and Captain How, the late Commanding Officer of R.E. Signals at Dunstable, who was unable to be present.

❀ ❀ ❀

Wanted.—For September, by a College in the Channel Islands: a Sergeant-Major to undertake the following duties:—

(*a*) FOR THE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS—to act as Drill Instructor, Quartermaster and Shooting Instructor. He must be up to date in his drill, and able to coach a Shooting Eight for Bisley, etc.

(*b*) FOR THE HEADMASTER—to act as Secretary and deal with routine office work, including filing, issuing of accounts, preparation of circulars, etc.

(*c*) Run the School Tuck Shop.

(*d*) Eventually take over the School Book Store.

Commencing salary £190, rising by three annual increments of £10 to £220. The first increment may be given on appointment.

Applications, stating age, experience and qualifications, with copies of three testimonials and the names of two referees, should be made to the General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, Victoria, London, S.W.1, *not later than Saturday 21st July* 1934.

Interviews in London.

❀ ❀ ❀

The attention of our Wireless Operator readers is drawn to the British Radio Engineering College advertisements published on pages 274 and 287 of this issue. Kindly mention THE WIRE when writing to the Principal of the College for further particulars.

❀ ❀ ❀

The wife of a Lance-Sergeant of Royal Signals serving in India is desirous of joining her husband during the forthcoming trooping season, and is willing to act as nursemaid to the wife of any officer travelling to India in return for passage. Write to Mrs. F. Matthews, Co-op. House, 54 Commercial Street, Aber-Bargoed, Glamorganshire, Wales.

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of " The Wire " for 1928, 1932 and 1933 can be obtained on application to this office. Price 8/- per volume, post free.

❀ ❀ ❀

Crowded Out.—Although this issue has been enlarged to 56 pages, it is regretted that we have been compelled to hold over the Promotion Roster amendments, another Crossword Puzzle forwarded by the Peshawar Signals correspondent, and a photo of Egypt Signals sports representatives. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

To Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and Men of the 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough ; with whom we wish to associate

Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant, Signal Training Centre, and Colonel C. W. Fladgate, Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, York.

On behalf of Royal Signals Old Comrades generally, and particularly those who attended the recent Reunion at Scarborough, I am asked to convey to you a message of thanks for the very cordial welcome extended to us on the 9th and 10th June.

No one but an ex-Service man can fully appreciate the pleasure derived from gatherings of this description, and we express the hope that this year's function at Scarborough is symbolical of many more to follow.

Gentlemen! We thank you for your kind hospitality.

Salisbury and District Branch.

10 Charnwood Road, Salisbury.

Band Concert.—Through the kindness of Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. (Commandant, Signal Training Centre), Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C. (O.C. 3rd Divl Signals) and officers of the Corps, the Corps Band will give another concert in Salisbury this year for the benefit of members of this Branch and their families and friends. This will be held in the British Legion Hall on Friday 13th July, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Will local members kindly let me know as soon as possible how many programmes they are prepared to buy, and if possible remit the cash at the same time. In any case, programmes must be paid for before the date of the concert. The charge for the programme will be 7d. including entertainment tax. Please help to make this concert a success.

Aldershot Re-union.—It has been decided by the committee that, owing to difficulties that have arisen in past years in making suitable transport arrangements for members of the Branch attending the Aldershot Re-union, no bus will be engaged by the Branch for this year's function. Members wishing to attend should therefore make their own arrangements and notify the Hon. Secretary, Aldershot Branch Signals O.C.A. of their intention of being present.

Bulford Church Parade.—The annual church parade at Bulford will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday 15th July through the kindness of the Officer Commanding 3rd Divl Signals. It is hoped that Salisbury and District Branch members will make a special effort to attend. They can be assured of a very warm welcome.

This reunion is being brought to the particular notice of retired officers living in the Command, and it is hoped that many of them will be able to be present.

Those who cannot reach Bulford on Sunday morning in time for the parade are asked to notify me as early as possible in order that arrangements may be made for their accommodation.

Those members who know of any old comrades who have not received notification of the above should forward their names and addresses to me without delay.

The bus will be ready at the Wilts and Dorset bus station at 9 a.m. on Sunday 15th July, and it is hoped that all attending will be there punctually.

Moves and Arrivals.—As a result of his selection to fill a War Office appointment, we regret to announce that Captain D. L. Carnegie has had to relinquish the office of hon. treasurer which he has filled since February 1933. We wish him every success in his new duties, and take this opportunity of expressing our thanks for the unremitting interest he has shown in our activities. His absence will be keenly felt and his presence missed from the periodical Branch functions which he consistently

Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunion at Scarborough



Continuation of the Old Comrades Detachment.

Photos by Walker's Studio Scarborough



No. 1 Company, 5th Divisional Signals.

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attended. He and his family carry with them the best wishes of all Branch members.

We extend a cordial welcome to his successor, Captain G. R. Halliday, and trust that he will be able to find time to fill the vacant position of hon. treasurer. He commences in his new appointment with our very best wishes, and it is hoped that he, too, will attend our social functions.

5th Divisional Signals O.C.A.—We were very pleased to hear of the good muster at the opening of the new North of England Branch and of the very representative church parade which followed on the 10th June. We sincerely hope that it will not only be maintained but improved upon and finally produce a record membership. All good luck in that enterprise.

New O.C.A. Branches.—It is hoped that in the very near future another O.C.A. Branch will be formed at Portsmouth. Ex-members of the Corps and R.E. Signals living in that locality who desire to become members should communicate either with Mr. Squibb, c/o Haslar Military Telephone Exchange, Gosport, Hants, or Sergeant Davis, Army Signals, Wessex Area, Government House, Portsmouth, who will be pleased to supply all information required.

Cricket.—We are trying to arrange a cricket match between the Divisional Signals and the O.C.A. At the moment we have six names. Will members who can play the game and are desirous of forming a cricket team of Old Comrades please give their names to the secretary as early as possible?

FREDERICK COLE, Hon. Secretary.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Cook
2 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough ..... Salesman
3 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Cleaner
4 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Labourer
5 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Labourer

EMPLOYMENTS—*continued.*

6 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Batman
7 Ex-Signalman, Kent ..... Porter
8 Ex-Signalman, Manchester ..... Mill Worker
9 Ex-N.C.O. Sussex ..... Waiter
10 Ex-Signalman, Manchester ..... Insurance Agent
11 Ex-N.C.O. Surrey ..... Postman
12 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Post Office
13 Ex-Signalman, Aberdeen ..... Labourer
14 Ex-Signalman, Sunderland ..... Garage Hand
15 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Motor Mechanic
16 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Porter
17 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Motor Driver
18 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Fitter
19 Ex-N.C.O. London ..... Messenger
20 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Porter
21 Ex-N.C.O. Surrey ..... Postman
22 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough ..... Stoker
23 Ex-Signalman, Middlesex ..... Porter
24 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough ..... Lorry Driver
25 Ex-W.O. Kent ..... Postman
26 Ex-Signalman, Stoke ..... Labourer

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The attention of all readers is drawn to paragraph 1 of Editorial Notes in this issue.

We would also take this opportunity of conveying a cordial welcome to Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., as Administrator of the Association Benevolent Fund, assuring him of our close co-operation and assistance in all his future undertakings.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from:—
Lieut. A. J. H. Masters.

CASH SUBSCRIPTION from:—
South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1 Ex-Signalman, Yorks. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
2 Ex-Signmn. Newcastle. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
3 Ex-Signalman, Birmingham. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
4 Ex-Signalman, London. Temporary difficulties. £12 loan
5 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
6 Ex-N.C.O. Aberdeen. Domestic difficulties. £7 grant
7 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant
8 Ex-Signalman, Hants. Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
9 Ex-Signmn., Londonderry. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
10 Ex-Signalman, Yorks. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
11 Ex-N.C.O. Northumberland. Temporary difficulties. £4 grant
12 Ex-Signalman, Kent. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
13 Widow of ex-N.C.O. Lancs. Domestic difficulties. £10 grant

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 16th June 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

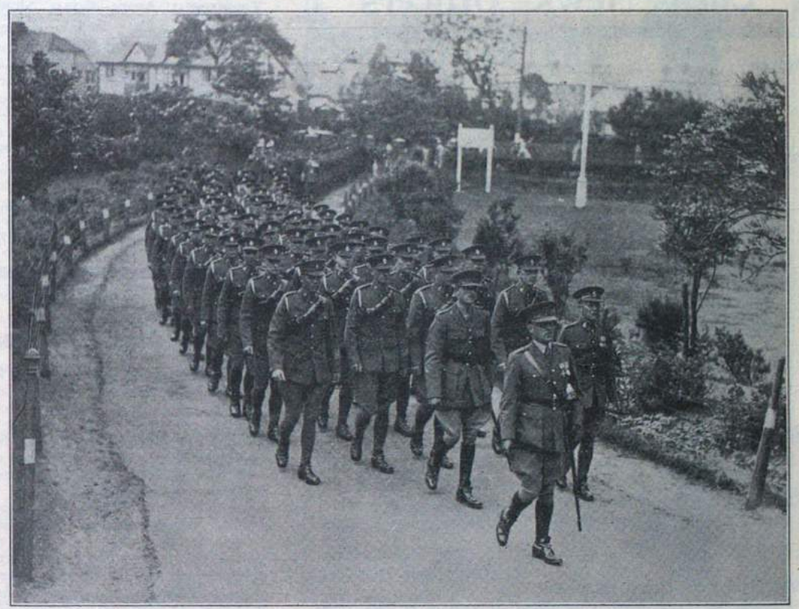
Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the July 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 25/5/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunion at Scarborough



No. 2 Company, 5th Divisional Signals.

Photos by Walker's Studio Scarborough



Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., taking the Salute

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain D. L. Carnegie from Salisbury to War Office (M.G.O. 11)

Captain G. R. Halliday from Aldershot to Salisbury (Southern Command Signal Company).

No. 27 "Q" COURSE POSTINGS—

2/Lieut. T. de B. Miller to A Corps Signals.
2/Lieut. G. H. K. Hewlett to A.F.V. Signals.
2/Lieut. F. S. P. H. Lang and 2/Lieut. G. T. D. Harris to 1st Divisional Signals.
2/Lieut. E. B. Elliott, 2/Lieut. G. A. Dutton and 2/Lieut. R. Linton to 2nd Divisional Signals.
2/Lieut. L. J. D. Read, 2/Lieut. R. J. Western, 2/Lieut. A. J. E. Johnson and 2/Lieut. S. J. Dagg to 3rd Divl Signals.
2/Lieut. C. T. Honeybourne, 2/Lieut. P. C. Williams and 2/Lieut. A. V. Beuton to 4th Divisional Signals.
2/Lieut. D. M. Rhind to 5th Divisional Signals.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 18/5/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain V. J. E. Westropp is seconded for service on the Staff, 24/4/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W.) Divl Signals—G. K. S. Edwards to be 2/Lieut. 19/5/34

War Office 22/5/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain W. U. Tyrrell is seconded for service on the Staff, 28/4/34

War Office 25/5/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

W. E. Bellamy to be 2/Lieut. 26/5/34

War Office 29/5/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. F. G. Manning to be Lieut. 24/1/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. W. B. G. Collis to be Lieut. 20/5/34

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—Lieut. R. F. Knight to be Captain, 1/5/34

52nd (L.) Divl Signals—Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G., vacates the appointment of Honorary Colonel, 26/5/34

War Office 1/6/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

50th (N.) Divl Signals—Lieut. C. C. Fairweather to be Captain, 1/5/34

War Office 5/6/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

48th (S.M.) Divl Signals—Lieut. A. G. Simpson to be Captain, 11/5/34

2/Lieut. T. E. H. Gwyer to be Lieut. 14/3/34

War Office 8/6/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—GENERAL LIST O.T.C.

Glasgow University Contingent, Senior Division—Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., from D.C.S.O. for T.A. duties, Scottish Command, to be Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel, and to command the Contingent, 24/4/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. P. R. Wheatley to be Lieut. 27/5/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. E. N. Robson resigns his commission, 1/5/34

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—Lieut. J. G. Christopher to be Captain, 17/5/34

L. F. W. Salmon to be 2/Lieut. 9/6/34

War Office 12/6/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—W. H. Sansom to be 2/Lieut. 13/6/34

51st (H.) Divl Signals—Captain and Brevet-Major T. P. E. Murray to be Major, 23/4/34

Lieut. J. Cochran to be Captain, 23/4/34

- Plain Tales -

Reflection.—When I read that Pat Hendren had been invited to use the gentlemen's gate at Lords, I said to myself, I said, "This is going to have far-reaching effects." Just like that. No heat, no excitement. However, it may be that I spoke too soon, because even in Bulford Camp, that home of gracious gestures, there are still roads, to travel on which one must be a jeweller, a N.A.A.F.I. official or an old public school boy. One thing leads to another, and now I read that a soldier's wife wants to be called a lady. Come, come, my dear woman! You haven't studied this question at all. If soldiers' wives are to be called ladies, the War Office will have to provide lady-like accommodation for them on board troopships; and with all this economy stamping up and down the country, it is not to be thought of.

Next we shall be hearing "A lance-corporal and a gentleman." Positively absurd. As the following utterly untrue story has no bearing whatever on the foregoing, you are sure to be interested. A lance-corporal pulled off his tunic with the object of pasting a rival. A friend pointed out that he was wearing no shirt. The lance-corporal looked surprised. "What the hell do you take me for?—an officer?"

So if you see what I'm driving at, how can we? Or whatever it was I was going to say.

* * * *

This Month's Gift.—Almost everyone is beginning to worry about the shortage of water. Even in places where water is still obtainable, it is considered a crime to use it on the gardens and lawns. One naturally wrinkles one's forehead and asks oneself the question: "How can I water my spuds without incurring the wrath of the authorities?" One gets no answer, so what does one do? One consults me. One couldn't do better. Who started this "one' stuff?

Now for the surprise. For a moderately large fee, I will send you a fool-proof cast-iron scheme for watering not only your gardens but your lawns as well. This fee, together with the one I have already secured in consideration of my agreeing not to publish the scheme in THE WIRE, should keep me in beer and petrol for many a long day. On second thoughts, I may have to spend part of the fee on paint for the fire buckets after giving a demonstration, but never mind about that now.

* * * *

Blood Red Action.—Ukann Larfe was in no mood for idle conversation, so when his wife Hermione asked him if he had heard the other one about Mae West, he pushed her into the kitchen sink and dashed out to the bicycle shed. To his dismay, he found that every spoke had been removed from the wheels of his bicycle. Still with dismay and not a little chagrin, he sprinted to the balloon shed, only to find that his balloon was punctured in nineteen places. He stopped only long enough to verify that it wasn't twenty, and then took a tram back to his home. As luck would have it, the tram was non-stop to Cricklewood, and this explains much that would have remained a deep mystery. After all, you do not usually see people who live in Teddington walking about Cricklewood in carpet slippers, looking as though their balloons had been busted. Do you? Ukann Larfe had by now almost given up hope of catching the Plugger's aeroplane, but as he knocked the ashes out of his pipe on to an old gentleman's top hat, he observed a rapidly growing crowd about two hundreds yards up the High Street. In exactly twenty-five seconds, this extraordinary detective had burst through the crowd and with a shout of joy sprung at the pilot of the aeroplane. The Plugger had crashed right across the tram lines. (*Note*: He had to crash somewhere, so why not Cricklewood? Whose yarn is it, anyway?)

Ukann Larfe was fighting mad. He aimed a wicked right at the Plugger's head, but missed. His fist went clean through the fuselage, but he had the presence of mind to kick the Plugger on the chin as he lost his balance. The crowd swayed and roared as the fight proceeded. The plane was reduced to a tangled mass as the combatants wrenched pieces from it for weapons. The ground was slippery with blood. The police cheered. A soldier wearing black shoes cried quietly. Strong men held each other's hands and their own breath. With one final murderous punch Ukann Larfe sent the Plugger staggering senseless into the crowd; then he fainted.

Inspector Faceache pushed his way through the surging throng. "What's all this 'ere?" he asked.

Startling developments next month, or some time.

* * * *

Belated Note.—Someone referred to this page as "Plain Tales from the Hills." May I point out that this title has never been used by me? Thank you! Another author, perhaps not so well known, thought of it first. Motto for next Christmas: "He who fights and runs away may rattle some time, but not to-day." That's not what I thought of first, but it will do.

* * * *

Was Her Face Red?—Just before the end of the big picture, she busied herself with one of those dinky little gadgets containing face powder and rouge in two separate compartments. Under cover of the darkness, she made a good job of it. Rubbed the face powder well in, and so forth. Emerged into the pitiless daylight, and oh, boy!—it wasn't the face powder she had been rubbing in. Somewhere round about Guy Fawkes Day I shall think of a moral, but for the time being, look after yourselves.

* * * *

Believe It or Not.—The following are "on the tack": Taff Thomas, Arthur Fuller, Barleux and Joe Brooks. Sorry! cross Joe out again.

Eric Marchant drove himself and family all the way from somewhere to Bulford Camp. Sorry I didn't see him.

The 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess have a teapot of their own. I say, have you heard the one about the—oh, sorry! thought I was writing for some other paper. Be good.

BARLEUX.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Trade Winds.—If you cast your memory back to the year 1834, you will perhaps remember what a tophole time we had on the first part of the run from the Cape to England. Under a full head of canvas, we scudded along at umpteen knots with never a care in the world, and with the knowledge that if the trade winds kept up we should see the coast of Blighty within a couple of months or so.

And then, d'you remember how we struck the doldrums about five hundred miles south of the equator? For weeks the dear old schooner *Sarah* lay becalmed. In place of the fried eggs and bacon and the excellent grub that a benevolent Government provided, we had to subsist on bully for brekker, bully for dinner, and, yes! bully for tea. Many a warrior was thrown overboard because he started to bellow! Yes, the trade winds were an undoubted advantage in those days, and lucky the skipper who managed to steer clear of a dose of the doldrums.

In the second quarter of the year 1934—one hundred years after our little trip on the briny—the trade winds struck Indian Signals a tremendous blow. In every Signal unit that I visited, I found energetic officers, n.c.o.s and men, both British and Indian, struggling to make the best headway amidst the mighty wind of trade. I beheld key punching, flag wagging, studious looking individuals sitting at tables busily writing, blackboards with futuristic designs scrawled all over them, men bumping up and down on horses, and D.R.s knocking the bottom out of perfectly good motor cycles; and, mark you, I beheld all this in a shade temperature of 110 degrees.

No one had any time for me. The worried look on the faces was not due to the temperature (because I was told on my initiation into India that 110 was *moderate*) but was due to that well known malady "wind up."

Being admitted within the sacred portals of the "Q" Department, where one can be assured of a running commentary (plus frills) on any unusual occurrence, I was informed that all the blankety wind flying about was due to blankety trade testing and upgrading in trades, and as soon as the blankety wind had ceased they (Q) would have a little peace and quietness.

The sheer joy of seeing "Q" Department ruffled was as good as a dose of jalap to me, and I decided to stay on and be an eye-witness of the results of the big "blow."

There came a day when faces were more serious than ever—when men were marched into lecture rooms to face an ordeal much worse (by the look of 'em) than a trial by jury on the capital charge; and it was only the sounds from the canteen that night that brought home to me the happy sequel to the wind that caused such an upheaval.

The trade wind is as old as the hills. Happy is the signalman who takes advantage of it and succeeds in landing a few more bobs in his pocket. Woe to him who lands in the doldrums and doesn't try to get out again—he's the one who usually bellows!

Which reminds me that I'm not certain whether the *Sarah* did reach England. It really doesn't matter much, does it? Your answer to that will be . . . .

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The Royal Signals Display Party at Belfast.



"The Scotsman"] **The Tandem Drive.** [Edinburgh.



"The Scotsman"] **The Human Lane.** [Edinburgh

Royal Signals Horse and Motor Cycle Display at Belfast, 1934.

Following the practice of last year, a Display has been arranged in the S.T.C. which is to give demonstrations at some of the larger Agricultural Shows this summer. The Display party, which is formed from the Mounted Wing of the Depot Battalion and D Company of the Training Battalion, consists of two officers, thirty-five other ranks, twenty horses, the pony (Patch II. or Ginger) and eighteen assorted motor cycles.

The season opened with a dress rehearsal for the Press and cinemas at Catterick Camp on the 17th May. This was attended by a large number of Press men and photographers, and we are duly grateful for their co-operation. The bulk of the population of the S.T.C. and a large number of visitors witnessed the rehearsal.

On the 30th May the Display party, accompanied by the Band, entrained for Liverpool en route to Belfast, to give performances at the Royal Ulster Agricultural Societies Show at Balmoral. After a comfortable but rather tedious journey, we arrived at Belfast on the morning of the 31st. We were met at the dock by Captain F. T. Pope, commanding the North Ireland Signal Company, who very kindly placed two of his despatch riders at our disposal as guides. One of them was Sigmn Smith, of whom more anon.

The Display party proceeded direct to Balmoral, to prepare to give displays that afternoon. The Band, in full dress, marched for a short distance through the centre of the town before going to their hotel by omnibus. Everyone was feeling rather tired but keyed up for our first public performance of the season, especially as H.R.H. Prince Henry Duke of Gloucester was to be present. The Display was given in two parts.

Part I., performed in blue peace-time uniform, consists of a scissor movement by twelve horsemen and twelve motor cyclists, the Cossack ride, and the double ride. The double ride concludes with a most spectacular figure of eight performed by the horsemen and motor cyclists, and usually provides a thrill. In between these two main items, a number of individual tricks are performed, including jumping on horses and motor cycles.

Part II. opens with the tandem drive which, as far as the writer is aware, is a complete novelty. The ordinary movements of a tandem drive are performed, the drivers of the horses being mounted (pillion) on motor cycles. This required a great deal of careful training before it became a feasible proposition. A very good display of vaulting is given. Part II. ends with a motor cycle ride and the horsemen jumping down a lane of motor cycles. For greater freedom and change of effect, Part II. is usually performed in coloured shirts and head-dresses.

• • • •

To resume our account of Belfast. Prince Henry and the Governor of Northern Ireland arrived and were received by the Corps Band playing the National Anthem. Immediately afterwards Part I. of the Display was given. Irish audiences are notoriously generous, and to us they appeared whole-hearted in their applause.

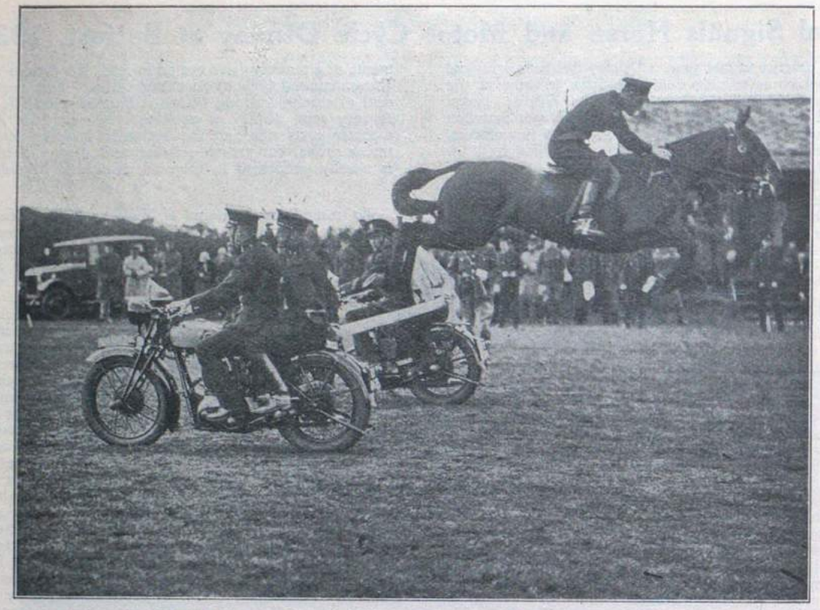
Our first performance was marred by an accident to L/Corpl Fry, which at first appeared serious. He had a tremendous fall from a motor cycle while jumping over the pony, and was rushed off to the hospital. Fortunately his injuries were not serious, and he was discharged in time to leave Belfast with the team.

The greatest credit is due to some of the younger members of the Display, who, faced with a nasty accident at their first performance, retained their nerve and carried through both performances without further hitch. His Royal Highness was kind enough to send for the officer in charge of the Display and, while congratulating him on the excellence of the performance, was most solicitous as to the welfare of the casualty.

In glorious weather, performances were given at Belfast on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The Show Committee were kind enough to acknowledge record attendances each day. The Show was noteworthy for the fact that Royal Signals, represented by its Display party and Band, were the only military officially performing there. The Band not only played good music during the day, but with considerable success turned themselves into a circus orchestra to accompany the Display. Our thanks are due to them for their energy and enthusiasm in so quickly mastering a totally unaccustomed duty.



Sport and General] **Motor Cyclists jumping a wall composed of Motor Cycles and Riders.** [Press Agency Ltd.



Sport and General] **A Horse jumping a bar carried by moving Motor Cyclists.** [*Press Agency Ltd.*

A most successful four days came to an end on Saturday 2nd June. All were sorry to leave, with the exception of L/Corpl Fry, who only escaped being left behind in hospital by the skin of his teeth. We finished our last and most enthusiastically received performance at 6 p.m., and by 9.30 were embarked on board ship for our journey to Glasgow. To our horror we found we were to share the ship with three hundred and fifty head of cattle!

Before passing on to our journey to Edinburgh, space must be found to express our appreciation of the kindness and hospitality of everyone in Belfast. One incident is typical. On the night of L/Corpl Fry's accident, five of the party, wishing to visit him in hospital, asked a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary to direct them. He stopped a large private car. The driver instantly placed himself at their disposal and drove all five to the hospital. The other nice thing about Belfast was Sigmn Smith. Placed at our disposal by Captain Pope, he did everything for us. The first to greet us and the last to see us go, he was more useful than one could expect—even of a Royal Signals despatch rider.

Our thanks are also due to Captain F. T. Pope for all he did for us.

* * * *

After a night in a cattle boat and a long train journey, the Display party arrived at Edinburgh on Sunday 3rd June—all rather tired and sleepy. We settled down in Leith Fort Barracks as the guests of the R.A.S.C., and for thirty-six hours horses and men slept, ate and swelled visibly. The horses were also disinfected after contact with the cattle.

Rehearsals commenced on Tuesday 5th June, and the Scottish Pageant opened with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday afternoon. Edinburgh had been experiencing a drought, and the ground was hard and slippery. The Royal Scots Greys kindly lent us frost cogs, and after much labour the horses were all equipped with them. It was done by co-operation possible only in Royal Signals. The rough riders took off the shoes. Two fitter signals tapped them for cogs and "trued them up." Our one farrier replaced them.

As usual, we found good friends in Edinburgh. The Royal Scots Greys lent us fifteen invaluable men as an arena fatigue party and horseholders, while the 1st King's Own Scottish Borderers kindly lent their band to play during our turn.

The Band, having with native caution disclaimed any knowledge of "this circus stuff," proceeded to do wonders and most materially helped to make our turn a success. To Mr. Jarvis and his men, our most grateful thanks are due.

Aided by the Royal Scots Greys horseholders and some wonderfully quick changes of clothing and saddlery by the Mounted Wing, we were able to put on both the tandem drive and the double ride in a thirty minutes show. Although we were up against considerable competition from the Royal Scots Greys with their trick ride and very excellent musical ride, both the newspapers and the Pageant authorities gave us very kind praise for the display.

The weather at Edinburgh was very cold and dull, with some drizzle. We never actually got wet, but were often very close to it.

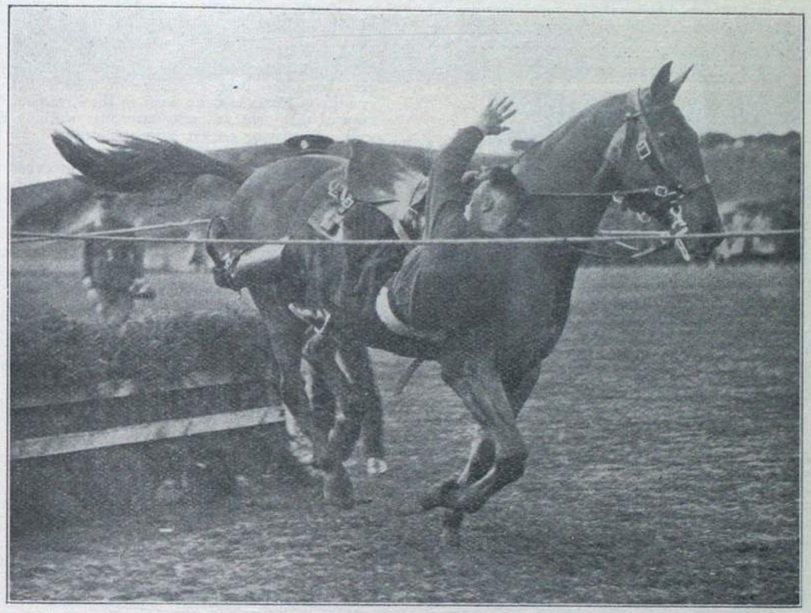
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On Sunday 10th June we returned to Catterick Camp for one night to allay the alarmist rumours that have pervaded the S.T.C. in general, and "Q" Lines in particular, as to our general behaviour. Consolation having been administered, we departed at 9.30 on Monday morning for the Three Counties Show at Hereford. It was nice to be back for one night, especially as everyone rallied round to help with horses, meals, etc.

* * * *

Before concluding these notes, mention must be made of the jumping at Belfast. The standard was very high, and the course —typically Irish—a stiff one. After consideration, we entered Hot Pot and Bertha, ridden by Lieut. Crawford and Corpl Bull, for one of the "round the course" competitions. Both gave a most finished exhibition and, jumping in uniform, were greeted with tremendous applause by the crowd, who appreciated their sporting effort. Hot Pot was faultless on the banks, but did not survive the first round. Bertha got into the last eight. A very good performance, considering that neither horse had had any real preparation for this sort of jumping.

The Royal Signals Display Party at Belfast.



Sport and General] **A Cossack Rider—a scene from the Display.** [*Press Agency Ltd.*



Lieut. H. N. Crawford on "Hot Pot," with Driver Blades.
Winners of the Third Prize, Prince of Wales' Cup, Royal Tournament, Olympia, 1934.

Obituary.

The Corps will learn with great regret of the death from typhoid of No. 2315518 Corporal Albert William Humphries, of B Corps Signals, in the British Military Hospital, Murree, on the 24th May, after a very short illness. He was twenty-six years of age.



The late Corporal Humphries.

He was buried at Upper Topa with full military honours. All ranks of the Royal Signals in the station were present. The 2nd Battalion The Welch Regiment sent their band, and a small party of junior n.c.o.s of the 93rd Highlanders attended as mourners. He was received at the "Present!" by the guard and firing party on the upper parade ground, where the unit was drawn up on three sides of a square. The parade stood at attention while the "Dead March" in Saul was played. The procession was formed and moved down to the cemetery, where Father Ellison conducted the service. At the end the whole unit, led by the commanding officer, filed past the grave and saluted.

In addition to Lieut.-Col. J. S. Yule, others present who had known him all through his service were L/Sergeants E. F. Frampton and Stickley and L/Corporals Smart and Lennon (the latter had been at the Duke of York's School with him).

All ranks will sympathise deeply with his young widow, whom he had married but three months before he came out here.

* * * *

"Punch" Humphries joined the Corps in May 1923 as a very small boy from the Duke of York's School. After eight months at Maresfield, he went to the Liverpool G.P.O. All the boys of that time will remember him working hard, swimming well, and playing cricket over at Northop. He ended there as a L/Corporal Boy and went back to Catterick. He joined A Corps Signals at Aldershot in June 1926, and was appointed L/Corporal in March 1928. He returned to the Boys Company as an instructor in April 1929, and was promoted Corporal in November 1930. After a training season with the A.F.V. Signals, he came out in November 1932 to B Corps Signals. During the summer of 1933 he was up at Cherat. He was thus well known to very many in the Corps, particularly to the ex-boys of his own time and those in the Boys Company when he was an instructor.

He was always the same. It was easy to recognise the boy of 1924 in the corporal in tennis flannels at Rawalpindi. He kept a surprisingly boyish appearance, and with it boyish spirits and charm of manner. At work he always had a clear idea of the main issue: to get messages through. His ways of keeping his relief cheerful were perhaps a little unorthodox in the opinion of more sedate signal masters, but their value was clear at the end of a long day.

He was never flustered. His methods with inspecting officers were charming and perfect. He would look them in the face with all the youthful innocence of which his grey eyes were capable, and improvise on the first small and probably irrelevant technical theme which crossed his mind. He never gave them time to answer back—nor, so clear had been the exposition, could they well dare without laying themselves open to Dr. Johnson's famous retort: "Sir, I can give you my reasons. I cannot give you the intelligence to understand them."

His light-heartedness was not the whole of him. Those who knew him well realised his ability, his sound common-sense and sturdy opinions, and his very affectionate nature. May he rest in peace!

J.S.Y.—E.F.

What Shall I Do With My Boy?

The answer to the above question is simple: Send him, at the age of 14 or 15 years, to the Army Technical School (Boys) near Chepstow in the county of Monmouthshire.

And what advantages will he get from that? you ask. Here are a few of them:—

Free general education.
Knowledge of a technical trade.
Instruction in elementary drill, physical training and discipline.
Free clothing, medical attendance, messing, etc.
Sports of all kinds, including football, cricket, boxing, athletics, swimming, etc.
Holidays (eight weeks) every year, on full pay.
Pay from the day he joins the School—at 11d. per day, rising to 1/7, according to the proficiency he shows at his trade.
An assured career after leaving the School, i.e. eight years in one of the Technical Corps of the Army from the time he is 18 years old, after which, if he returns to civil life, he does so having become proficient at a trade—and his future should be assured.

The above are some of the advantages to be obtained at the Army Technical School, and no doubt you will now want to know how to get your boy into it.

Entrance is by competitive examination—twice a year, in July and November—for entry into the School the following January and May.

All boys, whether sons of soldiers or civilians, are eligible to enter if they are between the ages of 14 years and 15 years and 5 months on the date of enlistment, or between 13½ years and 14 years and 11 months on the date of the examination—which, as has been noted above, is held six months before the date of enlistment—with the exception of one trade (bricklayer) in which boys only stay two years at the School and must be between 15 years and 8 months and 16 years and 4 months on the date of enlistment, and so between 15 years and 2 months and 15 years and 10 months on the date of the examination.

The examination takes place at all military stations, and parents can, on application to the nearest recruiting office, obtain an application form showing the present conditions of entry.

There is also a pamphlet ("Careers for Boys") issued by the War Office, which should be studied, and this pamphlet can be obtained also from a recruiting office or from a unit.

Most of the boys come straight from an elementary school, and the standard is about VI. or VII. or equal to a military second class certificate of education.

The trades taught at the School are Electrician, Fitter and Turner, Instrument Mechanic, Blacksmith, Tinsmith, Coppersmith, Carpenter and Joiner, Bricklayer, Mason, Painter, and Wheelwright.

Before a boy takes the examination, the parent or guardian puts down on the application form the trade he wishes him to learn, and an alternative trade in case he does not pass high enough to obtain his first choice.

If he passes the examination, but not high enough to obtain either of his choices, he will be offered another trade, but unless he wishes he need not accept this, and then will not be enlisted. Once found medically fit and enlisted, he is despatched to the Army Technical School (Boys) where, as has already been said, he spends three to four years (or two years if a bricklayer) and then is posted to one of the following Technical Corps of the Army and serves for eight years with the Colours and four years in the Army Reserve, from 18 years of age: Royal Engineers, Royal Corps of Signals, Royal Tank Corps, Royal Army Service Corps, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, and the two Armoured Car Cavalry Regiments (11th Hussars and 12th Lancers).

The Apprentice Tradesman (A/T. as the boy is called on enlistment) is enlisted for General Service, and in his last term at the School he notifies which of the above Corps he wishes to join. If he passes out high enough, he will get what he wishes; but if not, he must take what is given him.

The A/T is required to qualify as a class iii. tradesman and must have a second class certificate of education, and have passed one or more subjects for his first class. In fact, many boys leave the School having obtained the whole of the first class certificate, whilst some have obtained part of a special certificate.

Those few who do not come up to the technical standard but who are in other respects worthy may, if their parents wish, be posted to a non-Technical Corps, i.e. Infantry, if the latter are willing to take them.

There are also other establishments which train boys for the Army, such as the Military College of Science, Woolwich (for Artificers, R.A.) the R.E. Depot, Chatham, etc., and particulars of these will be found in the pamphlet "Careers for Boys" already mentioned.

The Army Technical School at Chepstow is, however, the only establishment which caters for boys only, and is more like a Technical Public School. At present the establishment of boys is 689, with an adequate staff of officers and n.c.o.s and civilians.

The School is self-contained and has its own chapel, hospital, playing grounds, institutes, etc.

It is hoped that the foregoing may give some idea of the advantages which may be obtained for prospective Army technical tradesmen. Why do not more parents send their boys to Chepstow? Possibly because they do not know of the existence of the School. What a wonderful chance for a boy!

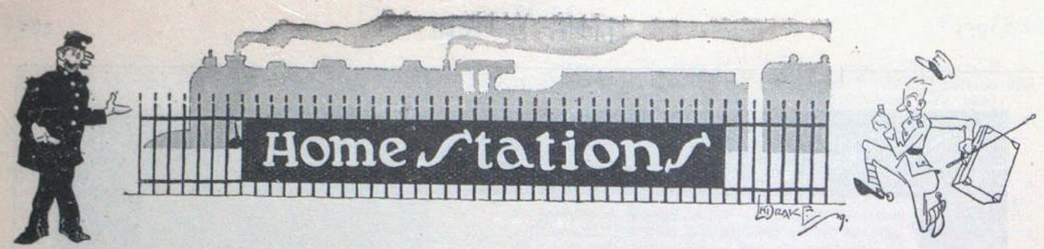
Does any other country in the world provide such splendid facilities, not only free of charge but with payment to the pupil?

G. W. LAWSON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Commandant, Army Technical School (Boys).



"Cable, 1918."

The picture reproduced above was painted in oils by Major T. B. Gravely, Royal Signals, and presented by the "Corps Committee" to the Duke of York's Military School at Dover, to be hung among other Military subjects in the School Picture Gallery.



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Congratulations.—It appears as though the majority of these notes are going to figure under the above heading. First of all, the athletic shield. Strange as it may seem, we certainly won it. The efforts of the whole team were praiseworthy. The stars shone, and those who filled up the gaps plodded along to give us just those extra points needed to annex the shield. It was good to see them straining every muscle and all out. Unfortunately, we have lost a good many of our team to D Company, but they played a good part in the struggle.

We cannot pass over the enthusiasm of our officers on the "Q" Course, who did the lion's share, everyone turning out and helping to make a strong team.

To Lieut. L. J. D. Read, who won the Victor Ludorum cup at the S.T.C. individual championships, we offer our sincere congratulations and admiration for such a fine performance. His victories make good reading:—100 yards, second; 220 yards, first; 440 yards, fourth; shot, first; javelin, second; hurdles, first; discus, third. Total 25 points.

Although beaten in the Pinsent cup by the narrowest of margins, we are glad that F Company came into the picture. Good luck to them!

The congratulations of the Wing to Johnny Bull on attaining the rank of Corporal. Got back from Weedon with an exceptionally good report. He seems to be having some difficulty with his left arms these days. Maybe it's the spur sticking in!

The "Firth and Crawfords" Circus is meeting with great success. Is it a fact that they are on the look out for a fat lady with a view to running a side show? What about it, Peters?

Golf Course.—Once again the golf course is open. I missed the opening ceremony, but I'm given to understand that it was very impressive. Plus fours are now the vogue, to say nothing of the caddies. (Why not add a few caddies to the establishment of the Wing?)

True Story.—Who was responsible for removing the guard room on the night of the 1st June? It came to my ears that on this night a "Lamb" was in great distress owing to the fact that the guard room was not in the position he thought it should be. However, this story ends quite happily, because after a prolonged rest in an annexe, this poor little lamb found the guard room had been restored to its original position. Moral: Try adding more water, because water is a fine drink if taken in the right spirit.

Arrivals.—We have once again a class of potential roughs. What a pity it is that we are not empowered to dish out a few sundry spurs or at least spur straps. I feel certain they would be appreciated. Maybe No. 4 Equitation Class have some suggestions to put forward in this respect.

Departures.—Sigmn Wilson D. has left us, after a long stay, to join the 5th Divl Signals.

His presence in our athletic and cross-country teams will be greatly missed. We wish him good luck with his new unit.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—The months seem to roll by quicker than ever since I took on this job. We have passed the Commandant's inspection this year with flying colours, and the usual sigh of relief has been given. The majority of the Wing have had the pleasure of the Whitsun holiday and have settled down again to the daily round, feeling all the fresher for a day or two at home.



Standing (left to right)—Signalmen Barlow, McCann, Still, Taylor and Dunkin.
Seated—L/Corpl Chadwick, Signalmen Murdoch and Vitale, Lieut. Denholm-Young, L/Corpl Stirk, Signalmen Toole, Driscoll and James
On ground—Signalmen Davey and McGivern

Gardening.—I am not offering hints to beginners or posing as an expert on this subject, but I ought to mention the interest taken in the gardens surrounding our barrack rooms. I even saw one earnest amateur trimming the edge of his lawn with a safety razor blade! I don't think anyone could carry interest further than that.

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. Dillon on gaining his long service and good conduct medal (with gratuity).

Thanks.—I think all who managed to get into our N.A.A.F.I. on Wednesday afternoon last (Derby day) would like to offer a special vote of thanks to Lieut. E. V. McCormack, who kindly loaned his own wireless set so that we could listen in to the Derby broadcast. Lest you get the wrong idea, I must mention that we were *off* duty.

Postings.—No. 50 Squad under L/Corpl Daly passed off on the 12th May, obtaining an excellent report. They proceeded to the Training Battalion and the Mounted Wing on the 14th. Sigmn Henderson won the C.O.'s whip, Sigmn McCann a medal for P.T., and Sigmn Hughes a medal for musketry.

Musketry.—I noticed one of the Battalion weapon training staff hand a long list of names into the Wing office, so we can presume that our annual firing course is about to start. In the weekly pool event run on the miniature range by the B.W.T.O. the recruits are making a very good show. They have won a medal and a spoon already.

Courses.—Corpl Clay to the Regimental Paymaster, York, for a course of instruction in pay duties. If he can be shown a new way of making credit balances appear any larger at the end of the month, I think everyone will be truly grateful.

EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Introduction.—The first item of note is the absence of our "editor," who is at present on furlough—the first since the days of Bulford in '14. He is combining business with pleasure—counting the public houses in York, and no wonder! He has left his family in "Q" Lines with Missus Marie-Goulde. However, here goes.

Arrivals.—We welcome all arrivals, and hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—We said goodbye to L/Corpl Jack Sowden, who left us on the 2nd June for leave pending his discharge. We wish him luck in his new sphere of life, and readily greet him. Come up and see us some time.

Corporal Lee J. to 3rd Div. Will you try to find Colombo? it seems to have got lost.

Marriages.—Congratulations to Sigmn Snelling on his marriage to Miss Edith Beadle—another one off the straight and narrow.

Dhobi Marks.—Congratulations to the following on being awarded their long-waited-for dhobi marks: Lieut. H. G. Mountford, Sergt Parsons L., Corpl Jackman C. and L/Corpl Booth W., the I.G.S. medal. Sergt Bond W. and L/Sergt O'Flannagan M., the L.S. and G.C. medal. Perhaps we shall see more of them on church parade now!

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Phillips on attaining the rank of Lance-Corporal (paid)—another step towards being a commissioned officer.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Connaughton on attaining his class i. electrician fitter, and also to Sigmn Axson on attaining his class ii. electrician fitter. Please, teacher, may I leave the room?

Agony.—Andy K—: Where did you hide my whip? N.S. 16

Personal.—Who wrote "Amen" when signing the pay list? Who shouted "Fore!" to Lorenzo and was then chased from the green? Who was the n.c.o. who put in for a big pay on seeing the new plates in the Corporals Mess?

Retarding.—Lorenzo's boils. No wonder! it must be the drought.

Cricket.—We are pleased to report that we have found a budding wicket keeper—Uncle Walter. Watch out, Ames.

DON.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Once again the Company, ever modern, submits its notes up to date. I stated in last month's issue that the Commandant's and Commanding Officer's inspections would go off with a swing, and I am informed that they did. Of course, it was a big thing for us, as we only see them once a year, and it's about this time of the year that we begin to appreciate more or less the effects of those inspections. By this, I mean the gardens. Both allotment and flower beds are doing splendidly. We often have radishes for tea, grown in our own garden, and we hope it may develop into strawberries and cream yet! Who knows?

In the Sports notes you'll find a very favourable account of the Company's activities. They are all bedrock facts, and we are always ready to convince those who think they can do better that it is quite doubtful.

The weather at present is absolutely glorious. It was broken by a slight thunderstorm, but after all, the rain was welcome: everything seemed to be getting baked and losing that moist look. However, we are really looking forward to a good bright summer.

Departures.—Sergt Parsons has left us for D Company to manage the ration part of the Training Battalion. A very old acquaintance of the Corps Band has left us: Sigmn Dilley. He's proceeded to Chisledon to study the simple arts of farming, to enable him to procure a job in civvy street to keep body and soul together. We wish him all the best, and hope he can manage a cow as well as he can Band Club orderly. These two are the only ones who have left us, so no more can be said.

Service and Medals.—Here's a "catch" for the Government. Three stalwart n.c.o.s appended their signatures on a form to "sting" themselves as shown. Corpl Saunders T. P. for twelve years with the Colours, Corpl Lewis P. for twenty-one years with the same Colours, and L/Corpl Addlington W. only eight years. Well, they've signed and done their bit, so all we can say is "Good luck! and let's hope you never wish you couldn't write."

While we are dealing with the service side, get a load of this. Corpl Robinson A. A., kettle, side and small drummer of the Corps Band, has been awarded the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity. See! I told you it was easy. Everything comes to him who waits, so all you have to do is sign and wait. We congratulate him and wait for the time when we shall be in the same boat. How's that for "tee-hee," eh?

Also in the medal category, we have two more of a different nature. These are for serving abroad. L/Sergt McDonald W. receives the Indian general service medal with clasp "Burma 1930-32," and L/Corpl Cummings a similar medal with clasp "North-West Frontier, 1930-31." Those who have never seen the Frontier "gong" can apply through me, and you'll get a pass for sixpence when they have been presented on the church parade. That's all for this month's medals; but, look again, we are expecting!

Marriages.—Corpl Green D. R. was married to Miss Maud Catchpole in Darlington on the 19th May. "Good luck and congratulations" is expressed by many, so that's enough said there; otherwise I take the can, not you.

Births.—The Company congratulate Captain and Mrs. R. C. Woodbridge on the birth of a daughter on the 11th June. L/Sgt Hart R. was presented with a daughter at the Families Hospital on the 30th May. Again congratulations, applause, etc., from all. C.Q.M.S. Donaghy was presented with a daughter, also at the Families Hospital, on the 11th June. Again, as before, congratulations, applause and good luck from all ranks.

"Artistry" and Photography.—Here you see a drawing—drawn, of course. The artist had the distinction of being the first flying sentry. We hear that he smelt very sheepish after a night on the moors, tending his flock.

For those who are still just as wise, get hold of someone recently down from the Training Battalion and ask him. For those abroad, write to me—not in the jew's mail, for I would

be standing on very delicate ground if I mentioned it here. Hereabouts, also, you'll find a photo of the Company taken after the Commandant's inspection. The fellow looking the most



LITTLE BOY BLUE, OR
THE REGIMENTAL SHEPHERD

pleased with himself is the one who was complimented on his very dirty boots! If you find him, put an "x" over him and watch his face beam. It's a photographer's experiment.

In the Sports Section you'll find a photo of the Company boxing team. Pass an evening in trying to find their doubles; and when you do, don't say a word—you may end up in Netley. Outside these, there are no more notes except those of interest to me.

Mail, G.P.O.—To Tich, Scarborough: Congratulations! I read all about it at Richmond, Robbo. W.N.R.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Summer is here (we hope). Up to date the weather has been good generally; otherwise, would one see various n.c.o.s venturing out to tend their cabbage plots? Rumour has it that there is a water shortage, but that does not worry the aforementioned n.c.o.s, who persist in their detailings—two boys per night to water the garden.

Inspections.—The Commandant held his annual inspection last month. It was his first inspection here, and we are led to believe that he made some very complimentary remarks about the Battalion drill and the cleanliness of the lines and barrack rooms; and it was generally agreed that the Battalion did earn great credit.

Athletics.—We managed to lift the Pinsent cup from the Mounted Wing by one and a half points. We wish to congratulate all who earned the points for the Company, especially 2/Lieuts. Williams and Gordon, who were our chief scorers. The former was the runner-up for the Victor Ludorum cup. We further congratulate 2/Lieut. Read of the Mounted Wing on winning the Victor Ludorum.

Gardens.—The Company gardener has been busy during the last few days, planting some two thousand odd plants in the Company gardens; and from what I can see, it will be a remarkably good show. Let us hope the sheep (two-legged, as well as the ordinary species) will keep off until the flowers bloom.

Arrivals.—Not yet; but we live in hopes.

Departures.—Nil to date, but by the time these notes appear in print we shall have lost two members of the Company, viz. Signalmen Larson and Donnelly, who proceed on a vocational training course at the end of the month. We wish them the best of luck on the course and in civvy street later. We shall also lose Sigmn Warner for a short time. He goes to London for a teleprinter course next week.



E Company, Training Battalion, S.T.C. Catterick.
[*Photo by Avison, Catterick Camp*]

Obituary.—I am sure that everybody in the Company and the ex-boys were sorry to hear of the death of Sigmn Brownjohn (ex-boy). We all join in offering our deepest sympathy to his parents and his other relations.

Congratulations.—We congratulate the Display team on the splendid show they gave us on Scotton ground last month, and wish them all the best for their forthcoming season.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Who said that No. 2 Company was unheard of? If you want news, you can have it.

We have the usual Sections at Bordon—E and G—and except for an occasional moan we hear very little from them, so you must excuse any further mention of them in these notes.

Sport.—Did you hear how No. 2 Company won the Powell shooting cup, and how we are still waiting for it to be handed over from No. 1 Company A Corps? Also how the tent pegging team won that event in the M.P.s sports? We must congratulate the team (Captain A. E. Morrison, R.S.M. Eves, C.S.M. Goodman and L/Sergt Farlow) on their achievement, for they had seven carries and one draw, which everyone must admit is very good going.

To continue. F Section were rather unlucky in the inter-Section sports, and but for the field events they would have been easy winners. They were miles ahead in the running events, and finished a good third in the totals.

We are now waiting for the inter-Company sports, when we expect to let you have a favourable report.

Musketry.—By the time these notes are in print, we shall once more have finished with pokey drill and our annual outing to Ash ranges for at least another twelve months. We are sure to miss our old friend Driver Tissiman, who last year, whilst grouping, hit the village policeman at Tengham!

Arrivals.—We have only two arrivals to report: Signalman Cameron from Egypt and Driver Philmore from Catterick. We hope they will soon become acclimatised and settle down in the Company.

Departures.—Two of our very old friends, Signalmen Walton and Marsland, have now left us for the joys of civvy street. Mons Barracks is very quiet now without Slim, although on a still day one can just hear his sweet voice calling from Rotherham.

If Army life ever becomes too much for old No. 2 Company wallahs, just drop a line to Mr. Jack Marsland, No. 6 Bunk, West Sussex Mental Hospital. He will be very pleased to blow bits of paper about with some of the old boys.

Camp.—I have not mentioned anything about the Company's trip to Thursley, but I understand it was just like other camps. There was a picquet line and the usual number of horses attached to it, also the village pub and the village maidens, so everybody was happy. Some liked the village pub, and some the village maidens, whilst other liked—no, not horses.

Talking about camp. There are one or two enquiries as to the driver who read one of Wallace's thrillers while B Cable were making a pole crossing.

Another exciting moment was when Basher Farley met Hittum Brown in a thirty seconds contest over the Thursley course. Hittum Brown won on points and was awarded an A.F.B. 252.

Old Soldiers' Column.—The following have been granted L.S. and G.C. medals and are struck off the rookies list forthwith: C.Q.M.S. Carmichael and L/Corpl Emblen.

No. 3 Company.

Apology.—Not for the absence of notes last month, nor the month before—that's someone else's pigeon; but just for inflicting ourselves on a Journal that seemed to be getting on pretty well without us. Having thus wormed our way in, let's have a new paragraph, as if it were the most natural thing in the world.

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Information.—What this is to reveal, I don't know yet, but all good operation orders start off like that. Without going into too much detail, our composition is as follows:—Captain L. A. E. Tozer (C.C.), Captain C. D. Hinds (J Section), Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut (K), Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland (L), C.S.M. Mitchell J. S., C.Q.M.S. Johnson A., Sergeants Mason A. (J), Harris T. J. (K) and Jessop T. H. (L), and as hefty a bunch of lads as ever produced moist earths in a dry country.

Intention.—In the merry month of May we hied ourselves to Thursley Camp with the intention of (*a*) doing a spot of honest-to-goodness field work and (*b*) having a good time. We believe we reached both objectives. The padre led us to the second one. Oh boy! you should have seen the lads giving Nellie Dean R.99's round the camp bonfire he arranged. The natives must have thought we were the Royal Choral Singers and not the . . . . What a pun!

Method.—We used a great deal of this out Thursley way. We always knew that iron ships could float, but hadn't visualised a cable barrow, complete with cable and drum, disporting itself in the H_2O. Try a little method—we've seen 'em cross a hundred yards six times in three different ways. Movietone was slow that day!

Administrative.—Adjective qualifying staff. Have you seen our posh new petrol cookers? They're the latest! Believe it or not, out in the blue, miles from anywhere, up comes the hot grub stakes. If we'd only had a duck one day, we could have had duck and green peas. Active service? Tush, and likewise fiddlesticks. We must acknowledge they did their best. Food was issued at all sorts of hours, and its distribution must have presented some difficulties. But there is no truth in the rumour that the administrative language caused the heath fires.

To and Fro.—C.S.M. Brooks E. A., bronzed and fit, rejoined the unit on 10/6/34 and left us two days later for the 42nd Divl Stgnals. Good luck and happy days!

Sigmn Hamilton arrived from the S.T.C. and was immediately attached to a lawn mower, but J Section will find him more interesting work than that presently.

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Palestine Corner.—To the Moral Uplift Union: Going well—beautiful chime. Wog Wedding.

Livestock.—Sic ad hoc, or infra dig, or whatever one says when he wants to blame someone else for the heading. Uncle Bob semicolon Uncle Alfred and Uncle Jock have met, and a few pints have departed; so has Uncle Alf—to Manchester. Happy neux, Barleux?

Fireworks.—A heath fire at Kettlebury Hill was well attended by all ranks. It took place roughly at dinner time, and for three hours the firefighters stood and watched the flames go rapidly on. We can truthfully state that the amount of clothing which was soiled and damaged exceeded even the "Q" bloke's estimate. For further news about the fire, we can only ask you to look at *The Daily Sketch* for the following morning (what heroes we all were!)

News.—L Section go to Bordon on the 20th June and so miss the annual musketry—for a few months at least. It is said that the death roll will now remain at its mean level for those few months.

Agony.—Goffy: Are you short of stamps and paper? China. Hair-r-by: Spare 1½d. James.

Obituary.—We tender our sincere condolences to L/Corporal and Mrs. Reed in the decease of their infant son.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn (Chippy) Wood on entering the matrimonial stakes. Best of luck to you and the future Mrs. Wood, Chippy!

. . . . . AND CHINA BASHER.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—The order of events this month is as follows:—

1. A War Office exercise from the 15th to 18th May. We understand that this was quite successful. Our O.R.S. enjoyed the change and came back looking nicely bronzed after two nights sleeping out.
2. Whitsun holidays immediately following the exercise. Also a success—for those who had leave.
3. King's Birthday parade. Unit H.Q. were well represented on both rehearsal and actual parade, and the remainder of the day was celebrated as a holiday.

Query.—Does a visit to the Aldershot Lido entitle one to sign the book in the bath house? BONCELESS.

No. 1 Company.

Once again it is time to venture into the land of "Journalese." I should very much like to describe the conditions under which I am trying to write a few lines, but certain bedridden A.V.T.C. people (e.g. F.V.) might think I was giving the game away.

Since last month's issue we have taken full advantage of the Whitsun break—and it broke some, too, I understand.

Prior to the Whitsun leave we took part in a War Office exercise, which went off quite well except that one of the "Dons" of B Cable Section experimented with a motor cycle and cab'e wagon—and of course the motor cycle came out the worse for wear; that is, if the gesticulations of a stranded D.R. were anything to go by. We are sorry to report that our S.M. is down with some kind of poisoning, which in his opinion was caused by something he ate on the aforesaid scheme. Probably he drank it! Who knows?

As the remainder of the unit were out on training, etc., it fell to our lot to take part in the King's Birthday parade. As could be expected, we were up to the occasion.

By the time these notes are in print, we shall be sunbathing at Thursley Camp, and if last year is anything to go by, we are looking forward to a good time.

Greetings and Condolences.—We welcome all new arrivals to the Company, and assure them that, once having settled down, they will want to serve the remainder of their time in No. 1 Company.

To those who have left us, we wish the good old soldier's farewell.

Births.—We haven't arrived at Thursley yet.

Marriages.—Wrong time of the year.

Gardens.—Further to the report of last month reference the garden prize, we must congratulate D Section (37 East) on obtaining the award. We understand it was a close finish between the aforesaid garden and its neighbour, 38 East; and had it not been that the one gladioli plant in the latter garden proved to be a bunch of leeks, D Section would still be in debt. However, L/Corpls Carver and Lonton have really worked hard on their plot and fully deserve the credit given to them. (If you can spare a bunch of flowers in the near future, Charlie, you might pass them on to 38 E.; then I shall not have to buy any more for our sheik to pass on to the N.A.A.F.I.)

Vocab.—The attention of the C.Q.M.S. is directed to the following amendment. Ref. Vocab. page 84, section C.F.: For "Caps Service Dress" read "Tiddler Cans."

Change of Address.—Corpl Webb is now Chief Constable, Thursley Camp. At this time, when everyone is seeing articles in the daily papers with reference to Police Colleges, etc., it would be interesting to know whether Sigmn Legge was employed in the carpenter's shop to obtain his "chippies" rating, or to get first hand information of police work, as this gentleman (?) comprises the whole of Thursley Camp Police Force.

Sports and Pastimes.—Angler's Notes: Meet on canal bank on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons. Prizes for best catch. Sprats, lobsters and crabs barred, but a good pike is certainly the prize. Fishing tackle kept in No. 38 E. But don't forget to collect a reel. EASY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—F Section are in barracks once more. No. 6 Section of Kegresse fame are indulging in a little dust and hard work at Deepcut, so we see some representative of that Section each day: they simply can't leave us alone. Last, but not least, Company Headquarters moved off to Thursley Camp on the 11th June to spend about three weeks "far from the madd'ning crowds."

Departures.—L/Corporals Reardon and Chirgwin and Sigmn Haughey are on leave pending discharge, and they take another huge chunk from our store of good wishes. Perhaps it was planned—or it may have been a coincidence—when L/Corporal Chirgwin carried the book "The Retreat from Mons" under his arm.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Joyce, Morgan and Duke and Driver Blunt from Egypt accommodated by us and attached to A.V.T.C. Aldershot. Note the change of address, you folk in the land of the Pyramids. Sigmn Wormald joins us from the Training Battalion. We extend the glad hand to them all.

Accident Reports.—Please note, E.A.P.: None needed yet for any holes in the Basingstoke canal. Any from Deepcut?

E Signal Section, Brighton.

The Section joined the 18th Field Brigade R.A. here at the beginning of May. Our sojourn will be comparatively short, as the Brigade, besides a month's practice camp at Okehampton, has an artillery concentration at Stoney Castle in July, and a few weeks later it joins the 4th Guards Brigade at Saffron Walden.

As invariably happens each year, we have had to say goodbye to a few of the older hands and welcome some new ones. Amongst those whom we were reluctant to lose were L/Corpl Ward R., posted to another Section, and Sigmn Stuart R., lately departed for a vocational training course. Included amongst the new hands, we welcome Sergt Chandler, L/Corpls Greenman and McKeer, and Sigmn Taylor E. We would like to congratulate L/Corpl Taylor C. on his appointment.

No doubt, most of those who have served with the Section here would be amazed at the accommodation allotted to us this year. No more are the horses stabled in disused wagon sheds in some obscure corner of the barracks, and our stores, etc., where we can find room for them. Everywhere we have room and to spare. However, this is not entirely due to a sudden impulse of generous hospitality on the part of the Royal Regiment. Fortunately, one Battery is away on command, leaving ample room for a small Signal Section.

Sport is strictly limited, there being only one small hockey pitch in the whole barracks. Nevertheless, most of us contrive to keep fit and make full use of all that Brighton has to offer. Most of the newcomers are familiar with the geography of the place, and it only remains now for the sea to warm up a little to make everything perfect. Unfortunately, it will be some time in August before we return here after Okehampton and Stoney Castle, and then only for a few weeks before leaving for a fortnight's manœuvres and Mons Barracks.

En Passant.—I hear that the sweep held in E Section went quite well—the three prizes going to the three people who ran it. Have I heard right, Ernie? J.C.

No. 3 Company.

General.—At the time of writing we are packing up for Thursley, where we hope to have a successful time. Judging from the attitude of a certain Section of this Company (where the eating of toffee-apples is prohibited) this is ensured. However, we hope for the best.

Command.—We welcome Captain C. Knowles as Company commander w.e.f. 1st June, Captain G. R. Halliday having left us for the Southern Command Signal Company.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Norton, Steward and Smith from S.T.C. Catterick. Driver Perring from Egypt.

Departures.—Sigmn (not Driver) Parrish to No. 1 Company w.e.f. 8th July. Sad, No. 3 Company?

Signalmen Baines and Rice, having completed a vocational course at Chisledon, are now safely entrenched on the Embankment (subject to confirmation by them).

Query.—". . . . . having now lost their equilibrium." Perhaps the unit office staff have heard this phrase before?

Quips.—In the Company office. Someone expounding a theory (pretty futile): "You tell the most fabulous stories! you talk the most utter tripe."

Question.—Why did the chief draughtsman appear on parade on the 1st June wearing trousers S.D. and then proceed to take half an hour off to change to breeches and puttees? Ask Corpl Q., who appears to be an authority on military law and standing orders, not to mention R.W.

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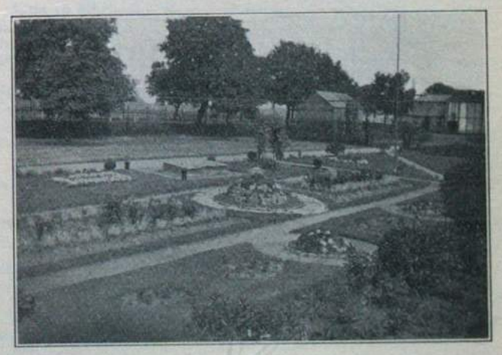
CELLARS STOCKED - Payment as Consumed

Omitted.—[We regret that the sketch "Ask my brother" could not be reproduced. Such contributions *must be in ink*, and not in pencil.—ED.] J.A.D.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Comes and Goes.—Sigmn Lundie J. posted to No. 1 Company 2nd Divl Signals in exchange for Sigmn Williams L. on 9/6/34.

Up One.—On 8/6/34 it was decided that Sigmn Abbott W. was not wearing enough in this hot weather, so he had to appear next morning with a little additional weight in the form of a stripe on each arm. Congratulations, Willie.



The Station Garden.

Gorf.—Everyone in this quarter of the globe seems to be mossing up these days ; all gone off beer, etc. Maybe it's the coming outing and the approach of furlough causing this. Anyhow, something was needed to take up their spare time, so a nine hole miniature golf course was constructed at the back of the station. The rough part of the course is very rough, but that doesn't seem to worry our champs, several of whom have played wonderful googly shots to hole out in ones. The language used, I am sorry to say, approaches the lurid, especially in foursomes, but that can be excused when one thinks of the terrible partners it is possible to be paired with. L/Corpl Mohrstadt and Sigmn Verlander jointly hold the record for the course with extremely fluky 27's for the nine holes. No one can convince me that it is possible to go round in 27 and play good shots all the time, when it takes me 53.



The Personnel of the Station.

Believe It or Not.—The snap of the beautifully laid out garden shows the ground in front of the wireless station. Those chaps who remember the compound of three years ago will realise the great amount of hard work which has been put in on that ground to bring it to its present state. The group is of the personnel of the station; the operators can easily be picked out from the electricians by the intelligent look on their faces.

The other snap is not of a man digging a hole ; it's simply " Bobby Jones " Macken playing through the rough to the fifth green of our miniature golf course.



Playing through the " Rough."

Otley.—The Duke's gone : took his discharge from the Service at the beginning of the month, and so Aldershot has lost one of its landmarks. His going was, I believe, a bit of a wrench. Still, that can be understood : it must be terrible to leave such a nice lot of chaps as we are. I am sure that all who knew Steve (both the old and the new Stephen) will join with us in wishing him all the very best of luck in civvy street.

Attachments and Losses.—One hedgehog to L/Corporal Mohrstadt. They loved each other as only brothers can love. The poor little thing is gone now : the " society " round here proved too much for it. Each time it saw Williams, it used to curl up ; and when it eventually caught sight of Tich Summers over the top of a tuft of grass, it promptly put on its skates and was last seen heading for the canal. AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

Paddy (" Nuts " to his friends) McCarthy has handed us a swell number this month. Nippy piece of verse, or maybe it's a sonnet. Anyway, what's the difference? It's about a guy who was ass enough to take to his bosom the waters of the Wey without first removing his nether garments. A guy like that deserves to be wet. Just breeze yourself along these lines and it'll strike your eye soon enough. You must hand it to Paddy ; he sure has opened up for us this time. Incidentally, the author always thinks twice. That's a great serial now, ain't it, Paddy? And if there's any other guy wanting to hit the front page, he'll sure have to lay off the river stunt. You can't spill that twice and get away with it—not even to a guy like me.

There are people asking why all these cycles in the unit just now? It's no concern of mine, but I thought I'd just ask, if only to keep in with the bunch. You have to keep in if you want to be smart : and if you don't keep in, you ain't smart enough. That's how it seems. That doesn't get us to the answer, though. Maybe, if you asked one of the guys who runs a cycle, he might spill the idea : that is, if he doesn't get sore with you first. You always have to think twice nowadays.

Contribution from Paddy.—A most regrettable incident happened at Guildford recently when that ace of Don Juans, Signalman Coombe L. F., while canoeing in front of a large and appreciative audience which included his latest platinum blonde, was suddenly immersed in the icy waters of the river Wey by the overturning of his canoe.

When Lionel-Frank went boating, it really was absurd,
The canoe achieved a hand-stand and flung him overboard.
When L.F. joined his sweetie, a'cryin' on the bank,
She wailed " I thought I'd lost you, my only Lionel-Frank."
Her teardrops moved his heart : he vowed with her he'd stay
And never never more go boating on the Wey. —E.F.M.

I hereby declare the above to be undiluted by my iconoclastic tendencies. I move that Paddy resumes his Singapore " Potted Personalities " touch. What monthly labour would he thus save us! He's smart, is Paddy! And now, I think, it is time to forget the James Cain manner for a while.

Postings.—Greetings to C.Q.M.S. Mears L. E. C. from Catterick, and to Sigmn King G. from the same hunting grounds. We wish you both pleasant days with the unit and all that.

Summer Training.—Possibly within the next few weeks, the Cable Sections will be moving out to co-operate with the 1st A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E. and R.A.F. at Kenley, North Weald and Northolt. The fact that this summer jaunt has already been dubbed the " travelling circus " informs all and sundry that much ground will be covered. Definitely. It is yet rather early to comment on this matter. Next month, in all probability, we will be able to secure new angles on the subject, and enlightenment will come to all.

Do You Know?—By special request : " Who was the bright lad who neatly cut his cable and then tried to ring through?" That's an old one, of course, but it's new for this unit.

" Who instigated the word ' definitely '?" What bearing has it on our harassed Section sergeants?

In England Now.—The Aussies.

What People Are Saying.—"My! it's hot!" There *is* something in this hot spell, whatever one may say. Observe the foregoing notes. You will notice the complete absence of rhythm? That's the heat : it's got me. Understand then, 'tis only in the cool of the evening, when a low murmuring wind sighs gently amid the proud pines and the lush grassland invites the weary body to seek rest and ease, that my fevered brain can dictate thoughts in ordered simplicity. Given an office, a hot and muggy day, a khaki garment of sartorial effects and thickness more associated with times when the aspidistra was the hallmark of social esteem, and I become as helpless as the rest of you. And if you doubt my word, ask Castlerosse. He'll tell you. But we seek consolation in the fact that the news dailies inform us that we get out more in this hot weather and consequently spend more. How those fellows are right, to be sure! Incidentally, I ran through my allowance some time ago. If there happens to be anyone now with a rather hefty surplus. . . . Thank you! You have my address, I believe?

And so on to another month. B.A.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—With the Sections away with their Battalions, things are still very quiet in the unit. Routine work is all that is being done, and there is not much to write about now that Mac has left us. We have been included in one or two exercises, and on those days very few of Headquarters personnel have been left to carry on the good work (?)

By the Way.—So far, I have not received any notes for THE WIRE except from No. 1 Tank Signal Section—and after my appeal of last month, too! What about it, Tanks? Panjang is still going strong. He has submitted notes for two months running, and I'm sure we are all interested in the activities of the Sections. So, again, what about it?

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following to the wilds of Salisbury Plain, and hope their stay with us will be a long and a happy one. Sigmn Lennon C. from the School of Signals. Sigmn Harmer H. from F Troop. Signalmen Metcalfe and Jameson back from their stay at Catterick with the 4th Battalion R.T.C.

Departures.—Signalmen Barnes J., McConnell-Wood F., Everard J., McGinn J. and Perrins H. to F Troop.

L/Corpl Jarvis W. (now A/L/Sergt) to the Eastern Command Signal Company at Dover for duty as Foreman-of-Signals. At last, eh, Jarvo? Don't forget your promise. I'm still sweating.

Signalmen Haslam R. and Ryder W. J. to civvy street. All ranks wish them both the best of luck and success in their new spheres of life.

Corpl McCann B. to Bristol on discharge. " Oh, what a night for romancing!" Hope you weren't dizzy, Mac, being put in and out so quickly. All the lads, including your two protégées, wish you every possible success in civvy street, and Bill adjures you to keep away from that theer zoider.

L/Corporal Wilson N. to Perham Down for a spell of work with the 5th Battalion R.T.C., and Sergt Moss P. and Signalman Ashford R. to the Light Tank Signal Section at Hedge End Camp.

Corpl Prescott G. to discharge on 20/6/34. All the best from the lads, Pres. May you never be forgotten. Come up and see us some time.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Pawsey H. and spouse on the birth of a daughter, Barbara Constance, at Tidworth on 20/5/34. To L/Sergt Neal H. and his better half a daughter, June Margaret, at Tidworth on 6/6/34. Never again!

To L/Sergt Coy B. on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal with gratuity.

To Signalmen Crebbin T. and McGinley J. on obtaining a satisfactory report for their six months vacation at Bristol.

To U/L/Corporal Hubbard F. on raking in the dough w.e.f. 1/5/34. The mess is open every evening from 5 till 10 p.m.—sometimes.

To Sigmn Potts J. on acquiring his first dog's leg. May your next step come soon.

Panjang.—The unit as a whole seem very interested in the prophesied marriage of last month. But your clues in this issue are too easy. Can't you save him before it is too late?

In Lighter Mood.—I don't know whether it is good news, or bad—it is up to our readers to decide—but we have discovered a tame poet, so stand back and give him a chance. I have to warn you, though, that these poems are strictly copyright and must not be communicated to the public by loudspeaker or any other means.

IN MEMORY OF MAC. BY KID AND SPIKE.

Two young lads from A.F.V.
Were full of high ambitions ;
As boxers they were meant to be
Astounding propositions.

Their trainer went by name of Mac—
A scrapper of the past ;
And of good tips he did not lack,
Nor sparring hard and fast.

Whenever Mac did go on leave,
He left two little lists
For these two youths to carry out,
To harden up their fists.

And after some months training
And many days and nights,
These two young lads were ready
For the Garrison premier fights.

But woe betide! Before e'er long,
Just on the peak of fame,
They lost their good old trainer, Mac.
Now, wasn't that a shame?

And now these lads are falling low ;
No more they scrap and snort:
Without old Mac, they cannot hold
Their titles *and* the fort.

Tidworth Tattoo.—Somehow, things seem very strange in the lines for this time of the year, owing to the unit not giving a display in the Southern Command Tattoo. No daring trick riders entertain us now with tales of their adventures whilst running-in the machines : there is no roaring of mo'bikes in the afternoon ; no dodging cricket and fatigues with the excuse "I'm a Tattoo rider, sergeant "—and the work we used to have is very much missed.

Many people have I spoken to on the question, and they have said how disappointed they are because there will be no trick riding display. I hope it will not affect the box office receipts too much. But perhaps the rest will do all concerned a lot of good, and you may be sure that the display for next year will be better than ever as a result.

We are banking on another record attendance at the arena this August, for the show will be really worth seeing. I was right last year, wasn't I? Roll up and support a good cause.

Answers to Correspondents.—No, you're wrong, Panjang. 'Twas not the size of my feet at all ; I was overcome by the fumes of a beer lorry. I am gradually recovering.

True to Life.—Our Boggy, after listening to the running commentary on the Senior T.T. and hearing that J. Guthrie had won the race at 78 m.p.h., sat back and said loftily " H'm! could have been worse." I am wondering what he would have said if he had looked hard at his previous day's work ticket, which showed this startling information (swelp me bob!): " Route, Salisbury Plain Area. Time, from 7 to 8.45 a.m. Miles run, 104." Nothing so easy as a track for Boggy. A steady 60 m.p.h. on the Plain. " H'm! could have been worse."

We Want to Know.—Is it correct that a certain old soldier in the unit has a failing for cooks?

Who was the poor goop who walked several miles in his stockinged feet and was asked by a copper why he was walking so quietly?

Why did several men prepare to surrender to a man in blue who was seen in the lines?

Who is going to replace Mac as trainer to Spike and Kid?

Who is Rosie?

Whether a certain n.c.o.'s motor bike *will* do 70 m.p.h.? or is his statement merely a preparation for its sale?

Scotch Corner.—What's up, Coram? in the rats! What about a line to Leggy? RUSTY.

No. 1 Tank Signal and Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Sections.

Attached 2nd Battalion R.T.C. Farnborough.

General.—The Sections—especially the Brigade Section—have had quite a hectic time lately. There have been several small technical schemes, mainly to try out the new No. 2 and No. 7 sets. All the schemes have proved that the sets are very reliable; but as is always the case, there were several small defects which came to light, and we hope in due course to have them rectified.

A "B" Echelon scheme, lasting three days, has been the longest so far. During this scheme good work was done between the older and new type wireless sets, working between themselves and in conjunction with the R.A.F.

King's Birthday.—A parade of the 2nd Battalion R.T.C. took place on Saturday 2nd June in honour of His Majesty's birthday. This year the Signal Section was on parade. Although our numbers were small, we made a very brave show and the arm swinging was really good to watch (so said an onlooker).

After an inspection by Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Evans, M.C., commanding the 2nd Battalion R.T.C., a general salute was given by the officers, after which three cheers were given for His Majesty. These were the best I have heard for many long years, probably because of the enclosed nature of the parade ground or the prospect of the rest of the day being a holiday—'tis hard to decide which.

Revolver Training.—In my last notes, I said I hoped to be able to report the result of our annual range practice in this issue. I am very sorry to disappoint any who may have wanted to know our average, but I can assure you it was through no fault of ours that the results are not yet here.

On Monday 28th May the Section duly arrived on Ash revolver range to do their stuff. After everything was in readiness, two details were able to fire four practice shots. Then came the blow: a heath fire was raging just on the other side of the butts, and orders came to cease fire. So when the results *will* eventually find their way into THE WIRE, I don't know.

Of course, we found a wonder man in the Section who got *five* hits with *four* shots. Now, I wonder how that happened?

Departures.—Sigmn Crebbin T. left his home town for the great open spaces of Hedge End Camp on 1/6/34 to join the 1st Light Tank Battalion. We are sorry to lose you, Tommy, especially after the display from the 27 ft. diving board at the Command baths.

Marriages.—These notes are going in too early for me to give the particulars of last month's "Hush" notes under this heading. However, here is a clue to whet your appetite as to the fortunate (?) gentleman. He wears three stripes, has a brown Baby Austin, and has served in Kohat and frequently visits Guildford. His name begins with an "Ess."

Arrivals.—As reported in the "Departure" section, Sigmn Crebbin found it hard at Hedge End Camp, so he has returned to us for another week. The one and only Tich Read has also arrived from Perham Down to taste the joys of Farnborough. Sigmn McGinley came back from Lydd for a short stay. All three will be back with their own Sections by the time these notes are printed, so 'tis just a case of "How do!" and "Au revoir." We all hope they have derived a little benefit from their stay.

Tripe and Like.—Rusty, the jungle wireless has brought us news that your feet have been the cause of a minor accident—and you only take "8's," too.

Postman Run.—Will Bertie Angier save a corner bed, or drop a line to Brom?

PANJANG.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

A policy of "splendid isolation" is needed in this area, for at this season of the year we are being attacked from all quarters of the compass except the north—which probably is just as well. So far, our car detachments and D.R.s have nobly upheld the traditions of the Troop. Keep it up!

Shooting.—Sigmn Robertson won the pool shoot in Division I. this month with a score of 46. Truly a good return for a pennyworth. Sigmn Rogers, who carried off the honours in Division III. last month, was the crack shot again—this time in Division II. Maybe he will do the hat trick, but he'll have to shoot some. A 48 is not impossible. Sigmn Halliday with 44 decided that Division III. was not good enough for him, so he has gone up one.

Cricket, tennis and that kind of sport which urges a fellow to don his best and ride miles on a bicycle are cutting the attendance at our shooting gallery. Just a couple of hours one night a week, so rally round and shoot it—er, up.

Cricket.—The cricket season has found us well to the fore. Up to date we have played five games, won three and lost two. Turn to the Sports Section for the news and averages.

Tennis.—Tennis is a hazard. Play on our only grass court depends on how much grass there is. Soon, if this fine weather continues, it will resemble a hard court—from a distance.

Corpl Appleton—himself a keen player—has started a Troop tournament with the object of finding a first class team to take on tour (Garrison only). Several very keen games, and also some very amusing ones, have been played to date. From a very confidential source I have learned the name of the Troop champion tennis player, but of course I cannot divulge that just yet.

Sports.—Organised field events are bringing to light quite a number of dark horses. One notable runner, Sigmn Johnston, is always a star at the half mile. Rumour has it that this is the distance he leaves his bicycle from *the* house, and he improves with practice.

The high jump champ, Sigmn Lane, has never been extended over 5 ft. 2 in. His team captain has asked him to keep something up his sleeve (singlet) in case some unexpected opposition arises.

Promotion.—"You cannot keep a good man down," said L/Corpl Belton on being promoted to that rank.

Arrival.—From Catterick, Sigmn Cassidy—a good worker and a keen sportsman. May he prosper.

Hospital.—Good news to report this month: our one and only invalid, Corpl Riando, will soon be out of hospital. He has been badly missed for the past two months, and we all hope that his cheery smile will be with us again soon.

Out of the Rut.—There's money in music. That's only a guess on my part, because our "leader of the band" (Sergeant Sayers) has bought himself a car—and what a car! I have it from himself that there is nothing quite like it. To give it its due, it was born before streamlining was the fashion, but on the road it might well be mistaken for the latest in sport.

Agony.—One unusual feature this month. Will Sigmn Evans D., believed to be in India, communicate with Sigmn Fall F. of this Troop?

E.T.P.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

We returned this morning (15th June) from the Command signal exercise, and although sleep beckons, these notes must be written somehow. I had an idea at one time of getting them out "in the field" before the real battle started, but what a hope!—with sounders misbehaving and all the other usual teething troubles.

The exercise was strenuous, but we hope it served its purpose. Doubtless we shall in due course hear of all our errors and omissions, but immediate comment is very favourable.

Talking of bouquets, we have recently collected a couple of real good 'uns, and a third of slightly more subdued hue. A King's Birthday parade was held near Dunch Hill on the 1st June, and the 3rd Divisional Signals were handsomely complimented, officially and unofficially. We had put in a lot of hard work, and turned out something of everything which made an impressive show—two dismounted Companies each of thirty files, a Troop of twenty files, two cable wagons, two telephone carts and four limbers, six Morris cars with No. 1 sets, half a dozen six wheelers, six C sets, and sixteen D.R.s. (The drill is a little complicated.) The second bunch of roses came from the A.D.R., who told us it was a pleasure to inspect our horses: a somewhat different story from last year. The third, of quieter hue, was from the C.I.M.T., who said nice things about our vehicles after his annual inspection. Great credit is due all round, and such results are all for the good of the Corps as a whole.

Turning to quite another line, we sponsored one of the usual Garrison weekly dances on Thursday 7th June. A little effort goes a long way, and there was a record crowd. Tom Sayer's band was not the least of the factors leading to success. Two and Three Companies, please note for future action that you have considerable leeway to make up in the number of tickets bought.

The tennis courts are going strong and are playing very well. They are definitely an addition to the somewhat meagre amenities of Bulford.

Before these notes appear, the cup presented by the Corps to the Army Athletic Association for competition at the individual championships will have been awarded for the first time. The cup is to serve as a perpetual record of the achievements of that remarkable Corps runner, Sergt Joe Cotterell. We hope he will have had the opportunity of being present at its inception. It is unfortunate that the event should almost coincide with Cotterell's pulling a muscle in his calf during the unit's sports. Remember, Joe, none of us grows younger, and we and the Corps still have much need of your services in teaching and training the young idea, if not in active competition. So don't go and overdo it.

The unit sports were held on the 5th and 6th June, and as a result the team for the S.P.A. Meeting will be selected from the following:—

100 yards—L/Corpl Etchells, Sigmn Foley, 2/Lieut Blum, L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Thomas and Sigmn McLaughlin.
220 yards—L/Corpl Etchells, Sigmn Foley, 2/Lieut Blum, L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Thomas, Sigmn McLaughlin and L/Corpl Bucke.
440 yards—L/Corpl Bucke, L/Corpl Black, L/Corpl Thomas and Sigmn Plaquet.
880 yards—L/Corpl Bucke, Sigmn Hastings, Sigmn Stanger, L/Corpl Black and Sigmn Mudge.
One mile—L/Corpl Robinson, Sigmn Strickland, Sigmn Stanger, Sigmn Seaman and Sigmn Fox.
Three miles—L/Corpl Robinson, L/Sergt Ayres, Sigmn Strickland and Sigmn Seaman.
Hurdles—L/Sergt Murphy, L/Cpl Etchells, L/Cpl Abraham and L/Corpl McKenzie.
High jump—L/Sergt Murphy, Sigmn Garwood and L/Corpl McKenzie.
Pole vault—Corpl Farmer and L/Corpl Kings.
Long jump—Sigmn Foley and L/Corpl Etchells.
Shot—Sigmn Softly, 2/Lieut Crawford, Sigmn McKenzie and L/Sergt Luck.
Discus—L/Corporals Etchells, Bain and McKenzie.
Javelin—L/Corpl Abraham, Lieut Harrison, M.C. and Sigmn McLaughlin.
Hammer—L/Sergt Murphy, Corpl Farmer and L/Corpl Bain.

Our prospects for the meeting are not as good as they might be, but we are still optimistic.

The Agar memorial challenge cup and medal were won for the first time by L/Corpl Etchells, who led by 20—18 points from L/Corporal Bucke. Etchells won the 100 yards, long jump and discus, and was second in the 220 yards and hurdles. Bucke won the 220, 440 and 880 yards, and he had a go for a place in the mile, but was defeated by a "stitch." We compliment them both.

It was very pleasant to see L/Sergt Murphy in action once again, and we look for great things from him.

The sympathy of the whole unit goes out to Sigmn Cawthorne in the loss of his wife, and to L/Corpl and Mrs. Pape in the death of their infant son.

We are glad to report that Sigmn Ashcroft, who was on the D.I. list after doing his best to torpedo a car with his head, is well on the way to recovery. Sigmn Hill A. V. was another unfortunate victim in a recent motor accident, and is a patient in Tidworth with a broken leg and other less serious injuries. He is progressing well.

We are glad to see that Driver Wright, having been trained at the A.V.T.C. as a bricklayer, has obtained a job as a shop assistant.

Answers that Help.—Officer (nameless, but slightly irate, trying to sort out on the telephone two lines that had got mixed up, to Sergt . . . . at the other end): "Which line are you speaking on?" Sergt: "The one from me to you, sir." * * * *

BULFORD.

Arrivals.—Drivers Chalker F. and Williams R. from 5th Divisional Signals. Sigmn Boffy (ex-A Corps) and Driver Wilkins E. from the Training Battalion. The usual remarks re "Welcome" are extended to them.

Departures.—Drivers Coupe W. and Hurley W. to 5th Divisional Signals. On transfer to the Army Reserve, L/Corporal Rayner and Signalmen Mitchell L., Worsfold E., Middleton E., and (at long last) Backshall A. To Chisledon on an Army vocational training course, L/Corpl Taylor L. and Signalmen Oatley and Barnicutt.

Education.—The following are congratulated on their successes as shown. L/Corpl Fenton, special. Sigmn Wilkins H., first.

Extensions, etc.—L/Corpl Shorrocks and Sigmn Softly to complete twelve years. L/Corpl McKenzie for the full course.

Births, etc.—Congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Bairstow on the birth of a son, Norman David, on the 12th May. To Corpl and Mrs. Waite a son, Michael John, on the 20th May. To R.S.M. and Mrs. Bramley a daughter, June Frederika, on the 4th June.

Medals.—C.S.M. Eyres A. W., C.Q.M.S. Knight A. A., Sergt White A. F. and Sigmn Mills G. W. have been awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

The man who said "The pen is mightier than the sword" knew a thing or two, but I don't think he ever tried writing WIRE notes during a very slack period. As most of the Company are still detached, the residue of our personnel have spent the month very quietly. I think the most exciting thing to record is the number of steel helmets a certain individual endeavoured to paint in one day.

Unit Swimming Championships.—At the last moment the results of the unit swimming championships have come to hand, and B Cable Section must be congratulated on winning the swimming cup. Their total number of points was 139 and their nearest rivals only scored 77.5. They well deserved their win.

Arrivals.—The following have joined us from other units and, as usual, they are very welcome. L/Corpl Nicholson and Signalmen Kendall, Yates and Shepherd from S.T.C. Catterick. C.Q.M.S. White from Egypt.

Departures.—Three more sheep have left the fold and ventured into the wilds of civvy street, namely Signalmen Wilson J., Cohen and Brunt. We wish them all the best, and hope they will soon be settled in their new sphere.

Finis.—That's all.

MASKEE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Section training is now in full swing, and a high standard has been maintained throughout. If this standard of work continues, there should be nothing to stop the lads from showing just how things should be done when the more important exercises come off. Our D.R.s certainly did some good work during the War Office exercise at Aldershot last month. By the time these notes are in print we shall be having a rough time on poky drill. Do your stuff this time, lads, and don't let the red flag frighten the bull.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Hunt, Hamilton, Roberts, Leverston-Allen, Salmon, Smith and Jones from Catterick and Driver Narcupp from Egypt.

Departures.—Signalmen Hunt, Ghost and Valentine to civilian street. We wish them the best of luck, and hope they will be able to keep off the dole. Sigmn Bond to Aldershot on a vocational course. Good luck, Charlie: make the best of it.

King's Birthday Parade.—The Company represented the unit on the King's Birthday parade (watch our drill, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies). It is rumoured that we demonstrated to the Garrison how a march past should be "put across."

Births.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Linder on the birth of a daughter, Ann Mignon, on 17/5/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. Jacob on the birth of a daughter, Catherine, on 10/6/34.

Swimming.—A very keen interest was shown in the inter-Section swimming competition, K Section trying hard to retain the trophy. We congratulate B Cable on winning. Hard luck, K! better luck next year.

Sports.—We congratulate the following on their excellent performances in the Garrison v. Cambridge University sports. Sigmn Cox on winning the 120 yards hurdles comfortably in 16 sec. L/Corpl Wilbraham on his good performance in the 220 yards low hurdles. 2/Lieut. Pringle on gaining a second place in the 880 yards, being beaten by three yards in 2 min. 3⅘ sec. Lieut Goldsmith on running a good race in the 440 yards.

We also congratulate the unit team on winning the open medley relay at the K.S.L.I. sports on the 19th May. This is their second win. There is evidently not a team in the Garrison to beat them. The team included 2/Lieut Pringle (880 yards), Lieut Goldsmith (440 yards), and L/Corporals Wilbraham and Haynes (220 yards).

Musick.—A little bird whispers that by the time these notes are in print, we shall have a unit dance band. Would-be musicians are requested to communicate with Joe, c/o Kells and his Beer Barons.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

King's Birthday Parade.—The celebration of the birthday of His Majesty the King was held by the unit on Wednesday 6th June, and as an excellent account was inserted in the local paper, I cannot do better than repeat it.

"The King's Birthday parade was carried out at Burniston Barracks with all due ceremony, and provided an impressive spectacle to the large number of people assembled. Among those present was the Mayor of Scarborough. Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., commanding 5th Divl Signals, took the salute as the Companies marched past the saluting base in column to the strains of a march by the Royal Signals Band, which is on a visit to Scarborough. After the march past, the Companies returned to the position of alignment and fired a feu de joie, followed by the Royal Salute and three cheers for His Majesty. The whole ceremony was carried through with a precision and disciplined regularity worthy of the best traditions of the Army in general and the Royal Signals in particular. The barracks were thrown open to visitors, as witness the large number who attended the parade and showed great interest in everything connected with Army life."

Annual Sports.—The finals of the mounted events took place on the sports ground on Friday afternoon 8th June. There was an exceptionally good attendance, including a large number of visitors, all of whom agreed upon the excellent entertainment provided.

It is rumoured that scouts from Hurlingham are watching L/Sergt C . . . . e, an exceedingly useful member of the Sergeants polo team. The sergeants, by the way, beat the officers at this game, but modesty prevents the winners from disclosing the score. Nevertheless, it was an interesting match and enjoyed by all.

Helped by a gloriously sunny day, the dismounted events provided an attractive afternoon's pleasure on Saturday 9th June. The meeting was carried out with a smoothness that would have done credit to a professional manager. The officials are to be congratulated on their efforts, which obviously must have caused many hours hard work to produce such a display. A very important feature to probably all spectators was the excellent tea which our good friends the N.A.A.F.I. had provided, and nothing but praise could be heard on all sides.

The individual prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Wemyss. The inter-Section shield was also presented by the wife of our popular C.O., and congratulations must be proffered to J Section on their splendid achievement.

The inter-Company cup, kindly given by the officers of the 50th Divl Signals, was presented by Mrs. Walton (wife of the C.O. 50th Divl Signals) to the O.C. No. 3 Company. Captain Jennings was with difficulty persuaded to pose for a photograph with the coveted trophy. The winning of this trophy was a great performance on the part of No. 3 Company, who easily outpointed their rivals.

The loud speaker announcer provided some quite unconscious humour with his instructions. Here are two gems from the great man's collection. "Will any competitor of the R.A. relay team please report *to* the blackboard in the centre of the field." (Of course, we have all heard of ventriloquism, but it is hardly fair to work off that one on the unsuspecting Artillery.) Also, "Children are not to be sent across the course by *any* means." (Now, although we have W/T, L/T and V/T (and sometimes D.T.s) and other methods of despatching messages, we have not yet risen to the heights of transporting children by air or any other way. However, we will consider it for future occasions.)

A race for the old comrades was included in the events of the meeting, and one of the conditions of the race was that competitors were to drink a tankard of beer on the finishing line. Strange to relate, this was missed by the first man to reach the tape. Hard luck, Paddy!

Before passing on, the thanks of all are due to Lieut.-Colonel Hitchcock for the very able manner in which arrangements were made for the sports. To each one present, it was obvious that much thought had been given by him to the welfare and comfort of the men of the unit and their friends.

Old Comrades Reunion.—Arrangements within the unit were made to accommodate the old comrades who travelled to Scarborough from many towns in the north of England. The reception committee met the old comrades and accompanied them to their sleeping quarters and then to the sports field.

Old Comrades Concert.—On Saturday evening the first Old Comrades Association smoking concert, organised by Captain P. Jennings, M.C., was held in the 5th Divl Signals gymnasium. The Royal Signals Band, under Mr. R. R. Ricketts, gave an excellent programme which included solos by certain instrumentalists and male voice singing. A humorous turn "Auctioneering" (?) by Driver McGregor was much enjoyed during the first half of the programme.

After the interval Lieut. W. M. Ponsonby, as "Hungwun" (the Chinese magician), gave a remarkable performance which completely mystified the audience. At the conclusion of the conjuring Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate (C.S.O. Northern Command) clearly outlined the object of the meeting, which was held with a view to forming a Branch of the Old Comrades Association in the north of England, with headquarters in York and sub-Branches in Scarborough, Leeds, Darlington, etc. In concluding his remarks, the Chief Signal Officer thanked Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C. (O.C. 5th Divl Signals) and all who had helped to make this first reunion at Burniston Barracks possible.

Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. (Commandant S.T.C.) then addressed the gathering. He spoke excellently, from the bottom of his heart and with great experience. The Brigadier said in the course of his remarks that "Love of Regiment" must come first; everything else, without that as the first consideration, was useless. He concluded his remarks by hoping that a Branch of the Royal Signals Old Comrades Association would be formed in the north of England, and wished it the best of luck.

The Band followed with an interesting musical piece, "For Service Overseas" (Alford). Then came four young signalmen of No. 1 Company (Messrs. Ewart, Armstrong, Brownley and McNair) as "The Peasholm Koons" in an excellent exhibition of nigger minstrelsy. Their turn was very popular and received much well deserved applause.

"When the Sergeant-Major's on parade," sung by Signalman Tandy (No. 1 Company), concluded the programme, except for some old war favourites revived in community singing, to the accompaniment of the Royal Signals Band, which brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

Old Comrades Church Parade.—On Sunday morning 10th June the old comrades and the unit proceeded to town for a special service conducted by the Assistant Chaplain-General, Northern Command. The sermon, which was delivered with the full force and eloquence of one interested in the troops, appealed strongly to both old comrades and serving soldiers.

Prior to the parade being dismissed, the C.S.O. Northern Command (Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate) expressed his pleasure in seeing so many old comrades in attendance on the formation of the Northern Branch of the Royal Signals Association, and he hoped that the future meetings would show an increase in members. He also spoke of the tradition of the Corps as carried on by the members of the O.C.A. present, and of the example set by them to the serving members of the unit.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following from units as shown, and hope that they will soon appreciate our garden by the sea. Corporal Robinson and Signalmen Boon, Fletcher and Jenkinson from the Training Battalion. Drivers Coupe and Hurley from 3rd Div. L/Corpl Walsh from Egypt Signals. Sigmn Wilson from the Depot Battalion. Pte Sharp from the M.M.P. Aldershot on transfer.

Postings.—Drivers Chalker and Williams have left us for the pleasant surroundings of Salisbury Plain. Anyway, we hope that they will soon settle down at 3rd Div.

Educational Certificates.—We congratulate the following on their successes at the recent special examination in the subjects shown. L/Sergt Gould, physics. L/Corpl Lancaster, English. L/Corpl Dillon, Urdu and physics. Sigmn Hall, physics. Also Sigmn Woodwark on his second class obtained at a recent examination held at Catterick, and to Driver Royal on passing all subjects for his second except maths.

Re-Engagement.—So he has decided to dodge the dole and to carry on in the Service for twenty-one years. Congratulations are extended to L/Corpl Carruthers on his wise decision. May he never regret it.

To Army Reserve.—Yet more leave us for civvy street. This time it is Signalmen Rodwell and Morrison. The best of luck in your new spheres. Let us hope that you will soon settle down to the unpleasant thoughts of work again.

Continuance in the Service.—C.S.M. Waller is continuing in the Service to bring up his total to twenty-one years from the time he completed his boy service.

Courses.—L/Sergt Pinkstone, Corporals Badham, Coaten and McLean, and L/Corpls Lane, Coles and Bergman, having mastered the No. 1 Set course at the School of Signals, have rejoined us and are overflowing with the newly acquired information. You ask them, and see.

Signalmen Hall and McIntosh are now enjoying some of London's delightful weather whilst undergoing a teleprinter course at the G.P.O.

Medals.—We now have three more who have eighteen years undetected! Sergts Rose and Schofield and L/Sergt Small were recently awarded this inspiring gong, which must give some of the junior people a thought, for their many and varied tours over the face of the globe.

Marriages.—So the numbers still increase. This time it is Sigmn Wathen, who recently walked to the altar with Miss Kate Bagley at Andover. We extend our best wishes to the happy pair, and hope that all their troubles may be little ones.

Still the air of Scarborough seems to bring thoughts of wedding rings to the fore, and so we come to Sigmn Sharp, who was recently married to Miss Mabel Eves at Scarborough, and Sigmn Ridley, who elects to run in double harness with Miss Doris Burton, Sergt Challen with Miss Florence George, and Corporal Rigden with Miss Jennie Thompson.

Sergeants Mess.—The members of the 42nd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess paid us visits during their stay at Scarborough for their annual training, and it was a great pleasure to meet many of our old acquaintances and talk over old times.

During the old comrades week-end, it was very evident from the laughter that humorous happenings of the past were being related. No doubt Stingo was responsible for many, for whilst he was a "rough" he must have caused happenings which were not humorous to the personnel under his care. Probably the same can be said of Ben Shaw.

Wise Crack Corner.—During visits of other units to the various training areas, incidents humorous and otherwise happen that are worth relating. During the reading out of the orders for the sentry, one n.c.o. was amplifying the various orders and came to the paragraph detailing the tour of duty. He spoke as follows: "Each tour of duty is of two hours duration, and it has to be done as the Regulars do it, i.e. two hours on and four hours off, not two hours on and then off."

Stop Press.—Who was the man who had fourteen cakes for tea at the sports meeting? A defunct tadpole is offered as a prize for disclosing his identity. A signed statement by three independent witnesses will be required.

In Conclusion.—L/Corpl Macey desires it to be published for information that his red badge worn at the sports was *not* an identification disc in case he lost himself in the wilds of Yorkshire; it was *not* obtained at Crufts, and he indignantly denies suggestions of Pluto, Fido or similar appendages; he is *not* a member of the Teddy Tail League. FIFTHDIV.

No. 4 Artillery Signal Section, Redesdale Camp.

General.—With the arrival of spring, the 5th Divl Signals saw the departure of No. 4 Artillery Signal Section. In other words, on the 5th April the Section proceeded by road from Scarborough to Catterick to join the 20th Field Brigade R.A. for summer training. Why we should leave Scarborough just at the commencement of the season we have no idea, unless it is to provide a little extra room for visitors on the sands and in the sea.

After a short stay at Catterick for overhauling stores, lorries, etc., we again put on our equipment and drifted northwards over the border and into Bonny Scotland. There we were attached to the 16th Field Brigade R.A. at Piershill Barracks, Edinburgh. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed their stay there, which lasted six weeks, and were all sorry to leave; in fact, the majority of the Section are praying hard that we get sent back there.

Several schemes were carried out with the 16th Field Brigade R.A. at Dreghorn and King's Park. The Section gained 100% marks for the work carried out, but this was only to be expected. You have to do a scheme in the park to realise how pleasant it can be. Although we were not pressed for operators, if needed we could have utilised a few of the spectators who seemed to derive their daily entertainment from watching hubby earn his C.R.A. Having the wife at hand inspires one to do great things: the job is done in record time so that hubby can get near the missus again.

On the 24th May the lorries were again loaded up, but this time all civvies were put away and all P.P.s handed in to the Section office. City life was left behind; we recrossed the border and finally stopped at Redesdale (where they make 'em tough). Take it from me, readers, Catterick is ideal compared with Redesdale; the nearest pub is four miles away! Our stay at Redesdale is to last for fourteen days, and there is plenty of work for us to do before we again return to Catterick and the 20th Field Brigade R.A., where P.P.s and civvies will again come into use.

The Chief Signal Officer of the Scottish Command is to visit us on the 4th June. The Section have no doubts that he will go away quite pleased with all that he has seen, as we are all feeling full of beans and very Certa Cito-ish.

Sports.—During our stay at Edinburgh, sports tests were carried out during the early morning P.T. hour in preparation for the 5th Divisional Signals annual sports. Several good times were recorded in different events, so we have hopes of being represented at Scarborough.

Whilst we have been at Redesdale we have had one game of football against the Gunner Signallers, the score being 2—2 after a very enjoyable game.

Short Story.—You have all heard the tale of the five loaves and three fishes. How does this compare with it? Whilst at Edinburgh, the Section was notified that there would be a scheme at Dreghorn—just a small affair with a couple of tanks—and all that would be needed was just a short line from Brigade H.Q. to the tanks. An Austin with one drum of D.ii. cable and an operator would be quite sufficient. But our O.C. had the presence of mind to send out more than that; and imagine our surprise when we saw not a couple of tanks but twenty of 'em, with a Brigade of Artillery, a Regiment of Cavalry and an Infantry Battalion—not to mention two thousand spectators. Our short line developed into six, each averaging one mile in length. Well done, Signals!

Scotch Corner.—Sigmn Moore, late of K Section, Scarborough, would like news of Sigmn Griffiths, believed to be in Peshawar.

Sigmn Malone has just found a stamp, so his call to Sigmn Brooks via this column is cancelled.

To Corpl Gratwicke: What about the Uniacke now? Paddy.

To Sigmn Smith K., A Corps, Karachi: Signalman Squince wouldn't mind hearing if Smudger is still living—or has the sun got at him?

Casualties.—Corpl Perkins H. married Miss E. Southern at Darlington on the 7th April. L/Corpl Grafton is about to follow suit, and there is also a rumour that Corpl Barnicott is thinking about it. (I wonder if the food we are getting has anything to do with it?)

Conclusion.—Join the Army and see the world. There is a lot of truth in that invitation as far as this Section is concerned, and we all hope that late members are having as good a time as we are. POL.

G Artillery Signal Section, Newcastle.

General.—The Sections of No. 2 Company have now drifted apart once more for the training season, and consequently I am called upon to carry on the good work of Section scribe, so here goes.

The Section arrived safe and sound at Forth Cattle Dock on Wednesday 2nd May after a pleasant and comfortable journey. The weather was exceedingly kind to us and spared us the ordeal of a cold shower bath en route. We have to thank the 24th Field Brigade for the splendid accommodation provided for us at Fenham Barracks.

Training.—After a few days we settled down to work, and started off with one or two minor schemes in the miniature range before finally demonstrating our talent on the Town Moor. Everything is going off satisfactorily and a complete understanding and co-operation is being established with the Brigade. This will all help towards establishing perfect communication and co-operation during practice camp at Redesdale. We hope so!

Bright Spots.—We have one or two newcomers to the Section who are in Newcastle for the first time, but the old timers have soon made them quite at home and introduced them into the family circle, so to speak. Oh, yes, they nearly all manage to get their feet under the table here.

Two or three route marches have been carried out, the mileage gradually increasing. This has had a tendency to increase the stamina of the men, so they are feeling quite tough hombres now. "Never mind, old chicken; it will help to bring the grease out of your boots."

Sport.—Our services have been called for to help the Garrison cricket team, and two of our men have demonstrated their talent in this direction. L/Corpl Kelly J. scored fourteen runs and Sigmn Beech N. took two wickets for seven runs in the match against Van Bede on the 23rd May.

Swimming.—This pastime has just been taken up, and we have one or two likely lads. We hope to teach the non-swimmers this noble art. After all, every man should be able to swim.

We Would Like to Know.—Who was the man who opened his mouth and emptied the bath on swimming parade?

This Month's Chestnut.—O.C.: "Have you registered for the vote?" Driver: "Yes, sir." O.C.: "Where?" Driver (misinterpreting question as "Have you registered for the boat?") "Egypt, sir."

Nominal Roll.—For the benefit of readers who have lost touch with their comrades, the following roll of the Section is published.

Officer commanding, Lieut. W. D. Weir.

2314360	Sergt Wilmot H.	2322329	Sigmn Mellor T.
2309768	L/Sergt Williams A.	2321019	Sigmn McWilliams J.
2316212	L/Corpl Kelly J.	775948	Sigmn McKenzie M.
2318415	L/Corpl Ford T.	2319414	Sigmn Northall J.
2315947	L/Corpl Heighton E.	2317970	Sigmn Nash R.
2320944	Sigmn Beech N.	2310617	Sigmn Potts C.
2322471	Sigmn Bristow L.	2320809	Sigmn Robson R.
2318562	Sigmn Dawes S.	2321903	Driver Royal S.
2318402	Sigmn Deaville E.	2319575	Sigmn Stanley T.
2322022	Sigmn Hopkinson F.	2320868	Sigmn Skinner J.
2318146	Driver Hurst J.	2320286	Driver Tinham A.
4446527	Sigmn McConnell J.	789520	Driver Woolveridge V
2320463	Sigmn Myatt W.	2319911	Driver Walker J.
2320755	Sigmn Munden A.		

BACHY GEE.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—This heat wave has made us feel thoroughly lazy. In other words, we apologise for the absence of notes from N.I.D. in the last issue of THE WIRE.

The Garrison has been sadly depleted, the infantry having gone to Ballykinler to undergo annual training. "The intelligence of the Army" can now be seen doing Garrison orderly officer, Regimental policeman, and fire experts. Variety is the spice of life, but a little too much spice gives one indigestion.

The Company go to Ballykinler on Wednesday 20th June. We have resurrected A sets, D.iii.s and the little odds and ends that are deemed essential for warfare.

The annual drafting return having been submitted, one can hear laddies saying "I wonder if I shall go to Punkee this year!" and among stalwart n.c.o.s three years home "I wonder. . . . . ?" However, we can only do as Asquith: wait with patience.

We were jolly glad to see Captain Firth and the D.R. team from Catterick put up such a good performance at the Agricultural Show.

Promotions.—The only increase in pay expected is that given us by Mr. Chancellor. (Why didn't we join in 1924?)

Trade Ratings.—The following operators were upgraded at the last Trade Board: L/Corporals Whilding and Blount and Signalmen Hedley and Smart to B.ii. Sigmn Watts to B.iii. Well done!

Sport.—Thanks to L/Corporals Thomson and Blount, we have raked up a cricket eleven with some success. It is hoped to give an account of their prowess in later notes.

Arrival.—Sigmn Coram from Tidworth. He seems to know Ireland, and we wish him as good a stay as his last.

Trifle.—Taken on charge w.e.f. 2/6/34, one duty rooster. This is not shown on the Company inventory. However, there is a little place outside Derry, and they say they have one. Any unit wishing to acquire same should apply to Light and Dark, The Sands Co., Derry. Oh! it is a day-on day-off affair.

On the recent trade test, one unconscious Irishman passed the remark, "That is a long short, ain't it?" He just managed the flick and throw.

Altogether, the Irish nationality is about twenty per cent of the unit's strength and is responsible for twenty per cent of the wit. Seated at breakfast over a Canadian dish, only this morning, one D.R. remarked to another "Shure, his name is Blobbs." The second D.R. enquired what was his Christian name. The first one, who had a rich brogue, scratched his head and then remarked, perfectly blandly, "Signalman."

An innocent and harmless operator told an instructor that x numbers were things that disturbed the ether and caused bad reception. (I bet A.G.6 would like him on their staff to supply a little humour for future Volume V.s.)

Come on, out stations! how about contributing a little humour and sense for the Company notes. One will expect to find you all growing beards and calmly waiting for a pontoon, or perhaps disturbing letters from Records (initial and return, please).

Omagh have again moved their station back into the officers mess, to sniff pleasant odours from the kitchen. At any rate, it is nearer the Depot dining room, so there shouldn't be such a rush for breakfast.

Our D.R.s were quite envious of the bikes of the Display team. In fact, it has been rumoured (but only) that they attempted to imitate the stunts. We have had one or two accident reports filled in of late.

Tell . . . E . . .—To Wilber, 1st Div.: Art suffering from writer's cramp? Tubbs.

801576: Where . . . and what about a line? Worboys.

To Sergt Murray: Ye olde business, eh, Bob? Tos.

Tailpiece.—Yes . . . they are rotten. Sorry!

HEC ME.



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—R.S.M. McIntosh from U.K. to A.H.Q. Simla. Sigmn McCarthy D. from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Departures.—Sigmn Purdue A. to B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Course.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Ellison D. on passing the fourth S. and A.T. Course at Chaklala.

Promotions.—Sigmn Bassford and Hampson to be U/L/Cpls. Keep it up, lads.

Corporals Mess.

We extend the glad hand to Corpl Meldrum (Depot limpet), L/Corporals Wright and Richardson, and L/Corpl Croucher and family.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Roberts on winning the all ranks handicap singles, and to L/Corpl Jennings on being chosen as runner-up in the Jubbulpore beauty competition. Are you sure it was not the Agricultural Show you attended, Emil?

L/Corpl Campbell has departed to Peshawar District Signals, and presumably that unit has a golf course by now. Good luck, champ!

We are sorry to lose the members of the "S" Course. A jolly crowd and a lively one. Cries for lemon and chocolate have taken the place of "Just another round, marker," but all good days have to come to an end, so here's to the start of another spasm. Q.

Shikar: Spotlight Spots Spotted "Spottie."

Many and varied are the excuses made by would-be game hunters in order to cover poor shooting when an absolute sitter fails to bring anything for the pot. The writer has more than fifty simple ones "on tap" from which he draws quite frequently, but for the first time he has heard someone say "Thank goodness I didn't get it!"—and mean it. Perhaps the hunter in the following episode had visions of two other noble animals appearing on the scene, namely a fine old bull and cow. However, this tale is true, and all Jubbites will undoubtedly be interested, as the hunt took place in barracks.

At about 23.45 hours the occupants of married quarters near the sergeants mess were disturbed by the noise of an animal or animals prowling around the mess rubbish bin. One daring shikari crept out with his twelve-bore and found another brave lad perched precariously in a machan (his bed, he having been sleeping outside) with a fearsome creature standing in the beam of a focussed spotlight. Our bloodthirsty shikari was unable to see the animal clearly from his angle of approach, and was persuaded to fire along the light beam. Taking the advice of the light holder and "firing by instinct in the general direction of the target," he let drive.

At the first shot the creature leapt about six feet in the air and disappeared round the mess. On investigation it was found that a hit had been registered, and in true sportsmanlike manner the blood-spattered trail was followed up with the intention of putting "paid" to the prowler's account. It was found to lead to No. 2 Bungalow, and lo and behold! there it was, sitting on the verandah smothered in blood but still very much alive. It wasn't a tiger or a panther, but just "Spottie," peppered from nose to tail, with a coat like an aertex vest, and tail still wagging.

It was then that our shikari exclaimed "Thank goodness I didn't get it!"—for he was extremely sorry and no doubt wished he had used his air pistol instead of a twelve-bore. He straightway offered his sincere apologies to the owner of "Whipsnade," but many still think there is something fishy about it.

Yes, Gil, you are quite right; it was him.

The Game of Patience.

At Jubbulpore, in the days gone by,
On the Sergeants Mess verandah,
They spoke of darts and pokey die
Or such less propaganda.

But now it's changed, and one will hear
Of the special kind of club
That one should use when he appears
At a hill on the links at Jubb.

Instead of five aces or a double two,
Whichever the case was then,
It's "Whoopee! this morning I holed in two"—
(I suggest 'twas nearer ten.)

With mashies, niblicks, posh new spoons
And bags that sag with their weight,
They fight their way out o'er the dunes
And ne'er return till late.

When the day is o'er you'll hear them say,
As they stagger back to the lawn,
"Only two up and one to play"—
And fourteen new balls gone.

Now someone has presented a cup
For which they all are fighting,
Handicaps down and handicaps up,
But the mozzies win—they're biting.

To drive a ball three hundred yards
Is a feat to which they aspire;
Then someone shouts "Say, pards,
To-day I holed in one." Liar!

So now you know the latest game
That's raging in the Mess;
And though we fight our way to fame,
It's an awful patience test.

THE MUTT.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

General.—Readers of THE WIRE will no doubt begin to think that this unit has been disbanded, but this is not so. The absence of our notes of late is entirely due to the scribe not having settled down to life in the hills.

The above address will show that the unit is at present in the hills. Those readers who have not yet experienced a season in an Indian hill station should put their names down for a unit in the Northern Command. Life up here is very enjoyable—plenty of work and, when the weather permits, plenty of recreation. At the present time all and sundry are well employed on upgrading courses. In addition to the personnel of this unit, there are also fifty n.c.o.s and men from other units in the Northern Command trying hard for that little bit of extra pice that means so much in these hard days.

The weather so far has been quite good, permitting of plenty of sport. Details of these have not yet been submitted by our worthy sports editor, but a cartoon of the second round of the Buffalo football tournament game versus the 8th Armoured Car Company R.T.C. is enclosed with these notes. [A block was made from this cartoon, but exceptional pressure on space in this record issue of 56 pages compels us to hold it over until next month.—ED.]

There have been several dances, the corporals having had two goes to make money (they have some really fine port at eight annas per chota peg!) The R.A.F. have held their weekly dances in Lower Topa. I understand that these have been well attended by Signals. The journey home from Lower Topa is by way of a short cut, but our police staff have been very obliging inasmuch as they have supplied the lights. This, of course, has nothing to do with a certain lineman who, wishing to know what it felt like to be a typist, tried every machine on the hill (£500). Never mind, Busty! that elusive "S" will turn up somewhere.

B.O.R.s Messing.—The general satisfied appearance of all junior n.c.o.s and men is sufficient thanks to those responsible for the present messing arrangements. Dainty items such as strawberries and cherries appear frequently in the daily bill of fare, not to mention stewed fruit and corn flakes for breakfast.

Arrivals and Departures.—It has been read that contributions to the WIRE very often resemble Part II. Orders. As it is so long since Bekor appeared, I think it will be sufficient to say "Welcome to all new arrivals, and the best of luck to all who have left us."

M.A. Roll.—Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. Clarke on the arrival of a son at Murree on 10/4/34; to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs Fleming on the arrival of a daughter at Murree on 19/4/34; and last, but not least, to Corpl (Buck) and Mrs. Taylor on the arrival of twins at Fareham on 20/2/34.

Sergeants Mess.—Our summer home is now more or less straight, and all things are progressing along the correct lines. The weekly whist drives and dances have started, and after considerable "fiddling" with the new electric gramophone and sorting out suitable records, good results are now being obtained. The attendance has not overcrowded the space available, but we hope for more later.

Corporals Mess.—We welcome to the fold the following on reaching the dizzy height of U/L/Corporal: Signalmen Wild, Hoare, Banks, Martin, Mallett, Locke and Hamilton. Also one ping pong table, complete with champions (will Tich Webb ever learn to serve?)

Ceremonial.—On Monday 4th June, the unit celebrated the King's birthday by a parade on Gharial Flats, in company with the 93rd Highlanders. Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., our C.O., was in command, and although it was not such a parade as we have in Rawalpindi, it was nevertheless very picturesque with the wee Jocks in their kilts. (I have just heard that it would have been more picturesque without their kilts. I wonder?) After the parade, the rest of the day was observed as a holiday. The members of the Sergeants Mess were entertained by R.Q.M.S. Mitchell, who had been presented with his rooti gong.

During the afternoon Colonel Yule and the officers were at home to members of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess and their families. This was a particularly enjoyable outing, the children especially making themselves at home. Major Newton displayed his usual organising abilities to great effect.

Late News from Upper Hollywood.—Heard in the dance hall: "What do you think of our police, Greta?" "I tink your p'licemen are vonderful; I tink I go back to Wouriston."

Grand Finale.—Owing to a special elbow raising contest in the Sergeants Mess, I must be on hand to start off scratch.

BOB.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Wednesday 9th May.

General.—The hot weather season having arrived, the married families have once again proceeded to the dumps. A few B.O.R.s have also gone up on courses and duties, and the thoughts of higher ratings are uppermost in everyone's mind. Even those who are staying on the Plains are now working at high pressure in readiness for the next Trade Testing Board.

Sport.—The games at present played in the unit are far too numerous to be reported individually, and only a few words can be said about each. The hockey has improved tremendously, and if the improvement continues, great hopes will be entertained of going beyond the semi-finals of the tournaments such as the Lintott shield. That is as far as has generally been managed in these tournaments in the past. At the present time a Hockey and Soccer League is in full swing, and this will be reported at length in our next contribution. Some very keen games have been witnessed so far, and a great deal of humorous banter is heard from the different sides of the field during the games.

The First Eleven are now playing excellent hockey, and some first class games are witnessed amongst their many fixtures. As these are too numerous to report, these few general remarks will have to suffice.

Entertainments.—With the departure of the families to the hills and the advent of the warmer weather, the B.O.R.s Dance Club ceased to function for a month. They are now trying to put on a few whist drives and dances on the men's tennis courts, but it is feared that the stuffiness of the nights, combined with the efforts of the mosquitoes, will not tend to help things along. We wish the committee every success, and hope that our fears are not well founded.

The Old Comrades Association held a grand dance in the Ordnance Club on the 2nd April. This proved a great success, the benefit of which will be shown in the near future by a cheque to the General Secretary. Our heartiest congratulations are tendered to the committee on the work put in to make the evening such a success as it was, and it is to be hoped that they will start functioning much earlier next cold weather season.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Stringer from 4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry. Sigmn Bancroft from A Corps Signals, Karachi. C.Q.M.S. Young and Sigmn Mullins from E.W.S. Cherat. To all of them we extend a hearty welcome. We hope their stay with us will be long and happy.

Departures.—Sigmn Rowely to S.T.C. (I) Jubbulpore. Sigmn Lock W. to A Corps Signals, Karachi. To them we wish every success in their new unit.

Personal.—Best of luck and good wishes to the Cads at No. 2 W/T Company, Palestine, and the Chief Cad at Aden. Patiently awaiting photos from the latter.

To E Troop Signals: Congratulations! the two years wait was long and wearing. C.V.S.

ONEDIV.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Sunday 27th May.

Now that the weather is stoking up, the married folk and the course people have left us for more temperate climes. It is now possible to get a word or two in, and we must first, on behalf of the Troop, congratulate the Royal Signals polo team on their success in the Abbottabad spring polo tournament—the first important polo tournament won by Royal Signals. Considering that practice for this game is limited so far as a regular team is concerned, and that the four members (Captain C. M. F. White, Mr. L. D. M. Patterson, Mr. A. M. W. Whistler and Mr. G. S. Knox) had to come from various outstations, the result is most creditable.

Well, the musketry season has come and gone, and in spite of the usual flags and disappointment, I am of the opinion that the Troop will retain for another year the Scissors trophy which we won for the season 1933-34.

The craze nowadays is Dubern sounder and operator signals: at least, the usual people have been settling down to it in case of the necessity of having to take over Government telegraphs. As this necessity is not anticipated before October, roll on the March boat!

Sigmn Flowers A. has arrived on posting from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. He will, of course, complete the garage strength, but he has made a conspicuous start by appearing in the stables. What a man!

Mechanisation of the Troop has begun in earnest, starting with a Chevrolet and a Morris. Mechanics and assistants can be seen turning nuts and screws all day long, preparing for the evening run to the pictures. The days of the tongas are leaving us.

One of my subscribers would like to get in touch with a Signals pioneer who is able to give some information on the customs and characteristics of native tribes in India. As he is going home in the next trooper, he intends to take a third helping the following year in order to locate these weird Wigan wonders. He would like to point out that snaps and stamps are a speciality.

Will any of my readers who would like to join the Troop apply at once? Qualification necessary: good footballer—essentially a forward—capable of scoring and forgetting about it. Can be accommodated anywhere in the forward line. I hope to be away in the khuds when this edition is published.

By the way, for the information of Villa and Wednesday supporters (to be exact, Signalmen Managhan, Deaville and Rushton of B Corps Signals): What price the Arsenal now? KHANA.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Wednesday 23rd May.

Arrival.—Sigmn Thomson E. from Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat—the one and only Spud, of Khajuri 1930-31 fame, returned to the fold once more.

Departures.—L/Corporals Bartlett G. and Stonehouse R. to B Corps Signals. I am sure the Corporals Room will miss the smiling cherubic face of the latter n.c.o.

Weather.—This must be mentioned, as it is most abnormal. May—and the temperature still below 90 degrees, besides owing a few inches of rain! The old hands are in their glory now. "Never been like this since 190—" etc.

Amusement Park.—(1) A certain disorderly room issued a movement order. Inscribed thereon was "Railway warrant and L.R.C. will be collected *for* the orderly room." It is quite probable—and has been voiced in various quarters—that it (the O.R.) *could* do with a move, anyway!

(2) Apropos the much discussed Indian rope trick, perhaps several of the past and present members of the unit will remember *our* rope tricks (modified for India, of course) as performed on sundry drill parades, and the n.c.o.s who preferred to skip over instead of doubling round the platoons when advances and retreats, etc., were ordered.

(3) Punkha Chadda reading "Razzle."

(4) The following is an extract from an Indian dentist's advertisement in a local paper: "Your sweet smile won't be charming if your teeth are bad and gums spongy. Free consultation. Concessions to working girls and sergeants. . . ." I wonder what sergeants have done to deserve that?

Movements.—U/L/Corpls Peacock F., Butler F., Rumford G. and Mitchell W. to the Corporals Room and future fame.

Entertainments.—Under the auspices of the local branch of the Signals Association, whist drives, snooker and billiard competitions are being successfully continued. Lord Chadda of Ewart (late Sir William Chadda of Jubbulpore) is very prominent in all functions—bless his little heart and his quartermaster's compound.

Sports.—As two gentlemen have kindly offered to "sport," their efforts depicting the unit's prowess will be found in the appropriate columns.

The Snoop's Refrain.—"Oooooh! ooooooh! I'm a night owl!"

Crosswords.—[We regret that pressure on space in this record issue of 56 pages has compelled us to hold over the Crossword Puzzle sent in by the Unit Correspondent. It will be used next month.—ED.]

Books Worth Reading.—"English Journey" (Priestley); "Holy Deadlock" (Herbert); "Seven Men Came Back" (Deeping); "Child of Norman's End" (Raymond).

Great Thoughts.—From a series of saws submitted by a WIRE correspondent in 1928, I have culled "Don't try to 'down' a man who knows more about a subject than you do." This kind of thing happens quite a lot, both in civil and military spheres. A fellow more educationally and technically efficient than his superiors often gets "sat on" for knowing more than he should. I suppose jealousy is at the root of it all, but there is no getting away from the fact that in business and sport, and also in the Services, the man with brains and ability should not be deliberately overlooked, while someone else who takes the wife out to dinner when the boss wants to go on the spree at the club, or the soldier who digs the sergeant-major's garden, gets the curried favours. There is no honest earthly reason for it. Perhaps favouritism, good looks and obstinacy fit in, however. "To err is human, to forgive divine"; but to forgive the irrational errors of giving inferior men the chances in life would be ultra-divine.

Promotions.—As usual.

L'Envoi.—"Come up and see me some time." MIIM.

L Section, Landi Kotal.

General.—During the past month the Section had its usual spring outing, hiking out to Torra Tigga and Ben's Camp to lay the line in readiness for the occupation of Ben's Camp by the local infantry battalion. This work was completed in good time after having a few breaks, but tempers and stomachs were getting out of phase, so with many cries of "Could you eat a bun, soldier?" we adjourned to Torra Tigga for a snack.

The Section was visited during the month by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. This was his final visit before proceeding home.

Two of our No. 1 sets were attached to the British infantry battalion for the purpose of giving officers and signallers instruction in operating. One of these sets was sent to Ben's Camp with L/Corpl Collett in charge. We wondered if he would be quite comfortable in his new quarters, but by all reports he evidently was. We were sorry that we could not supply him with the necessary panama hat and the straws with which to imbibe his drinks.

Training.—One can still hear all the queer noises associated with courses emanating from the lecture room. It is rumoured that some of our pupils are applying for jobs as reporters for their local rags.

Entertainments.—Crooner Gardner and his Terrors are still performing. The present leading man in the dramatic society commonly known as the Khyber Terrors is "Just Smith," who plays the part of the village idiot with great success. Well-known critics say that his success is due to the fact that he plays this particular part so naturally!

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corpl (Rusty) Rumford on his promotion to that rank.

Odds and Ends.—Wilkie's wireless set.

Heard in the Class Room.—Instructor: "By what three methods can you obtain a receipt for a message?" Sweet Young Thing: "N.B.W., I.C.W. and by any other method." You can take it from me that this is not fiction. If you don't believe it, go and ask Willy, er Wat—kin his name be?

Stop Press.—To L/Corpl Wright H. R. (believed to be in Jubbulpore): What about it? Jenk. COLOSSAL TWO.

Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Headquarters.

Thursday 7th June.

Since our last news was given, the only excitement in D.I.K. before we left for Razmak with District Headquarters was the evacuation of the families to their various mountain tops.

H.Q. moved to Razmak by lorry on the 23rd April—a tedious journey, since the lorries appear to become tired in high altitudes. The contents of the Sergeants Mess lorry were leaking, leaving a homely aroma on the road. The Mess are to be congratulated on the small amount of gear they apparently require for the hot weather: only seven pieces (all the property of Mr. McEwan). Razmak Section have made us very comfortable in their estate.



Convoy at Sararogha.

The Razmak Spring Race Meeting was held in the morning on Saturday 12th May, having been postponed on account of rain the previous afternoon. In the Razmak Derby (four furlongs) open to any mule and ridden by anybody, Signalmen Ponnuswami and Narainswami represented the unit. They both finished the course, about half way up in a field of twenty-nine.

In the Grand Piccadilly, Sergt Read rode the unit blood 'oss. In spite of repeatedly changing the name of this animal, the Gurkha Brigade still recognise him and he started a hot favourite with the unit money on him. After about a furlong he apparently changed shape, the saddle slipping back and finishing under his belly. Sergt Read came in fourth, despite having to ride bareback for three quarters of the race.



Razmak Races.

We are all sorry that this will be the last time Sergt Read will ride in these races, as he is shortly off to Sialkot. Our new jockey is to be disguised as an M.T. driver on holiday, so that once again the blood 'oss should pay us well on the tote.

From the description of his fancy win by an Indian other rank, it is not known if he was backing Sergt Read or the horse.

During the Meeting, the only really lucky member of the unit was Naik Ragupathi, who won R.s 120/- in the sweep on one race. His feet touched the ground three times between the pay out tent and the Post Office!

A dozen of Wana Section came over for the races and a game of football. We hope they will come again and often.

Upgrading courses under Captain Wall are proceeding, in addition to our ordinary work.

A detachment has, as usual, been left in Fort Akalgarh to man a wireless station. The first part of the hot weather has been so unusually cool on the Plains that this detachment actually wanted to stay down there! No good: they must come up!

Razmak Signal Section.

Apologies.—The absence of notes from this Section in recent issues is regretted, but we hope again to become regular subscribers to the Corps Journal.

Arrivals.—Since the last appearance of our notes, a number of changes have taken place.

The Section is now commanded by Captain R. H. Wall, recently arrived from England (but not for the first time) and he is supported by Lieut. R. G. Yolland (late B Corps Signals) as second in command. Sergt Woolhouse has taken over the duties of A/C.S.M. on posting from H.Q. Section, in place of Sergt Penny, who after a short stay with us has gone to W.E.S. Cherat.

The following joined the Section on arrival from England during the trooping season: L/Sergt Isaac, Corpl Moore and Signalmen Wyatt and Read. Sergt Cadell from 1st Indian Divsigs and Corpl Ferdinando from H.Q. Section.

To all the above, the Section extend the glad hand and hope they will enjoy their sojourn in Razmak.

Courses.—These are being held for operators and D.R.s of H.Q. and Razmak Brigade Sections, and if rumour is right, they are all bent on getting that extra sixpence per diem at the conclusion.

More Arrivals.—Great activity prevailed in the lines for a few days last month, preparation being in progress for the arrival of H.Q. Section from D.I.Khan. They arrived on the 23rd and quickly settled in for the summer. From remarks overheard, we gather that they are appreciating their stay in this "health resort."

Social Calls.—Twelve members of Wana Signal Section arrived on Friday 11th May, when a football match was played. Owing to the adverse conditions the football did not reach the usual standard, but in spite of a soaking the game was enjoyed by all, the result being 1—1.

It is hoped that visits will be made by the other Sections, and that Wanasigs will "come up and see us" again.

Columns.—Two columns have been out recently, the first being to Sararogha, when the 1st Battalion Devonshire Regiment was brought in by Razcol. This battalion has come from Quetta to relieve the Highland Light Infantry, who after eighteen months in the station have moved to Peshawar.

On the second column, to Razani and Lawargi Narai, we had Major Roberts, our commanding officer, with us. He appeared to enjoy the outing, and was pleased with the work of the Section. We hope you will come out with us again, sir.

Bannu Brigade Signal Section.

Thursday 31st May.

During the past month, the main event has been the inspection of Bannu Brigade by Field-Marshal Sir Philip Chetwode, Commander-in-Chief in India. On the practice ceremonial parade, the Section were complimented on their drill and march past. After the actual parade, the Brigade Commander particularly complimented the Section. The turn out, drill and steadiness on parade, he said, were excellent, and the march past left nothing to be desired. Credit for this was due to both B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s, who worked extremely hard on the drill parades prior to the inspection. Up to a few weeks previously the Section had always performed the duties of flag markers, and had not been considered for inclusion in any ceremonial parade.

Sport.—A visit by the R.A.F. from Miram Shah was a welcome change. They played us at football and hockey. We were beaten by 5—0 at football, but were not able to field a full side. In the hockey match we drew, each side scoring one goal. We hope to be able to give them a return visit in the near future—and beat them.

Although our hockey and football teams have been weakened by the departure of most of our good players, we nevertheless have now a new hockey side which is improving rapidly. The fact that we have won six out of our last seven matches proves this.

Weather.—At the moment of writing, the weather is heating up rapidly. After an exceptionally cool first three weeks in May, we have now reached a temperature of 109 degrees at mid-day.



Aerial view of McQueen Lines, Kohat District Signals.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

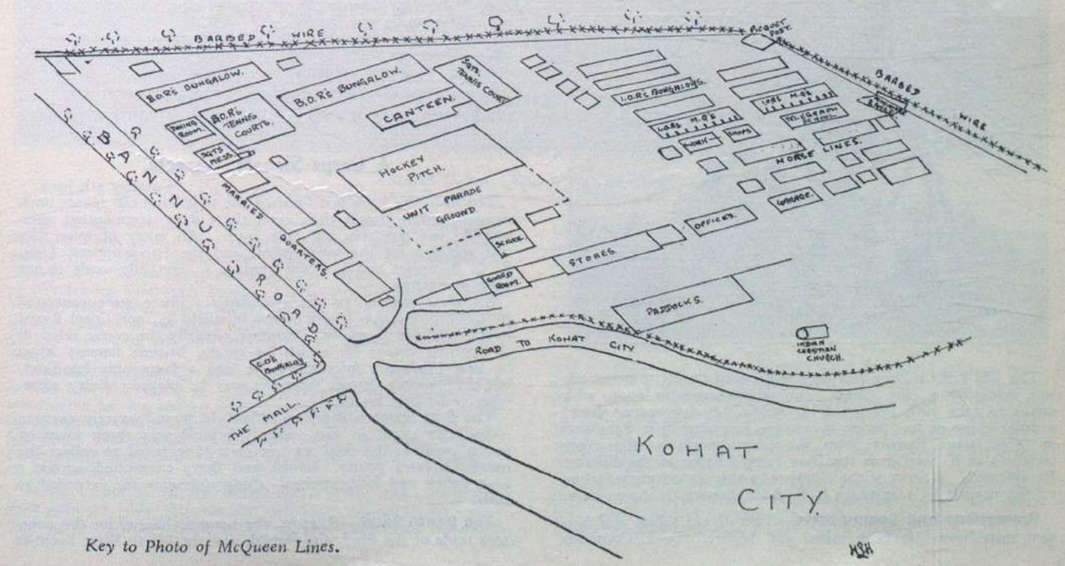
The merry month of Mae (she'll be here shortly at our talkie house de luxe) in Kohat is far from being merry, for there is very little on the programme. With no ladies here, there are consequently no dances, no whist drives, no concerts, and therefore no merriness in our May. At this time of the year it is always the same, and we are now resigned to adapting ourselves to these summer conditions when the sun come in with force but the sunshine goes out.

The month has not, however, been entirely a "maiden over"—hence these few notes to keep us in the picture and appease the wrath of those many enquirers at home.

Firstly, I must again draw attention to the transformation which is slowly taking place in the unit lines. The whole of the ground in front of our married quarters is being put under cultivation, either as vegetable gardens or as flower patches; and the front of the guard room is shortly to assume the splendour of the choice corner of a park. Plots of grass, hedgerows, rockeries, herbaceous borders and irrigation channels are to be

PLAN OF MC QUEEN LINES.

KOHAT DISTRICT SIGNALS.



Key to Photo of McQueen Lines.

found snuggling into position at every spare corner. The ration stand has not yet started its window-box effect, though we are considering using the cells as a greenhouse for forcing the weaker plants into blossom. Amateur gardeners are not encouraged to take the plunge in this direction. This Brighter Kohat movement will take a year or so to develop, but if plans go well our lines will be the best in the station. Encouraged by the GGG (Government garden grant) we intend to HHH (hustle home horticulture).

Accompanying these notes is a recent aerial view of the whole camp which tends to show quite well the excellent lay-out and some of the bits o' green which we are calling gardens. This photograph, together with the plan, should make all old Kohatites homesick, and all prospective Kohatites wish they had come to India before (?)

Another great movement afoot is the daily swim. This has assumed the nature of a Lido parade of late, for 60 per cent. of the unit can be found at the R.A.F. bath in the evening. We have also been granted the privilege of using the bath of the Kohat Games Club, which, though rather small, is well fitted with diving boards and a trapeze, and therefore lends itself to an interesting swim. This bath has recently been lined with snowcrete, and in consequence sinister forms, both slim and corpulent, can be seen gliding happily in its cool wetness to avoid "getting a sweat on." Incidentally, we have a tyred swimming picquet guarding the deep end.

With this wave of swimming that has broken over us has come the need for cycles to travel to and from the baths. One foresees cycling picnics, trips up to Kohat Pass—and the monthly instalment to be paid. There's sure to be a catch in it

Owing to the change over of the musketry year, we have had to get down right away to our 1934-35 firing. By dint of concentrated instruction for the weaker shots of the unit, we have got rid of the shooting pains which attacked us last year. This previous instruction, together with well-arranged range details (consisting of firing very early in the cool of the morning, a chae-wallah at 300 yards and breakfast at 350 yards), made even the blind men of the unit get their eyes down to the target, and good results have followed. We lost the Scissors cup last year, but are aiming well for it this year ; that is, if the casuals do not fire too casually. Our results so far are that out of 157 who have fired, we have 133 first class shots and 24 second class, with no thirds. The firing took place over the Whitsun week-end, and methinks some must have thought they were up for the grouse season in Texas, for they got their "bull" every time.



The Old Lady's Nose has been conquered again. One attack was made by a lone ranger, our schoolmaster to boot, who seems to take such things in his stride. A day or two later, another party of four made the attack just after first light and at 07.55 hours flashed down the Corps motto to the eager watchers of K Section at the Base camp (shades of the Everest Expedition!) A snap of the climbers in the second party, taken on the summit by Lieutenant J. T. Addenbrooke, is shown here.

Promotions and Commotions.—Two of our tallest and biggest men have just been raised still higher. To L/Corporals Gunn and McMahon we offer our congratulations, but the roll will roll for a long time before some rupees roll your way for the stripe.

Aoings and Jaoings.—We welcome Sigmn Barden W. from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, and Signalmen Scott and Pask from 4th Indian Divisional Signals, to swell our ranks of D.R.s—and sentries. L/Corpl Ditchfield J. from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals will fit very nicely into our canteen and late pass n.c.o.s roll.

Lieut C. H. Barker has popped home to England for two months leave. Hardly worth it, says one. Every time, says we.

The boat list for the 1934-35 trooper is on view, and consequently many smiling faces can be seen wreathed in supercilious smirks of pity for those who must soldier on. It was ever thus. No sooner has one lot gone than another is ready to go. The twenty fortunate men on the list no doubt feel that they could row home if necessary, but as October draws nearer, their vision of a rowing boat will be dimmed by the streamlines and capacious cabin accommodation of the *Neversweat*. Already they have that air of "I'm peeping at India through the eyes of a lighthouse." Meanwhile they must help us do our guards.

Despite this correspondent's previous warnings about knots and knotty problems, we hear of marriages and permission to marry in respect of some of our men at present on leave. The cynic's remarks are old, but still true, that as she walks up the aisle she still chants "Aisle altar hymn."

Training classes are still going on apace, and both British and Indian classes can be seen feebly struggling with helio stands, slyly peeping through telescopes, or juggling with (sorry! I meant balancing) DX boards.

The orderly sergeant alone goes on in unperturbed serenity, and even he can be seen wandering round in a state of coma in the very early hours of the morning as he attempts to track down his relief at reveille.

Where once the famous tatti nasratti bunting graced the walls of the W/T Station, a signal office flag now graces the premises to show, not the glories of the past, but that work is now going on there. We were somewhat in doubt about this before.

We are sorry to know that Mrs. Rowley, who left this month for a spell at home, has gone because of sickness, and we all join in hoping that a holiday at home and good conditions will mean future good health to her.

Mrs. Fegan is sampling her first summer in the hills at Murree. We hope the summer will be pleasant for her and for all our other ladies, for though the hills make one pine, the pines do not usually make one ill.

As we switch over for a month, we would say how much we wish all our members happy days. May they soon get settled down in their new spheres.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

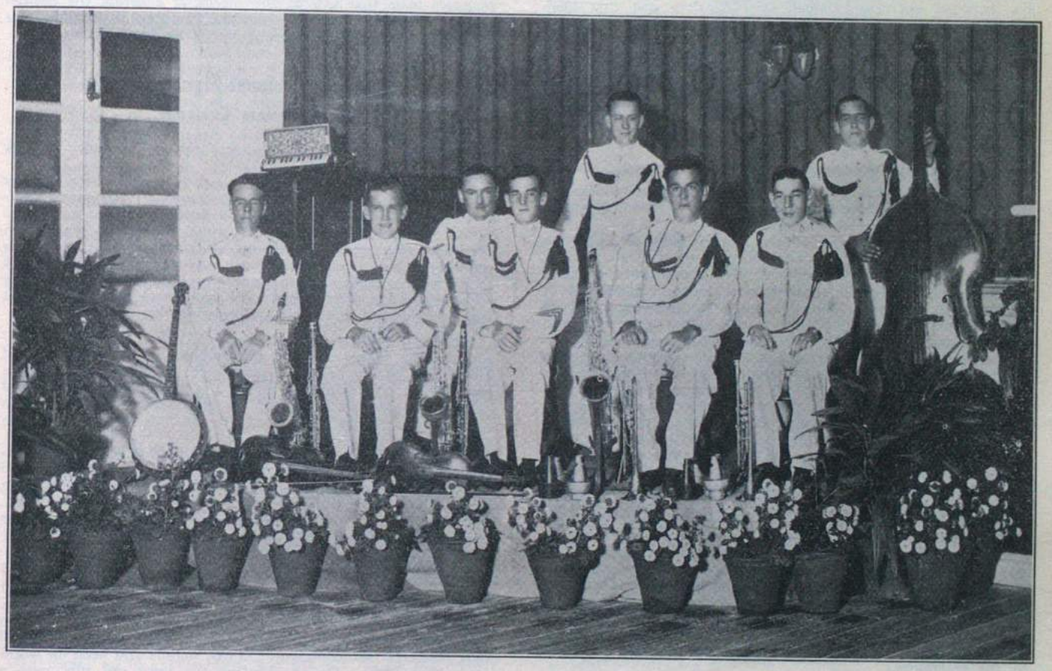
Tuesday 5th June.

Tennis.—We have just finished the unit handicap tennis tournament. More people than ever, these days, seem intent upon wearing out our one and only court. An entry of over fifty was received for the tournament, and the handicappers, Lieut R. C. B. Stuart and L/Corpl Hudson J., certainly made things very interesting.

All went well up to the semi-finals. These were contested by L/Corpl Hudson J. and Sigmn Hadfield T., and Corpl Evans J. and L/Corpl Berry W. Hadfield, usually the comic relief of all sporting events for which he enters, became famous when he beat Hudson. Admittedly, he had a favourable handicap, but that doesn't detract from the way he played. Berry somewhat easily beat Evans.

The final between Berry and Hadfield wasn't exactly exciting—distinctly grim, in fact, when Hadfield was three times at match point in the final set but each time failed to collect the necessary extra points. In the end Berry triumphed against a 2—5 deficit and fallen arches. Congratulations are extended to both.

The Dance Band.—Karachi, the natural channel for the overseas trade of the Sind, the Punjab and the North-West Frontier of India, has a large European population. These people naturally need providing with entertainment, particularly in the matter of dancing. There are a number of civilian dance bands in Karachi in addition to those of the military and the R.A.F., but choice for the best engagements always falls on A Corps' very own dance band. The dancing season runs pretty well all the year round in Karachi, and in addition to normal playing at times such as Christmas, the band forms part of the attractions advertised by the town's most exclusive hotels. Altogether, they are a credit to the military in Karachi and, of course, enhance the Corps' reputation accordingly. Their fame has spread in the Province of Sind, and when the European residents of such outlandish and desolate spots as Sukker, Hyderabad and Rhori have their annual "flare-up," the expense of engaging A Corps dance band is considered well worth while.



A Corps Signals (Karachi) Dance Band.

Left to right—L/Corpl Wilkins G., Sigmn Clark R., L/Corpl Jordan E., Signalmen Williams H., Bennett W., Palmer C., Cook T. and McGregor A.

The present combination, with very little alteration, has been together since 1931. This coming trooping season, however, means the return to England of half of them—two to the Army Reserve and two to home establishment. Mainly with the idea of advertising that such capable performers as Lance-Corporal Wilkins and Sigmn Clark will be looking for a unit in England shortly, and with the hope that we may get replacements for all our losses, let me introduce A Corps Signals (India) Dance Band.

L/Corpl Wilkins G. (banjo and drums). A habit that has earned him the name of "the Whipper" is believed to be responsible for his having had to sever connections with many world-famous combinations. Although the title still applies, his colleagues' watchfulness prevents any serious misunderstandings. A consistent performer with the banjo and a useful "double" on the drums.

Sigmn Clark R. (E flat saxophone, clarinet and violin). In days gone by, this very modest individual was daily seen proceeding into the blue with a clarinet, tutor and sock, returning just before the expiry of his P.P. He is a self-taught expert on his instruments, and probably more than anyone, he will be missed when he leaves us.

L/Corpl Jordan E. (piano and piano accordion). Guardian of the band's funds, instruments and dignity. Acceptor or otherwise of its engagements. Juggler of its Performing Rights Society's returns—in other words, its secretary. Early ambitions, the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra and Sussex County cricket eleven, but considers our dance band and cricket eleven good enough. His piano work is above reproach, and as an additional claim to fame (as advertised at a recent civilian function) he manipulates the only piano accordion in Karachi.

Sigmn Williams H. (violin, saxophone, clarinet and anything else from which it is possible to get a tune). When I first set eyes on Williams, he was unravelling a cobweb which he eventually stretched between the equipment of the oldest soldier in the room and the door-knob of the n.c.o.s bunk ; and then, with the aid of a dryscrubber, he gave an exquisite rendering of "Only one more kit inspection." Knows music and his instruments from A to Z, but the last person to tell you so. A keen all-round sportsman.

Sigmn Bennett W. (drums, xylophone and bells). The strong silent man of the outfit. Bennett péré is a distinguished musician and a member of a world-famous orchestra, and therefore it is a case of inherited talent. His offspring's work on the drums is of a very high order and his xylophone solos a speciality. Equally at home on the piano. A regular attendant at all Sandspits outings of the band, but would feel happier if his drums and xylophone could swim.

Sigmn Palmer C. (trumpet, saxophone and clarinet). If Pedlar were ever arrested and hauled before the "beak," the newspaper report would describe him as "accused, who was of distinguished appearance and spoke with a cultured accent" (!)

It is likewise with his appearances with the band—distinguished presence and cultured performance on all his instruments. Need we say more?

SIGMN COOK T. (trumpet). Well known as "Toc, 768" and known for his 30 inch bottoms. On his return to civil life, he must be taken into consideration as a possible Postmaster-General or successor to Louis Armstrong. As keen on the trumpet as they make 'em, and at times really inspired. Possessed, though, of a low taste in shirts and ties.

SIGMN MCGREGOR A. (bass banjo and guitar). Used to while away his time with ukeleles, banjoes, guitars and a rugby ball, until Sigmn Bennett had the bright idea of pressing him into service on the big "pig." Now has a full time job humping his principal instrument about and providing just that little something the band had lacked. A Scotsman, with the usual national failing: doesn't like porridge.

Their own work is responsible for the high standard the band have attained, but mention must be made of the help given by their president, Captain W. F. H. Herdon. His technical knowledge of music may be faulty, but he knows exactly what is wanted; and with a mixture of good English, bad Italian and correct Urdu, he gets it.

Specially Written for the N.C.O.s Messes.

A couple of months ago I told you the story of "How we nearly won the Army boxing championship." Now let me unfold the "Epic of the Uberoi Cup."

The Uberoi cup—no mean piyala, and the bone of contention between the senior and junior n.c.o.s messes of this unit. Its origin is lost in the unwritten history of Signal units in India, although one authority (in the form of a senior n.c.o. with about twenty years service in Karachi) has a dim recollection of its originally coming into the possession of A Corps when it snowed one year and an ice hockey tournament was held!

However, as I said, possession of it is now disputed between the two messes at all sorts of games, indoor and outdoor. In most of the outdoor competitions the juniors prove successful, but when it comes to indoor events the seniors, probably owing to their larger proportion of married members, seem to shine.

In the beginning the juniors, with four ex-matelots in their crew, outsailed the seniors in a sand yacht race and became the original holders. Then they proceeded to lose it, owing to placing a weak team at the boards for snakes and ladders. They came back, however, to regain possession with a convincing display on the bowling green. Inconsistency on the part of the juniors, and good team work by the seniors at hunt the thimble, resulted in the pot once more finding a home on the sergeants mess sideboard. The corporals were rather embittered at this result, as they considered—the match having taken place at the sergeants mess and a goodly proportion of the spectators being the lawful spouses of its members—that their opponents, when it was their turn to leave the room, were on returning to the hunt given unfair assistance in the location of the thimble by the spectators.

A serious meeting of the juniors was convened, and they decided that something really drastic had to be done, and that right speedily. Prestige indoors, they had none; and to definitely establish themselves as top dogs, they had to see the seniors' boots off at a game on which the sun didn't shine. Greatly daring, the gauntlet was flung down—at snooker! It was useless, though. The sergeants—with three members of their team who slept on the table and two more who "walked out" with billiard cues—made, with one exception, a clean sweep of all the games, and the corporals staggered away—some through the bitterness of defeat and some through the specific gravity of the mess beer.

Once more the juniors got down to it. They admitted the superiority of their seniors in the indoor realms of sport. But then came their chance. The R.S.M., in a misguided moment, vaunted his fellow-members' prowess at tennis. The corporals doubted this, and were quite willing to substantiate such doubts. Some delay occurred in the acceptance of their challenge, and they claimed that they had difficulty in bringing the holders up to scratch. Be that as it may, the fact remains that everything was eventually arranged for the match to take place on the sergeants court—the owners to provide the lemons and be responsible for the highly burnished state of the trophy.

Came the day, and Nos. 1 to 8 in the official tennis ranking list issued by the Corporals Mess, A Corps Signals, Karachi, presented themselves deferentially, albeit confidently, at the venue arranged.

It was the Waterloo of the seniors They were humbled on their own court, and so once more the juniors are holders—that is, in name. They brought home the bacon, but they forgot the cup!

It is said that the seniors are now plotting a speedy regaining of the trophy, and many are the suggestions being put forward as to the nature of the next competition. Reliable sources predict the placing in the field of Sergt Clark's mah jhong team—a formidable combination. Then, again, it is whispered in certain well-informed circles that it may be Sergt Stanley's all-star rounders team that will be the means of ensuring the desired success. At the moment of writing anything is possible, but here's to the next meeting, and may I be there to see it.

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Sunday 3rd June.

Overture.—"The time has come," the walrus said, "to talk of many things . . . ."

I know this is all very wrong, but the Great White Chief has ruled that Two Divsigs must "go literary." I was sitting nearest the typewriter when the proclamation was made. Well! well! Personally, being painfully aware that some ten million alleged writers are daily inflicting all kinds of bilge on a long suffering public, I am dead against anyone not on the old age establishment breaking into print. In fact, I feel so strongly about it that I shall probably crawl into a dark corner and knock out my brains (if any) after perpetrating this lot.

Situation Report.—Not so long ago, before the trooping season 1933/34 broke upon us, the ambition of all scroungers of No. 2 Div. was to wangle a posting to U.H.Q. There, so the legend runs, did soldiering attain a softness unbelievable, and cushy jobs were to be picked up at random. No duties, no drill orders, and no parades after 9 a.m. It is said that even sergeants are almost human.

Many envious eyes were directed to U.H.Q. from the Companies, where lesser mortals did toil and groan from dawn till dusk in stables and out on schemes, under great difficulties, with lives without hope, by order and through no fault of their own, while the elite of U.H.Q. went down to the opera and up Hanna Lake (an unfair distribution of prepositions) philosophising thus: "Too bad!" and "Poor dog!"

But "gone are the days," etc. How are the mighty fallen! In the pale light of early dawn U.H.Q. do drill orders without end, dash around on schemes, work, and then work some more. And in the afternoon, while 59,966 other ranks of the Army in India are peacefully pounding an equal number of pillows all over this great sub-continent, U.H.Q. parade and keep on working. Night falls. On the horizon the great red sun, with a nasty fried-egg leer on his face (as though to say "What pieces of cake!") sinks behind a convenient mountain and gets down to it for the night, while U.H.Q. still keep working. Later, Luna rises in the sky and claims us for her very own. Quite right, too.

Some great scientist has stated that the human race spends one-third of its life in sleeping. Following this argument to its logical conclusion, we stand aghast. Aren't we human?

Part II.s—With great sorrow we have to record the passing of Corpl Gerrish A. to the Sergeants Mess on 24/2/34, he having attained the status of Chief Yogi (Foreman-of-Signals). His epitome: "He was a great guy." Somehow the good are always taken first.

Sigmn Baddeley J. has won a prize for an original spring suiting, the main motif of which is two dinky chevrons on the upper part of each sleeve. The prize, which was presented by the Officer i/c Records, was a grant of several annas per day commencing on 1/4/34. Oh, to be a farrier, now that we are mechanised!

Signalmen Gibbon R. and Marshall E. have returned from Jubbulpore with an extra shilling a day to spend on beer, and are now entitled to write "I.M. class 1." after their names.

Bereavements.—Corpl Blake G. and Sigmn Mays W. to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Intelligentsia.—Sigmn Lush W. has passed in maths towards a first class certificate of education.

Kit Sale.—For sale, thirty-four beds, Army pattern. Owners no longer require same. No offers refused.

Believe It or Not.—Our draughtsman (who is an operator, the draughtsman proper having been mistaken for a clerk) states that he is the world's champion board painter. He adds that if all the boards which he has painted in the last fifteen months were placed end to end, they would look pretty punk.

There was once a clerk who had a day off.
One hundred and twenty days to go. W.G.S.

No. 1 Company.

Perhaps the absence of WIRE notes from the Company may be attributed to one of the following reasons: (1) nothing to say, or (2) too much to say. However, advertisements in Company Orders for special correspondents has produced a "nil" return. Therefore the office gets busy.

Looking over the trooping returns of those for home this year, we find the following uncommercial travellers will duly embark: Corporal Edwards, L/Corporals Routledge, Paul, Mc Glinchey and Wallace, and Signalmen Hewitson, Bowyer, Mackay, Mortimer, Ashton, Daniels, Gower, Guymer, Hawkins, Davies N., Howe and Flowerday. They take with them, for free distribution, samples of Beleli rock and Bostan sand—the object being, of course, to encourage young soldiers to make a bee line to Quetta. Should they accidentally hand a sample to an old soldier who has been there before, all our agents are fully insured!

Leaving the departures, let us look at the arrivals. The following are now filling vacancies in A and D Sections respectively: Signalmen Cathmoir, Finlay, Yaxley and Donohoe; and Signalmen Barney, Coombes, Denehy, Haslam, Holtby, Marson, Meacheam, Mounsey, Morris C., Palmer, Slater, Scott, Taylor R. H., Skirving and Marchant. We had to be careful with them at first; that is to say, we sunbronzed them gradually, on the way out to Bostan. Pedlar Palmer, however, was caught out—the only sun-burn case we had. We notice that he still does his grooming under cover.

The last draft, as far as I can see, made it the first thing on arrival to take unto themselves a dog. In this unfortunate Company we have dogs of all shapes and sizes, and it is the private opinion of the C.S.M. that if all the dogs of the Company were tied tail to tail, they would reach to Hanna Lake. Having reached there, he would bribe somebody to throw the lot in.

Talking about Hanna Lake, some intelligent firm outside Quetta has just forwarded us a price list of bathing costumes. Just fancy! The lake is dry, and the authorities threaten to move all troops to places where water is available. All we have left in Quetta (thank the Lord!) is being used by the Murree Brewery and Pask, Evans and Co.

From drink we pass on to food. No 1 Company cookhouse, if it comes up to expectations, will put the School of Cookery at Aldershot on a vocational course.

We are getting new curtains, new carpets and new fireplaces, not to mention the pictures on order. Then there are various improvements in the cookhouse itself; and last, but not least, one Hathaway.

Drifting to the technical side, a hush fell over Bostan Camp as a voice from nowhere penetrated the ether: "Over-to-you-over"—A Section's new motto. Joking aside, though, we congratulate A Section on their endeavour to improve signal work.

Still on the technical side. At the last Staff College exercise we saw a staff officer vigorously shaking a hand set. "Listen!" said he, as the microphone capsules continued to wobble; "the darned thing is full of sand."

In conclusion, we hope that our notes will be more polished and sprightly in the next issue.

Obituary.—Although some time has now passed since it happened, we must record with regret the sudden death of L/Sgt Len Walby. He passed away quietly in his sleep early on Sunday morning, the 11th of March, from heart failure. His wife and two children were at the time on their way to join him, but were stopped at Port Said. To them we tender our deepest sympathy.

The funeral took place on the same day. The floral tributes and the general sympathy from the married families and the Garrison in Quetta were much appreciated.



The late Lance-Sergeant Len Walby.

We regret that the accompanying "snap" is the only available photo of Len.

We will never forget his brilliant struggle for us in the boxing ring at the Command tournament at Quetta last year, nor his all-round sporting qualities. TRES.

No. 2 Company

General.—The recent earthquakes in India have not affected Quetta, as has been suggested, so once again 2nd Div. will endeavour to satisfy numerous fans in THE WIRE.

Spring camp at Bostan passed quietly enough, and (naturally enough) we won all the wars. The dust storms transformed our butter into cement, but we are tough enough for anything. For our entertainment we had a knock-out football tournament, volley ball and rounders. In the knock-out football games the finalists were the Sergeants Mess and K Section. The Mess won by 4—2 goals, and the performance of the old soldiers was extremely good. The ballet dancing of the younger players was also well done. Our O.C., Captain G. H. Plummer, M.C., very kindly presented the trophy (a cup of cocoa-tin dimensions) and medals to the winners and runners-up. The medals were the product of the brains of C.Q.M.S. Gerrish and Sergt Jarvis (one must not take this too literally). During the manufacture of the medals, the following conversation was heard. "Shall we put a V.C. on the referee's medal?" "No, it would be too subtle." "Not if the metal was poured in properly."

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe from Aldershot, and wish him a pleasant sojourn in the Indian Riviera; also R.S.M. Shenton. From Zhob, among others we have L/Corpl Smith H. and Sigmn Harrison W. I don't know why, but these two are homeward bound this year. Time flies, they say, but (as someone else won't let us forget) there is a difference between five months and five years.

Departures.—Our former C.O., Lieut.-Colonel F. O. St. John, has departed for Catterick, and our sincere wishes go with him.

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. Shenton on his promotion from R.Q.M.S. To C.Q.M.S. Gerrish on attaining his present rank. To Signalmen Gibbons and Marshall on grabbing A.i.s. To Sigmn Roberts F. because he has only five months to do. To Corpl Baker on attaining Q.1 rough-riders course.

Death.—Although belated, we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the wife and relatives of the late L/Sergt Walby, whose death occurred suddenly on the 11th March. A very popular n.c.o. who will be missed by all who knew him.

The Alpinists.—During the last few months, a few energetic gentlemen from the Company have scaled the heights of Murdhar Ghar. Their tales of the dangers encountered and the almost inaccessible heights they conquered simply put the Mount Everest Expedition right out of the limelight. Mae West was *not* on the peak, so I cannot imagine that she wanted them to "come up and see her some time."

Sergeants Mess.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Gerrish A. on his promotion to that rank on 24/2/34.

A flannel dance was held on Saturday 26th May. The preparations and lay-out were certainly a credit to the usually much-maligned entertainments committee. The lawn (representing the lounge), being gaily illuminated with coloured lights and enclosed by tent walls, reminded one of those picture postcards of Eastern nights—romance: stars (no stars): moon shining (no moon): youth. Well, we won't go into that! I am sure, from the foregoing, that you have a vivid picture of what I am talking about (?) We were very pleased to see our new C.O. and the officers and their wives present.

The attendance was not great, the Mess being, as usual with Signals, out in the blue. However, the quality was there (no names, no arguments!) and as everybody appeared to enjoy themselves, who cares?—as the grasshopper said to the elephant as he (the grasshopper) wagged his tail with glee.

Tennis is in full swing. I am afraid we are not *all* up to the Wimbledon centre court standard yet. I think what we need whilst playing is soft music, to moderate the influence of the hard balls. Our try-out versus the B.O.R.s Club was not exactly successful, the score being—well, why worry? However, we hope to improve considerably as the weeks go by.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Saturday 19th May.

General.—On Saturday 14th April the 7th Light Cavalry now stationed in Loralai, who relieved the 13th D.C.O. Lancers, held their mounted sports and invited the B.O.R.s of this Section to an at home.

The special event for the B.O.R.s (the V.C. race) proved an exciting item to the spectators. Although all the (supposed) quietest animals were selected from the Cavalry for this event, they proved not so quiet when their riders were seated ; in fact, to have called it a wild rodeo show would have been much more appropriate. Anyhow, the majority of the roughs were thrown long before the scheduled time for the " off " signal, and their mounts were but mere specks on the horizon, making for home sweet home as fast as their legs would permit, but at least four riders remained struggling to decide who should be top dog. Oh, boy! the way they held on to those four-legged ones by hook or mane was a credit to the Corps. Eventually the lonely riders took off, and missed the first jump by yards ; presumably they believed in the old adage " All the way round for the nearest." This also applied to the second jump. And now, with only the dummies to rescue, oh! it was easy.

By this time the poor animals took it for granted that it was time to return to the starting point, and amidst loud cheers two riders were perceived jogging gaily back into sight, although minus the rescued party. They were immediately proclaimed the winners, so when the time arrived for the presentation of prizes, Pvte Cave S. (1st Battn. The Devons) and Corpl Cooper W. (Royal Corps of Signals) strode boldly up to the table laden with silver cups, etc.; but these were only for the best riders! Each was presented with an acceptable gift by Colonel Howard (commanding the 7th Light Cavalry) and also with great applause from the spectators, including those from the surrounding hills, who heartily joined in showing their gratitude for such an event.

The injuries sustained by the remainder of the riders (who did reach the saddle before being put in their right place) were but slight and did not in any way destroy their appetite when tea was served. In fact, the way those delicious cakes, pastries, etc., disappeared was another credit to the Corps, and goes to prove that the Section does not contain any " indigestion " wallahs. Ginger—whom we all thought at first was seriously hurt when he returned with blood streaming down his handsome visage—remarked that he had accidentally got mixed up with someone else's " plates of meat," but after a little pani was administered it proved to be but a slight abrasion of the flesh above the right eye.

The whole show was thoroughly enjoyed by all. And now, roll on the 1st June, when the 7th Light Cavalry hold their dismounted sports, and everyone will be able to hold their own ground.

Appointment.—Congratulations to Sigmn Smith J. C. on his appointment as U/L/Corporal on 15/3/34.

Extension.—Sigmn Jamieson H. to complete eight and four.

Inspections.—Lieut.-Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Western Command) carried out his inspection of the three detachments at Fort Sandeman, Loralai and Hindubagh on the 26th, 28th and 29th April respectively. As usual, all ranks came up to scratch and produced a slap-up show for the occasion.

The next inspection takes place on the 21st, 24th and 26th May, when the officiating General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command (Major-General C. Kirkpatrick, C.B., C.B.E.) will visit us.

Entertainments.—A dance was held in the Institute on the 28th April, and all ranks in the station were invited. This again proved a good show and was enjoyed by all. It had the effects of a real Garden of Eden, with evergreens and roses growing out of every niche and crevice from floor to ceiling. The function was attended by the Chief Signal Officer (Lieut.-Col. Phillips).

BLES.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Friday 27th April.

General.—Corpl Bartlett and Signalmen Jamieson, Johnson and Taylor formed the W/T Detachment of the column which left Fort Sandeman for Sri Toi on the 18th April. They reached Nawaoba by about 2 o'clock, where they camped for one night. The next day's march was rather more tiring, as the sun was strong and the column did not move so quickly. Nevertheless, Sri Toi was reached and communication established without delay. It was reported that there was a splendid supply of water, but the B.O.R.s experienced much difficulty in finding it. On proceeding to the source of supply, they discovered a shallow trickle of water which was already well polluted by scores of I.O.R.s who had evidently beaten them to it. Jamieson considered this a good excuse for creeping out of his evening wash.



Pack W/T Detachment, Fort Sandeman, climbing a Pass during the Mobile Column Exercise.

The Detachment carried out its duties satisfactorily throughout the period with the help of the O.C., who is quite capable of taking a watch on the set. They could not have his company all the time, as he was out " hoofing it " over the khuds quite a lot ; in fact, they nearly lost him altogether when the Garwhals' officers mess blew down and just missed his head.

The weather did not behave as well as it might have done. On the third day in camp it became threatening, and tents had to be pegged down more securely and trenches dug round them. The following night was rather bleak, but the B.O.R.s slept, well fortified by " Wrexhams."

Things grew worse, and the camp was broken up a day earlier than expected, and the river—which had previously been too shallow to provide a comfortable wash—was then too deep for a comfortable crossing. A short cut was taken through the hills to Nawaoba, and the march was done in about three hours in spite of the difficult route. Everyone arrived quite fresh and in fit condition to appreciate the good things which they in due course received: a nice refreshing bathe in the stream, a drop of nourishment, and a sound sleep.

Fort Sandeman was made in good time next day. Here the heroes received a hearty welcome, and much liquid refreshment was consumed. Smudge officiated between the 'Stute and the pub with great rapidity, bearing forth jug after jug of foaming ale, cigarettes, and all the crumbs of comfort which one enjoys in a place like Fort Sandeman when not occupied in holding them back.

Inspections.—The C.S.O. was scheduled to inspect the Detachment on Thursday 26th April and great preparations were made ; but after a long day's vigil we were sorry to hear that he had broken down owing to carburettor trouble on the road from Wana and would be unable to visit us until next day.

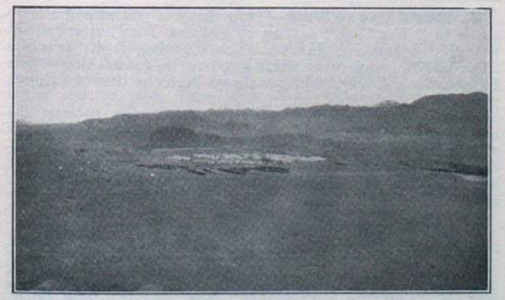


W/T Detachment, Sri Toi Camp.

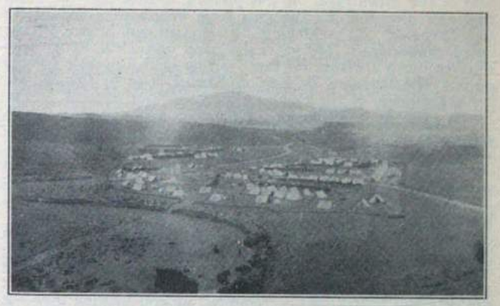
Visit.—We were honoured by a visit from Sigmn Guymer, who hit the trail from Bostan with special despatches for Fort Sandeman. Owing to Guy's skill and resource, the journey was completed in good time without mishap. He received a warm welcome from members of the Detachment, who pressed liquid refreshment on him regardless of the fact that he was tired out and much in need of a rest. We are not sure which Guy prefers: rest or refreshment—but when the refreshment is liquid, we might make a good guess. As the evening wore on Guy's nose grew more obvious, but remembering his responsibility and the long ride which would require all his nerve resources next day, he retired early for a well earned rest. Smudge was a little disappointed, as he was sweating on things developing into a sort of Jewish festival. You see, they have something in common: everyone " nose" that.

Departure.—Signalman Guymer departed after having his bike once-overed by the fitters of the station. A little wind was fitted into the tyres by these redoubtables.

Sport.—We have had several games of hockey recently. Owing to the fact that a number of the men had not played before, we did not fare so well at first ; but improvement is being shown where there is most room for it, and we have met with greater success in the more recent games. Taylor has now



Camp at Sri Toi, twelve miles from the Afghan Border.



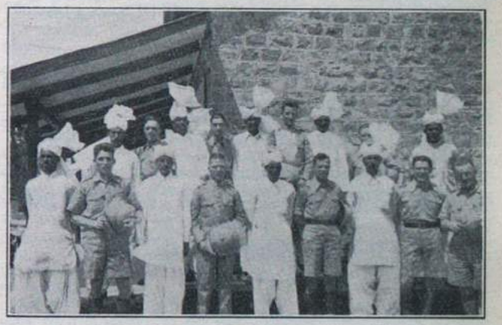
Nawaoba Camp.

learned to discriminate between hockey and football ; and Franks, having grown very fat, is able to pretty well fill up the goal mouth and makes a useful goalkeeper. Fly swatting is becoming very popular, and the tennis enthusiasts are able to get bags of practice on the quiet.

Agonies.—To Andrews, 2nd Div. Blighty: What about a pint in the " Old Ford "? Francis and Howard.

To Tich Evans, believed to be road hogging in Blighty: What about a line? Buxmith.

To Dutchy: Oh, for the Goa! Buck.



Detachment, Fort Sandeman : Id Festival, 26/3/34.

Information.—Franks wishes to inform the lads of A Section that he is getting fat up here. We don't call him Busty yet, though.

What is Bondzo's latest?

To Slim Gibbons: I wonder how the Sec is getting on?

BUXMITH-APOZAI.

Detachment, Hindubagh.

Sunday 26th May.

General.—We apologise for the absence of our notes in last month's WIRE, but we had no scribe at the time. Now that we have been instructed to show that we are still on the map (or is it off?) I will endeavour to make up for lost time. In the first place we decided to cut the cards for the honour (?) of writing these notes—and I lost!

It is a pleasure to announce that inspections are now finished with—for this month, anyway. To-day the C.S.O. (Lieut-Col. L. G. Phillips) held his inspection, which we have every reason to believe went off with a swing ; and so it should, considering that to-day is Sunday. Well, the better the day, the better the deed.

Entertainments.—Last night saw the opening of the summer dance season, and a big carnival fancy dress dance was

held in the Town Hall. It was pleasing to note that the event was well supported by the girls from Woolworths and Marks and Spencers. An exhibition McCan Can was given by the noted professionals, Messrs. Lal Chand and Devi Rana, who received much applause for their version of this notable Eastern waltz. The Dowager Duchess of Khanai is to be thanked for her organisation of the excellent curry and rice interval.

The Lyceum, Hindubagh.—Prominent first nighters were in attendance at the new revue, "Passion Untrammelled," by the well known author Robin Heart. In the foyer Mr. McAra, accompanied by the Baroness De Bostan, was seen shaking hands with Mr. Fortes. Unfortunately, our critic's report on the show is not to hand, owing to a chill (?) caught whilst on guard, keeping him in detention.

Sport.—The Detachment hoped to do great things this season in the Hindubagh Hockey League, but owing to the breaking of all available sticks we have had to fall back on tiddly winks and ludo. In the last game the other team unfortunately split the only ball in half and the umpires are still fighting over the verdict on the game.

Sigmn Goodhand still holds the darts championship, getting within three yards of the bull after putting his dart through two lamp glasses, one topee and a comrade's hindquarters.

Gardening.—A certain individual decided to take up this very interesting hobby, and after planting about a pound of radish and lettuce seed, he was observed in the moonlight gently tending the first small shoot that appeared through the soil. After five weary days and nights, he could be heard striding about and cursing. The frail little shoot was a weed! No names, but Mac can.

We Want to Know.—Is it possible to utilise a Stuart Turner for an aero-engine?

Would it be advisable to use the top of Hill 60 as a take off?

Marriages.—This is Hindubagh!

Births.—This is still Hindubagh!!

Bereavements.—We have to announce with much regret, the death of Billy—known to all Zhobites—from a dose of lead poisoning: the result of a round of buckshot at close range. He was buried with full military honours on the local maidan, the ceremony affording a good excuse for a "celebration."

NAP.

EASTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Saturday 12th May.

General.—We are steadily carrying out our summer programme, in which everything is flowing so smoothly that there is scarce room for remark here. Training classes of D.R.s and linemen, and a little reading for the operators, all make for steady progress.

Quite a number of our lads are sweating on the possibilities of a vacation in Blighty in the New Year. We hope they get it.

The inter-Section sports and games programme forms the greater part of our recreation. There are unit games, of course. To date several interesting Section matches have been played, and although not of extraordinary quality, they provided plenty of fun for players and not a little amusement for onlookers.

Captain George Ash recently gave a demonstration of the use of a lassoo, and following on this we expect to see the children practising with log lines, dog leads, pull-through cords, etc. Captain Ash, in his shooting display, impressed upon us that there might be more in a target than the eye can see (my eyes, anyhow). The demonstration was appreciated by all who witnessed it.

Departures.—Sigmn McCarthy, who was on the inventory of this Company for about eight years, decided to leave us for Jubbulpore. "Blowers" of the Company want to know if there is all that difference in the flavour.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Brett. What will you do with all that money, Dickie? Also to Corpl (Buff) and Mrs. Kirby—a daughter. We wondered why he walked about so proudly.

No. 2 Company, Chakrata.

General.—Training is now in full swing under Lieut R. A. Conner and Sergt Gavey. Every endeavour has been made to prevent the course from becoming monotonous and boring. On entering the lecture room, one is confronted by a scene very similar to that in a bazaar about two hours after pay has been disbursed. After a second look, the bazaar fades and its place is taken by a scene similar to that which one might expect in a futurist school of 1950. Each instructor has been allotted a table, on which he places his instrument. Around him gather a number of B.O.R.s thirsting for knowledge, and on the shrill blast of a whistle he gets off the mark and proceeds to tell them all he knows. Another blast of the whistle, and the B.O.R.s, already as wise as the instructor, dash away to the next table, where another instructor is eagerly waiting to impart *his* knowledge. This method is proving very popular and, judging by the results of various tests, quite satisfactory.

Sport.—The complete absence of social entertainment (except for occasional dances) has led to the adoption of sport for filling in spare time. Hockey, football and basket ball are played daily. Basket ball may sound slightly effeminate, but believe me, played under Chakrata rules and refereed by Pastor McGregor (whose five are already famous) it is anything but that. A number of Detachment football and hockey matches have been played with a view to selecting a team to represent the Detachment in the various tournaments, and already our hopes of finding a good eleven are very high.

Arrivals.—Sergt Harper from Muttra (our baseboards are very well, thank you).

Heard.—Caller out (on flag drill): "Blocks off. Sorry! erase. Blocks one."

L/Corpl Barden and Sigmn Walmsley were seen walking up the khud side. Confirmation is still needed.

7th (M) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

Monday 28th May.

General.—We are sorry that, for two months in succession, white ants have eaten our WIRE notes while they were waiting for Blighty mail day. To avoid this happening again, I am writing these notes at the last minute.

Our Survey Section.—Signalmen Cashmore and Fielding have checked the distance between all mile stones on the circular road south of Muttra. One night after "lights out" they stole stealthily from the bungalow, equipped with their improvised measure, a piece of D.iii. cable one furlong in length (which had previously been measured with a one-foot school ruler). With an eye to accuracy rather than speed, they used the cable like a carpenter's three-foot rule. Two hours later they returned, tired but satisfied, and willing to take any bets. Heard on P.T. a couple of mornings later: "We are now six furlongs from the bungalow."

Casualties.—We regret that Sigmn Skinner is still in hospital, suffering from the after-effects of Strongbowism, rough riding and too much sport. An eye-witness on sick parade states that the M.O. snorted when the patient told him that he thought he had been having too much exercise.

We Should Like to Know.—How many of you missed a tasty article in "The Ring," written by Fighting Tom Ketteringham, late of this Section? In this article Fighting T. K. tells the editor and the noble wide world just how he guesses that "The Ring," now and way back, has always been the best of fighter's papers. B.S.

If Mr. Busty Clavering was original in trying to start the motor cycle by kicking the foot rest? After several narrow shaves and walks back, using man power alone, Busty has decided not to become an owner driver at all. The motor cycle has now been returned to its rightful owner, after a long trial, as it was found unsuitable.

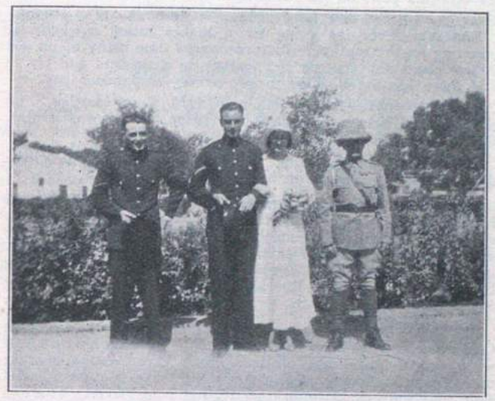
3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Friday 1st June.

General.—Since our last "Part II. Orders" were published, very little excitement has occurred. The weather is stoking up slightly, but why mention that? Training is going steadily on, and as one passes the Technical School (giddah!) one distinctly hears a steady twenty-five on the sounder and buzzer, or whatever you call it.

Equitation.—What remounts! what roughs!

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corpl Boyle T. J. on the dizziness of becoming a member of the Sergeants Mess (A/L/Sergt). Also to U/L/Corpl (Badgy) Hill H. J. on obtaining the handle towards the F.M. baton.



Marriages.—Only one this month! Ex-boys, please note it. L/Corporal Roberts E. R. to Miss Gladys Olive Hankinson, at Meerut, on the 7th May. Bob was quite generous with the cake, but "issue cutlery" made no impression on the bottom tier. I am sure that all ex-boys will join with the Troop in wishing both Bob and his wife the best of luck. The accompanying snapshot, reading from left to right, shows L/Corporal Turner R. J. A. (best man), L/Corpl Roberts E. R., Mrs. Roberts and C.Q.M.S. Marshall B.

Agony.—To 5th Div. Sigs: Oh, Jock! Phil. P.P.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

General.—"The time has come," the walrus said, "to talk of many things." Yes, you probably did hear that on the talkies, but it also applies to WIRE notes. Not even Maskelyne, however, could produce a respectable and interesting budget this month.

Very little indeed has happened. No deaths—no births—and no marriages, even here in Trim. Ah, well! there is, we believe, such a thing as hope (for what?)

One outstanding event was the Trade Board, but even this only affected five B.O.R.s and about twenty I.O.R.s. L/Corpl Missen and Signalmen Phillips and Jones were successful in gaining B.ii.s, and we wish those who were unsuccessful better luck next time. L/Sergt Copp is to be congratulated on swopping over from o/v to o/s.

The arrival of THE WIRE has given me a little inspiration, if only to express our envy of the happenings in the North. We were pleased to see that Signals Week went off very well: and who knows, maybe many of us will be participating in the next one, seeing that Indianisation progresses.

Talking of Indianisation, the B.O.R.s are getting crowded out: even our bungalows are being annexed. However, they cannot do our church parades. We still go with all the glory appertaining to one n.c.o. and six men (average), and needless to say, we do *not* have the Pipe Band. By the way, that seems destined never to come to Trimulgherry.

Signalmen Scott and Pask, two of our dashing D.R.s, leave for Kohat next month.

Sport.—We still hold the weekly tennis tournament composed of teams with such highbrow names as Loose-wallahs, Krabs, Mallum Nays, Naiks, Hopefuls, and Gugnuncs. The results will be notified in due course.

Swimming is also periodically indulged in at the Secunderabad Club baths—always a bright spot in the routine. I forgot to say in my previous notes that Corpl Watterton and Signalmen Given and Juniper had been awarded bronze medals and intermediate certificates by the Royal Life Saving Society. Sigmn Gibbon also possesses the Society's award.

Football and hockey are falling into abeyance. Matches are still being played, but the standard is not as it was.

Cricket matches against the 1st Battn Q.O.R.W. Kents, 1st Battalion North Staffs, 17/21st Lancers, and 65th Battery Royal Artillery have been played. The results were quite satisfactory, even though we did not beat our opponents.

A Visual Story.—Can our readers picture the following scene? A visual terminal, overworked (!) far out in the West. Time, 18.30 hrs. or thereabouts. The sun, slowly setting in all its radiance, completes the picture, giving the terminal a silhouette effect. Switch your visualising powers over to the receiver out in the East. How can he expect to read with such interference? Problem: What did he do? What would you do? He did. He gave the sender T.O.L. (Did the sender use a blanket, part worn, I.P., or did he put his handkerchief over the sun?)

Here is another from the Trade Board Class. Instructor: "Can you receive C.W. on this crystal set?" Bright pupil: "Yes, you can, but I doubt if you could read it."

And yet another. "How many ways of showing a scale?" "Three—inches, feet and yards."

We Wonder.—If digging and weeding are extra qualifications. To Keigher of Pesh Dist. Sigs.: Was glad to see your "deuce and ace" in THE WIRE. How are things? Keep it up. Miss 6196279.

Tailpiece.—Hard in. Back me up. S.V.M.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Thursday 10th May.

General.—Since the last WIRE notes were compiled, a very strange incident has occurred which leads one to wonder whether there is magic in the air. It will be remembered that I forecast the departure of a certain ukelele banjo; and would you believe it, dear reader? it *has* departed, and the most intensive search has failed to reveal its whereabouts. In short, it has absolutely disappeared into thin air. This sort of thing shows great possibilities, and if the magician will reveal himself, I will endeavour to persuade him to use his powers on several more public nuisances.

But enough of this flippancy. The Section is just recovering from what is known as the Army efficiency test, which in itself seems harmless enough, but is actually an ordeal of the highest order. It commences as a nice light form of exercise, but on reaching the third lap of the mile, one realises that there is a catch in it. "Our John" had only done three quarters of the first lap when he discovered the catch, but perhaps high living explains that.

We have gained a few more honours in the field of sport, and we congratulate Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy on being runner-up in the open doubles of the Central Provinces lawn tennis championship, 1934.

Inspections.—The Remount Officer, Southern Command, held his annual inspection of our horses this week, and expressed himself as very satisfied with their condition and appearance. The B.R.A., whose inspection coincided with the Remount Officer's, endorsed his remarks, so we now wear the traditional feather in our caps.

Sports.—In the 15th Field Brigade R.A. mounted sports, we combined with Brigade H.Q. to form a team to compete against the Batteries for the Brigade shield. So far, all entries have have acquitted themselves right nobly, and we stand a fine chance of carrying off the trophy.

The first event was the show jumping competition, in which we were represented by Sergt Penfold A. on horse No. 33 and Sigmn Hennell on No. 30. Sergt Penfold had hard luck at the oxer, and collected four faults in an otherwise splendid round. Sigmn Hennell found his horse in great form and had a clear round. This was the first essay of Razor Blade (No. 30) at show

jumping. He made a very promising début, and makes a valuable addition to the Section jumping string. Our team proved the winners of this event, giving us a flying start.

In the tug-of-war, the Batteries were too strong for us and we dropped back a little.

The handy hunter competition was a repeat of the jumping, and Sergt Penfold won further laurels by bringing off the best time and round—no mean performance against a Brigade of Artillery.

In both the V.C. and the Lloyd Lindsay races we finished second, the most notable performance being Sigmn Johnson's, who, with the aid of the inimitable Floss (No. 35), was first home in his heat.

Several more events are left for decision, and we hope to be as successful in these as in the previous ones.

The Cupid Stakes.—Several interesting developments have taken place in this thrilling event, and up to the time of going to press Rudy holds a commanding lead ; but as the winning post is still some distance away, again I must report " Marriages nil."

HANK.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 3 Company.

K Section, Polygon.

Here we are again! Having recovered from the effects of unknown faults, we have decided to appear once more in this Journal.

The staff is slightly different to what it was, but why worry? we are just as "'toasted." With the departure of Ollie to the land of promise, Polygon lost one of the best and most unique tradesmen it has ever possessed. I say unique, because who but Ollie would have thought of that awe-inspiring act " The separation of solids from liquids"? However, the 108th Earl of somewhere in Ireland is back again and can be seen almost any day tending his beloved horticultural exhibition, aided by his newly acquired man-eating quadruped. There is a newcomer, somewhat fur lined, who, although not known to many of our readers, is often mentioned in despatches. What kind thoughts! Our old friend Tuby is still here, and despite the fact that Polygon is barren of hops he cheerfully carries out his culinary duties, much to the satisfaction of us all. One of the new draft is with us, and he seems to like it, but of course his tour has only just begun. We hope he survives it.

Of the remainder, there is Mawson, who finds the three biscuits of his bed one too many, and the other is Bud, the man who safely took up a Pelman course and then blackmailed the inventor.

Of course, like many others, we have had our Brigadier's inspection ; in fact, it happened ten fatigue days after I arrived. We did our decorating: the barrack room in a rhapsody in blue, or blues, and the operating room in what some call a cream colour. I maintain it is yellow, while others have an Esperanto name for it. The Brigadier seemed to be pretty struck by our efforts, and appeared to find some difficulty in expressing his appreciation.

Thanks to the efforts of Captain Wheatley, it has been decided to improve the social conditions at Polygon, and we have every reason to suppose that a recreation room will materialise. In addition, we have been presented with more crockery for our Nubian slave to juggle with. Someone suggested applying for a couple of Nippies, but this fell through. After all, one man's meat is another man's poison.

As usual, courses have started again, including that interesting one of musketry. Naturally, we have been gathered into the fold of bolt manipulators, so we should easily get " a third class shot."

When atmos are heavy and signals weak,
Don't blame the other bloke or the grid leak ;
Should you hear a nine for a nought,
Ah, well, it's just another kind thought.
You can bet your friends will do their best
To shift you from that outstation nest.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Tuesday 5th June.

General.—As very little happens in this golden land of the Pharaohs, it is rather difficult to write anything at all. However, these few lines will show that the Troop is still alive and kicking.

Musketry.—Like all good or bad things, even musketry courses come to an end. Another three weeks will see the Troop—this year, on the Helmieh ranges—trying to show their prowess with the jolly old musket and shot.

Courses.—Everyone going for a higher rating is, I think, sweating on the top line. In three weeks time many of us will collect goods and chattels and journey to a far land and try to add those few extra ackers to our already stupendous pay.

Appointments.—Congratulations to U/L/Corpl Hartley F. on attaining the first step towards the baton. Mine was a pint, Chikko, but a large lemon will do.

Promotions.—Canine, one. Micky promoted to camp watchdog. His long service won him the coveted position.

Educational.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Hartley and Sigmn Knight A. on obtaining their first class certificates of education ; also to Sgt Kelly J. on passing in English, Cpl Neal G. in maths and map reading, L/Cpl Fielding G. in geography and map reading, Sigmn Manley C. in English and geography ; and to Sigmn Erhorn W. on passing in English and so gaining his first, having obtained his other subjects at a previous examination.

Arrivals.—Our new arrivals are now settling down—alas! in Cole's case, only to leave us next trooper. I should like to know why you wanted to finish off in G Troop, Cole. Burns, another new arrival, is already proving his worth. He is quite a useful shot, and will develop into a good water polo player. There is also a chance that we shall be pleasantly surprised next football season.

Water Polo.—We have had several matches during the last month, the first being against B Squadron 12th Royal Lancers, the second against A Squadron, and the third against a team from the R.A. The first match we won by 2—1, but the other two we lost by 1—2 and 1—3 respectively. We are by no means discouraged by these results, as this is our first venture into this particular sport, and with plenty of training we hope to do a lot better in future.

Shooting.—At the invitation of the 12th Royal Lancers, we have entered several teams in the shooting competitions which they hold every Wednesday morning on the 30 yards range. Our only achievement so far has been to obtain fourth place, but we still live in hopes of giving them a big surprise one day.

Conclusion.—More anon.

PAT.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

General.—Apologies are due for the lack of notes from this unit for the last couple of months, but this was unavoidable owing to our late scribe being suddenly sent on leave and not returning. However, the old saying " Better late than never " is very appropriate, and endeavours will be made to keep the notes up to date in future.

Summer has now arrived and the usual sports are being indulged in. Swimming parties organised under unit arrangements have met with success up to the present, although it has been heard from some of the fellows that the water is a wee bit cold for them yet! Enough said. Cricket and tennis have now started, and results to date will be found in the Sports section.

Whist drives and dances are still in full swing. The last one of note was held on the 17th April in the way of a farewell dance to personnel of the departing draft. The fortnightly mid-week whist drives and socials are also proving a great success.

On Friday 25th May we again competed for the Bomonti shield against the Jaffa Police. As usual, there was plenty of "womp," and games were played at billiards, ping-pong, crib, shove halfpenny, darts, and last (but not least) " ye olde game of tip-it." Honours were pretty even at the start, but we eventually ran out the winners by 24—10 points, thus taking the coveted trophy from the Police. At the conclusion of the games natty little speeches were given by the president of each side, and the night concluded with the usual community singing and solos from members of the two teams.

Arrivals.—These are numerous, but a hearty welcome is extended to those who have come to spend the next few years with us, and our hope is that their stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—To all who have recently left for posting to the home establishment, Army Reserve, discharge, and posting to Egypt Signals: It is hoped that you will enjoy life in your new spheres.

Agony.—To McCummin 0032: Have you run out of ink? Bert 0030.

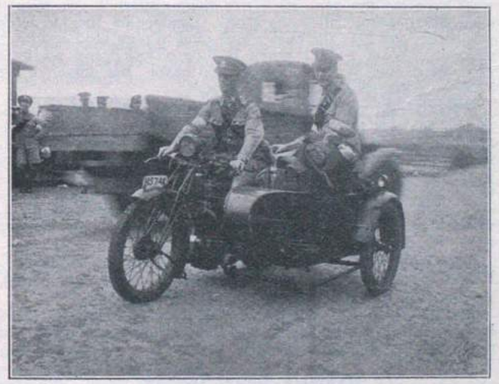
HALF-GREASE.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 9th May.

General.—Summer, which has been long delayed, arrived this week, and the swimming season opens officially to-day. Owing to the loss of the Army launch *Tommy Atkins*, bathing picnics are not to be so frequent this year. The Signals and R.E.s have three allotments per month, which isn't too bad. Last month was officially the coldest since 1906, the highest temperature being 82 degrees.

I forgot to record the big war we had here in March, and as I'm sending along two snaps I'd better say a bit about them, or people may think these things are everyday events. I'm thankful to say that this is not so.



Sidecar Transport for an "A" Set.

The unit turned out a Brigade Section for the scheme, and the first snap shows our gallant despatch rider Herr Larking with an A set in the sidecar. Ex-Trooper sat on the issue like a broody hen (beak, etc.). We had to put the A set in this sidecar, as the frontier road was up and only Austin 7's, etc., could get by. The second snap shows a few of the lads enjoying a frugal repast. Believe it or not, those are chicken bones. I heard from one or two sources that they had to borrow the bones to have the snap taken ; but anyone who knows the people concerned will back me up when I say that if there were any chicken going (there was!) these were the lads to get it.

The stunt lasted about thirty hours, from 6 a.m. on the 27th to 10 a.m. on the 28th. Four battalions and one Indian regiment took part, and I think Indian units will agree that the Punjabis can certainly soldier. When I joined them they had already marched twenty-eight miles, and we did another ten before resting. Carrying an A set on a stretcher across paddy fields in the dark is no joke, and if that was war, I'm for peace! I had an n.c.o. with me who spoke Hindustani " fluidly," so I got on o.k. All I can say of the whole affair is that it was a good experience.

The unit Scotsman, Jock Cord, has further distinguished himself in the football world this month, playing three times for the Rest in the Governor's cup (which they won), once for the Army, and once for the Combined Services. The local papers are agreed that he is the finest goalkeeper in the Colony, and the only reason for his failing to gain interport honours is that the side is restricted to four Service players.



"A bird in the hand. . . . ."

In the hockey world Sigmn Martin played for the small units, and L/Corpl Cross (goal) and Sigmn May (outside right) represented the Rest versus the Champions in the last official game of the season. Our position in the Mamak League was eighth of the fourteen teams in the league.

Thanks to the efforts of our sports officer, the Section is to have a week's leave this year: that is, those who want it. A bungalow has been rented for two months at Cheong Chau, about fourteen miles from Hong Kong, and parties of six are going up for a week at a time. The first party left last Sunday, and from reports they seem to be enjoying it. They took up a C set, and we are in communication twice daily. The bungalow is of good size, with three bedrooms, dining room, etc., and there are three servants. All there is to do is to eat, sleep and swim ; and I hear it's a great system, the food being especially good. I go up myself on the 15th May, so I will be able to write more about the place and send along a few snaps next month.

Congratulations to the old draft on getting such good stations. Scarborough will soon be composed of old China Command Signals. Reference the T.B. posting: Clean your buttons, Corpy.

Agonies.—No. 3 Company 1st Div. Sigs: What about some notes?

Tich and Dan, 5th Div.: Did you forget to visit Waterloo Road? Have received no wedding cake yet. Bunny.

Doris, Tidworth: Did you get Christmas card? Eileen, H.K. Till next time.

MATA HARI.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Thursday 3rd May.

Shanghai Taels.—Once again do we, with much sweating of blood, etc., endeavour to bash out a few notes for THE WIRE. The decrepit typewriter which we were able to scrounge last month is still in our office, having been kept under cover, and with the aid of hammers, sledge, 16 lb., still continues to do its stuff.

Spring is with us, or at least, certain signs acquaint us with the fact. The paragons of sport have laid aside their hockey sticks and are now daily swinging tennis racquets ; the yokels of the Section are busy with our herbaceous borders ; and we parade each morning for a dose of spring drills.

General.—There doesn't seem to be anything of great importance this month, except perhaps to congratulate Sigmn Paris (Radio) on passing in three subjects of the second class certificate. Really, Radio, you surprise us.

Old Shanghailanders will be surprised to know that the Naafi has at last " come over " with a fine billiard table, which has during the last month been a great boon to the Section. We

have already had two tournaments, and a couple of matches both of which we won.

We Doff Our Tiles.—To the n.c.o. who, in giving evidence, stated that "the accused was seen lurking in the virginity of the absolution room."

To the signalman who successfully passed a course of "horse equitation."

To the man who said that "Nelson's greatest battle was the Armada."

News Item.—Professor Richard Unger, F.R.G.S., who it may be remembered promised to give us some details about the oxometer, is at present suffering from a U.B. complex. The Professor came to our office the other day and complained about the lack of larrup and his inability to raise the wind, and said bitterly "Chaucer wrote 'All men are cast in the same mould,' but it would seem that some are mouldier than others."

We Would Like to Know.—Do S.B.O.s' fingers turn brown from friction through constant dialling? Are Gilbert and Sullivan a couple of comedians like Wheeler and Woolsey?

This Month's True Story.—A signalman, when on a ride, was asked by the instructor if riding gave him a headache. He replied "No, sir; quite the reverse."

Cumshaw Column.—Tubby: Maskee has returned to civil life. Bud.

Willocks, 1st Div.: Have you gone to "Lyonch," George? What about a "lyon?" Pat.

Hobden, Kohat: A line would be appreciated. Badgy.

Casey, India: Are you on a jew's course? What about a line? Carter.

Rut: Carry on correspondence through THE WIRE. It's cheaper. Viv, Steve and Ginger.

Finale.—The Chinese National Anthem. UNGER.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Tuesday 22nd May.

Apologies.—After several months of inactivity, the scribes of this unit have again received inspiration and WIRE notes have poured into the unit office. Unfortunately, these scribes move in overlapping spheres; and in order that readers shall not have to peruse the same thing several times, and to prevent invidious distinction in selecting the work of but one of these scribes for publication, the writer has been appointed to sub-edit their worthy efforts and produce one combining the virtues of all and and the vices of none.

General.—With the arrival of the s.s. *Balranald* on the 22nd March the strength of the unit was doubled. We now have a second officer in Lieut. E. J. H. Moppett, an additional Foreman-of-Signals in C.Q.M.S. Chimes, and three more n.c.o.s in Sergt Finney and Corpls Walters and Rogers, besides a noble body of linemen and two daredevil D.R.s in Signalmen Stowers and Smith E. (Darky). The boys on the *Balranald* had a real pleasure cruise, travelling in cabins and feeding in the saloon. They don't know what soldiering at sea is yet!

The unit is now in three detachments. Section Headquarters is still on the island of Pulau Brani in the harbour. Command H.Q. at Fort Canning have the C.S.O.'s staff, D.R.s and a small but select party of linemen. Our largest detachment is the Construction Section in the new cantonment of Changi, some fourteen miles out of town at the eastern extremity of Singapore Island. If only Jesse Smith could see Changi now, his eyes would start right out of their sockets. It is no more the peaceful Changi of old days, but a real live military garrison. Bungalows are going up by the dozen, and offices cluster round new roads all over the place. There are anything up to five hundred new faces. Quite the best bathing pagar (or shark-proof enclosure) on Singapore Island has been constructed there for the troops.

Submarine Cable.—The Changi Detachment claim that they do all the work. However, anyone who saw the gallant band of linemen from Pulau Brani and Fort Canning laying a new submarine cable across the harbour on a recent Sunday would realise that some work is done at other places. Signals employed the cable-laying lighters and the services of some cable ship officers of the Eastern Telegraph Company for this specialised work. Our gallant lads did their work by getting the cable along the shore trenches with some slight assistance from seventy coolies. The cable was "some baby," 900 yards long and weighing eleven tons. We broke two jacks in getting it propped up in the W.D. lighter to reel it off into the hold of the fitted cable-laying lighter. When it was reeled off, we then had to get 300 yards of it down a shore trench to the test hut where it was to join the land cable. This was no mean task, even with seventy coolies, especially as we had omitted to specify the sex of our coolies and about twenty-five of them were Chinese women! These women can dig and fill in all day long, but they have insufficient intelligence and strength for heaving a cable. You get one pulling one way, and it takes five minutes to persuade her to pull the other way. We are given to complaining of our own women, but believe me, boys, we have a lot to be thankful for.

There are two right-angled turns in the trench, which made pulling the heavy cable even more difficult. However, the Cable Company people solved the difficulty by producing two sets of tackle, which were attached to the cable at different points and to fence posts and enabled a greater purchase to be obtained. The cable was coated with wet sticky black pitch, and you should have seen those linemen afterwards—coated from head to foot in mud and pitch! When the cable had been pulled up to the test hut the time had got on so that we missed the slack tide, and when the lighter was towed out she was swept along by the tide, and our course was not the shortest distance between two points. We made the test hut on the other side with ten yards to spare, but did not succeed in running through to the exchange, some eighty yards inland, as we had hoped. The moral is, always wait for the next slack tide (high water) if you miss it once when laying submarine cable. Landing on the far shore was easier, and here the boys added sand to their mud and pitch make-up. What a day! seven to five o'clock! and we have many more miles to lay this year—and next! But don't tell the Foreman-of-Signals, C.Q.M.S. Thorpe.

Arrivals.—In addition to the *Balranald* party already mentioned, we have to record the following arrivals: Sergeant Watmore, L/Corporals Morton and Pearson, and Signalmen Blunt, Currie, Holmes and Matthews. We ought to mention that Sigmn Twitchen, from Tidworth, came out on the *Balranald* (and don't we know it!)

We also extend a hearty welcome to Lieut E. J. H. Moppett, who arrived per *s.s. Ranchi* on the 2nd March, and trust his stay with the Section will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—By P. and O. *Ranpura*, Corpl Simm. By H.M.T. *Neuralia*, Sergeant Carpenter, L/Corporals Dacombe and Wood, and Signalmen Brookes, Bennetts and Davis—all for home.

Promotions.—We congratulate our C.S.O., Major H. Noel Brown, on his recent promotion. We also offer congratulations to Corpl Ellis on his second "bar" up.

Jamaica Signal Section.

Up Park Camp, Kingston, 12th May.

Correction.—In the last notes from this Section there was a mistake in the month in the announcement of the birth of C.Q.M.S. Tilford's son. This should have read 24th December 1933 and not 24th January.

Moves.—Signalman Turton left Port Royal and the sea breezes for camp. Sigmn Dearden relieved him at the seaside resort.

General.—New reliefs have settled down and got into the general run of things. Sergt Davis was very lucky and managed to become mess and bar caterer in his first month here.

Social.—The Section were all invited to a farewell party given by the C.R.E. (Lieut.-Col. H. P. Jesson, R.E.) at Bournmouth Baths on the 4th May. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent in bathing, followed by tea and dancing.

Advice.—Pin your ears back and listen to me, boys. I don't know what the topic of my talk will be, and by the time I've finished you won't know, either, so we are starting level.

Just a word before the details for the next trooper are circulated to the various units. Now's the time to help yourselves in an effort to improve your chances of securing a vacation in the sun-kissed Isle of Jamaica, the pearl of the Caribbean Sea. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity. Mind you, there are only three vacancies occurring this year, so I advise you linemen to get your applications in early and avoid the crush.

No doubt you have seen the pictures, and read and heard quite a lot about this place; and believe me, it's perfectly true—

[*Continued at foot of page 324*]



Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

Our pride suffered a severe blow when we learned that our opponents in the football match at Blackdown last Easter were but substitutes for the first eleven, and our victory has lost much of its glamour. We owe our thanks to the goalkeeper for not losing entirely the reputation he gained with the Tittenshawe Wanderers—a reputation we hope he will maintain if the opportunity arises for a return match.

While still rather dazed from the shock of the football exposure, we suddenly realised that we had become part of the Air Defence Display at the Royal Tournament, Olympia. Our job in the display was rather overshadowed by the more spectacular performance of the searchlights and guns, which tried their best to raise the roof of Olympia while potting at the enemy formation which obliged by flying across the roof each night. The effect was somewhat spoilt, however, by the sight of the enemy flying backwards over the same course after the display ended.

One of the outstanding features of Olympia which struck us was the horde of kilted and side-whiskered beings who in normal life form part of the Black Watch Regiment. It was impossible to escape them, as they simply surrounded us; but having mastered their language, we got some good stories and all was well. Our accents were so strong at the end of the fortnight that we felt that the issue of kilts must follow immediately. We have since heard, however, that there is strong opposition to this innovation from the airline gang.

We have heard rumours of some similar display taking place at Hendon, so that our friends who missed the performance at Olympia may yet have the opportunity of seeing our turn.

On our return to headquarters, we thought we should be able to settle down to the routine of normal existence, but during our absence at Olympia someone let in the plumbers (or rather heating engineers). The drill hall very quickly assumed the appearance of a scrap iron and rubbish dump, and it will be apparently weeks before it is usable again. It has been said that we are to have a new floor in the drill hall, and although this sounds too good to be true, we are assured that it is not mere rumour. With a new floor and improved heating, life will be a little more pleasant for us in the future, and we shall also be able to make our social season even better than before.

On Friday 25th May a supper was held at headquarters in order that we might say farewell to C.S.M. Hopkins, who leaves the unit after twenty-six years service, and also to C.S.M. Taylor of the permanent staff, who has completed his tour of duty and has been posted to the 5th Divl Signals at Scarborough. The supper was well attended, and we hope the occasion expressed in no uncertain terms our regret at the parting. Although their official connection with us has been severed, we hope we shall still have the pleasure of seeing them whenever they can manage to join us to revive happy memories.

The place of C.S.M. Taylor has been filled by Sergt Topp, late of the Depot Battalion, Catterick, and we take this opportunity of welcoming him to the unit. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

Our 1934 annual camp is now a thing of the past: an episode upon which to look back: and will go down in the history of our little lives as one of the happiest and most successful since the unit was formed. On Whit Sunday, 20th May, the unit—about 340 strong—reached Scarborough, one party travelling by train and the other by road. Our commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley) led the rail party, and chose a route from the station to camp which gave the troops a view of the sea and the glorious coastline of the district. This also gave the people of Scarborough an opportunity of seeing the troops who were to spend the next two weeks in the town, and we have it on good authority that the populace was favourably impressed. This may or may not be the reason, but the fact remains that at no other camp have we been made to feel more welcome.

Our camp site at Burniston Fields was close to the 5th Divl Signals, and we must place on record their cordial reception of "we amateurs," although there seemed to be a sense of shyness on the part of some of our people.

At the church parade on Sunday 27th May, we were joined by the 5th Divl Signals, and the music was provided by our own band under Mr. T. G. Grundey.

The first week was devoted to Section training, followed by Company training, and on the second Monday an eight hour unit scheme was held. This was a kind of preliminary round and, proving successful, was a good rehearsal for the big scheme. On Wednesday 30th May the various Sections left camp to take up their allotted positions, and at 10 a.m. (to quote "Old Sam") the battle began. The director of operations was our commanding officer, assisted by the adjutant, Captain H. E. M. Swan. Major C. B. Delaney acted as O.C. Signals, assisted by Captain E. R. Sutton as his adjutant. About thirty miles of cable were laid out, a number of moves were successfully made, and the scheme closed down on Thursday. An inquest was subsequently held, and the verdict was that Doggerland had been repulsed and that our commanding officer was pleased with the result.

Sergeants Mess.—On Monday 28th May the usual camp guest night took place, and the Mess members were pleased to welcome our commanding officer and the other officers of the unit. Also present were a number of the w.o.s and sergeants of the 5th Divl Signals. After some turns by our own talent, a short but neat speech of welcome to our guests was made by R.Q.M.S. McVittie, to which our C.O. responded. R.S.M. Bevan replied on behalf of the visitors from the 5th Div. The second part of the entertainment was provided by members of Catlin's "Evening Follies," who came along from Scarborough after their evening performance. Their repertoire included some excellent items which were much appreciated by all present. As an acknowledgment of their kind gesture, a party of some thirty-six members attended a performance at Arcadia later in the week. We understand that the community singing by the Manchester choir that evening has never been surpassed. At the close of the performance three cheers (Signals cheers: "Allez oop!" invented by Bandy Hayes) were given for the company, and everyone was asking everyone else "Are you happy at your work?" The reply re 1934 camp is emphatically "Yes!"

KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Editorial.—It is difficult to procure an opening this month, as all branches of the unit are too busily engaged in putting themselves in order for camp to bother about supplying data for the "leader."

However, the parades are much improved, possibly in view of approaching camp and of the various Section exercises now being carried out on Sundays by the three Companies and affiliated Sections. These exercises are very popular from the training as well as the financial point of view, and the keenness with which the recruits since last annual training are following the various phases is most marked. This form of training is

extremely useful just prior to camp, as it enables Section commanders to exercise their command more easily in the open than in the confines of the drill hall. In addition, the nature of the exercises is such that it is hoped the lessons learnt at last annual training will not need repetition.

Congratulations to No. 1 Company on winning the Gould cup for musketry. The meeting was good, and the standard in all three Companies was much higher than before. The margin of points separating first from last was only ten, which speaks for itself. With increased facilities this year for weapon training on the miniature ranges, the individual average should improve.

A hearty welcome is accorded to Mr. G. K. S. Edwards on being gazetted to the unit.

Judging from the favourable replies already received from several employers, it is anticipated that a record percentage of the unit's strength will attend camp. Those attending are assured of a first class fortnight under canvas, provided the clerk of the weather will co-operate with us. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

We open our notes this month in a happy vein. The Gould cup has been regained once more. This is a triumph of keenness, and our thanks are due to Mr. F. H. Reeks and the six others who trained. It is hoped to obtain a little more practice on the open range next year. As a result of the only practice this year, the old mainstays were outpaced (or outsighted) by the younger generation, and we have to congratulate the latter on so successfully representing the Company.

Having won the first cup, we are warmed up and are determined to gain others this year. Now, Nos. 2 and 3, "we are telling you."

Training is in full swing. Both Sections have had one outing, and the rough edges are being slowly smoothed over. The attendances at these exercises are very gratifying, but there are still a few more seats on the wagons and lorries for those who would like them.

These are the last notes that will appear in print before annual camp. It is, therefore, appropriate that at this stage an appeal should be made to all to get "all hands to the pumps" and do the work in the right spirit, so that the camp period may be a pleasure to all.

I understand that a large number are looking forward to their visit to the Tattoo. Apparently, no exception is being taken because the bus may be run free.

All boxers and those interested in running are asked to start training, so that the Company may put up a real good show in camp.

To those in B Section who got past the examiner in the trade test, we offer our congratulations. Don't forget: next year, a little step higher.

To all those who have arrived since our last notes, we hope your stay will be long and happy. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

Section training is now in full swing, and we are particularly pleased to note the improved attendance and the keenness shown by all ranks. Keep it up, and we shall be able to carry on at camp and gain credit.

Although late, this Company would like to congratulate Major Cornelius on his recent promotion, for we all know only too well how he deserves it. We were also pleased to see the words of praise showered on No. 3 P.S.I., as we know that he, too, deserves them.

The Company and No. 224 Section are eagerly looking forward to camp. I feel sure that the shortage of water will not worry our older ranks. They assure me that man cannot live on water alone: there must be something in it! Perhaps they are right. I know they like tea!

We congratulate No. 1 Company on winning the Gould cup for shooting, and also our Joe on getting the highest score.

Agony.—To Ari, Peking Detachment: Pip only hopes that he will never have to put you in worse places before you have finished. All here send their regards. Why do you look like Mussolini?

This will be all for this month, I am afraid. Copy seems to get shorter month by month. PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

We congratulate our Company commander most sincerely on his promotion. Major W. J. L. Cornelius has achieved distinction by long and faithful service to the Company and the unit, and has, we hope, many more successful years ahead of him.

Training progresses, but we experience some difficulty at times in fitting everything in. Musketry practice in preparation for the annual course provides, on occasion, a slight interference in that the drill hall cannot be utilised for anything else when firing is in progress. We have compensations, however, in that we can avail ourselves of the brickfields close to our headquarters for outdoor training and the Section Sunday exercises. These latter are very instructive and well attended. As evidence of their popularity, it is found rather a problem to fit in the Section personnel and the large number of volunteers from the other Sections.

Uplift.—Scene: Company fitting room. C.Q.M.S.: "Well, what do you want, son?" Bright young recruit: "I want a set of 'University' buttons, please." *Comment*: The new spirit in the Company (?) THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and No. 11 Air Squadron Signal Section (S.R.)

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

Here we are again, as the invisible man said when he put his shirt on. We apologise for our continued absence from these columns, and would give our reasons if we thought our readers would believe us.

Training.—We are now approaching the end of the second half of the training season, which has been very successful, and are looking forward to annual training, when the seeds of the previous eleven months training will doubtless bear fruit.

No. 1 Company.—A Section is busy fitting the C sets to tables for lorry work. B Section is getting a lot of practice in mechanical cable laying, and is making a good show in what has proved a difficult job. D Section is increasing in numbers and enthusiasm, and has settled down comfortably in its new home.

No. 3 Company.—The Sections of the Company have been reorganised and J Section brought up to full peace establishment (mechanised), and much will be expected of them during the forthcoming signal exercises and annual camp.

Supplementary Reserve—The S.R. are tackling their job with customary vigour and enthusiasm. We understand a change in establishment is afoot, but more of that at a later date.

Whitsuntide Training.—Successful day schemes were carried out on the Sunday and Monday in the neighbourhood of Iver.

Command Exercise: No. 1.—All members of the unit who participated in the Command exercise at Newhaven from the 2nd to 5th May had a very interesting and enjoyable time with the 4th Divisional Signals.

Sunday Schemes.—Several Sunday schemes, details of which will be given in Company Orders, are scheduled to take place before camp.

Driving Instruction.—Several would-be drivers are taking a course with the R.A.S.C. at Croydon.

Annual Training.—Camp is at hand! Rumour says that strange looking individuals have been seen prowling round the drill hall and have been busy counting dixies. We don't know why, but this happens each year just previous to camp. Everybody is looking forward to the fortnight at Arundel Park, particularly as all the Companies and Artillery Brigade Signal Sections will be together again for the first time for many years.

Recruiting.—We are pleased to record that recruiting is proceeding apace, but we must not slacken our efforts as there is still room in the unit for the right type of man. Remember, the efficiency trophy will this year be awarded to the Section with the highest percentage of attendances at camp.

Rifle Shooting.—As mentioned in our last notes, the annual shoot against the Divisional R.A.S.C. was held and, as prophesied by our able tipster Muskrat, the dose *was* repeated: Divisional R.A.S.C. 884, Signals 951 (possible 1000).

The rifle team is busy practising for the Brigade shoot to be held at Purfleet on the 8th July. We would point out to the team that the Middlesex Justices shield has been roaming too long from its rightful home.

We Wish to Know.—Who will play us to Addison Road?
Whether Tiny will count as three men in the tug-of-war?
Is it right to dismantle a cable wagon when on the move?
Bill's definition of outside axle-tree flange, wagon, cable?
Is a person who passes a red traffic light a casualty if the cop catches him? and if the answer is "Yes," why wasn't it published in Part II. Orders?
Are pigeons profitable?
Who lost the stores?
Will "promenade feet" be prevalent at Arundel Park? and if so, what steps will be taken to eradicate the disease?
Will the drought break before, during, or after the annual training?
Will he bring his bowler all the way from Newcastle? and if so, what will be its fate? NOTBYWIT.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

General.—The past month's happenings in this part of the world provide but little scope for the brilliant literary mind of the 49th. The poor wretch will therefore have to store all his bright witticisms (if any) in his noddle until a more opportune time, and simply record cold hard facts.

The instruction given to young and old on the usual two-a-week drill nights has been augmented by Sunday and week-end schemes and camps, the latter being more of a sectional than a unit nature. On Sunday mornings there has been some shooting on the miniature range in the drill hall—a fact which calls for little comment save that we understand there is no truth in the rumour that the results are to be used to substantiate an argument for the return to bows and arrows.

Training.—The chief items of interest have been the aforesaid week-end camps. The first, which took J Section into the wilds of Wharfedale, was on the 12th/13th May, and took the form of an offensive movement. The second, on 2nd/3rd June, concerned E Section, and the third, on the 9th/10th June, gave K Section an opportunity of demonstrating their value in a defensive position. The camp site is excellently placed and is surrounded by country which lends itself admirably to signal exercises. The unit is very fortunate in having secured such a splendid ground as that at Arthington. Each of these schemes has been "done" three times—once over the indoor lines in barracks, once on the drill hall floor with the aid of models and fully explained by the adjutant, and then finally over the countryside proper, and every individual has thus been fully conversant with his job.

The Thursday night classes in operating are continuing, and there has been a marked improvement in that particular branch, especially among the younger men. Indications are that this year's camp will be a regular bumper, with a higher standard of work all round.

Promotions and Appointments.—This is, surely, the paragraph for making the youngsters sigh and the old sweats breathe fervent prayers in honour of the man who put the "wet" in "old sweat." The Sergeants Mess will now be graced by six new faces, and to those six, as well as to the remainder of those whose names appear below, we offer our warmest congratulations. To be Sergeant: L/Sergts Theobald W. and Bedford C. Appointed Lance-Sergeants: Corpls Sharman S. and Smith H. (No. 1 Company), Sellers J. W. and Smith H. (No. 2 Company), Young J. and Chappell H. Promoted Corporals: L/Corporals Bennett G. and Stacey K. G. Appointed Lance-Corporals (paid): U/L/Corporal Thurlwell A. E. and Signalmen Tolhurst F., Plunkett J. P. and Jones W. R. With the exception of the last two (w.e.f. 25/5/34) all are w.e.f. 17/5/34.

Farewell.—The month has seen the departure of a respected and well-liked No. 2 Company n.c.o. in the person of Sergeant Howitt H., who at the termination of a long engagement has severed his connection with the unit, which he joined in 1927 after previous service. He leaves with his still serving colleagues pleasant memories of days gone by.

Recruiting.—Once more it is our pleasure to report "full house" with one or two exceptions. The newcomers are being gently broken in by Sergt Bedford prior to their absorption into their Sections next training season. Cheer up, lads, and be happy while you have the chance. The cares of office lie ahead.

Administrative.—We are anxious to hear the true story of the officers of J Section who visited the Sergeants Mess at Arthington and became involved in a cheese supper. Why bring that story up again?

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Captain Alfred Arnold.—It is with regret that we have to record the death of Captain Alfred Arnold, of No. 1 (Glasgow) Air Force Headquarters Signal Section, S.R., who passed away in London from pneumonia after two days illness. He was laid to rest at Barnet on the 18th May.

The news of his passing was almost unbelievable. The fates have dealt us some cruel blows in recent times. Good comrades, the bravest and the best, have been called to the last parade in the flower of their manhood. Now our well-beloved Alfred Arnold has crossed the Great Divide.

He was a man of great technical attainments and an invaluable asset to the Signal Service. His work at the G.P.O. Research Section, Dollis Hill, had secured the recognition and approval of those in high office. Captain Arnold did much to further the development of modern telegraphic apparatus. His profound knowledge and experience were appreciated in official circles outside the Post Office. He was ever ready and eager to give of his best to the Corps, and it is to the Signals as a whole that the loss will be the greater, for the passing of one who was in the vanguard in the development of the complex problem of modern communication can be ill-afforded by a Corps such as ours.

Captain Arnold entered the Post Office in Glasgow as a boy and, with the exception of the war years (in France), until he was transferred to London in 1929 he still retained his connection with the Corps in Glasgow. While on war service he was mentioned in despatches.

A man of charming personality, Alfred Arnold was at all times quiet and unassuming. He placed implicit confidence in those who served under him, and it was rarely that that confidence was betrayed. He had a way of putting a man on his mettle. Alfred Arnold was just and upright. He was typical of all that was best in a most competent officer, and a very great gentleman.

To his sorrowing widow and three children, we offer our heartfelt sympathy. At the early age of forty-one Alfred Arnold has passed to his rest. He was truly well respected by men, even as he respected men. The fragrance of his memory will be with us always.

"Dorry" and Spindler.—It is surely good that units such as ours should manifest interest in the Corps promotion roster affecting our Regular comrades. The promotion of R.Q.M.S. Dorrington, A Corps Signals, to be R.S.M. is of special interest to us. The success of our S.R. units on Salisbury Plain last year would not have been achieved but for the aid of "Dorry." During our short association with R.S.M. Dorrington, we learned to respect him as a soldier and a man. We also congratulate our good friend R.Q.M.S. Spindler.

"Dorry is tall; Spindler is small;
Commissions await you, small and tall."

Profitable Picnics.—Splendid results are said to be accruing from the week-end camps. The young idea is being gradually accustomed to the military atmosphere. These congenial and healthful outings are being conducted with the greatest care and consideration for the comfort of all concerned, and we can assure those not attending that the loss is theirs.

Concerning Courses.—The enthusiasm shown in the n.c.o.s course embracing Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies is exceeding all expectations. The commanding officer has shown sound judgment in designating this course as of first rate importance. The n.c.o.s concerned are reaping the benefit of the long and varied experience of officers and instructors well qualified to contribute to the moulding of the senior n.c.o.s of the future.

All's Well.—We are delighted with the splendid progress of the invalids in the households of Sergt-Majors Atkinson and

Knox. We are especially pleased to hear of the progress of Sergt-Major Knox's little one, who has been fifteen weeks in hospital. We would inform a constant lady reader of THE WIRE that Annie is now sitting up, and that steps should be taken to protect the Chippendale and Sheraton furniture of the house of Atkinson, as the little cherub will soon be fit and well.

"Davy."—It is almost impossible to imagine the Sergeants Mess without "Davy." We are to bid farewell to Sergt David Reid, who has been caterer to the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess for almost thirty years. Ours will be the loss. The almost uniformly sound financial position of the Mess during his long service has been almost wholly due to the splendid work of Sergt Reid. A man of many good qualities, "Davy" has indeed served us well. Possessed of an astute mind, he has created a strong precedent for efficiency and absolute integrity. Well done, good and faithful "Davy!"

Seventh.—We finished seventh in the Scottish Command cross-country competition at Edinburgh. Signalman Henderson's effort was splendid. Another year should make the Lowland Signals opponents to be reckoned with in Scottish military sporting circles.

Troon Trophies.—Already there is talk of our sports to be held at the forthcoming Troon camp. The usual valuable prizes are to be offered. The various events are providing subjects for discussion in the Men's Club. It is pleasing to note the enthusiasm of our youngsters for what promises to be a bumper sports meeting.

Heid Hog Houston.—The ancient rites and practices of the Hogs Club are to be revived at Troon camp. Heid Hog Houston (mystic man of the Honourable Hogs and master of the King's English) is to be restored to his high office as alcoholic allocator-in-chief. It is proposed to present him with a golden key as a souvenir of his yeoman service in the cause of hoggery.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

Training.—On the 12th and 13th May many of our recruits experienced their first week-end camp at Hainault, and judging by the number of requests since received for "permission to take a flag home," there seems to be a thirst for more—proving how enthusiastic our recruits are.

The visual team turned out in full force during this week-end, and finished up easy winners of the competition held between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies. Need we say any more about them?

During the three days 19th, 20th and 21st May B Cable Section were able to put to the test the superiority of a lorry over a cable wagon in laying cable. The use of the new cable laying apparatus means the mechanisation of the Section, and this does not suit some of our old drivers, who were heard singing "The old love" but on return to headquarters after the scheme altered the words somewhat—which proves again that we cannot suit everybody.

Also during the Whitsun, A Wireless Section manned wireless stations at Stratford, Bedford and Southend. People for miles around each station have sent in complaints about our concerts not being so good as those of say Luxembourg or Radio Paris, but it has been pointed out to them that this interference will not happen too often; and we are considering the advisability of either requesting those broadcasting stations to try a new wavelength or asking the complainants to try a new set. It was during this scheme that the answer received to the question "What is the wavelength?" was "If it's by the metre, about five minutes!"

The Wireless Section are going further afield on the 16th and 17th June, but we must not anticipate too much owing to the achievements of the last scheme held—at least, not in this month's notes.

B Cable Detachment, also on the 16th and 17th June, visit the scenes of former triumphs in cable laying. This is in the vicinity of Hainault Forest. All we require for success is fine weather. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—During the month of May we have brought at least one R.A. Field Brigade Signal Section much nearer efficiency, and several recruits very near their Group E rating as operators—which, for one month, isn't so bad.

True, we had the advantage of Whitsun camp, a three-day training holiday at Nazeing, Essex, and a two-day exercise for operators at Hainault Forest. The ground covered at Nazeing was more than we had hoped. The Section was exercised in Artillery code work, concentration fire orders, messages by buzzer, speech and visual, and V.E. messages. A good run-through of everything was done on Whit Sunday, and an assortment of each was dealt out on the scheme which took place on Whit Monday. But try as we would, the operators could not be caught and the results were indeed gratifying. The linemen group, though not containing the famous Pond, were a very nippy team, and a competition between the two rival teams is something to which we are looking forward.

V/T Team.—Our dark horse turned out at Nazeing and we were able to have a thorough test. To publish the results would be to give our form away, but we can assure all possible rivals that they have a lot to catch up.

Collapsed.—Our telephone wagon commander, when he heard his beloved telephone wagon referred to by a recruit as "the wire barrow!" TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—Our main item of news this month concerns our Whitsun camp at Hullbridge. The weather was kind to us and there was a good turn out. The scheme went very well except for one or two faults which we hope will be eliminated next time. These faults appeared in the giving of indefinite orders, map reading and station discipline. With the drill hall set out for miniature Infantry Brigade working, the two first-named faults should soon be rectified, and the Section should be well tuned up for annual training.

G.O.C.'s Inspection.—Major-General F. J. Marshall, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., inspected the building and administration of these headquarters on the 23rd May and found everything to his satisfaction. This was mainly due to the help of Signalmen Jones L., Gibson and Dunce, who came along and helped in the cleaning, etc.

Social Services Parade.—The Company is to be congratulated on the turn out for the above parade, which took place on the 27th May. About half the unit turned out, and they certainly looked smart and clean.

Trade Board.—The first attempt has enabled three members to pass, and I hope to announce later that the other four have managed to get through. They will when they let the wind out!

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Cpl Palin H. and Sigmn Price B. on their promotion and appointment to Corporal and L/Corporal (paid) respectively. S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—Work is being carried on very briskly. A series of week-end camps has been held, and very lively interest has been taken in them by all members.

We held a week-end camp at Turvey at Whitsun, and 75 per cent. of the unit turned up. School work was very much in evidence for the period, and our visual experts got in some good practice. After-duty hours were spent in the vicinity, and the local inhabitants had the doubtful pleasure of purchasing beer for the lads of the unit on account of games of skill won by them. All members were sorry when the week-end was over. The messing was excellent, and we congratulate Sergt Thurley and his cooks on their fine show. Thanks very much!

Another good week-end was spent by the Section at the same camping ground on the 2nd/3rd June. We again had a very fine turn out and got through a good amount of signal training. Our Divisional Commander's team had a try-out against last year's team, and they came to the conclusion that they still have a lot to learn. Anyhow, we hope to put up a good show at Roedean in July and August.

Recruiting.—Recruiting is going on very briskly. We have managed to get the unit up to within six of full strength. We congratulate the last recruited on joining the right Section at the right time.

To-Night's Smile.—This is on the latest recruit, who on being handed the Bible to be sworn in on attestation by the officer, proceeded to shake the officer by the hand. BEDFORDIAN.

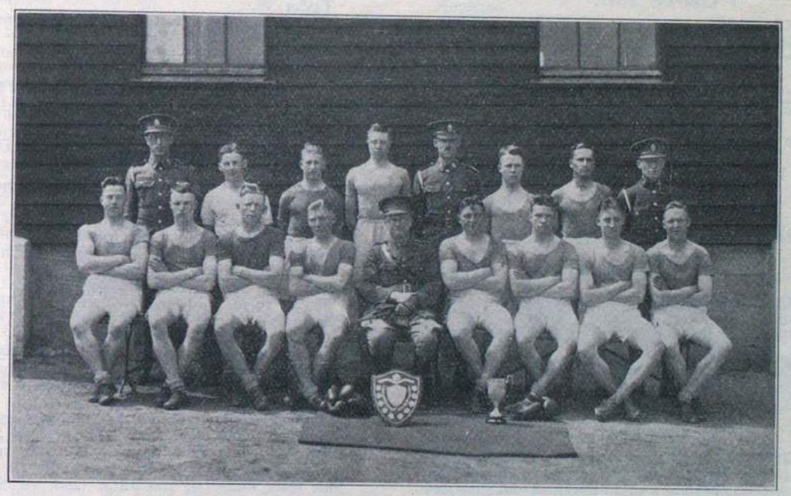
. . . SPORTS NOTES . . .

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—The Signal Training Centre inter-Company boxing tournament took place in the Baghdad boxing arena on the 7th, 9th and 11th of May. Some very excellent bouts were witnessed, and the standard of boxing showed a vast improvement over the last few competitions. Each Company fought three sessions, and as space will not allow one to give each individual fight in detail, the following will show how E Company progressed during the competition.

7th May—won by 16—14 points against D Company.
9th May—lost by 14—16 points against Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.
11th May—won by 17—15 points against Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

The latter contest produced a very close decision at the end of the scheduled ten fights, so a reserve was required from each team to fight at welter weight. Sigmn Weygang put up a splendid fight to gain us the valuable two extra points.



E Company Boxing Team.

Back row (left to right)—L/Sergt Brewster P., Signalmen Robinson, Weygang and Robson, C.S.M. Lane H., Signalmen Crowe and Cation, Sergt Powell H. *Front*—Signalmen Evans, Stannard, Broggy and Boon, Capt. R. C. Woodbridge, Signalmen Bott, Smith, Hall and Gale.

[*Photo by Avison, Catterick Camp.*]

At the close of the contest Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, was placed first, E Company second, Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion, third, and D Company fourth. At the conclusion of the fighting on the final night, the Mackworth trophy and all other prizes won during the past year were presented by Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant of the Signal Training Centre.

Swimming.—There is very little doing in this sport at present, but with a good number of learners who are keen we have hopes for the future. The Battalion team has yet to play its first league game of the season, but in a friendly against the East Yorks Regiment they lost by 4—6.

Cricket.—Owing to the popularity of athletics in the Signal Training Centre, we have not been able to make a really wholehearted start with cricket. A trial game was managed one Thursday afternoon and the talent of the Company tried out. On the following Saturday a game was arranged with F Company. They batted first and knocked up 115 runs, whilst we in our turn could only manage 110. We are due to meet Mounted Wing in the first round of the Mackworth competition on the 21st June, and hope to win through and so to the final. Come on, F. Then let's have a go at you.

Athletics.—In the first Mackworth trophy meeting E tied with D for second place, Mounted Wing capturing the premier position. In the second round D was first, E second and Mounted Wing third. Everybody anxiously looked forward to the third and final meeting, which proved disastrous for us. Mounted Wing was first, D second and E third—and so the positional points kept for the Mackworth trophy. Sorry, Dick! we did not have the same talent as that of last year, but this year's team did very well indeed. Well done, Mounted Wing!

We have just finished the S.T.C. individual athletic championships, and we have done quite well for the Pinsent cup. Signalman Gibbons and Corpl Jerram were first and second in the discus throwing, Corporal Jerram third in the shot, Signalmen Bates and Green L. third and fifth in the three miles, Mr. Lyall second in the hurdles and fourth in the high jump, Corporal Collins first in the half mile, Sigmn Griffiths third in the half mile, second in the quarter mile, and fifth in the 220 yards. Corpl Collins won the one mile, with Sigmn Green L. third (look after Green, 4th Div.: he is coming on well). Corporal Saunders T. was fourth in the javelin, and Sigmn Sims third in the pole vault. Signalmen Pitcher and Patient secured a run in the finals but were not placed.

I am sure the whole of the Company enjoyed some good sport on the final day, and would like me to thank the competitors for their good show. The Company congratulates the Boys team on their position at the top, with Mounted Wing second and E third.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket.

Practice was greatly hindered by the cold and wet weather at the beginning of the season. During the whole of the Whitsun holidays, not a single game could be played. By the time the

first Ampleforth match was due, we had not really settled down, though the team acquitted themselves extremely well against greatly superior talent. Although we have lost two or three good cricketers since last year, the general standard throughout the Company, especially in fielding, is much higher.

F Company Boys v. Ampleforth Colts.—At Ampleforth, on the 30th May. Play could not start till 4 p.m. owing to an examination at the school. Stumps were drawn at 8 o'clock, and an excellent sausage and mash supper was provided for us. We lost by 50 runs.

AMPLEFORTH.

Kilpatrick b Piddington	8
Wells b Reedman	6
Redfern b Reedman	50
Bohan run out	58
Sutton not out	5
Mitchell b Adcock	4
Buxton not out	4
Extras	11
Total for five wickets (declared)	146

F COMPANY BOYS.

Terrey b Kilpatrick	7
Creed b Kilpatrick	0
Verlander b Ryan	14
Willis run out	1
Adcock c and b Parker-Jervis	12
Hawley c and b Parker-Jervis	10
Reedman c Ryan b Parker-Jervis	0
Harrison b Bohan	9
O'Brien b Kilpatrick	24
Piddington b Bohan	2
Gibson not out	0
Extras	17
Total	96

Garrison Boys Cricket Cup: First Round.

"B" Team (Operators) v. D.L.I. won by 172 runs. "B" 83 and 146 for nine wickets, declared (Player 36 not out). D.L.I. 41 (Reedman five for 19) and 16 (Reedman four for 9, Silver five for 5).

"A" Team (Operators) v. East Lancs. Regiment, won by eight wickets. East Lancs. 47 (Deane eight for 15) and 28 (Deane four for 12). "A" 71 (Deane 37) and 7 for two wickets.

Athletics.

Mackworth Trophy.—Despite valiant efforts, we missed third place in the last Mackworth meeting by one point only, E Company obtaining 106 points to our 105. Everyone did their best, however, and gave the leading Company a run for their money.

Pinsent Cup.—F Company won the Pinsent cup. That in itself is good enough news; but with it we should like to couple the names of 2/Lieuts. Williams and Gordon, L/Sergt Harrison, Corpl Holden, L/Corpl Currie, L/Corpl Boy Verlander, Boys Terrey, Adams and Bowser, who got the points. Congratulations to them and to all those who did their best in the preliminary heats.

Sunderland School.—A very enjoyable meeting with Sunderland Collegiate School resulted in a win for F Company boys by one point. Sunderland proved strong in the sprints but weak in jumps and distance. Many of the Sunderland team were over nineteen years of age.

Barnard Castle School.—On the 21st June we go to Barnard Castle to make a return visit. The running includes over 16 and under 16, and fifteen events of all descriptions. Results will be given in next month's WIRE.

Army Individual Championships.—Boys Barrett R. and Smith J. have been entered in the Army enlisted boys 220 yards, to be run at Aldershot on the 28th and 29th June. By the time this appears, we hope to have added yet another title to our list.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Individual Sports.—The individual sports of this unit were held on the sports ground, Mons Barracks, on the 5th and 6th June with the following results. Our hearty congratulations to Corpl Hickmott on winning the Victor Ludorum cup.

Putting the shot—1st Corpl Hickmott, 2nd L/Corpl McNeill
Discus—1st Sigmn Thompson, 2nd Corpl Hickmott
Throwing the hammer—1st Cpl Hickmott, 2nd Sigmn Kirlew
Javelin—1st Corpl Hickmott, 2nd Sigmn Thompson
Pole vault—1st Sigmn Greenwood, 2nd Sigmn Botting
High jump—1st Sigmn Greenwood, 2nd 2/Lieut. Fuller
Long jump—1st Sigmn Greenwood, 2nd Sigmn Bisby
100 yards—1st Lieut. T. A. K. Howe, 2nd Corpl Hickmott, 3rd Sigmn Chilvers
220 yards—1st Lieut T. A. K. Howe, 2nd Sigmn Chilvers, 3rd Sigmn Smith A.
440 yards—1st Lieut. T. A. K. Howe, 2nd L/Corpl Vigurs, 3rd Sigmn Chilcott
880 yards—1st Sigmn Atkinson, 2nd Sigmn Hudson, 3rd Sigmn Botting
One mile—1st Sigmn Hudson, 2nd Sigmn Jennings, 3rd Sigmn Atkinson
Three miles—1st Sigmn Jennings, 2nd Sigmn Porter, 3rd Sigmn Taylor W.
120 yards hurdles—1st Corpl Hickmott, 2nd Sigmn Greenwood, 3rd L/Corpl Vigurs.
Victor Ludorum—Corpl Hickmott, 12 points

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Athletics.—Results of the triangular athletic meeting held at Mons Barracks on the 26th May between the 1st Battn Suffolk Regiment, the 2nd Battn S.L.I., and the 2nd Divisional Signals. Points allotted—Track events, 6, 4, 2; field events, 3, 2, 1.

440 yards relay—1st, 1st Suffolk, 46 sec. 2nd, 2nd S.L.I., 47 sec. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 47⅗ sec.
High jump—1st, 2nd Divl Signals, 10 ft. 4 in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 10 ft. 2 in. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I. 9 ft. 11 in.
Two miles relay—1st, 2nd Divl Signals, 8 min. 56 sec. 2nd, 1st Suffolk. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I.
Discus—1st, 2nd Divl Signals, 190 ft. 5 in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 180 ft. 10 in. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I. 159 ft. 11 in.
Pole vault—1st, 2nd S.L.I., 18 ft. 9 in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 18 ft. 6 in. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 9 ft. 3 in.
880 yards relay—1st, 1st Suffolk, 1 min. 38⅗ sec. 2nd, 2nd S.L.I. 1 min. 39 sec. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals
Hammer—1st, 2nd Divl Signals, 182 ft. 2½ in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 162 ft. 9¼ in. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I. 142 ft. 9 in.
480 yards hurdles—1st, 2nd S.L.I. 1 min. 17⅗ sec. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 1 min. 19⅗ sec. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals
Javelin—1st, 2nd S.L.I. 293 ft. 5 in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 227 ft. 7 in. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 214 ft. 3¼ in.
Mile team race—1st, 2nd S.L.I. 2nd, 1st Suffolk. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals
Long jump—1st, 2nd S.L.I., 36 ft. 2½ in. 2nd, 1st Suffolk, 35 ft. 9 in. 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 34 ft. 10 in.
Shot—1st, 1st Suffolk. 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I.
Mile relay—1st, 1st Suffolk, 3 min. 43⅗ sec. 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals. 3rd, 2nd S.L.I.

Final positions—1st, 1st Battn Suffolk Regiment, 45 points; 2nd, 2nd Battn S.L.I., 37; 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 32.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Tennis Club Tournament.—Further results in the tournament mentioned last month are as follows.

DOUBLES SEMI-FINALS—L/Corpl Mohrstadt and Sigmn Verlander (Command) beat Sergt Bishop and Corpl Chamberlain (Command). Signalmen Banbury and Tuck (D Troop) beat Sgt Coleman and L/Corpl Ransome (D Troop).

MATCHES—During the last month two matches have been played: the first against No. 1 Company 1st Divl Signals, and the second a return match against the 2nd Battn R.T.C. The first was abandoned owing to rain with the score at 19 points all. The second was won by 36—18 points.

Our teams were: First match, Captain Morgan, Sergt Harvey, Corpl Chamberlain, L/Corpl Durand, Signalmen Appleton, Banbury and Tuck. Second match, Captain Morgan, L/Sergt Gatford, Corpls Stanley, Jones and Chamberlain, L/Corpls Durand and Mohrstadt, Signalmen Banbury and Tuck.

Cricket.—For the first time in more than eleven years the Command Company were able to field a team for cricket, and our opponents were our "friendly" enemies D Troop Cavalry Signals. A very good game was enjoyed by all, and our first effort resulted in a win. The scores were: D Troop 77, Command Signal Company 106 for nine wickets.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.—The unit, although less than fifty strong, is holding its own with quite good class teams in the district, and the fixture list is full up. Some very good games have been witnessed during this ideal cricket weather. In the first round of the Garrison cricket cup we were sadly outclassed, but this competition provides our only opportunity to play full strength battalion teams and get an insight into good cricket. Results:

v. 54th Field Company R.E. lost by 40 runs. Signals 66 (Lovegrove 28, King 20 not out); Engineers 106 (King six for 25, Nicholas four for 29).
v. D.C.R.E. Staff, won by 31 runs. Signals 73 for eight (Nicholas 29 not out); D.C.R.E. 42 (King three for 9).
v. 1st Battn R.W.F. (Garrison Cup first round) lost by 155 runs. Signals 40; R.W.F. 195 for six (Lieut. Cadogan 39).
v. R.A.S.C. won by 39 runs. Signals 61 (Nicholas 16 not out, Wilsdon 17); R.A.S.C. 22 (Harrop six for 12, Lovegrove three for 10).
v. R.A.F. Station, Netheravon, lost by 73 runs. Signals 63 (L/Corpl Allen 16 not out); R.A.F. 136 (King six for 55, Nicholas four for 53).
v. Shipton C.C. won by 38 runs. Signals 114 (Wilsdon 53); Shipton 76 (Harrop six for 33, Nicholas three for 11).
v. Cholderton C.C. lost by 51 runs. Signals 38; Cholderton 89 (Nicholas four for 9, L/Corpl Allen six for 33).
v. F Troop (inter-unit) lost by 13 runs. A.F.V. Signals 103 for three, declared (Lieut. Gordon 44 not out, Nicholas 32); F Troop 116 (Sergt Archer 37).
v. R.A.F. Station, Netheravon, lost by 10 runs. Signals 70 (Lovegrove 21); R.A.F. 80 (King eight for 43).
v. Shipton C.C. won by 10 runs. Signals 117 (Wills 32, Scriven 24); Shipton 107 (King six for 54).

No. 1 Tank Signal and Tank Brigade Signal Sections, Farnborough.

Since we have been here, we have played several games against the 2nd Battalion R.T.C. Here are the results up to going to press.

Cricket.—v. 1st Tank Brigade, 6/6/34. We were unable to turn out a full team from the Signal Section, but we made up with members of the Tank Corps, and we won by 74—30 runs. Highest scores, Sigmn Henry 34, Sigmn Bromley 9. The same pair did some very useful work with the ball. The former took three wickets for 12 runs, and the latter five for 10.

Net Ball.—v. Brigade Section, 16/5/34. We lost by 3—4. At half time we were leading by 3—1, but the Tanks had a wonderful system which was hard to beat. Scorers, Signalman Henry 2, Sigmn Holberton 1.
v. No. 9 Section we won by 2—1. Scorers, Signalmen Holberton and Bromley.
v. No. 7 Section, 5/6/34, won by 4—3. Scorers, Signalmen Henry (2), Bromley and Holberton.

Rounders.—v. No. 9 Section, 29/5/34, lost by 12—13. We won the first innings by 12—7, but in the second the Tanks brought the score up to 13—12. Sigmn Bromley went in first, and we were all confident of winning, with only two to get to beat the Tanks. However, on the second strike Bromley was caught and so our hopes were dashed. Sigmn Henry scored six of our total runs.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.—This year our team is one of great promise; new blood has freshened up the old, and doubtful places have been nicely filled. Behind the stumps we have nippy Cassidy—truly a welcome capture.

Our opening game was against C Squadron 4th/7th Dragoon Guards. We lost by 7 runs. This defeat was balanced when we won by 7 runs against the R.A.S.C. Tidworth. In regard to this latter game, particular mention must be made of the victorious last minute stand of Signalmen ('Erbert) Lane and Blake.

Against the 42nd Field Brigade R.A. we won by six wickets. Top scores: Sigmn Rapson 26 and Corpl Appleton 23. Sergt Honnor and Sigmn (Larwood) Rogers showed the Gunners what good bowling is really like.

F Troop gave us something to think about when they scored 62 more runs than we did.

Our friends in the R.A.S.C. gave us our third victory by four wickets. This result was partly due to the successful partnership of Captain Knight and Sergt Honnor, who contributed a welcome 40 when the result was in the balance.

CRICKET AVERAGES TO DATE.

Batting.

	Innings	Not out	Highest	Total	Average
Rapson	7	0	26	94	13.4
Captain Knight	3	1	*14	22	11
Honnor	8	1	*26	61	8.8
Appleton	7	0	23	56	8
Richardson	7	0	19	52	7.4
Rogers	6	0	15	34	5.6
Cassidy	4	0	13	22	5.5
Lane	5	1	*10	14	3.5

* Not out.

Bowling.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Rapson	7	2	16	6	2.6
Rogers	55	18	132	23	5.8
Honnor	58	8	200	34	5.9
Richardson	16	0	85	6	14.1
Appleton	7	1	35	2	17.3

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Cricket.—On 19/5/34 against the 9th Field Brigade R.A. on the Garrison ground, Bulford. The Brigade proved too strong a side. Batting first, they compiled a total of 130 for eight wickets, to which we could only reply with 66. It was the first match of the season, and as only a limited amount of practice had been carried out, the result was not disheartening.

On 23/5/34 v. 2nd Divl Signals on the Garrison ground, Bulford. This match was played under ideal weather conditions and resulted in a very satisfactory win for the unit. 2nd Div. Sigs batted first and made 108, to which we replied with 210 for five wickets. Sigmn Mitchell gave a very nice display in making 118 not out; he batted very soundly, giving very few chances and producing some good all round shots. The bowling honours went to L/Corpls Jerram and Marsh. The fielding on both sides was keen and on the whole good.

On 30/5/34 v. Bemerton C.C. from Salisbury, on the Garrison ground, Bulford. We batted first and compiled 97. Here, it is regretted, a complete rot set in among our batsmen. Lieut. Harrison made 41 out of our total. Bemerton replied with 116. The bowling honours went to L/Corpl Marsh (five wickets for 27) and Lieut. Harrison (three for 32).

There are several more matches to be played during the season, and it is hoped that the form produced against 2nd Divl Signals will reappear.

Captain J. A. I. Watts and Lt. L. C. C. Harrison, M.C., played for the Corps v. the R.M.A. at Woolwich on the 26th and 27th May.

Athletics.—The full results of the sports held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 5th and 6th June, were as follows:—

100 yards—1st L/Corpl Etchells, 2nd Sigmn Foley, 3rd L/Cpl Thomas
220 yards—1st L/Corpl Bucke, 2nd L/Corpl Etchells, 3rd Sigmn Foley
440 yards—1st L/Corpl Bucke, 2nd L/Corporal Black, 3rd Sigmn Pluquet
880 yards—1st L/Corporal Bucke, 2nd Sigmn Hastings, 3rd Sigmn Mudge
One mile—1st L/Corpl Robinson, 2nd Sigmn Seaman, 3rd Sigmn Fox

Three miles—1st L/Corpl Robinson, 2nd L/Sergeant Ayres, 3rd Sigmn Seaman
Long jump—1st L/Corporal Etchells, 2nd Sigmn Foley, 3rd L/Corpl Abraham
Pole vault—1st Corpl Farmer, 2nd L/Corpl Kings
High jump—1st L/Sergt Murphy, 2nd L/Corpl McKenzie, 3rd Sigmn Garwood
Hammer—1st L/Sergt Murphy, 2nd Corpl Farmer
Shot—1st Sigmn Softly, 2nd 2/Lieut. Crawford, 3rd L/Corpl McKenzie
Javelin—1st L/Corporal Abraham, 2nd Lieut. Harrison, 3rd L/Corpl Black
Discus—1st L/Corpl Etchells, 2nd L/Corpl McKenzie, 3rd L/Corpl Bain
Hurdles—1st L/Sergt Murphy, 2nd L/Corpl Etchells, 3rd L/Corpl Abraham
Open relay—1st 5th Battn R.T.C., 2nd 9th Field Brigade R.A. 3rd R.A.F. Boscombe

JOHN AGAR MEMORIAL CUP AND MEDAL.—1st, L/Cpl Etchells, 20 points ; 2nd, L/Corpl Bucke, 18 ; 3rd, L/Sergt Murphy, 12.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Cricket.—This season, we are fortunate in having a strong team with a good number of reserves to call upon. During May five matches have been played, with results as under:—

v. Clacton, away, drawn. 4th Div. Sigs 136 for eight (Lundie 32, Wellock 29, Coton 28 not out) ; Clacton 50 for eight (Lieut.-Colonel Henderson five for 13)
v. K.S.L.I. away, won. K.S.L.I. 78 (Walton four for 16) ; 4th Div. Sigs 92 for seven (Lundie 29)
v. Wakes Colne, away, won. 4th Div. Sigs 84 (Wellock 34 not out) ; Wakes Colne 16 (Young five for 5, Wellock five for 10) and 23 (Coton ? for 2, Larkin two for 2)
v. Beds and Herts Regiment, away, won. 4th Div. Sigs 158 for eight (Wellock 44, Young 59) ; Beds and Herts 63 (Wellock six for 18)
v. R.A.S.C. home, won. R.A.S.C. 84 (Young six for 23) ; 4th Div. Sigs 106 for nine (Cox 35, Fitzpatrick 27)

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

All information regarding the annual sports is contained in the usual unit notes on another page, but here are details of the placed men in each event.

100 yards—1st Sigmn Cooper A. ; 2nd Sigmn Turner ; 3rd Smith C. M. Time, 10⅗ sec.
High jump—1st Sigmn Anthony ; 2nd Lieut. H. B. Robertson ; 3rd Sigmn Harrison. Height, 5 ft. 2 in.
Long jump—1st Sigmn Anthony ; 2nd Sigmn Last ; 3rd Sigmn Harrison. Distance, 19 ft. 2 in.
880 yards—1st Sigmn Barker H. ; 2nd Sigmn Pillow ; 3rd Sigmn Langley. Time, 2 min. 12⅗ sec.
Throwing the javelin—1st Driver Fear ; 2nd Sigmn Smith ; 3rd Sigmn Voller. Distance, 121 ft. 4 in.
220 yards—1st Sigmn Turner ; 2nd Signalman Haughton ; 3rd Sigmn Wilson. Time, 24⅗ sec.
Pole vault—1st Sigmn Johnson W. ; 2nd Driver Fear ; 3rd Sigmn Voller. Height, 8 ft. 5 in.
120 yards hurdles—1st Sigmn Anthony ; 2nd Sigmn Turner ; 3rd Sigmn Baines. Time, 17⅗ sec.
Putting the shot—1st L/Corporal Chapman ; 2nd Signalman Baines ; 3rd Driver Fear. Distance, 33 ft. 10 in.
440 yards—1st Sigmn Haughton ; 2nd Sigmn Cooper ; 3rd Sigmn Wilson. Time, 56⅗ sec.
Mile—1st Sigmn Barker ; 2nd Sigmn Pillow ; 3rd Sigmn Langley. Time, 4 min. 52⅗ sec.
Throwing the discus—1st Driver Fear ; 2nd Sigmn Waplington ; 3rd Sigmn McTernin. Distance, 83 ft. 11 in.
Obstacle race—1st Sigmn Voller ; 2nd Sigmn McTernin ; 3rd Sigmn Butler
Open relay—1st, 1st Battn East Lancs. ; 2nd Depot Battalion Signal Training Centre ; 3rd Training Battalion Signal Training Centre
Inter-Section tug-of-war, B Cable v. A Section—B Cable won by 2—1 pulls
Children's race (over 6)—1st Barbara Tilford ; 2nd Patricia Rose ; 3rd Gordon Sargeant
Children's race (under 6)—1st Elizabeth Peachall ; 2nd James Borrow ; 3rd Stanley Brown
Ladies' race—1st Mrs. Rhodes ; 2nd Mrs. Tiltman ; 3rd Mrs. Borrow
Visitors' race (threading the needle)—1st Mrs. Beadon ; 2nd Miss Brown
Veterans' race—1st Corpl Brown G. ; 2nd Major (Brevet Lieut.-Colonel) Hitchcock ; 3rd Lieut.-Colonel Wemyss
Old Comrades race—1st Mr. Shaw ; 2nd Mr. O'Brien ; 3rd Mr. Dowie

The inter-Section athletic shield was won by J Section with 26 points. D Section, with 23, were runners-up. 50th Divl Signals inter-Company athletic cup was won by No. 3 Company with a total of 45 points.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Wemyss. The 50th Divl Signals cup was presented by Mrs. Walton.

Cricket.—The unit team is upholding the good performances of its predecessors of this unit. Keenness in the unit for this summer sport is generally acknowledged to be as sharp and wholehearted as at any time in the past. We have a complete fixture list from 28/4/34 to 4/8/34, when we are called upon to sacrifice our sport for annual training at Catterick area.

A most exciting finish to a very thrilling and keenly contested game was experienced on the Corporation ground on 2/6/34, when we won by *one run*, thanks to a sensational "swipe" by Sigmn Todd S. and a very valuable 2 not out by our captain, Captain W. A. Scott, M.B.E. The scores were: Scarborough Possibles C.C. 27, 5th Divisional Signals 28.

The leading batting averages to date are: Sigmn Smith L. H. 79 (average 19.75), Sigmn Harrop C. 67 (16.75), Sigmn Cooper A. 83 (16.60), L/Corpl Chaffey E. 40 (13.30), L/Corpl Dillon L. O. 40 (13.30), L/Corpl Chapman C. 64 (12.80) and Sigmn Pope G. 33 (11). In the bowling, L/Corpl Chapman C. has taken twenty wickets (average 10.1), Sigmn Smith L. H. nine (8.66), and Sigmn Woodwark J. nine (9).

Results of matches to date:—League, played 3, won 2, lost 1. Friendly, played 1, won 1. Cup ties, played 2, won 1, lost 1. Total played 6, won 4, lost 2.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Football.—First Eleven. Wallace cup competition, semi-final, v. B Company 1st Battn The King's Regiment, drew at 2—2 after extra time ; replay, lost by 0—1.

Second Eleven—v. H.Q. 10th Brigade, lost by 1—5 ; v. F Section won by 3—2 ; v. S Battery lost by 1—4.

Hockey.—Chitham League: v. 15th Lancers won by 6—0 ; v. Christ Church School won by 2—0 ; v. G.I.P. Railway lost by 1—2 ; v. All Indian Brothers, drew at 0—0.

Inter-Half Company League: v. "B" Right Half drew at 3—3.

Golf.—The Easter handicap competition, after some very interesting rounds, was won by Sigmn Bond (25) who beat Corpl Connolly (21) by 6 and 5.

Great interest is now being taken in the Barton cup competition, which is in its concluding stages. The cup has been kindly presented to the Club by Captain A. E. Barton, and is open to all B.O.R.s of the S.T.C. (India). Twenty-two entries were received, and the following are the results to date:—

First round—Corpl Quigley (12) beat Sergt Whittington (20) by 2 up. Sigmn Burns (31) beat L/Corpl Hampson (18) by 6 and 5. S/Sergt Maguire (12) beat Corpl Meldrum (31) by 6 and 5. Corpl Connolly (26) beat L/Sergt Baker (12) by 6 and 4. Sergt Bramwell (26) beat C.S.M. Price (26) by 2 up.

Second round—Corpl McKinnon (22) beat Sergt Wheeler (20) by 1 up. L/Corpl Driver (23) beat Sergt Bramwell by 3 and 1. L/Corpl Wright (23) beat L/Corpl McVey (27) by 1 up. Corpl Quigley beat Sigmn Burns by 3 and 2. Sigmn Bourton (18) beat Corpl Connolly by 3 and 2. Sigmn Spiers (23) beat Sergt Nokes (15) at the 14th hole. Sigmn Nelson (23) beat Sigmn Knox (23) by 8 and 7. S/Sergt Maguire beat Sigmn Bond (20) by 2 up.

Third round—Cpl McKinnon beat Sigmn Bourton by 9 and 8. Sigmn Spiers beat Corpl Quigley by 2 up. S/Sergt Maguire beat L/Corpl Wright by 2 and 1.

S.T.C. (India) Tennis Tournaments—The tournaments were concluded on the 17th May, when Mrs. G. E. F. Paton very kindly presented the prizes. The winners and runners-up were as follows:—

Open singles—Lance-Sergt Creaton ; Lieutenant W. R. Smijth-Windham.
Open doubles—Lieut.-Colonel R. V. Montgomery and Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham ; Sergt Shepherd and Signalman Tindall.
Mixed handicap doubles—Mrs. Murphy and Sigmn Tindall ; Mrs. Fishwicke and Sergt Bramwell.
Handicap doubles—Captain L. B. Nicholls and Sigmn Tyler ; Signalmen Nelson and Traill.
Handicap singles—L/Corpl Roberts ; Sigmn Worley.

The mixed handicap doubles was included for the first time and proved a success. L/Sergt McCormack might have secured a "mention" in the open events had he not been compelled to retire through an injury.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football Results—
18/4/34 v. Dorsetshire Regiment Second Eleven, home, drew at 0—0
20/4/34 v. Company, Dorsetshire Regiment, home, drew at 2—2
26/4/34 v. Dorsetshire Regiment, away, lost by 0—5
28/4/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, lost by 0—1
1/5/34 v. Dorsetshire Regiment Second Eleven, away, lost by 0—1

Hockey Results—
24/4/34 v. Company, Dorsetshire Regt., away, won by 11—1
27/4/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, lost by 1—3
29/4/34 v. Dorsetshire Regiment, away, won by 4—2
30/4/34 v. District Hockey Club "B," away, lost by 1—4
4/5/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, won by 4—1
6/5/34 v. C Squadron 13th/18th Hussars, away, drew at 3—3
11/5/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, won by 9—1
14/5/34 v. Staff and Departments, away, won by 2—1
20/5/34 v. C Squadron 13th/18th Hussars, away, drew at 1—1

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Football.—A team selected from Headquarters in Peshawar visited the Detachment in Landi Kotal on Saturday 12th May. The game was evenly contested throughout, with the Detachment coming out on top by 2—1 goals. Their first goal, scored by Signalman Young, was a rather doubtful offside ; but we can afford to pull their leg a bit until we get them in Peshawar. Sigmn Rumford scored the Detachment's second goal with a fine rasping shot within a couple of minutes of the first. L/Cpl Milligan opened (and closed) our score with a header worthy of Alec James. Headquarters pressed hard towards the end, but the Landi Kotal defence held out until the final whistle. A very clean and entertaining game. But wait until we catch you in Pesh, khud wallahs!

On the 15th May we played A Company 2nd Battn The Highland Light Infantry and won by 2—1 (Chambers and Yarnell).

On the next day we met the 58th Field Battery R.A. but lost by 1—4 (Sigmn Birkett).

Old members of the unit will be sorry to hear that the hockey pitch behind the barracks is now converted into a football ground. Many have been the exciting games of hockey played on this old ground, especially when Daisy Dillon entertained us with his specials.

Hockey.—The unit are now trying to get together a good team for the District Hot Weather League. Although we shall never fill Dillon's place, Signalmen Lambert C. and Roberts A. are doing their stuff quite successfully and have already made a name for themselves. Keep it up, girls!

We have tested out the 2nd Battn H.L.I. (newcomers to Peshawar) and the first game we drew on their ground at 3—3 (Lambert C. 2, Blaikie). That was on the 13th May. On the 22nd we met them on our ground and defeated them to the tune of 4—0 (Lambert C. 3, Roberts).

The first hot weather match was played in rain on the 17th May against the 8th A.A. Battery R.A. This resulted in a win for us by 2—0 (Lambert C. and Roberts). Our team at present is L/Corpl Mitchell ; Signalmen Yarnell and Moseley ; L/Corpl Whitefield, Signalmen Gladwin and Blaikie ; Signalmen Ireland, Barry, Roberts, Lambert C. and Gigg. Later on we hope to get Sigmn Williams G. down from the Khyber to play at centre half. In spite of his just about five feet, he bids fair to be the best man in his position in the District during this hot weather season.

Tennis.—On Sunday 13th May we entertained the Detachment R.A.M.C. at home. It could hardly be called a good game, as our team romped home against a side that obviously get insufficient practice. Gunboat Chadda arranged this match and is proving a regular Tilden ; but just watch his legs! The pairs for this were L/Corpl Peacock and Sigmn Moseley, Corporal Fraser and Gunboat, L/Corpl Smith and Sigmn Ide, and Signalmen Huggett S. and Keigher.

L Section, Landi Kotal Detachment.

Hockey.—We were visited by Peshawar hockey team. They brought along their full strength with the intention of wiping out former defeats, but we surprised them once again, defeating them by the only goal of the match after a good clean game. Sorry, Peshawar! it just had to happen.

The following are the results of matches played to date:—
v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles won by 1—0 ; v. 2/9th Jat Regiment won by 3—1; v. 2nd Mountain Battery won by 1—0 ; v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles drew at 0—0.

Football.—v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles won by 4—1 ; v. A Company Borders drew at 3—3 ; v. H.Q. Wing Borders won by 3—1 ; v. 1/1st Gurkha Rifles won by 5—1 ; v. Drums Border Regiment drew at 3—3.

Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Football.—Wana Section sent a team across to Razmak to see the races and the cinema, and to play a combined team of H.Q. and Razmak Sections at football. Owing to their having to go back within twenty-four hours, an all-round tournament was impossible. We all hope they will come again and stay a bit longer. The football match, played in horrible weather, was a draw.

A team to represent the unit has been selected and will leave shortly for Murree to play in the Buffalo cup tournament. As this tournament is on a Company team basis, it is hoped that our team will give a good account of themselves.

Hockey.—Many games have been played. The Razmak grounds take a lot of getting used to, especially after such a good ground as that at D.I.Khan, but we have had some splendid games.

COMBINED H.Q. AND RAZMAK SECTIONS.
12/5/34 v. 4/15th Punjab Regiment lost by 1—3
15/5/34 v. A Company 4/15th Punjab Regt. won by 7—0
17/5/34 v. C.I.M.H. won by 3—1
18/5/34 v. 5/6th Rajputana Rifles drew at 2—2
19/5/34 v. 4/15th Punjab Regiment drew at 1—1

HEADQUARTERS SECTION.
26/4/34 v. Razmak Signals won by 5—1
26/4/34 v. No. 11 Light Battery R.A. won by 4—1
7/5/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. won by 3—1
11/5/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. lost by 1—2
13/5/34 v. Razmak Signals won by 2—1
19/5/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. lost by 0—2
21/5/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. won by 6—0
27/5/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. won by 1—0
28/5/34 v. I.O.R.s Combined Signals lost by 3—4

Football.—
COMBINED H.Q. AND RAZMAK SECTIONS.
28/4/34 v. C Company Devon Regiment won by 2—1
30/4/34 v. H.Q. Wing Devon Regiment won by 4—1
3/5/34 v. D Company Devon Regiment drew at 2—2
9/5/34 v. No. 11 Light Battery R.A. won by 5—1
11/5/34 v. Wana Signals drew at 1—1
12/5/34 v. H.Q. Wing Devon Regiment won by 2—0
16/5/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. won by 2—0
18/5/34 v. C Company Devon Regiment lost by 1—2
28/5/34 v. Garrison Junior N.C.O.s lost by 3—5

HEADQUARTERS SECTION.

7/5/34 v. D Company Devon Regiment drew at 2—2
14/5/34 v. Razmak Signals won by 4—1
17/5/34 v. Razmak Signals lost by 0—3
22/5/34 v. Tochi Scouts drew at 1—1
24/5/34 v. D Company Devon Regiment lost by 1—3

RAZMAK SIGNAL SECTION.

26/3/34 v. H.Q. Wing Devon Regiment drew at 2—2
29/3/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. won by 2—0
1/4/34 v. H.Q. Wing Devon Regiment drew at 2—2
4/4/34 v. No. 6 Platoon Devon Regiment won by 7—1
7/4/34 v. B Company Devon Regiment drew at 0—0
9/4/34 v. B Company Devon Regiment won by 2—0
11/4/34 v. 2/4th Gurkha Rifles lost by 2—4
14/4/34 v. A Company Devon Regiment drew at 1—1
21/4/34 v. Signal Section Devon Regiment won by 2—1
23/4/34 v. 6th A.C. Company R.T.C. lost by 0—1

Basket Ball.—The Razmak basket ball tournament, played under local rules, will begin shortly. H.Q. Section and Razmak Signals are each entering one British and one Indian team.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—The decrease in volume of the sports notes is due to the coming of the hot weather, when everybody is up the khuds, with a consequent lack of tournaments or leagues.

Hockey.—We have been well fed with matches in this branch of sport, and the very satisfactory results indicate a decided improvement in form. Here are the results: v. 23rd Mountain Brigade won by 5—1 and 5—2; v. 3rd Mountain Battery won by 3—0 and 2—1; v. 4/12th Frontier Force Rifles lost by 0—3; v. 6/13th Frontier Force Rifles drew at 6—6; v. S. and D. Club won by 6—4; v. R.A.F. Kohat won by 5—3.

Football.—Here, again, the splendid results go to indicate that our team has improved enormously. The results of our matches are: v. The Young Union Club won by 5—0, drew at 1—1, won by 2—1, won by 5—2; v. The Shining "A" Eleven won by 2—0, lost by 1—2, won by 3—1.

We are rather handicapped in football by the lack of outside teams with whom we can arrange fixtures. This is, however, somewhat counteracted by the teams constantly varying their players.

Cricket.—There is little to mention on this subject this month. Occasional matches have been played against Best's Eleven, but since the results, with but one exception, were all in our favour, details are not required.

Towards the beginning of the month " bran mash " matches were quite popular, but judging from the termination of the last match, interest has now dwindled. We are hoping to do fairly well in the forthcoming Hot Weather League, since by the time it commences flagging interest will have revived.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Hockey.—Since our last notes, the hockey team have passed through varying stages which have been the hope and at times the despair of the spectators. In the hot weather tournament we beat D Company Black Watch by 2—0, but in the second round we were unexpectedly overwhelmed by H.Q. Wing The Royals by 4—2. Still, the better team won, and we wish them good luck in the next rounds.

Late news: H.Q. Wing The Royals won this hot weather tournament, beating their A Squadron team in the final, so everyone is smiling.

Several friendly games have been played, but these are too numerous to mention. There was one special match, however: the " tin-pot " cup match. The sides were picked from the wet bar and the dry bar respectively. This proved an excellent game, extra time having to be played before it ended in a win for the dry bar by 1—0. The cup (kindly presented by Mick Whiskers) was presented after the match to the accompaniment of cheers, etc.; and needless to say the evening was spent in the *wet* bar.

Football.—See 3rd Indian Divisional Signals notes on this subject, as we have combined with them in this particular game. [Those notes have not come to hand.—ED.]

No. 3 Company Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Athletics.—The unit crowned a very successful season by winning the Command championships. It really was a very exciting day, and the last race was the deciding factor. Fortunately, our quarter-milers were on the top of their form and made quite sure of beating the King's, our nearest rivals.

We were very despondent over the loss of Sergt Murphy and Corpl Beale, as the trooper very inconveniently decided it could not wait in Egypt any longer and sailed two days before the end of the championships. However, despite that and one or two other serious casualties, we did extraordinarily well. The team can really congratulate themselves on putting up a jolly good show. Every one of them put all he knew into everything he had to do.

In the individuals, Barber again won the 100 yards in the excellent time of ten seconds dead. He was beaten in the 220 yards by his runner-up in the 100 yards. Ten seconds is the Army record time for the 100 yards.

Sergt Murphy got second place in the high jump at 5 ft. 6 in. He actually cleared 5 ft. 7 in. whilst jumping off for second place. The winner also did 5 ft. 7 in.

Sigmn Buckman won the pole jump with ease at 9 ft. 9 in. He had the misfortune to use a faulty pole whilst attempting 10 ft.: it broke while he was in the middle of the jump. He was very lucky to get away with only a bad shaking and a nasty graze. It might have been very serious; anyhow, it prevented him from jumping any more that day. Fortunately for the unit, he was fit to jump in the team event and cleared 10 ft. 6 in.—a magnificent jump.

Hicks was disappointing in the individuals but jumped extraordinarily well in the team event.

FIRST DAY'S RESULTS.

Putting the weight—no points.
High jump—We tied with the Northumberland Fusiliers for third place.
Hammer—Again we got no points.
We got into the finals of the mile team race, the hurdles and the mile relay.
Our tug-of-war team distinguished themselves by getting two byes, and so obtaining two much-needed points. Their success was short-lived, however.

SECOND DAY'S RESULTS.

The proceedings were exciting, but we did little except to ensure that on the final day we had a team competing in every event, which was very creditable. In the discus final we secured 1 point, and also in the long jump, with 10 for the mile team race.

THE FINALS.

At the beginning of the last afternoon's sport we were lying fourth, about ten points behind the leaders, the King's and the Middlesex. As we were in all events, it was intensely exciting. The King's and the Middlesex, our chief anxiety, were only in four or five of the seven events.

The chief thrill of the afternoon was the magnificent running of Corpl Broadley and the other members of the three mile team, who pulled off another unexpected win for us. The whole team did so well that it would take up too much space to dwell on each event individually. Sufficient to say that winning the last race of the day gave us a win by 8¼ points over the King's. If they had beaten us in that race, we should have lost by half a point.

During the season we won several relays at the sports of other units, and had some very exciting racing.

To our intense surprise, we were within two points of beating the King's Body Guard for the Syrian challenge cup at the Y.M.C.A. sports.

CORPS REPRESENTATIVES AT THE Y.M.C.A. SPORTS.

Long jump—Signalmen Jones and Mitcheson. Winners of team event.
880 yards—Sigmn Hartley, Driver Palmer and Sigmn Dransfield. Second in team event.
120 yards hurdles (individuals)—Sergeant Murphy, 2nd; Signalmen Summers and Mitcheson not placed.
High jump—Sigmn Barlow, 5 ft. 5 in. and Sigmn Buckman, 5 ft. 2 in. Third in team event
Three miles—Corpl Broadley (3rd place), Corpl Dargan, Signalmen Davies and Toft. Winners.

One mile relay—Corpl Beale, Signalmen Barber and Jones, and Lieut. Tucker.
The Corps relay team was represented by Sergeant Murphy and Sigmn Barber 220 yards, Sigmn Boreham 440 yards, and Corpl Beale 880 yards.

Others who ran very well for the Corps and relays were Corpl Broadley and Signalmen Hartley, Jones, Tucker W. and Burke.

The Corps team in the Command cup was represented by:—
110 yards—Sergt Murphy, Signalmen Barber, Jones and Mitcheson, and L/Corpl Hillier.
220 yards—Signalmen Barber, Boreham, Jones, Mitcheson and Burke.
440 yards—Lieut. W. G. Tucker, Signalmen Hartley, Boreham and Barber, and Corpl Beale.
880 yards—Corporal Broadley, Signalmen Hartley and Marshall, Driver Palmer and Sigmn Dransfield.
120 yards hurdles—Sergt Murphy, Signalmen Buckman, Jones, Mitcheson, Summers and Heale.
One mile and three miles—Corpls Broadley and Dargan, Signalmen Davies and Toft.
High jump—Sergt Murphy and Sigmn Barlow.
Long jump—Signalmen Jones and Mitcheson, and Sigmn Samworth (G Troop) who jumped magnificently to do 20 ft. 5 in.
Weight—Signalmen Gregory and Malley.
Discus—Signalmen Barnes and Gregory.
Hammer—Signalmen McLeod and Barnes.
Pole jump—Signalmen Buckman and Hicks.
[A photo without any title, but which presumably shows the sports representatives of Egypt Signals, has been unavoidably crowded out until next issue.—ED.]

inter-Section Athletics.—Held on Polygon sports ground.

FIRST DAY.

Putting the shot—Won by J Section (Lieut. Cole and Signalman Gregory).
Pole jump—Won by H.Q. & I. (Signalmen Buckman and Hicks).
Throwing the discus—Won by K Section (Signalmen Barnes and Maunden).
Long jump—Won by H.Q. and H. (L/Corpl Hughes and Sigmn Mitcheson).
In the afternoon the only final was the mile team race, which resulted in a tie between A Section and H.Q. and I. teams. The teams were: A Section, Corpl Broadley and Sigmn Toft. H.Q. and I., Corpl Dargan and Sigmn Davies. These four formed the unit team in the Command championships.

SECOND DAY.

The finals were held on the Slade ground and were very successful. Tea was provided by the P.R.I. for the men, whilst the sergeants mess entertained a few guests in the Slade Club verandah. Mrs. Bald very kindly presented the prizes, and had the pleasure of handing Colonel Bald the tankard for the winner of the old soldiers' race.

J Section and H.Q. and H. had a hard tussle, which resulted in the latter winning the inter-Section athletic cup. The results were as follows:—
4×110 yards—Won by A Section (Signalman Barber, L/Corpls Hillier and Smith, Sigmn Mawson).
4×220 yards—J Section (Signalmen Mitcheson and Boreham, L/Corpls Taylor and Hughes).
3×440 yards—J Section (Corpl Beale, Signalmen Hartley and Moore).
3×880 yards—J Section (Corporal Beale, Signalmen Hartley and Moore).
3×110 yards hurdles—H.Q. and H. (L/Sgt Murphy, Signalmen Mitcheson and Marshall).
Three miles—A Section (Corpl Broadley, Sigmn Toft).
High jump—H.Q. and I. (Signalmen Barlow and Buckman).
Hammer—K Section (Signalmen Barnes and McLeod).

Totals—H.Q. and H. 33 points; J Section 26¾; H.Q. and I. 21½; A Section 18¼; K Section 17¾; G Troop 8¾; B Cable 5.

H.Q. and H., who secured the trophy, only won two events, but were very consistent and obtained points in all but two of them.

The old soldiers' race was won by Colonel Bald after a hard battle with Captain Thursby-Pelham and Sergt Scholfeld. The start given to the Colonel by virtue of his length of service was a bit of a shock to some of the old soldiers!

The Company medley race was won by No. 3 Company after some very stalwart running by the so-called non-benders.

Said, the big noise amongst the groundsmen, won the wallahs' race, despite a bit of sharp practice by the swill merchant.

Mrs. Bald also presented the Pritchard cup to A Section, who had made quite sure of winning it whatever the result of the athletics.

The Signal Troop are to be congratulated on winning the Powell cup for the third year in succession.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

Tennis.—Up to the present we have played only three games, which were friendlies, the Tennis League not having started.

On Thursday 17th May v. Palestine General Hospital, R.A.F. This resulted in a win for the unit by 8—1 sets.

On Sunday 20th May v. Air Headquarters R.A.F. Jerusalem. This match was not completed owing to bad light and the sets nearly all running to lengthy affairs. The score ended with the unit leading by 5—2 sets.

On Tuesday 22nd May v. R.A.F. Supply Depot, Sarafand. This was an evenly contested match and we eventually won by the last game, the score standing at 5—4 sets.

Cricket.—Up to date we have played eight matches, five being won, two lost and one drawn. Results are as follows:—
16/4/34 Away. Won. No. 2 W/T Company 104 (Pettit 36, Locker 37); R.A.F.G.H. 42 (Whitaker six for 19, Pettit four for 12)
2/5/34 Home. Won. No. 2 W/T Company 120 for seven, declared (Whitaker 41); R.A.F.G.H. 20 (Billingsley five for 7)
5/5/34 Away. Lost. No. 2 W/T Company 76; Depot Police Jerusalem 170 for nine, declared (Pettit six for 49)
6/5/34 Home. Won. No. 2 W/T Company 139 for six, declared (Fegan 74 not out); Ramleh Police 88 (Whitaker four for 27)
12/5/34 Away. Lost. No. 2 W/T Company 37 and 52; District Police Jerusalem 98 (Pettit five for 33)
16/5/34 Home. Won. No. 2 W/T Company 128 (Whitaker 29, Fegan 31); No. 14 Company R.A.S.C. Jerusalem 46 (Pettit six for 28, Whitaker four for 13)
19/5/34 Home. Won. No. 2 W/T Company 94 (Locker 28); R.A.F. Ramleh 52 (Pettit seven for 21)
21/5/34 Away. Drawn. No. 2 W/T Company 109 (Pettit 60 not out); R.A.F.G.H. 75 for six (Billingsley four for 29)

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Hockey.—League: v. R.A.M.C. won by 3—1 (May 3); v. No. 12 Battery R.A. won by 2—1 (May 2). Friendlies: v. H.K. Mule Corps won by 5—1 (May 2, Shove, Mills, Larking); v. 1/8th Punjabs Signals lost by 1—3 (May).

Tennis.—Section singles tournament: L/Corpl Funnell lost to Sigmn Lomax by 6—3, 2—6, 2—6. Friendlies: v. East Lancs. Regiment won by 9—0 sets; v. R.A.S.C. lost by 4—5 sets.

Boxing.—H.K. Area open individual championships. In the final of the feather weight, Sigmn Austen lost on points to Pte Whitehouse, East Lancs. Regiment.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

General.—Signals play in combined teams of various sorts in Malaya because the unit is now in three scattered detachments and weak in numbers. We congratulate Signalmen Brooks, Weeks and Holmes on being selected to play in the Command soccer trial, and in the future I hope to be able to say that they have been selected. They are certainly worth their places in the team. Sigmn Brooks, together with Sigmn Stowers, plays in the Fort Canning team, at present the leaders and likely winners of the Third League.

Cricket.—A combined Signals and R.A.O.C. team on Pulau Brani Island have played four matches during the last month. The results are as follows:—
v. R.A.M.C. won by 17 runs (Sigmn Twitchen seven for 35)
v. 7th A.A. Battery won by 27 runs (Sigmn Twitchen seven for 16)

v. R.E. won by 29 runs (Sigmn Twitchen three for 48)
v. R.A.M.C. won by 99 runs (Sigmn Twitchen five for 16)

Athletics.—Training for the Command sports has only just started. Our probable representatives will be L/Corpl Morton and Sigmn Kirk for the half-mile, Sigmn Weeks for the long jump, L/Corpl Lindsay for the shot, Sigmn Twitchen for the discus and javelin, Sigmn Blunt for the three miles, and Sigmn Barcock for the hurdles.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Our cricket activities have been few, but one practice match and two friendlies have been played. After the first game we fully expected to be able to hold our own against the weaker Company teams, but so far the form of our teams has not justified this anticipation. The results of the two friendly matches are as below.

26/5/34 On No. 1 N.F. ground. Signals 82 (Taylor 18, Goodanew 10); R.A.O.C. 199 (Goodanew four for 34, Waller two for 47)

1/6/34 On No. 1 Naval ground. Signals 96 (Tavender 16, Waller 15); H.M.S. *Cormorant* 136 (Corporal Parry four for 36, Waller three for 21)

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 Company Miniature Rifle League.—As a recreation, and also to assist recruits in particular, a Miniature Rifle League has been formed within the Company. Major W. J. L. Cornelius is president and referee, and C.S.M. Gibbings F. J. is secretary. The other Company officers and all n.c.o.s have been given two men each, and so far twenty teams of three have been formed. The winners will be awarded a trophy given by Sergt Stone G. E., the permanent staff instructor.

The team with the highest points will be awarded a cup given by the N.C.O.s Mess. In the matches for the team trophy, each man who beats his individual opponent will score one point for his team towards this cup.

The winner of a final competition, in which the first sixteen in the individual aggregate list will compete, will be awarded a cup given by C.S.M. Gibbings F. J.

The same as above, but for men with less than two years service and with no previous service in any of the Forces, to be awarded a bowl given by the Sergeants.

The results to date are:—

Mr. G. K. S. Edwards' team 69½ v. L/Corpl Prout's team 33.
Mr. G. K. S. Edwards' team 74½ v. Sergt Addelsee's team 73.
Mr. A. S. Crocker's team 37½ v. Sergt Stone's team 52½.
Mr. A. S. Crocker's team 31½ v. L/Corpl Gage's team 68½.
Sergt Stone's team 47 v. Sergt Addelsee's team 82.
L/Sergt Hutchinson's team 84 v. Sergt Addelsee's team 77.
Corpl Weight's team 45 v. Sergt Addelsee's team 68½.
L/Corpl Gage's team 82 v. L/Corpl Granville's team 56.
L/Corpl Marshall's team 77 v. L/Corpl Jolley's team 59½.
Sergt Addelsee's team 64½ v. C.Q.M.S. Field's team 69

L/Corpl Gage's team are league leaders with 150½ points for and 87½ against.
Sergt Addelsee's team lead for the N.C.O.s Mess cup with 8 winning points.
L/Corpl Marshall leads in the individul aggregate with 75 points out of a possible 80.
Sigmn Long leads in the " under two years " with 30 points out of a possible 40.

UNITS ABROAD NOTES—*Continued from page 312*

JAMAICA SIGNAL SECTION—*Continued.*

there's no catch in it. You don't have to mention who you are or what you have come for. When you get here, you just fall into the style of thing and get attached to everybody.

Regarding the daily routine. First of all, don't worry too much about the work; that is all done for you. You must concentrate on your Palm Beach suit, fancy shoes, bathing costumes and tennis rackets; this will take quite a lot of your time. The sun awakens you in the morning, and should you so desire, you just reach out of your window and help yourselves to bananas or grapefruit. The oranges grow in the country. After breakfast you take a delightful stroll through the mango and cocoanut groves on your way to the Exchange. You see, you go to the Exchange just to see what somebody else is doing. Then you fade away to the N.A.A.F.I., take light refreshments " cheap," read the daily headache until midday, and then adjourn for dinner. Snip! There's no objection to your resting in the afternoon. They term it " resting " here; some sleep.

In the town of Kingston you have the night life—well, they call it night life—where one can see things and places, again " cheap." At least, I wouldn't say expensive, considering they have about four different prices for the same article and your price is the third highest. Still, I don't think it is necessary to go into too much detail about that. One man's meat is another man's poison.

There is also another kind of night life that affects us most, in the form of putting plugs in holes every third night; and after three years it's surprising how clever you become at the game. This is known as part time, isn't it, Charlie?

There is a lot more to be said, but I am afraid it would require too much space in our Journal; but we will be ready to assist any of the chosen reliefs for this station with any information they require. Says me.

One word before we say farewell. Turn a deaf ear to all who say " You're jammy; how much did it cost you?"

JAMCAN.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 7th June.

Eleven ack emma (or new B.B.C. style 11.00 hours) on the 8th May heard a volley of sighs go up at Wellington Front Barracks; but as these marked the completion of the annual inspection of the unit by the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, His Excellency General Sir Charles Harington, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.C.L., the sighs were of appreciation. After inspecting the unit on parade, His Excellency, accompanied by Brigadier D. M. King, D.S.O., M.C., and others of his staff, made a complete tour round the barracks, offices, stables, etc., and on the conclusion of the inspection he expressed his appreciation of the smartness of the men on parade and the excellent condition in which the barracks were kept.

Troubles never come singly, even in these days of advanced knowledge. During the past fortnight we have heard the well known command " Squad, unload!" etc., coming from many corners of the barracks. It requires no great power of elucidation for one to determine that we are now preparing for our annual musketry course. This year, apart from the individual shooting cup, a squad competition is being run in connection with the classification test; but as the miniature range has not yet been utilised, it is too early to even try forecasting the winning squad.

The annual race for the unit rowing cup was held over the customary course in Admiralty waters on the 22nd May. As reported in our last issue, the crews were under L/Corpls Poulton and Manning, and both were determined to give nothing away. The latter's crew got well away at the start and held a slight lead over three parts of the course. Poulton's men then put in the long-waited spurt, but misfortune, in the shape of a dreaded " crab," overtook them before the challenge could be felt. L/Corporal Manning's crew, not unduly pressed, were able to lead them by almost two lengths at the winning post.

A very strong crew has now been selected to represent the Section in the first of the Command rowing events, the challenge oar. This is rightly considered the plum of the rowing competitions, and if we can only go one better than last year, when we were the defeated finalists, we shall have something to write about.

We are pleased to record the visit of Lieutenant E. R. Nanney-Wynn, Egypt Signals, who called at Gibraltar en route for the Near East. We hope he was favourably impressed with the little he saw.

THE WIRE

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VOL. XV.—No. 174 AUGUST, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunions.—Royal Signals Old Comrades have again been royally entertained by their serving brethren both at 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, and also Aldershot Command Signals, Aldershot.

Sunday 15th July witnessed a very happy gathering of old friends at Bulford, when 3rd Divl Signals, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., were " at home " to all Old Comrades of the Corps who were able to accept their invitation.

A motor coach load of forty Old Comrades journeyed from Salisbury in the morning, arriving in time for the church parade ceremony, which took place at 10.30 a.m.; and on this occasion they were honoured by the presence of many well known senior officers who had motored over for the occasion. Among the latter were Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel H. T. G. Moore, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O., Col. A. H. French, D.S.O., Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O., Major Gill, Captain E. Lockley Turner and Lieutenant W. Ison.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were received from Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., Major E. W. J. Hobkirk, Captain H. E. K. Wakefield and Lieutenant Talbot.

The parade formed up for the Commanding Officer's inspection, with the Old Comrades as the leading Company, and in due course proceeded to the Garrison Church, led by the Corps Band. With the exception of a few Artillery details, the church was filled by Royal Signals personnel, and it was our great privilege to listen to a most impressive sermon by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Salisbury.

On the return march to barracks Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, took the first salute immediately outside the church. Just before entering the barrack square a second saluting base was staged, where the salute was taken by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and Brigadier V. M. C. Napier, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C.

Reforming on the parade ground, both Old Comrade visitors and serving ranks were addressed by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith. It was, he said, his very great pleasure to attend such a reunion gathering, and he was sure that he was expressing the sentiments felt by all the retired officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men who comprised the Old Comrades contingent on parade. Such functions, he suggested, could only be productive of good results. They enabled the Old Comrades to keep in touch with their old associates and the environment in which they had spent many happy years, and they also served as an example to the younger element whose military careers were still ahead of them. They were, he added, occasions which helped to keep the old soldiers young, and he had no hesitation in saying that there was much that the young soldier could learn from his Old Comrade brethren if he cared to do so. On behalf of all the Old Comrades present, he thanked Colonel Naylor, his officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men for their cordial reception and splendid hospitality, and expressed the hope that although this was (as he understood) a record attendance for the Bulford Annual Reunion, there would be an even larger number of Old Comrade visitors next year.

Colonel Naylor then called for three cheers for their Old Comrade guests, and the response was as spontaneous as it was lusty.

The parade was then dismissed, and all adjourned to the Sergeants Mess, where luncheon had been provided for the visitors.

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Similar scenes were witnessed at Aldershot on the 21st and 22nd July, when the Old Comrades were entertained by Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., his officers, warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men of Mons Barracks.

Royal Signals sports ground, with its white marquees and gay bunting, presented a delightful spectacle, and as the afternoon advanced and the guests began to arrive in ever increasing numbers, it soon became evident that Mons Barracks was to be once again the rendezvous of a large representative gathering of veterans.

Many familiar faces were early in evidence, and we were again honoured by the presence of such distinguished and well known officers as Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (our Colonel-Commandant), Major-General Sir M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., Captain E. A. Longley, D.C.M., and many others whom lack of space prevents our naming individually.

The Corps Band, conducted by Mr. R. R. Ricketts, provided us with a delightful musical programme, and the sun shone on a scene which had to be witnessed to be appreciated in its fullest extent.

As on similar occasions, one heard on all sides scraps of animated conversation and spontaneous bursts of greeting: "Don't you remember June 3rd of. . . .?" "Why, dash my jack boots! there's old so and so!" A frantic rush to grab the hand of a much-bemedalled new arrival, and the same old reminiscences all over again.

At the conclusion of the sports and during the evening the Corps Band, conducted by Mr. Ricketts, played selections to a most appreciative audience, and with the arrival of Colonel Sampson and his officers, together with the Colonel-Commandant and their retired officer guests, the festivities of the afternoon were re-enacted.

To a casual observer it must have been very obvious that the Services *do* foster a wonderful spirit of esprit de corps which not even the passing of years can modify in the slightest degree.

On Sunday morning, the Old Comrade visitors under Major J. C. Bray paraded for church with their time-serving brethren, and were given the place of honour behind the Band. The sermon was preached by the Very Rev. and Venerable A. C. E. Jarvis, C.B., C.M.G., M.C., D.D., Provost and Archdeacon of Sheffield (late Chaplain-General to the Forces), who, as an Old Comrade himself, extended a cordial welcome to the Old Comrade members of his congregation.

Reforming after church, the parade proceeded back to barracks, and the salute was taken en route by Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler (Colonel-Commandant), who was supported by Major-General S. A. Powell, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith and Colonel G. E. Sampson.

Before reaching the parade ground—and as on previous occasions—the Old Comrades were momentarily sidetracked at the wagon sheds and finally, led by the Corps Band and to the inspiring strains of "Boys of the Old Brigade," marched through the ranks of serving soldiers to take up their place on parade for final dismissal.

A group photograph was then taken, a reproduction of which will be published in the September issue of this Magazine.

The visitors then adjourned for lunch, which was served on a scale in keeping with the care and attention to detail which had been devoted to the whole occasion. In the midst of the customary and time-honoured "storming of the bar," Sir John Fowler took the opportunity of addressing the visitors.

It gave him great pleasure indeed, he said, to be present on such an occasion. It was good to see so many old and very familiar faces, and to chat over old times, and he was exceedingly glad to see how well the efforts of those responsible for organising the function had been rewarded. He conveyed his grateful thanks to Colonel Sampson, his officers and all ranks of Signals in the Aldershot Command for their generous hospitality, and expressed the hope that they would all meet again under similar circumstances next year.

Three rousing cheers for Sir John rattled the glasses and disturbed the cutlery, and any of the former left even partially undisturbed received immediate attention for the customary ceremony which followed the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

During lunch Major (Uncle) Jack Bray rose to propose a vote of thanks to their hosts for the splendid arrangements which had been made for their reception and comfort. It was, he said, undoubtedly good for the younger generation to have the opportunity of meeting and fraternising with the old stagers, and he obviously expressed thoughts which were very close to his heart when voicing the wish that he could be eighteen years old again and make another start with the former—sentiments which were echoed by many present. His request for three cheers met with the immediate response it merited.

R.S.M. W. Grigg, D.C.M., M.M., responded. He said how pleased they were to have the Old Comrades there, expressed the hope that they had thoroughly enjoyed every moment of their visit, and added that the Annual Reunion celebrations were as great a source of pleasure to the serving element as they were to the Old Comrades themselves. He not only hoped to see them all again next year, but made a special point of asking each Old Comrade present to forward the names and addresses of others to whom he could extend similar invitations another time.

Further rousing cheers for R.S.M. Grigg, his very able Committee, and all who had contributed to make the occasion such an enjoyable one, were given with a right good will.

So ends the 1934 Reunion gatherings of Royal Signals Old Comrades—Scarborough, Bulford and Aldershot; and the Old Comrades of the Corps look forward with pleasurable anticipation to next year's functions. The old soldier's "Service" memories are for ever green, but he now gives his medals a final polish before putting them away until "warned" for the 1935 parades.

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Apropos our late Editorial in the May issue, announcing the death of ex-R.S.M. Hepburn, late of 46th (North Midland) Divl Signals, T.A., and a very well known personality whose service dated back to old T.B. R.E. days. We publish an obituary photograph herewith, but regret that full particulars of his service are not available.

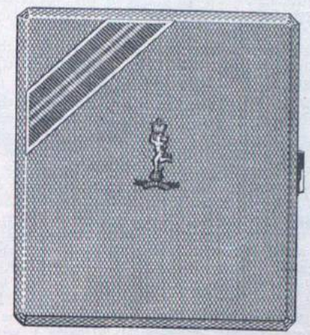


The late R.S.M. J. Hepburn.

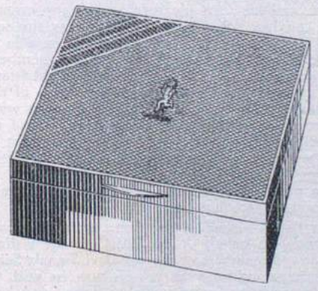
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THE EDITOR.



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Signals Association Notes

To Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Salisbury; Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., Officer Commanding 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, his Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and Men; also

To Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command, his Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and Men of Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Royal Signals Old Comrades, and particularly those attending the recent Annual Reunion functions at Bulford and Aldershot, wish to convey their grateful thanks for the very cordial reception accorded to them on the 15th July at Bulford, and on the 21st and 22nd July at Aldershot.

Their appreciation is perhaps best expressed by the united feeling of anticipation with which they look forward to similar invitations being extended to them on future occasions.

Gentlemen! We thank you for your kind hospitality.

Salisbury and District Branch.

Band Concert.—Under the auspices of the Salisbury Branch of the Signals O.C.A., the Royal Corps of Signals Band gave a programme of music at the British Legion Hall, Salisbury, on Friday evening 13th July. The concert had been arranged for members, wives and friends, and the attendance numbered a hundred and fifty.

Amongst those present were Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command (president of the Branch), Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C. (commanding 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford), Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C. (3rd Divl Signals), Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., Major J. R. Halliday (treasurer of the Branch), Captain R. J. N. Solly (adjutant, 3rd Divl Signals), Lieutenants L. C. C. Harrison, M.C. and P. B. G. Gambier (3rd Divl Signals), and Flight-Lieutenant F. E. Bishop, M.B.E. (hon. secretary of the National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen).

The following selections were played under the conductorship of Mr. R. R. Ricketts: March Fantasy, "Colonel Bogey on Parade" (Alford). Overture, "Pigue Dame" (Suppé). Selection, "The Mikado" (Sullivan). Humorous variations on "Tipperary" (arr. Douglas). Vocal items by the Male Voice Choir: (a) "The Comrade's Song of Hope," (b) "Old Mother Hubbard," (c) "Song of the Jolly Roger." Humorous Fantasy, "Wedded Whimsies" (Alford). Duet for celestaphone and zylophone (Leo Stanley); soloists, Corpls A. A. Robinson and A. G. Reilly. Selection, "The Merry Widow" (Lehar). Valse, "The Blue Danube" (Strauss). Selection, "Fifty Years of Song" (arr. Brown). The concert concluded with the Royal Corps of Signals March.

In his address which followed, Colonel Bradley complimented the Band on its rendering of an attractive and well selected programme, and expressed pleasure at the evident success of the Branch's social side. He was no less pleased, he said, with the results attending our efforts in the labour market. During the past ten months, out of thirty-one members registered for employment twenty-eight had been found work, and he felt confident that the remaining three would be absorbed in the very near future. He expressed his appreciation of the assistance given by Flight-Lieut. Bishop, hon. secretary of the local Branch of the National Association—to whom, in a large measure, he attributed the splendid results. In conclusion, Colonel Bradley referred to the growth of the Branch, and urged those who had not yet done so to become members at once.

Mr. W. Ison, vice-president, seconded the Colonel's speech, and prefaced his opening remarks by referring to the "excellent" band. It took his mind back, he said, to the 1914—1918 days and "Tipperary." He spoke regretfully of the departure of our late president, Colonel Heymann, and cordially welcomed Colonel Bradley in his stead. He concluded by asking the audience to show the Band how the Salisbury and District Branch members appreciated their efforts, and the vociferous response clearly showed that everyone had spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The Entertainment Committee responsible for the arrangements consisted of Messrs. F. Cole, E. Hand, T. Cannell and G. Daniels, and C.S.M. Littlefield.

Annual Church Parade.—The annual reunion of the Salisbury and District Branch Signals O.C.A. took place on Sunday 15th July at Bulford, where they were the guests of the 3rd Divisional Signals.

The members from Salisbury left for Bulford early on Sunday morning in a charabanc provided by the 3rd Divl Signals, together with other members from Wales, Exeter, Southampton and various parts of the Plain, who had joined them.

Ex-officers under Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and ex-other ranks under Mr. W. Butler, paraded with the 3rd Divl Signals under the command of Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C. The parade marched to the Garrison church—the Old Comrade visitors immediately behind the Corps Band. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Salisbury (the Right Rev. St. Clair George Alfred Donaldson, D.D., D.C.L.), who extended a cordial welcome to the Old Comrades of Royal Signals.

After the service the parade marched back to barracks, and en route salutes were taken first by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command) outside the church, and afterwards by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and Brigadier V. M. C. Napier, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C., from a saluting base in front of the officers mess.

Old Comrade visitors and serving ranks then formed up on the parade ground, and Brigadier H. Clementi Smith addressed them. He spoke of the object of these Reunion parades, and having expressed his own pleasure at being present, he added that he felt convinced that he was also voicing the sentiments of all visitors. Such gatherings, he continued, were in every sense beneficial both to Old Comrades and serving members. To the former because they enabled them to resume old friendships and pleasant associations, and to the latter by virtue of the fact that they permitted them at an early stage to fraternise with men who had the benefit of many years experience behind them. The Brigadier concluded by expressing his conviction that the younger generation would worthily uphold the high traditions of the Corps.

After the parade the visitors and hosts re-assembled in the sergeants mess, where luncheon awaited them.

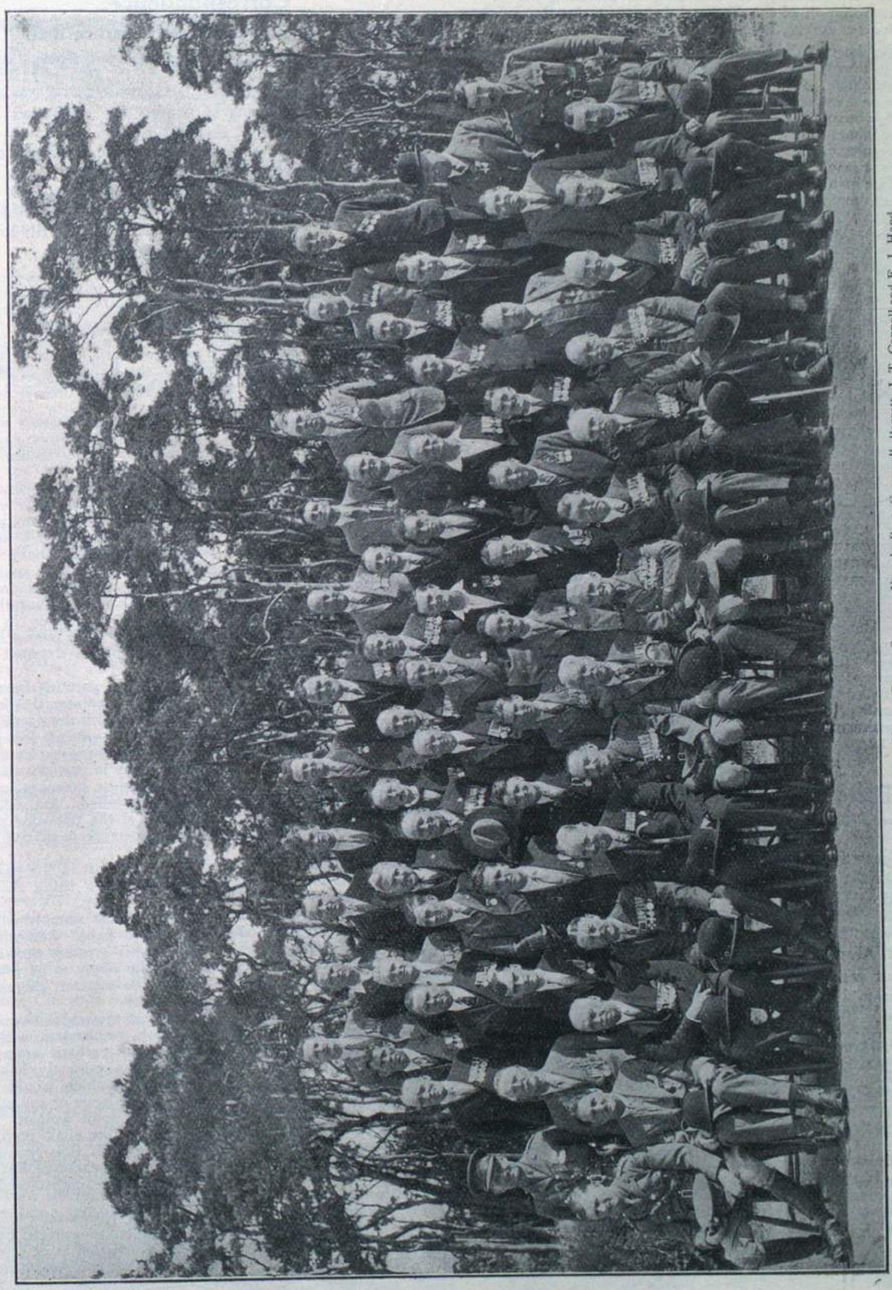
Luncheon over, Mr. F. Cole (hon. secretary, Salisbury and District Branch) on behalf of the Old Comrade visitors, thanked the president and members of the 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess for their kindness and hospitality. He was, he said, very pleased to see the attendance increasing each year, and hoped that it would continue to do so. He then called upon the guests to demonstrate their appreciation of all that had been done for their reception, and the Old Comrades responded with three cheers which left little doubt of their sincerity.

R.S.M. Bramley, replying, said that it had given them great pleasure in preparing for the function, and they were extremely pleased with the result.

Photographs of the parade can be obtained from Messrs. E. Futcher and Sons, Fisherton Street, Salisbury, Wilts. These are in three sizes: Postcards 6d. Large size 2/- (unmounted) and 2/6 (mounted), with postage 2d. and 3d. extra respectively.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of ex-2306038 Corporal A. Ingram, K Signal Section, who was discharged from the Corps on the 18th October 1921. He resided at 24 Fairview Road, Salisbury, and was admitted to the Salisbury Infirmary, where he died on the 20th June last. All Old Comrades tender their condolences to his relatives and friends.

Wedding.—We tender our heartiest congratulations to ex-Signalman L. Davis (late despatch rider of 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot) on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Iris Hicks (of Silton, Bourton, Wilts) at Silton Church on the 7th July, and extend our best wishes for their future happiness. No. 3 Brookside Terrace, Kilmington, Frome, Somerset, will be their future home.



Royal Signals Old Comrades Reunion at Bulford, 15th July 1934

Back row (left to right)—Messrs. E. S. King, Lapham, Yeates, Carter, Sturgess, Vogan, Bent, Cresswell, Harrett, J. T. Cannell and E. J. Hand.
Fourth row—Messrs. Fortes, Doxey and New, Lieutenant W. Ison, Messrs. Pitt, W. Butler, F. Cole, Whittles and W. Johnson.
Third row—Messrs. E. Saunders, Rayment, Sergeant Major Hamilton, Messrs. Bailey, Butt, R. Read, Snook, Tidmarsh, and Major J. Bray.
Second row—Major G. R. Halliday, Captain E. Lockley Turner, Major J. W. Western, T.D., Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., Captain R. J. N. Solly, Lieutenant P. B. G. Gambier, Messrs. Foyle, Daniels, Carroll, Grundy, Wathen, Wyatt, Carnell, Hoxley and Lieutenant G. H. S. Balmain
Front row—Captain C. Nicholl R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O., Colonel H. T. G. Moore, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O., Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O., Colonel W. G. Micheimore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and Major Gill

[*Photo by F. Futcher & Son, Salisbury*]

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
3	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Male Nurse
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Porter
9	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Welder
10	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Chauffeur
11	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Hotel Porter
12	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Handy Man
13	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Welder
14	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Commissionaire
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Houseman
18	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Painter
19	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, West Riding	Commissionaire
24	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Houseman
25	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Porter
26	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Bus Conductor
27	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Salesman
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Barman
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Chauffeur
33	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Waiter
34	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Postman
35	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Salesman
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
38	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Commissionaire
39	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Commissionaire
40	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Commissionaire
41	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Cook

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Peshawar District Signals, India.
Army Sports Control Board.
Royal Signals Officers Mess, Catterick.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—
Colonel H. I. Allen, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Notts.	Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
2	Ex-Sigmn. Middlesex.	Domestic difficulties. £3/5/0 grant
3	Ex-Sigmn. London.	Temporary difficulties. £1/15/0 grant
4	Signalman, Ireland.	Domestic difficulties. £5 loan
5	Ex-Signalman, London.	Domestic difficulties. £1/5/0 grant
6	Ex-Signalman, Hants.	Temporary difficulties. £2 grant
7	Widow of ex-Signalman, Suffolk.	Temporary difficulties. £5 grant
8	Farningham Boys' Orphanage.	Quarterly Maintenance Fees, £10
9	Reedham Orphanage.	Quarterly Maintenance Fees, £3/18/10
10	Ex-Sigmn. London.	Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
11	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey.	Temporary difficulties. £3 loan
12	Ex-Signalman, Essex.	Domestic difficulties. £1/14/0 grant
13	Ex-Signalman, Scarborough.	Domestic difficulties. £2 grant

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 16th July 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the August 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India——Rank and File, 25/5/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Military Uniforms of the Past.

Is The Army Losing Its Sex Appeal?

This question is being asked and discussed by the privileged few who attended the private view of the Exhibition of Military Pictures at the galleries of Messrs. Thomas H. Parker Ltd. in Berkeley Square.

At present a violent controversy is raging, and it may well be that the key to the answer of this many-sided question can only be found by those who have visited this highly amusing and historically interesting exhibition.

Upon the walls of this delightful gallery may be found contemporary prints, depicting the change of dress in the various Regiments of the Army, and its gradual evolution through the vicissitudes and extremes down to the comparatively sombre and straight-laced uniformity which characterises the present-day dress of the majority of our Regiments.

There are, naturally, a host of reasons to account for this dress reform, but it is interesting to see how magnificently our forefathers were attired when they rode on parade in their tightly waisted scarlet tunics, or took part in some famous action which here, compared with the Great War, is depicted as a glorified military picnic.

Dress has always played a very important part in the minds of the people. The pomp and splendour of ceremonial is largely accounted for by the robes or vestments in which the participants are attired, and the resultant effect would be entirely lost if the same performance were to be carried out in every-day garments.

Thus, the inspiring pageantry of the Army in past decades was not without its useful purpose, and the white breeches, cocked hats, coloured tunics ofttimes heavily braided, and fantastic headgear helped to inspire in the minds of the populace a confidence in the Army's efficiency and competence to defend them in times of national crisis.

To the lay mind it would seem, however, that in the past the individual soldier was a much more impressive being than his modern counterpart.

Without doubt, the soldier of to-day is most suitably adapted to the conditions under which he has to fight. But whereas to-day the invisibility of the soldier is his greatest protection, formerly it was absolutely essential for the Army to be brightly attired and easily distinguished; otherwise one ran the risk of being attacked by friend as well as by foe.

Be it as it may, the officers depicted at this exhibition, with their uniforms gorgeously arrayed, chests resplendent with the ribbons of many Orders, and their slim, perhaps even too-waisted figures, contrive to appear as the perfectly balanced mixture of courtesy and military efficiency which would have carried the fortunate owner as easily into the heart of any school-boy as into the boudoir of the most unattainable woman.

Has the Army of to-day, with its staid, sombre khaki uniforms, heavy boots and caps or helmets—made with due regard for usefulness, and with little for personal appearance—lost the romantic appeal to the fair sex that from time immemorial has been its birthright?

This is the question that confronts all patriotically minded citizens; and a visitor to this unique exhibition—which, by the way, is free—will be assured of seeing much that is of interest, much that is novel, and a very great deal that is of real historical value.

Corps News—Officers

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.

A very representative gathering attended the Annual Dinner held at the Junior United Service Club on Wednesday 27th June.

The Colonel-Commandant's speech to the members present is published hereunder, followed by a list of those who were present on that occasion.

Sir John Fowler's Speech.

Gentlemen.—It is my custom on these occasions to present to you a review of our Corps' progress in the past year. To make progress one must have an objective, and our objective is to ensure that the Corps is second to none in the Army, that it is an achievement to join it, and a distinction to belong to it.

Towards that end we have made steady progress this year in strengthening our foundations. Sound regimental soldiering is the basis of military reputation, and I look with pride upon the good name which our units enjoy in this respect in discipline, turn out, and a high standard of work and sport.

Staff College.—Under the heading of Work, I should like to condole with those officers who had the pluck and initiative to attack the Staff College examination but were unsuccessful. I would like to see four times as many officers making the attempt, for if the Corps is to find its quota of Division commanders in the future, its young officers of to-day must make the Staff College their immediate ambition.

Colonel Willan to Brigade.—I have few outstanding Corps events to record. We all congratulate Colonel Willan as the first of our officers to command a Brigade of the Expeditionary Force.

Lieut. Harrison awarded M.C.—We must also congratulate Lieut. L. C. C. Harrison on gaining, in Burma, one of the few Military Crosses to be awarded since the war.

Officers Retired.—Brigadiers Prickett and Clementi Smith and Colonel Hawtrey have retired after long and distinguished careers with Signals.

Brigadier Le Cornu is the new Signal Officer-in-Chief in India. Brigadier Heymann is now at Catterick, and Colonel Trench at the War Office.

Signals Association: New Branch.—In our Corps Association we have to welcome the foundation of a new Branch in the North of England. If one may judge by the success of its opening reunion it should flourish exceedingly, and I congratulate Lieut.-Colonel Fladgate and the General Secretary on the success attending their hard work.

Benevolent Fund: Hand Over.—Colonel French has found himself obliged to give up the Benevolent Fund. That is a simple statement, but to those closely associated with the Fund it seems as if the sky had fallen. He has carried the Fund for fourteen years, and we owe him more than we can say. Our loss is only equalled by our extreme good fortune in getting Brigadier Clementi Smith as his successor.

Dinner Club: New Rules.—This Dinner Club has had its rules revised with a view to making it attractive for junior officers to join early; and I trust that those present will point out the advantages of joining to their less fortunate brother officers who have missed this Dinner.

Quarterly Journal.—To come to our new Quarterly Journal. I want first to congratulate Colonel Hitchins as head of the Committee, and Lieut.-Colonel Fladgate as Editor, on the quality of the publication, and to thank all our authors. I am particularly pleased to see that Regulars, Territorials and Supplementary Reservists all alike contribute articles.

Circulation too small.—The circulation is growing, but is still far too small. Out of 420 Regular officers, only about 250 take the Journal; and in Territorial and Supplementary Reserve units, I am disappointed to say that less than twelve copies are sold in all. I must contrast this Officers' Journal with our Rank and File Journal, "THE WIRE," of which more than 6000 copies are bought by about 7000 men.

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Lieut. Meiklejohn for the Antarctic.—You will be interested to hear that Lieut. Meiklejohn has been chosen to represent the Army, and at the same time to take care of the wireless communication, in the British Antarctic Expedition which sails this autumn for two and a half years exploration, and you will join me in wishing him all the luck in the world.

Agar Memorial.—And now, gentlemen, I come to a matter of great Corps importance: I refer to the Agar Memorial. Between five and six hundred letters were sent out last April to Regular officers, with the proposal to establish this Prize at the Royal Military Academy to commemorate in a fitting way the most gallant death of Lieut. Agar, last August, in rescuing men under his command from drowning. By some mishap a great number of letters went astray in the post, and so far only about half our officers at home have replied. I can only say now that the G.P.O. is investigating the loss, and that the Committee are busy sending copies to those who did not receive them: and I am confident that there will be no Regular officer who does not subscribe.

Sport.—Now I come to the sphere of Sport. As befits a Mounted Corps, we hve kept our end up in horsemanship.

Mounted Events: Jumping.—At home, Captain Gray qualified to jump for the King's Cup. Lieuts. Crawford and Wainman qualified to jump for the Prince of Wales' Cup, and Lieut. Crawford gained third place in it. The Depot Battalion N.C.O.s Jumping Team, in the Bronze Medal Tournament, were only beaten by the 3rd Hussars by a narrow margin after a tie.

R.A. Point to Point.—The Gunners have most generously opened the Subalterns Troop Horse Race in their Point to Point Meeting to R.A. Brigade Signal Officers. This year, the three R.A. Brigade Signal Officers of the 1st Divisional Signals rode. 2/Lieuts. McCulloch and McKean finished second and third respectively, each after a fall; and, gentlemen—listen particularly to this—2/Lieut. McKean remounted and finished the race with a broken arm! I trust that other units besides the 1st Divisional Signals will take advantage of this most sporting offer by the Gunners in future years.

Polo.—In India, our Northern Command Polo Team won the Abbottabad Spring Tournament out of fifteen entries and were runners-up in three other Tournaments. In the same Command, the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop swept the board in the Other Ranks Handy Hunters Competition and Hunter Trials.

Horse Shows.—In the great North of India Horse Show, the 2nd Indian Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop had the best trained Indian Cavalry Troop horse in the Open Competition. There were other successes in various District Competitions which I will not catalogue now.

Value of Hunting, Point to Point and Polo.—Those are achievements we can be proud of, and I must exhort all our young officers to get as much riding, hunting, Point to Point riding and polo as they possibly can—especially abroad, where the facilities are much better than at home. At the same time I would beg all Commanding Officers to make it as easy as possible for them to do so: it is an unrivalled school for the soldierly qualities we look for in our officers. Mechanisation is making inroads upon the number of horses with units, and we must accept anything which will make our transport more efficient for war, but we can still keep up our prestige among the Mounted Arms.

Soccer.—We have done well in Games and Athletics. At home, our Boys "A" Team reached the Final of the Enlisted Boys Association Cup. In the Army Football Association Cup competition, the 5th Divisional Signals lost to the final winners by 0—1.

Hockey.—The same unit reached the Final in the Northern Command Hockey.

Golf.—"B" Team from the S.T.C. reached the Semi-Final of the Army Golf Championship.

Swimming.—Signals in Egypt maintain their high tradition. They were joint Champions with the 12th Lancers in Swimming and Water Polo.

Athletics.—They also won the Command All-Round Trophy in 1933 and the Command Athletic Championship in 1934. In India, A Corps Signals Boxing Team were runners-up in the All-India Team Championship. There were many minor successes in Station and District Competitions which I do not record.

S.T.C. Display Team.—The S.T.C. Display Team has been giving first rate shows in Tattoos and Pageants, and its absence this year from Olympia has been marked by the public with much regret.

General Powell.—Now, gentlemen, I come to one of the pleasantest of my duties this evening. It is to welcome as our guest General Powell, who has just been appointed the first Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps. To give an idea of the place occupied by that Corps, I will read an extract from General Pope's farewell address the other day to his Waziristan District Signals:

Indian Signal Corps.—"During these years in the District, I have been very struck by the bearing of all men of this unit. It indicated 'I belong to Waziristan District Signals. I belong to the best unit in India. And who the hell are you?'"

We all welcome this appointment the more because it will carry forward the close liaison so happily established between the Royal Signals and the Indian Signal Corps.

Secretary, Dinner Club.—Finally, I must congratulate the organiser of our Dinner—Major Neale, the Secretary, and Colonel Vernon, whose expert advice has been invaluable.

Thanks to Junior U.S. Club.—And I must express the gratitude we all feel to the Junior United Service Club for their repeated hospitality.

The following Officers attended:—

Lieut-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (Colonel Commandant of the Corps).
Major-Generals S. H. Powell and E. V. Turner.
Brigadier-Generals A. B. Hildebrand and H. A. Vernon.
Brigadiers F. A. Heymann and H. Clementi Smith.
Colonels E. de W. Bradley, J. Waley Cohen, J. W. Danielsen, W. T. Dodd, I. C. Denison-Pender, R. G. Earle, C. W. M. Firth, E. N. F. Hitchins, G. G. Rawson, G. E. Sampson, A. W. Stokes, R. Chenevix Trench, T. W. Vigers, J. P. G. Worlledge and R. H. Willan.
Lieut.-Colonels C. J. Aston, R. E. Barker, F. R. Cobb, C. L. Day, R. Elsdale, L. Evans, C. W. Fladgate, H. Lloyd Howard, R. A. C. Henderson, R. G. Llewellyn, R. F. B. Naylor, G. D. Ozanne, J. W. Orange-Bromehead, A. C. Sykes, F. O. St. John, P. C. Snatt, F. J. M. Stratton, R. E. Vyvyan and Julian Watson.
Majors R. A. Bagnold, H. D. Beadon, D. A. Brown, D. H. Cunynghame, F. H. Dallison, W. V. G. Fuge, T. B. Gravely, A. V. D. Hort, R. Jee, R. H. R. Neale, R. F. H. Nalder, W. R. C. Penney, C. P. Prescot, C. F. Leyson Ruck, G. S. Sale, C. H. H. Vulliamy, C. Wheeler, E. G. Weekes (R.C.C.S.) A. C. C. Willway and A. S. Waley.
Captains F. H. Bury, T. B. Bolitho, E. MacD. Burns, D. L. Carnegie, C. A. H. Chadwick, H. R. V. Cooke, J. C. Cree, W. A. Dimoline, J. J. Duvivier, N. H. Edes, L. D. Goddard, E. S. Heffer, V. C. Holland, L. R. Hall, E. H. C. Harris, B. B. Kennett, H. S. Lewis-Barclay, F. A. H. Mathew, C. L. Morgan, R. W. Morgan, J. C. McDonald, W. D. McGregor, F. S. Morgan, H. D. Orr, G. Rooker, H. E. Rance, W. H. G. Rogers, R. J. H. Solly, R. H. R. Steward, F. S. Thompson, L. R. C. Watson, H. J. Wiseman, D. A. L. Wade, and H. A. Young (R.C.C.S.).
Lieutenants G. H. S. Balmain, T. W. Boileau, J. W. Gordon, P. B. G. Gambier, C. G. Moore, W. B. Rowett and A. B. Ruck.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 19/6/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Captain G. W. Cumming to be Major 19/5/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Captain and Brevet-Major A. H. Read awarded the Territorial Decoration.
Captain H. M. Rand awarded the Efficiency Decoration.

War Office 22/6/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Lieut. J. R. Sutcliffe to be Captain 20/4/34
2/Lieut. L. C. Oliver to be Lieut. 20/5/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. W. Hawking from 47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals to be 2/Lieut. 16/5/34
52nd (L.) Divl Signals—Sir Harry Duncan McGowan, K.B.E., to be Honorary Colonel 23/6/34

War Office 26/6/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
W. E. Chisnall to be 2/Lieut. 27/6/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. N. B. Scott to be Lieut. 27/6/34

War Office 29/6/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Lieut. W. Gilbert to be Captain 30/6/34

War Office 3/7/34

REGULAR ARMY—
Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., having attained the age for retirement, is placed on retired pay 2/7/34
HALF-YEARLY BREVETS—
The undermentioned promotions are made:—
Major W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, to be Brevet Lieut.-Colonel
Captain G. R. Halliday, R.Signals, to be Brevet-Major
SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
2/Lieut. G. Morris to be Lieut. 20/6/34
J. M. MacIntyre to be 2/Lieut. 4/7/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—F. G. Monk to be 2/Lieut. 4/7/34

War Office 6/7/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
J. A. McMullen to be 2/Lieut. 7/7/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
51st (H.) Divl Signals—Lieut. J. Paul resigns his commission 13/5/34
55th W.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. A. Morris from 89th Field Brigade R.A. to be 2/Lieut. 5/6/34

War Office 10/7/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—K. M. Brown to be 2/Lieut. 8/6/34

War Office 13/7/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Lieut. L. D. S. Hunter resigns his commission 14/7/34
TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divl Signals—Honorary Colonel The Lord Denman, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., vacates the appointment of Honorary Colonel 14/7/34
43rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. C. G. H. Govier to be Lieut. 28/5/34
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—E. D. Darricote to be 2/Lt. 9/7/34

Royal Signals Displays.

As already mentioned in these notes, the Display party left Catterick Camp for the Three Counties Show at Hereford on Monday 11th June. The only action of note on the journey was the swopping of engines by the Railway Company at Ripon. The advice of all members of the Display team to all and sundry is "Never swop engines when once on the rails," as the swop is sure to be for the worse. In this case we arrived at Hereford one hour late.

Hereford.—All went well, however, until we reached the Show ground and found a portion of our horse lines occupied by goats. This was unpleasant, and as most of the billies were being cared for by ladies, it produced a deadlock which was only overcome by means of the greatest tact and activity on the part of the Show officials and considerable forbearance by officers and other ranks. The ladies and billies had very strong objections to being moved when once "put."

The performances at Hereford were on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of that week, and were mainly noteworthy for the coining of the phrase "The famous Royal Corps of Signals will give displays each day" in one of the leading daily papers.

The performances were greatly helped by the loud speaker outfit, run (incidentally) by an ex-Royal Signals operator, who gave a most amusing running commentary on each turn as it was presented. It is suggested that herein lies the germ of an idea for 1935 Displays.

The Display at present is "Dare Devil," "Flirting with Death," etc., etc. (*vide* Press) but as Mr. Punch sapiently remarked, it has not much to do with the more technical side of the work of the Corps.

From the delights of Hereford—where, once we had parted with the goats, everyone had a very pleasant time—we went on to Leicester.

Before doing so, we gave an extra performance at 9 p.m. on the last day, which was enthusiastically received by a very great audience, and conceived the idea of allowing some of the motor cyclists to leap the water jump. This, aided by some excellent "ballyhoo" from our friend with his loud speaker, brought the house down.

We gave the programme as at the Scottish Pageant, and met with very great success.

At Hereford, Lieut. H. N. Crawford (Hotpot) Sergt Bennett (Gaileon) and Corpl Bull (Bertha) entered for several of the jumping competitions. The standard was very high and the going very hard and slippery. Sergeant Bennett was the only one to receive a prize, getting a third in one of the open classes.

Leicester.—Next morning (Friday) we journeyed to Leicester, arriving at 12.30 p.m., and by herculean efforts we put on a full fifty minutes performance at 3.30 and again at 6.30. This was repeated on Saturday.

Leicester did not come up to the standard of Hereford. The ring was small, the attendance meagre, and the arrangements made for the accommodation of troops left much to be desired. We were cheered, however, by a visit from our old friend Mr. C. Evans, of the Triumph Company, who came over to see the show and to look over the motor cycles. Mr. Fairbrother and Mr. Walton (of the same firm) also attended performances on Friday and Saturday.

Leaving Leicester on Sunday 17th June, we returned to Catterick for a couple of nights before setting out for Gainsborough.

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Gainsborough.—We arrived at 5 p.m. on Tuesday 19th June, and were met by the chairman and a member of the Stewards Committee.

Such was the excellence of the arrangements that, although the station was twenty minutes walk from the Show ground, by 7 p.m. we were settled in and work was finished. The arrangements made showed the greatest forethought and consideration. Only those who have to keep a couple of sets of saddlery clean know what a difference is made by the provision of saddle racks.

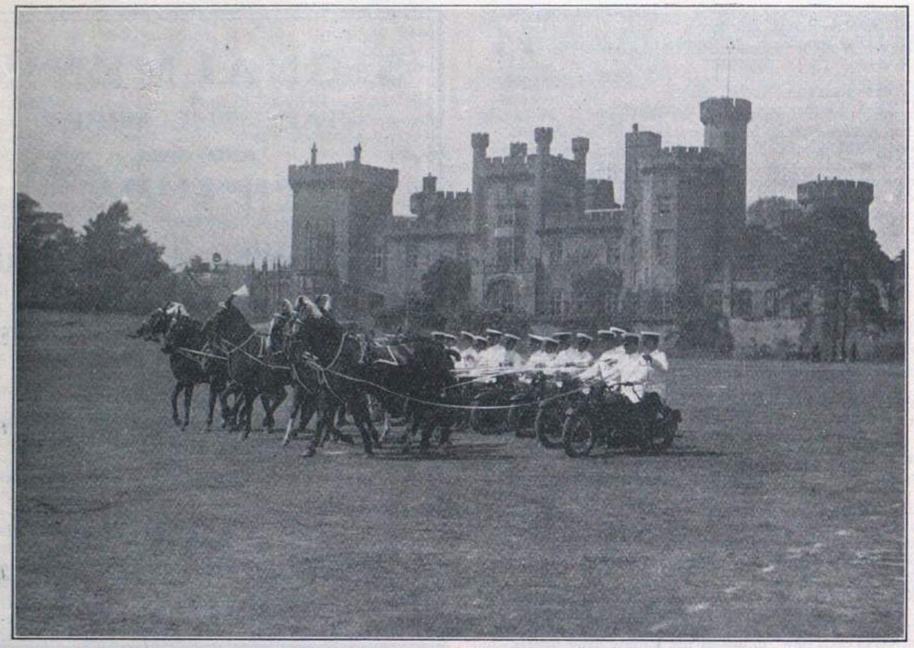
Gainsborough was distinguished for the extraordinary enthusiasm with which each performance was received by increasing crowds. It was cold and wet, and performances were often given in heavy showers of rain, but the crowds grew greater each day.

On the second day we were again honoured by the presence of H.R.H. Prince Henry, who witnessed Part I. which he had previously seen at Belfast.

The Display was most ably and kindly assisted by the music of the Royal Air Force Band from Cranwell College. This is one of the perfect bands to assist in a performance of this nature. We were only able to give the bandmaster the roughest outline of what we were going to do. He instantly adapted himself to a novel rôle and produced a medley of music suitable for each turn as it was produced. Here, again, we can only say "Thank you very much!"

Another turn at the Gainsborough Show was a demonstration of "haute école" by an expert from the stables of Sir A. G. Weigall, K.C.M.G. This was delightful and instructive.

Aided and abetted by our friends of the Stewards Committee, we rehearsed at short notice a "take-off" of this particular style of horsemanship. This was accomplished by the human horse which has often been a feature of the Royal Signals Displays. A faithful imitation of the "Spanish walk," etc., brought the house down, and actually was funny enough to make the hardened members of the Display team laugh. Its appearance afterwards as the winner of an incredible number of first and third rosettes, and the solemn award of yet another first by a com-



[*Photos by Newcastle Chronicle Limited.*]



mittee of expert cattle judges, was one of the funniest things the writer has seen in any show ring.

We left Gainsborough with regret on our side, and good wishes, thanks and requests to " Come again next year " from the chairman and committee.

Amongst other officers of the Corps who have arranged to see us at various shows, we were delighted to see Colonel and Mrs. H. J. Allen and Major and Mrs. C. P. Prescot, who very kindly visited us at Hereford.

The week 25th June to 1st July was spent in Catterick in preparation for the Northern Command Tattoo. There was much to be done. Mr. C. Evans of the Triumph Company came up and, assisted by the riders, thoroughly overhauled all the motor cycles. The Mounted Wing worked hard on the extra horses we were to take with us.

Lieut. Crawford and Sergt Bennett of the Display team, together with C.S.M. Young, had meanwhile journeyed to London for the International Horse Show. The two former left us at Gainsborough before the last day's performance, and it is to the credit of all who remained that the absence of the two leaders of the horse ride was hardly noticeable.

The International Horse Show will, no doubt, be reported elsewhere ; but we must congratulate Mr. Crawford and Hot Pot on getting " in the money " with a third in the Duke of Connaught Cup, and C.S.M. Young on clearing 6 ft. 8 in. in the high jump competition on Baby.

To hark back to Edinburgh, it was here that Driver Cochrane joined the Display team, and very excellently he did his work. At Hereford, and at other places subsequently, Driver Cochrane was accompanied by a banjo. As a banjoist he has been invaluable and the mainstay of the Band which, assisted by some very excellent singing, has become quite famous.

Northern Command Tattoo.—On Sunday 1st July we departed by three different routes for Ravensworth Castle to take part in the Northern Command Tattoo.

Together with two thousand other troops, we sweltered and sweated through four days of intensive rehearsal—averaging three rehearsals per day. We had the usual experience of being ordered down to nine minutes of time, and then gradually being given extensions by odd minutes until we got the ride fitted into its groove amongst the other items. Everyone worked with a will, and the opening performance was—for the Royal Signals Display—a very great success.

The tandem drive opened the display ; then followed an exhibition of rapid fire tricks and jumping in which no less than seventeen different turns were given in less than five minutes. This was followed by the double ride. When it is stated that this necessitated at least two, and usually three, changes of horse (and sometimes motor cycle) by all members of the team, it will be realised that the best exhibition of real rodeo stuff takes place in " pits " and not in the arena. Witnesses have paid tribute to the speed and precision of work in pits, where individuals change horses with not a second to spare.

Whitley Bay.—On Sunday most of the Display party took part in an excursion to Whitley Bay at the invitation of the Entertainments Committee of the Town Council. For some of us, it was revisiting a town in which we gave one of our most successful displays last year. We arrived at noon and then, after a meal at the Victoria Hotel, departed upon our lawful (or unlawful) errands.

The famous " rescue " of last year was repeated, two girls (expert swimmers, and members of the Panama Swimming Club) being willing victims. The first rescue was carried out successfully. The second provided a contretemps. Fair bather (in distress): " I can't breathe." Corpl Bull (the rescuer): " I can't swim, so I must hold on somehow." Our thanks are due to the Panama Swimming Club, who so kindly made us honorary members for the day.

The entire party of thirty-one having miraculously arrived back at the embussing point within a few minutes of the appointed time, we made the night hideous with song on the return journey.

Our thanks are due to Councillor Strachan, the Mayor, and the other members of the Whitley Bay Town Council, who did so much to make our visit a success.

Monday also being a blank day, most of the married men departed for Catterick under a vow of secrecy and silence. The rest of us settled down to exercise and maintenance.

A feature of the exercise parties is the riding of the despatch riders. Owing to the intricate nature of the country, fences equivalent to Becher's Brook and the Canal Turn are constantly encountered and often surmounted by both horse and rider.

As the Northern Command Tattoo is performed in darkness —actually, the Royal Signals ride takes place in a very dangerous half-light—the Display party replace their blue patrol jackets with white ones, to give greater visibility. The effect of this is good, as each man stands out clearly. Its effect on the performers is purely humorous, as each one heralds each feat with hoarse cries of " Eldorado!" " Ices!" " Stop me and buy one," etc. Fortunately, this aspect of the new dress is unheard by the audience, which is seated at some little distance from the arena.

A report of the second week of the Northern Command Tattoo will be forwarded for inclusion in next month's WIRE.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Many of the lads are sweating on the boat this next trooper. Some are sweating on passing out successfully in their trade tests. One or two of the married 'uns are sweating on getting away this week-end to the cool clinging climatic conditions of the hills—and the wife (?)

These are invisible sweats, but give me the man (with the shade temperature from 116 to 120 degrees for three days running) who can honestly state that the sweat has not run out from the bottom of his pants ; and only then—after my many years service—shall I at last be able to acknowledge a real old sweat.

Under a whirring fan, in the nude except for a pair of shorts, and with drops of moisture running off my nose (and I haven't got the flu!) I struggle with these notes.

From up the valley comes the ominous sound of a thunderstorm. Already one can see the black clouds tinged with a greenish yellow moving quickly over the mountains of the Tirah. For a moment the peaks are obscured by the advance guard of whirling mists of electrical energy, and then the whole of the range is lit up by continuous flashes of lightning, accompanied by the unceasing rumbling of thunder.

Already a stifling breeze is making itself felt. Little eddies of dust are disporting themselves in the roadway outside—forerunners of a blast of wind that shakes the foundations of the bungalow and leaves in its wake broken branches of trees, a litter of leaves, and torn up flowers. During its passage the air is filled with particles of sand which, in their agony at leaving Mother Earth, revenge themselves by getting into and on everything, inside and out. The sand has even been known to get inside sealed soda water bottles in the ice chest—which is perhaps the reason why one's thirst is never quenched in this country. (I hope that the investigations of Barleux proved as successful in this direction as they did with the rope trick, for he has had far more experience than I have.)

Soon the first few splashes of rain will appear, and the storm will be upon us. Rain as we know it in England is unheard of here: the heavens just open and shed their contents in a mass of water. In five minutes the roadways are awash, flood water drains are overflowing, and pots, pans and anything that will hold water are strewn around the rooms of the bungalow to catch the leaks from the roofs. Streak on streak of lightning crackles as it strikes the earth, and the terrific crashes of thunder conjure up visions of hell with its imps having a jolly old fireworks display.

The sandstorm has left its mark and passed on. The citizens of Lahore, some hundreds of miles away, will in three days time read in their morning papers that the peculiar haze over the city is a sandstorm from the frontier leaving its residue there.

Here comes the rain ; a cool refreshing breeze has sprung up ; what a relief! In an hour it will be quiet and peaceful once more. This evening we shall sit on the lawn in front of the mess, sipping cool drinks, with the knowledge that we shall at least have a good night's rest.

What of to-morrow, when old King Sol blazes forth again ; when, through no fault of our own, we have an uncomfortable feeling ; when it is more close and sticky than to-day? To-morrow, my thoughts will travel to Burniston Barracks Lido, Aldershot Garden City, and Antarctic Catterick ; and the only consolation I should get from the warriors residing in those health resorts would be, I am sure, " Sweat on "!

Army Golf Championships, 1934.

The Army Golf Championships for 1934 were played at St. Andrew's during the week commencing 23rd April. The Royal Corps of Signals is eligible to compete as two " units," the number of teams from either unit being unrestricted. No. 1 Unit embraces the whole of Catterick, and No. 2 the remainder of the Corps. This year a team representing each unit was sent to compete, the teams being as under:—

No. 1 Unit—Lieut. J. F. Longfield, 2/Lieut. E. B. Elliott, Lieut. R. G. Muir, Captain M. Duke.

No. 2 Unit—Major E. P. Collin, Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay, Captain J. E. S. Walford, Captain J. F. Charlesworth.

Reserve: Captain R. C. Woodbridge.

The Army Singles Championship, 36 holes medal, was played over the old course on the 23rd and 24th April, the members of our teams returning scores as under:—

	1st Round	2nd Round	Total
Captain Lewis-Barclay	81	78 ...	159
Major Collin	85	80 ...	165
2/Lieut. Elliott	88	84 ...	172
Captain Walford	90	86 ...	176
Lieut. Muir	87	91 ...	178
Captain Woodbridge	89	93 ...	182
Captain Charlesworth	97	87 ...	184
Captain Duke	No return	85 ...	—
Lieut. Longfield	No return	86 ...	—

Captain Lewis-Barclay was fifth in the championship, 4 strokes behind the winner. Of the four who finished ahead of him, three were previous winners of the title and one was an International.

Inter-Regimental Championship.

No. 1 Unit team met the Cameronians in the first round in a thrilling encounter, which left the teams all square at the end of 18 holes. Off they went to the first hole again, where the first three pairs halved and our No. 4 (Captain Duke) won the hole to put his team into the next round.

No. 2 Unit team played the Welch Regiment and passed quietly but firmly into the next round.

No. 1 Unit.		Cameronians.	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Lt. R. A. Buchanan-Dunlop	5
2/Lieut. Elliott	0	Captain C. F. Hason	2
Lieut. Muir	7	Lieut. H. Murray	0
Captain Duke	1	Lieut. J. H. Law	0
	8		7

No. 2 Unit.		The Welch Regiment.	
Major Collin	3	Captain D. P. Dickinson	0
Captain Lewis-Barclay	1	Major W. Owen	0
Captain Walford	8	Captain B. Cripps	0
Captain Charlesworth	1	Lieut. W. B. T. Webb	0
	13		0

In the next round No. 1 Unit met the Royal Scots and won decisively by 20—6 holes.

No. 2 Unit were up against old opponents in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, to whom they lost by 1 hole in the final at Hoylake in 1932. As in 1932, the Warwick No. 1 (Captain Giles) proved the biggest obstacle and in great form. Major Collin stuck to him most courageously, but in the end finished 5 holes down. This deficit was almost wiped out by Nos. 2 and 3 of the team, but No. 4 (Captain Charlesworth) found his opponent rather too strong and came in 4 holes down.

No. 1 Unit.		Royal Scots.	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Lieut. C. S. Mackenzie	6
2/Lieut. Elliott	7	Lieut. T. R. Broughton	0
Lieut. Muir	6	Lieut. T. Masterton-Smith	0
Captain Duke	7	Lieut. J. K. Drysdale	0
	20		6

No. 2 Unit.		Royal Warwickshire Regt.	
Major Collin	0	Captain A. C. Giles	5
Captain Walford	1	Major J. T. Bretherton	0
Captain Lewis-Barclay	3	Major E. M. Onslow	0
Captain Charlesworth	0	Captain H. B. Bird	4
	4		9

In the next round No. 1 Unit team met the R.A.M.C. and won by 10—3 holes, thus passing into the semi-final.

No. 1 Unit.		R.A.M.C.	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Major Monro	2
2/Lieut. Elliott	2	Captain Anderson	0
Lieut. Muir	0	Major Strachan	1
Captain Duke	8	Lieut. Hargreaves	0
	10		3

In the semi-final No. 1 Unit team encountered The Buffs, the eventual winners, and lost by 2—13 holes.

No. 1 Unit.		The Buffs.	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Lieut. R. N. Reeves	5
2/Lieut. Elliott	0	Lieut. E. S. Scott	8
Lieut. Muir	0	Lieut. H. Harwood	0
Captain Duke	2	Lieut. C. Kenward	0
	2		13

It was some consolation to both teams that their respective victors fought out the final.

No. 1 Unit team did extremely well to reach the semi-final. The team is a comparatively young one and contains the material for building up an even stronger team in the future.

A special mention is due to Lieut. Longfield, to whom, playing as No. 1 of his team, fell the unenviable task of opposing some of the leading Army players. The manner in which he stuck to his work helped considerably towards the success of his team.

Army Golfing Society Foursomes.

The A.G.S. Foursomes competition against bogey was played over the new course on Thursday 26th April. Forty-five couples took part, and this event was won by Major Collin and Captain Lewis-Barclay with a return of 5 up. The scratch score of the new course is 78, and the winning couple holed the course in 74 strokes with a strong breeze blowing.

The International Horse Show, 1934.

On Thursday 21st June C.S.M. Young and Driver Blades left Catterick for Olympia with Baby, Hot Pot and Galleon. Lieut. H. N. Crawford and Sergt Bennett were with the Display party at the Lincolnshire County Show at Gainsborough, and joined C.S.M. Young with the horses in London on Friday. All three jumped in a "round the course" competition that evening, C.S.M. Young (on Baby) getting a seventh prize with four faults and Lieut. H. N. Crawford (on Hot Pot) just missing a prize with eight faults. Galleon (jumping for the first time at Olympia) was too filled with nerves to do any good.

The Scurry Stakes on the Tuesday proved that Hot Pot does not jump well " all out," but she did extremely well in the " touch and out " competition on the Thursday, and Lieutenant Crawford took fifth prize on her in the Connaught Cup on Friday. She was unlucky not to be higher, as she did a brilliant round up to the last fence (the double railway gates), which she had not seen before and refused.

On the Thursday C.S.M. Young (on Baby) got up to 6 ft. 8 in. in the high jump, which was not quite good enough to take a prize.

Both Hot Pot and Baby jumped extremely well in all the competitions in which they were entered, and it is felt that if only they had been put in a few more competitions they would have brought back more prizes.

Apart from the jumping, the International Horse Show was a huge success, the Saumur Cavalry School ride alone being well worth travelling from Catterick to see.

We were sorry that the Colchester entry (The Erg, ridden by 2/Lieut. Hay) was lame and could not compete.

Royal Signals (Northern Command, India) Polo Team.

Winners of the Abbottabad Spring Polo Tournament, 1934.



Lieut. L. D. M. Patterson (1) — Lieut. G. S. Knox (3) — Captain C. M. F. White (back) — Lieut. A. M. W. Whistler (2)

- Plain Tales -

Chats with Cads.—The next Cads meeting will take place some time next month at a place to be thought of later. A number of Rotters will be raised to fully fledged Cads and will then be permitted to wear the ties of any school they happen to favour. B Cable Section did well on the scheme in June, and their members qualified for the first degree by scoffing Paddy Garry's ice cream while he was fixing a pole crossing. Only true Cads would do that.

In the Cads Derby Sweep it was rather a coincidence that I should have drawn all the horses myself, because I was running the thing and also made out the tickets and collected the money. One or two people laughed like—you know, but all genuine Cads knew what would happen. They simply roared. Undoubtedly, it was very funny.

Will the Utter Cad who put tar on my shaving brush please note that I put sulphuric acid in his best boots.

I shall be glad to have suggestions from any Rotters or Cads (except those in G Section) that might help to further the Cause. When I discover what the Cause is, I'll let you know. Note: on first being initiated into the Federation of Cads, a candidate becomes a Hound. All he has to do for promotion is some simple little spot of caddishness, such as pinching the O.C.'s spare wheel or swiping the Adjutant's antirr—well, carnations, then. If he gets away with either of these, more ambitious jobs will be awarded until one day he may be fortunate enough to push a military policeman under a bus and thus qualify to wear any school tie with a sleeveless vest.

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Brighter Cinemas.—An ingenious lead by the Garrison Cinema, Bulford, is reported. A sergeant of the Royal Engineers had the following terrifying experience whilst attending the first house one evening last month. A rat galloped up his trouser leg and bit him very severely. The rat had to be strangled through the cloth, and the unfortunate victim was taken away to have the wound cauterised. I am glad to say that the sergeant is making good progress towards recovery. Those patrons who have not been scared off the cinema for a while are busy thinking up devices for protecting themselves from playful rodents. Cycle clips are favoured for men, while chic creations in galvanised iron are tentatively offered in the shops for ladies. All this reminds me of the Carfax Cinema people in Bungdumpur, who released a dozen cobras and a panther among the audience to liven them up a bit. A bomb or a sudden fire is another good way to stir a lethargic public. (*Copyright.*)

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In the Shade.—With the hot weather galloping about all over Salisbury Plain, it becomes daily more difficult to write in a bright and cheery strain. We develop livers and bloodshot eyes. We find it necessary to buy shirts so that we may cast our jackets, having found the wearing of "hard hitters" frowned upon. After all, stripes in indelible pencil on the bare skin cannot be classed as "gent's natty wear."

In the cool of the evening we strolled into the Bulford Garrison library, and, still in the cool of the evening, we strolled out again, only a little faster. If any of you are interested in old books, dirty old books, books with no covers, and books with ragged pieces of covers clinging to the parent body, we shall be glad to show you the largest collection outside a tenth rate second-hand bookstall. No, we don't feel any better yet. Roll on, Christmas.

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Sporting and Dramatic.—An engagement is announced between Robert Frederick Barlow of Bulford and Eileen Mary Barron of Dover. Friends are asked to start saving up right away, so that in December gifts of hot water bottles, jam spoons, etc., may come along with cheerful regularity. Other sports news on some other page, or somewhere.

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Musical Days.—Mr. R. R. Ricketts and the Royal Signals Band arrived at Bulford on Saturday evening, 7th July. Quite a number of new faces toed the line. That doesn't sound quite right, but no matter. It did not take us long to discover that their usual high standard had been well maintained. Spud Marsden is back in the Band on trumpet instead of trombone. Did you know that, you people in India? An eleven piece dance band under Corpl Robinson put up a positively first class performance at the Sergeants' dance on the 11th.

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Don't Believe This.—I had this from Alf Saunders of the Band, so you know what to do about it. Some Territorials were attached to a Regular unit and were required to perform normal duties, including guards. One night, a guard commander on his rounds missed a sentry. He located the man asleep in the guard room, roused him, and pushed him back on his post.

"Listen to me, my lad," said the sergeant. "When you're with a Regular unit, you'll do as a Regular sentry does."

"What does a Regular sentry do, then?"

"Two on and four off, you cake; not one on and—and push off."

• • • •

Our Great New Serial.—Devils that we are, we flatly refuse to write about Ukann Larfe while this hot weather lasts. Interval for fiendish laughter. He is still in hospital, anyway. (I've just made that up, but you can't do anything about it because it's my serial, and if I have any trouble from you I shall fix it so that Ukann Larfe and all his pals go over a cliff and fall 300 feet—no, hang it! 500 feet—and then what?)

Another thrilling instalment another time, if I don't forget.

BARLEUX.

Cruising.

Wherein lies the subtle joy of the sea cruise? This question is easily answered. In addition to the pleasure of visiting new lands and peoples, there is the charm of congenial companionship under ideal conditions and the entire absence of worry; the sparkling sea, the palms, the flowers and the sunshine—or, if the invigorating North calls the more strongly, the awe-inspiring majesty of fjord, mountain and glacier; the opportunity either to laze, both mentally and physically, or else join in the deck games, gymkhanas, dances and bathes in the ship's pool, according to inclination; the excitement of shore excursions amid novel surroundings; the dancing in the ballroom or on the moonlit decks; and the *joie de vivre* produced by the sea breeze and the freedom which comes of being away from convention, as one of a party on pleasure bent amid the sunlight and starlight of a distant sea. With no packing and unpacking, no doubtful hotels, and no steadily mounting expenses beyond control, the sea cruise provides the thrill of foreign travel without the usual doubts and worries.

Where is there a seaplayground the equal of the blue Mediterranean, with its sunshine, its warm zephyrs and its tepid splashing waves? Where else is there a coast line embracing some of the most interesting countries of Southern Europe, with the enthralling life of native Africa and the glamour of the teeming Orient? Where else can one see, within the space of two glorious weeks, such diverse scenes as those in the *Ramblas* of Barcelona, typically Spanish and colourful; Algiers with its narrow and tortuous Arab streets; Moorish Tetuan, with its veiled women and its minarets and mosques; Tangier with its sûks, or Eastern markets, its snake-charmers and its swarthy people from all over Northern Africa; Lisbon, the Portuguese capital, rising in terraces from the glittering Tagus to the lofty palace, which can be seen to-day as it was on the night when the late King Manoel fled from its lofty battlemented rooms? or, alternatively, where are there islands of such exquisite tropical beauty as those of Madeira and the Canaries; with the joys of mountain tobagganing, bathing in the translucent waters of southern seas, exploring the cave dwellings of Atalaya, or climbing on mule back the heights of Teneriffe?

There are those to whom the call of the North makes the stronger appeal, however, and the great white *Empress of Australia*, the 22,000 ton oil burning luxury vessel famous for her world cruises, and the biggest British ship cruising in Norwegian waters, sails on a special nineteen days pleasure voyage to the Norwegan fjords, the Land of the Midnight Sun, and to Spitzbergen with its immense glaciers.

This is a cruise far from the beaten track, to where there is no sunset or sunrise. You will see the awe-inspiring grandeur of Norway's fjords and mountains, its thundering waterfalls, red, blue and green chalets, and will walk in the quaint streets of Hammerfest, the northernmost town in the world, with its furs and its Lapps with their reindeer. Then comes the North Cape, and a climb up to gaze across the last lands of Europe. On the flattened apex of the world there is Spitzbergen—perhaps the most thrilling adventure of any summer cruise. In places you will gaze at icefields and mountains seldom seen except by explorers. The midnight sun on the floes, bergs and snowfields is a never-to-be-forgotten sight. There will be icebergs of amazing colours, seals, whales and prolific bird life, with that mysterious call—the glamour of the Polar regions; and yet, so powerful are the combined influences of the Gulf Stream and the Midnight Sun, that it is never really cold. Here, too, you will visit Longyear City—a kind of Klondyke—and see the remains of many Polar expeditions: an experience, yes, and thrilling, too!

To the Norwegians alone there are shorter cruises of fourteen days duration, and one also to those inland waterways as well as to gay Copenhagen, with its bathing beaches and its evening revels in the Tivoli Gardens. During every month, until the middle of October, there will be cruises in big Canadian Pacific liners to lands and seas of glamour and romance.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be Staff-Sergeant (Farrier)

2312122	Sergeant (Farrier) Walmsley J.	18/6/34	12

To be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals)

2316734	Corporal Gerrish A.	24/2/34	39

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

*5820515	Sergeant Steed H.	8/2/34	73

To be Sergeant.

*1417049	L/Sergeant Carfrae J.	8/2/34	78
*6077719	L/Sergeant Wilson E.	13/2/34	78
2313635	L/Sergeant Read S.	22/2/34	27
2310676	L/Sergeant Thorne G.	1/4/34	27
2312989	L/Sergeant Church W.	1/4/34	28
*1877173	L/Sergeant McCormack M.	7/4/34	78
2311302	L/Sergeant Topp R.	15/4/34	28
1858913	L/Sergeant Shreeves L.	1/5/34	28

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

*2314647	Corporal Fields R.	8/2/34	78
*2309439	Corporal Cosens G.	13/2/34	78
1853203	Corporal Lee J.	16/4/34	34

To be Corporal (Farrier)

2312772	Signalman Baddeley J.	1/4/34	

To be Corporal.

2313665	L/Corporal Hatton T.	1/2/34	50
2311391	L/Corporal Geere W.	2/2/34	50
2317908	L/Corporal Ellis F.	7/2/34	50
2315574	L/Corporal Wallis C.	8/2/34	50
2310357	L/Corporal Gavins W.	15/4/34	51
759563	L/Corporal Bull G.	23/4/34	51
5172906	L/Corporal Perfect G.	24/4/34	51
2310355	L/Corporal Dacombe L.	25/4/34	51
2315520	L/Corporal Ferrier F.	18/5/34	51
2316212	L/Corporal Kelly J.	25/5/34	51
2316503	L/Corporal Eldred F.	25/5/34	51

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2319889	Signalman O'Donnell N.	2/2/34	
2319805	Signalman Lindsay D.	7/2/34	
2319433	Signalman O'Donovan H.	8/2/34	
2321567	Signalman Allen A.	10/2/34	
2318389	Signalman Cooper A.	13/2/34	
2319743	Signalman Burton R.	22/2/34	
2320102	Signalman Bailey E.	22/2/34	
2322308	Signalman Paling R.	6/3/34	
2318255	Signalman Farrell L.	12/3/34	
2317533	Signalman Robinson L.	13/3/34	
2319524	Signalman Sherard D.	16/3/34	
3523061	Signalman Robinson B.	27/3/34	
2314318	Signalman Manning C.	30/3/34	
4608587	Signalman Swift H.	1/4/34	
2319847	Signalman Fielding G.	1/4/34	
2319948	Signalman Dumville H.	6/4/34	
2316490	Signalman Horne H.	6/4/34	
2319478	Signalman Brakenberry B.	6/4/34	
2317763	Signalman Brett H.	6/4/34	
2317716	Signalman Talbot F.	6/4/34	
1058960	Signalman Marsh E.	6/4/34	
2319788	Signalman Jordan J.	6/4/34	
2317321	Signalman Humby V.	6/4/34	
2315408	Signalman Day W.	6/4/34	
2317304	Signalman Hill H.	6/4/34	
2314216	Signalman Langley C.	6/4/34	
758210	Signalman Collett E.	6/4/34	
2317994	Signalman Cole E.	15/4/34	
2317848	Signalman Moulinie H.	19/4/34	
2319458	Signalman Blanshard S.	23/4/34	
2318847	Signalman James W.	25/4/34	
2315954	Signalman Hubbard F.	1/5/34	
3185128	Signalman Noble G.	3/5/34	
2320609	Signalman Draper S.	4/5/34	
2320439	Signalman Phillips L.	19/5/34	
2318968	Signalman Chapman W.	25/5/34	
2312266	Signalman Forster A.	16/6/34	
31108	Signalman Cannings E.	23/6/34	

Discharged.

1855275	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) McGregor W.	23/5/34	7
*1858931	C.Q.M.S. Beresford J.	14/6/34	73
*1407886	Sergeant Cook A.	6/4/34	78
7813702	Corporal Johnson H.	17/5/34	36
6135367	Corporal Smith E.	24/5/34	38
2316191	Corporal McCann B.	1/6/34	45
2308054	Corporal Fisher N.	11/6/34	31
2314968	Corporal Bell S.	20/6/34	27
2314973	Corporal Prescott G.	20/6/34	47
2314963	L/Corporal Davies A.	22/6/34	60

To Army Reserve.

2318493	Corporal Bell R.	24/5/34	46
2317755	L/Corporal Reardon D.	26/4/34	54
2318487	L/Corporal Rayner R.	14/5/34	58
3955288	L/Corporal Sowden J.	15/6/34	
2319486	L/Corporal Pacey G.	15/7/34	59

Deceased.

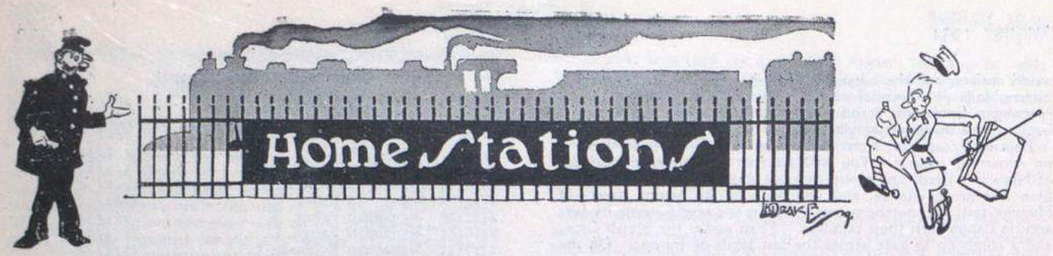
2315518	Corporal Humphries A.	24/5/34	40

* *Special Roster (India)*

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

D Company, Training Battalion.

General.—We congratulate our unit "editor" on his safe return from his—well! he calls it furlough, but he was really fixing up his garden for the garden competition. He is, however, still unable to take any part in compiling these notes, as he has taken over the duties of C.C. (Sergeant —— having gone to Bisley in search of a booby prize). Sergt —— intends to start a clay pigeon side-show in Catterick. We wish him luck.

Arrivals.—We welcome all arrivals (too many to name) and hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—These, also, are too many to name, but we wish them luck in their new units.

Marriage.—Congratulations to our C.Q.M.S.'s assistant on his marriage to Miss Lilian Taggart. Good luck, Johnnie!

Congratulations.—To Corpl Bartley H. (A Corps Signals) on attaining his class i. instrument mechanic, and to Sigmn Dale (A.F.V. Signals) and Sigmn Thom (5th Div.) on attaining their class i. electrician fitter.

Musketry.—We are in the midst of our annual musketry training, and of course "up to our necks in grass" on Whinny Hill. We fire the course from the 18th to 21st July, and then we shall see who is good enough to go to Bisley next year (after a lot of practice, of course).

Personal.—The drought up here having come to an end, Lorenzo's boils seem to have faded away, but—hark you! we seem to be losing our Part II. Orders clerk, who is suffering from "gammy" knees.

Supplementary.—Subsequent to our last notes, we have discovered a brilliant left hand googly bowler who has been taking wickets right and left (balls to the right of them and balls to the left of them). Please note that this person is the same as mentioned in our last issue. Oh, dear! where are those Test Match selectors? Well done, Uncle!

Service.—W.O.1 (F-of-S) Roberts C. S. has signed on for a few more years; also L/Corpl Taylor E. S.

Pending.—Our "editor" wishes to sign on for a few more years, but up to the present we have no authority to let him do so. However, do not forget the slogan "Try, try again."

Tattoo.—A large number of men from this Company proceeded to Gateshead on Wednesday 11th July to see the Northern Command Tattoo, and according to remarks heard everything went off o.k.—but whether it was the Tattoo, or otherwise, we do not really know. However, there seemed to be a few sore heads and bad tempers.

DON.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—It is a long and arduous task to think up enough to keep F Company in the public eye (as it is, some people seem to have forgotten us) but nevertheless we will try to prove our existence. So here goes!

The main topic of conversation is always leave, so you will know what it is like at the moment, for our annual summer leave starts next week. The main cry is like the bleating of the lambs at night time: "Oh-h-h-h-h! roll on, another week!" We wonder if the same will be said when the end of the leave period is only a week away. This year, by the hard work of Captain Holland and the very kind help of some civilians, we are able to make the boast that for the first time in the Company's history there will not be one boy left behind to enjoy himself at Catterick. We must explain to those who are not acquainted with this Company that there are a number of boys whose relations are overseas serving in India—in some cases, with our own Corps—and as it is obviously impossible to send these boys to their parents, they have hitherto spent their leave in barracks. And that ain't no grand sensation!

Departures.—The members of the Company were very sorry to lose C.S.M. Johns, who is now on leave pending his discharge after the completion of a pontoon over and above his boy service. I believe the Company office folk are still trying to find out the day when he finishes. He was with this Company for two years, and during that period he made himself very popular with one and all. One message we would like to pass on to him: "The very best wishes from us all, and it's raining much better now."

A farewell concert was given in C.S.M. Johns' honour a few days before he left, and Captain Holland reminded everybody of the great loss he and the rest of the Company were sustaining. After the C.S.M. had said a few words about his life in the Army, he was presented with a clock from the boys and a silver cigarette cabinet (suitably inscribed) from the members of the cadre.

Our R.E. fixture list has been somewhat amended, for together with the C.S.M. we lost two old friends in Signalmen Larson and Donnelly, who proceeded to the A.V.T.C. at Hounslow to be taught the system of wage earning in civvy street.

Arrivals.—We were very sorry to see C.S.M. Johns leave us, but we welcome C.Q.M.S. Donaghy from E Company in his place. C.S.M. Johns set up a very high standard, and our new C.S.M. seems to have taken over very successfully and shown us that in losing a very good C.S.M. we have also gained one. Best of luck, sir! We will try our best to win that cross-country shield again, and may the Mackworth trophy come to us as you add up the points.

Congratulations.—To Boy Barrett on winning the enlisted boys 220 yards championship at Aldershot during the course of the Army individuals meeting—also to L/Corporal Boy Smith on gaining a place in the final. See the Sports Notes.

We also congratulate L/Corpl Boys Smith and Luscombe on attaining that exalted rank.

Obituary.—Our sincere condolences are tendered to the relatives of Corpl Humphries (Punch). Everybody in the Company who remembered him was very sorry to hear of their sad loss. His popularity does not die with him.

In Conclusion.—To S.T.C. India: What about some news of your Boys Company? It will be much appreciated by the boys of this Company.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—At the time of writing the Company is dwelling in those conical canvas shapes better known, perhaps, as tents at Camp 49, Ewshott. The weather is ideal for camping, and many of us are quite sunburned. The remainder, I am told, are just

browned off—presumably the married pads—but we won't go into that.

The lighter side of camp life has been quite good, and two very good concerts by the Imperial Players were greatly appreciated by all ranks. There was also a sing song which was rather entertaining, and about which I could say a lot, but I think that it had better go unsaid. I must say, though, that the community singing was excellent, although some chaps didn't seem to know the right words. However, it all went swimmingly, including the N.A.A.F.I. beer—some of which, by the way, was spilt down my nice clean slacks.

By the time these notes are published camp will be just a memory—this particular Ewshott Camp will be, anyway—and probably we will all be looking forward to the next camping holiday (?) I said probably!

A competition was organised for M.T. drivers, and Driver Orton of this Company carried off the first prize of £1 in cash. A similar competition was held for the H.T. drivers, A Cable Section being the winners with their black team.

Before I leave the subject of camp, perhaps I had better mention that part of the unit left in the camp at the time successfully fought a small outbreak of fire in the woods at the back. Although this outbreak was only small, it meant an hour's hard hot work before it was under control.

Now here is a piece of news that will renew the tears in the eyes of all who knew him in No. 1 Company. Bing Barker, the Company's inimitable crooner, has left us for Catterick Camp. How sorry we all are! If only he had made one or two records of his efforts, we could have played them over when—well, I guess you know when. However, despite his accident, Bing (Sigmn Barker E.) is a decent sort, and we wish him all the best. By the way, he's married now, but still he croons.

We have great pleasure in extending a welcoming hand to our friend Jackie (Sigmn Hood R.) who has come back to us from Catterick. We hope his stay will be a longer one this time—providing, of course, that he doesn't take up crooning as a hobby.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Hood R. and Driver Gorringe from Catterick Camp.

Departures.—Sigmn Barker E. and Driver Norris to Catterick Camp. Sigmn Ketley to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford.

Marriage.—Signalman Ward E. to Miss Tillotson at Hitchin, Herts, on 16/6/34. (Splendid fellow!)

Birth.—To L/Corpl and Mrs. Jones H. a daughter, Gwendolene, on 30/6/34. Congratulations, Corpie!

We Want to Know.—Who told the traveller who stayed in the skyscraper to get bouncing?

Tailpiece.—Come down and see me up some time. T.E.S.

No. 2 Company.

General.—No pen: apologies: notes: July: "ere Z." Once again the old saying comes true, "All's well that ends well"—and the unit camp has come to a glorious finish. It was, I imagine, thought by all to be a health camp, as work and sunbathing went on fifty-fifty. We now have a large surplus of those slightly sunburnt and handsome men who are usually found on Southampton-bound troopships. Shilling deposit secures any type. Apply Hon. Treasurer, 13 W.

The C.O., Lieut.-Colonel Elsdale, kept things going by allotting a couple of days to sports. Firstly, a driving competition for M.T. drivers. The course consisted of several hairpin bends and tricky turnings which called for very careful driving to avoid losing points. This was won by Sigmn Orton of No. 1 Company, with Sigmn Long of No. 2 Company a good second. The six-a-side tournament at soccer resulted in No. 8 Light Section winning by half a point, which earned for them a large pint and a large Players. Secondly, the married families outing. The N.A.A.F.I. provided an excellent tea, which was followed by events for the children. Tom Walls and everyone will agree that we have had an excellent time at camp.

Disposing of the 120 watt sets, we borrowed four hush-hush vans complete from No. 2 Div., thus bringing our total up to eight W/T vans and two detachments of 500 watts. During the exercise six heavy were held in reserve, whilst the eight light detachments succeeded in dealing with all traffic as per—Cita Cito. Well done!

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Arrivals.—2/Lieut. Miller from Catterick. C.S.M. Strange from the School of Signals.

Marriage.—Sigmn Richardson to Miss Jennie Seaward, at Aldershot, on 3/7/34.

Agony.—M.T. Lament (to the tune of "Underneath the Arches").

Underneath the lorries
We're cleaning every day;
With an empty grease gun
We idle hours away,
Hiding from the sergeant,
Who makes us earn our pay—
Happy when the night's a'stealing
And we pack up all our cleaning.
Work chitties handed in,
Then off we go to bye-bye,
To wake up in the morning,
Ready for an early run.

—J.B.

Touching the M.T. side, a certain driver going flat out down a long incline had the misfortune to run over a chicken. Imagine his surprise when the chicken appeared ten minutes later from between the front wheels and left the lorry (still flat out) standing. We now know why the chicken crossed the road!

Bargains.—Old timer (?) would exchange new bar of Palm Olive for small tin of Cherry Blossom or part-worn large tin. Owner not going abroad, but two bars secured in error.

D.D.

No. 1 Section, No. 4 Wireless Company.

For the past few months we have failed to put in an appearance in this Journal and readily apologise. Overwork and anxiety are probably the causes of such shameful neglect. However, we still exist, and here is a list of practically a brand new Section.

Officer commanding, Major F. W. Nicholls, O.B.E.; Sergeants Bremner R. and Mullins A.; Corporals Gristwood G., Raymond C., Weir W. and Barlow R. G.; L/Corporals Ball W. G., Clement R.H., Watkins A. J. and Welch A.; Signalmen Ashman F., Beenham G. V., Campbell P., Cannon W. F., Capp C. C., Davis S. T., Fukes F. C., Hornby A., Kerr S., McAdie G., Miller W., Stamp E. J., Stockden R., Walmsley J. and Waterston J. A dangerous list, did you say? Well, maybe.

Schemes are now the order of the day. We are preparing for the big push—the Staff College signal exercise—and then several of us will mask ourselves with that haunted expression common to all intelligent people.

For the information of all concerned, I am asked to broadcast the recent departure of our trailer. The Company have lost a landmark.

The activities of the Company have been wide and various. Those of individual members have been amazing, and the following paragraphs are therefore inevitable.

Marriages.—Nil.

Marriages "Peachy."—Daphne Welch.

Births.—Nil.

Appointments.—L/Corpl Watkins A. to be Tug's little cutie.

Crib.—The final of the inter-bed competition was played last Thursday evening before a large and interested audience. The

contestants weighed in prompt to time. Rex and One Pint turned the scales at 19 stone, and Gladys and A. N. Other turned them green., Pegging was fairly even to begin with, but with a snappy turn up Rex was away with a magnificent 24. Gladys soon followed, but caught a beezer with the box. The spectators are now convinced that crib *is* crib.

The final positions of the Health and Strength League are: Relegated to Div. V., Signalmen Beenham G. V. and Davis S. T.; to apply for re-election, Sigmn Walmsley J. Sigmn Capp C. C. is suspended sine die and ordered to pay the cost of the enquiry. This was held in camera, and the facts of the case must therefore be withheld from the Press.

Aldershot continues to be the attraction for Yorkshire visitors. Groups of youths from Catterick are finding our beautiful old buildings full of interest and work, and yesterday, when there was a hint of summer in the air, they strolled in twos and threes in the stables and garages.

Sunshine Sketches of our Community.—No. 1: Charlie Capp (by Always out of Mind). Nature patterned him, and when she had done she just threw away the copyright—and we don't blame her. Ran second to George Washington in last year's Truth Stakes, and inspired several critics by his performance. Is the composer of "Little White Lies," "Moaning for You," and other well known successes. He stopped thinking some years ago, as the result of his boots pinching him. Has only one vice: he devours his bath water. Should run prominently before long.

Meditation.—Rumour is ever a lying jade, but she has nothing at all on our little Charles.

Now that should be sufficient for this month. You must work out your own salvation till a season hence. W.G.B.

1st Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

By the Way.—Doubtless, many thousands will deplore the absence of "Chinabasher" at the end of these notes. The truth is that *they* are now convalescing at Bordon after their excursion into the realms of reporting. I say *they* advisedly, as the nom-de-plume is a dual personality.

Bordon.—All reports from L Section at Bordon are favourable, and their prowess at cricket is being extolled by their emissaries. We stay at homes must look to our ashes.

Weapon Training.—I very nearly put "Musketry," but Sam handed in his musket a long time ago. As usual, this event produced some unlooked for results such as old soldier thirds and young soldier marksmen. Congratulations go to Signalman Stammers, who scored 70—Company shot, so far—for he hasn't had a rifle long enough to get thoroughly pally with it. The Company average of firsts is 60 per cent., the average score being 55, i.e. first class shot.

Appointments.—We congratulate U/L/Corpls Laurenson J. D. M., Griffin H. and Thompson H. T. on their appointment. May the remuneration therefor be imminent.

Departures.—L/Corpl Stanley leaves us, after a successful vocational course, for civvy street. Our sympathy goes out to him in his misfortune.

Courses.—U/L/Corpl Griffin H. is away at the A.S.P.T. on a boxing course.

The Boat.—The following have been pre-empted for berths in liners touring our military stations in the Near, Middle and Far East during the winter vacation: L/Corporal Cooke W. to Palestine. Signalmen Saunders A., Smart W. and Calver R. to Egypt Signals. Sigmn Thomson D. to China Signals. Sigmn Hutchins A. to Malta Signals. Sigmn Devine H. to Jamaica Signals. The first syllable of the last station adequately expresses our feelings! So now those awaiting fate can make a jolly good guess at their destination—there's nothing to India.

Finis.—If these notes appear short, the best parts will have been censored. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

"What a body of handsome sunburnt men!" was being murmured all round the N.A.A.F.I. on the morning of 3rd July (on both sides of the counter, too). The occasion was the home-coming of the toughs of 2nd Div. after spending three quiet weeks at Thursley "convalescing" camp. We use the word "toughs," as this was our greeting of twelve months ago. Evidently the influx of the old school tie clientele in the unit has had its effect, and we are now gradually creeping into the "gentlemen" class.

On the whole, the camp period was not too gruesome. The weather was exactly as it should be except for a couple of days when someone turned the tap on. During the leisure hours bare backs and shorts were very conspicuous. Of course, most of the time was taken up by training in the way of schemes and "23.59 hours" passes to Godalming, Milford, etc., and the majority of people benefited in some way or other. At least one top rater of D Section has just found out that there is no apostrophe in Army Signals, after sending . . . . . for half an hour and telling everybody that the fellow on the other end did not know his procedure. Last year the same gentleman ate a pork pie and then found out that it did not belong to him. You want to be more careful, Basher.

On the last Sunday in camp the Sergeants Mess entertained the married families, who came out in luxury coaches. Tea was provided, after which the children were given pony rides on two of the more docile animals. Thursley Park racecourse was then thrown open to the public, who were not shy in speculating on the tote; and by the way, for the benefit of those who would persist in enquiring how much the bookies were making, it is published for information that any profits (if any) went to a good cause. The R.S.M. and his staff are to be congratulated on the way they carried through a very successful evening.

Condolences.—The Company wishes to extend its sympathy to L/Corpl and Mrs. Wright in the loss of their week-old son.

Haw! Haw!—If a film photographer had been in the vicinity of No. 5 Troop stable about 6 a.m. on the 5th July, he would have been able to record numerous and humorous expressions on a hundred faces when a certain person shouted "Marker for H.Q.!" Some looked startled; others, one could tell, were highly delighted; and it was very gratifying to H.Q. to be able to say that they were the means of producing such happy faces, which are very rare at that time of day. Of course, there were still a number of Buster Keaton faces, but that is not always the person's fault. "Some are born," etc.

Departures.—Sigmn Williams concluded his holiday with us and has now gone to the Command Signal Company. We don't mind. After all, he is only up to Corps standard in cricket, and the majority of us know quite sufficient about foreign lands without having to sit and listen to him. However, we wish him all the best.

Our good wishes also go with Signalmen Kelly and Spencer, who are now in the Reserve.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Overton and Farquharson from Training Battalion. Sigmn Lundie from Command Signal Company vice Bill.

Trooping Season.—Up to the present we have had a few men provisionally warned for Egypt and Palestine, and one for China. How we shall miss Tubby's barking at reveille when he goes to the land of pigtails.

Appointments and Promotions.—We must apologise for not reporting the fact that Corpl Gavins has obtained that rank. We congratulate him on making another vacancy for some poor "unpaid." It was quite an oversight that this was missed before. The only explanation we can offer is that one can so easily miss anything less than 4 ft. 6 in. in stockinged feet.

The M.I. room supervisor has at last burnished the last bolt on the last of the forms and tables down there, and has now been granted the privilege of calling himself L/Corpl Dicks. There is no need to offer congratulations, as it is understood that the latter have been pouring in *and* down.

Agony.—Quetta: R.O.T.B. Six weeks. Aub.

To No. 3 Company.—Thanks for the publicity of last month, but to be up to date you should say "Keep away from that; it's confidential." EASY.

No. 2 Company.

Company Headquarters functioned with the unit at Thursley Camp from 11th June to 3rd July, and from our point of view it was not too bad. We enjoyed passable weather until somebody found out that there was a shortage of water all over the country, and then the old storm merchant provided us with a couple of storms to cheer us up. Up to that time we had had nothing more exciting than heath fires—naturally breaking out at night, in the troops' own time. The situation of the first one will always be remembered—the nearest important marking on the map being "Inn." However, the three weeks vacation was not too bad, and if we did little else we managed to get a little sunburnt.

E Section and No. 6 A.S. Section worked with their Brigades at Okehampton, and as no moans have been received we presume that they are having a decent time. F Section remained in barracks while the unit was at Thursley and took care of the remaining details. Consequently, our stables are looking quite o.k. now.

Things We Want to Know.—Who are the people looking forward to civvy street who indent for hard hats?

Is there any available space in No. 6 Troop stable for another Jimmy?

Was Jock of Q.M. fame really christened with beer?

Was it really an Irishman who asked for an advance of ?/- above and below his usual pay?

The notes below are from No. 6 Section. They arrived too late to be included in last month's WIRE, but the pleasure is yours this month.

No. 6 A.S. Section.

News at Last.—List, ye who serve beneath the scorching Eastern sun. Go the rounds of your prickly heat bumps; soothe each itching flaming spot with gentle caress; swab your sweating brow; and thus having gained momentary solace from tropical discomfort, read on—of celestial soldiering in England. No hawk-eyed Pathan could wish for a more ethereal paradise than that which exists at home.

Let me relate. An Artillery Brigade Signal Section, mechanised down to the trumpeter who blasts a sleepy reveille from all points of the barracks, propelled thereto by twin cylinder roller skates. Guns moved by dragons—not the variety of ancient history which St. George is reputed to have smitten hip and thigh with a rusty battle axe, but caterpillary gadgets bearing classic misnomers upon their withers. For instance, Pathfinder got lost on Chobham ridges, whilst Powerful, having been carelessly garaged with Diana overnight, only snorted and shook his scaly tracks the next morning, and the wan early morning sun reflecting in his bleary optics completed a picture of power destroyed—a scene of complete dejection—yet Diana nearby, purring softly, looked prim and satisfied.

However, upon the roads of England they go. Fearsome creations, often incompatible with the scenes of rustic serenity through which they pass, ruthlessly disturbing the quiet contented atmosphere of the old thatched cottages sheltering amidst the glory of a colourful background of roses and rhododendrons.

Then what of we Signals? Surely we are not a part of this soul-destroying cavalcade of mechanical monstrosities. No! no! We travel apart upon the highroads, quietly steering a rapid course in Morris Minors, purring in harmony with these scenes of rustic simplicity. The Minor in front, though, seems to list to starboard, but a closer gaze reveals the reason, for in it is seated a fine body of men.

One hears funny grating noises not conducive to the peace of mind of the owner of a highly tuned mechanical sense. It is but the song of the gear-box, sometimes rendered as a solo effort but more often chorally:

I am but a poor gear-box,
Always getting biffs and knocks.
From one to four I go galore,
My pinions flying through the floor:
Then four to one is often done,
My teeth go flying one by one.
They think of me not overmuch;
Some do not even use the clutch.
Alas! my life is full of woe,
For oft in reverse I forward go.

On the dreamy way to Devon we go, passing through ever changing scenes of dear old beautiful England. No garlic-smelling babus "bredin' hod bred upon you," as Garbo says, but the fragrant zephyrs laden with the perfume of many flowers, gently making their pleasantness desired and appreciated.

One's mind goes back to the days of yore, when a pack mule whinnied his displeasure and made frantic efforts to displace the C.I.P. set from his sturdy back and hurl it into the distant depth of the Malakand Pass. But now, how different: what a wealth of pleasure the contrast brings! Maybe One-Gear Clewlow thinks of the days he used to have, foot well down upon the throttle on his way to St. Johns, as he now sees Nicks Neck well in the distance, never seeming to get nearer as one tired foot plods on mechanically after the other Hassan Abdul bound.

And perhaps that wee broth of a boy will read this, so let me assure you, Patrick, that it is still "a wee powerful morning" and that the girl in Reading (ahem!) is still dreamily packing the petit beurres and ginger snaps, her mind away in 'Pindi, your spiritual companion. What do you care, hardened wretch? Write the girl a letter. Her cousin's aunt saves Indian stamps. She is 54 in the shade and 32 in her summer lingerie. Encourage the old girl's philatelic propensities.

Sentiment.—One hears of cases of great sentimental attachment of human beings to inanimate things that they own or care for, such as a driver speaking to his car and fondling it as if it were capable of human response to such tender treatment. I recently experienced such a heart-rending incident of a human's loving devotion to a lifeless creation. It was in the Section, too. I was amazed, for the object of this great amorous attachment was a humble 7+3 exchange. Many times have I seen a pressed switch released and heard ear-splitting invective hurled at a microphone, sometimes directed at a distant subscriber, but more often at the exchange. Being used to such things, the scene which I am about to relate appeared extraordinarily amazing.

It was in the dead of an inky black horribly dark night, and sitting alone, confronting a 7+3, was the operator of sentimental temperament. He loved his D.iii., he did. All around for miles stretched the moorland—heather, heather, heather—and in the distance a faint light showed a Battery position, and from a shady peak came the dull glow of a survey light. Lines were laid in all directions from the exchange, several feet high upon the top of the tall heather, and in the vicinity dragons and cars moved about and now and again caught the cable in their tracks or wheels and jerked the exchange, but the sentimental op was there, fondling the instrument in position.

Hours passed. Two faint chimes from the village clock proclaimed the early morn, and more rumblings of dragons were heard moving too near the position to be comfortable. The op, with his D.iii. earpiece fixed tightly to his ear, nodded sleepily and murmured a weary "You're through to Bonzo," when suddenly the exchange took flight and bumped off into the darkness, closely followed by the semi-detached op firmly attached to the earpiece. He pursued his beloved exchange, ear foremost, stumbling over lines and heather, and after fifty—yards he made a most astonishing nocturnal rugby tackle and laid his instrument low, smoothed his ruffled uniform, mumbled caressing words to the 7+3, shook his fist in the darkness at the retreating dragon, and slowly made his way back. "Now we are through by . . . . chinstrap," he moaned; and being tired, he cursed the prevailing Artillery atmosphere—and the relief op—and sank into the heather to sleep.

More Sentiment.—The Mons Barracks guard room now boasts of wire baskets, holding moss and flowers, which are hung along the sentries' beat. Being gifted with a crazy imagination, I foresee the following. Orderly officer (1 a.m.): "Sentry! sentry! you are asleep!" Public School boy recruit: "No, sir! merely intoxicated by the charming picture of the lobelias gently leaving the fond embrace of Morpheus and the glorious fragrance of the geraniums perfuming the dewy morning air."

No. 6 Hiking Association.—More later. Not yet warmed up. Devon will tell its tale of missed gears and missed footings. So now, au revoir. SCHNEEIG.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Well! here we are again, just returned from a three weeks hard at Thursley "concentration" camp. Most of the lads are glad to be back, although perhaps one or two would still like to be there "necking it" with the Carnival Queens of Elstead. The C.Q.M.S. in particular can be seen every evening,

all out in bottom, cycling merrily along towards that district. We wonder who is the lucky girl?

Arrivals.—We welcome to this Company 2/Lieut. Elliott from the Training Battalion, and hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one. We also welcome Driver Perring and Signalmen Hamerton and Barnett. We extend the usual glad hand and grooming kit.

Departures.—We regret the omission in last month's notes of Driver Pearce, posted to No. 1 Company. I understand he celebrated the occasion in the usual way. Result: shortage of beer in Mons Barracks and prices soaring.

A Certain Section's Song.—"Shake, brothers, shake!"

Sport.—One or two games of cricket were played whilst at camp with the youth of the surrounding villages. No results have yet come through; they are still working out the score.

The Company rough riders and athletes can be seen doing their stuff in the evening, in preparation for the usual sports which take place during Signals Week.

Found.—In a little copse near the coal yard, fourteen empty beer bottles. Would a certain Company clerk and Co. please account for them? Also one bottle of brown, *unopened*. Strange, very strange!

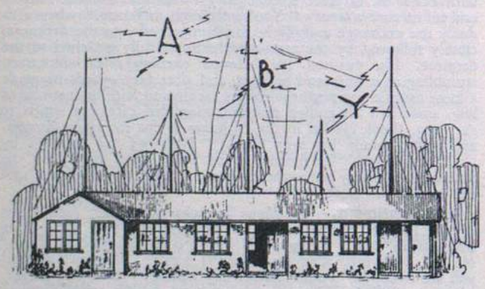
Draft.—Records have actually sorted out some of our crafty old shirkers, and we hope to see 'em off shortly. Sergt Williams has one of the usual Section shakes on because he hears that linemen have to *work* in Malta. Will anyone in A Corps Signals, Karachi, desirous of exchanging, please wire individual concerned immediately. Sigmn Dickerson, our veteran soccer player, is going back to his own again, i.e. Egypt Signals. Won't the Sphinxesses rejoice when they see his Sphinx-like features back amongst the home crowd again!

Agony.—A certain Section was once described as a very breezy Section owing to there being four B's in it. I wonder just what that means.

Heard on Schemes.—Section commander to n.c.o.: "I know where we are; we're lost!"

Pertaining to Hiking.—"Now, tell me, did you or did you not lose your way?" "Well, sir, I—I—em——" "Did you or did you not?" Answered by a long drawn out gasp, tongue hanging limply out of a quivering mouth.

Conclusion.—All for the present, so cheerio everybody until next month. T.B.C.

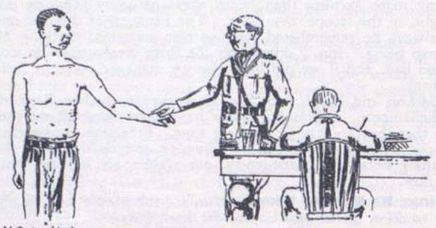


Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Call Me Pater.—L/Corpl Bill and Mrs. Abbott are now proud parents. Their offspring, masculine gender, will be known as William Allan. May their nights be unbroken!

Congratulations.—To Billy Williams on being selected to play cricket for the Corps. He has been selected three times so far—against the R.M.A. at the Oval, and the R.A.S.C. and R.E. down here. He was very successful in the last two matches, but was not included in the team versus the R.M.A. owing to rain the previous night. We live in hopes of seeing him in the Army team soon.

Slaving.—For the last month, "slaving" has been the password of the staff. Beautifully soft hands are now horny mitts, manicured nails are a thing of the past, and tempers are of the touch and go variety.



All these horrors are due to the reconditioning of the station. Life seems to have been one long succession of 72 ft. masts. Pulling down, scraping, painting, putting up, straightening up, re-straightening up, re-re-str—etc., etc. New aerials have been cut, and the whole system of beveridges, with its millions of miles of wire, has had to come down and be re-erected. I think I'll change over to lineman; the job will be easier.

Ex-ABYites will no doubt be staggered to hear that the station is now being re-wired. Quick work! I believe the idea of re-wiring the place was only thought of in 1919. We have had a new receiver—a massive affair, over 7 ft. high—with enough dials and "works" to satisfy anyone. Dame Rumour says "The set's a beezer," so when the out stations get their new transmitters we should be able to do twenty-five hours work per day easily.

In case we get any more sets, work is now going ahead in training the ops to receive from and control four receivers with the right hand, and with the left hand to send, use the telephone, keep logs, diaries, interference books, eat sandwiches, and attend to any of those other minor details which crop up from time to time. Life is going to be one big bowl of cherries.

Ha! ha!—Sigmn Summers G. has been provisionally warned for Egypt, and Sigmn Bateman G. for India.

Vocabulary.—Once upon a time, I used to look upon the efforts of cartoonists depicting irate retired majors, etc., smashing golf clubs and singing to the wee goolies, as a big stretch of imagination. Likewise I used to treat as so much "boloney" the idea of bad language on the course. Since taking up the game of golf in its miniature form with the rest of the Company, I have been converted.

The game is a snare and, like leg theory, should be banned by the M.C.C. as likely to cause another war and accelerate promotion. I cannot think of anything else in the world so nerve shattering, exasperating or soul searing as watching your ball sail beautifully into a bunker or stop dead two inches from the hole, when you only needed it to sink gracefully into the hole to beat the course record.

Since taking up this game, the vocabulary of the Company has increased by 900 per cent. Tich Summers can now play for two hours without repeating himself—a pretty good performance for one so small. I should very much like to give you some of the players' favourite expressions, but having no wish to spend the next few months in one of H.M. prisons, I will refrain. The only expression which I can divulge is that used by Mahatma Macken Ji. When he gets into a tough spot, his face becomes uglier than usual and with a great depth of feeling he blubbers out "Stagger me!"

Whether this increased vocabulary is all for the good of the game is a moot point, but strange to relate, since increasing their range of expression, the players have been steadily lowering their handicaps and breaking records galore. The course record is still jointly held by the same two players, L/Corpl Mohrstadt

and Sigmn Verlander, but in a month they have managed to lower it by five strokes and the record is now 22.

Annualities.—The Cads, complete with old school ties, etc., had their annual frolic on Saturday 7th July. Southsea was the place chosen for the honour of their august presence this year, and I am pleased to record that their objective was reached without the taverns en route (Spanish for en route) running out of food. Starting time was fixed for 8 a.m., and true to tradition, promptly at 8.30 a.m. amidst many cries of "Play the game!" and "Up, Magdalen!" (pronounced "Muddling") a start was made. The journey down was uneventful. Austin tried hard to interest his fellow Cads in the merits of his ancestral city, but the attention aroused by his running commentary was only lukewarm and he shut up completely when asked where Pompey kept the F.A. cup.

Lunch was thoroughly enjoyed by all. What happened between lunch and our return journey, I don't know. The crowd split up, each to steer his own course. I should not be at all surprised to find out that a few black marks have been entered in the Book of Judgment, especially as some members of the party turned up three quarters of an hour late for the return journey. Strange to say, their appearance coincided with the closing of the chemists' shops. Our revered superintendent and Bill Williams went to almost unbelievable lengths to convince us that they had been fishing all day. Maybe they had, and maybe, to save themselves the trouble of carting the fish back, they ate them. If they did, those fish must have been reared on fine old brown; that would explain the alcoholic aroma knocking about.

Mahatma Toe Grip Macken Ji may also have a black mark against his name in the book; his actions seemed suspicious. To my idea, it doesn't need six aspros to clear a headache caused through going to the pictures.

Taken all round, I think it is agreed by all that the Cads' third frolic was the best yet.

Fishy.—From one keen angler to another in 38 B.B. East: "When you hook an eel, do you lay your catch upon a piece of paper to prevent it wriggling?" "I do!" AUSTIN.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—She is on leave, so we are doing our own washing up. Yes, that's the position all right—we have sent so many men away to the Sections that we have to get our own tea now: it is that bad. Still, they need the experience, says us.

Several of the Sections have sent me in notes to type, so they are at long last reporting on themselves. Keep it up, Sections: you'll soon get into the habit.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We heartily welcome the following to our very small band of fatigue men, and hope their stay with us will be a bit longer than most—that's the best we can hope for. Anyway, we sincerely hope that they thoroughly enjoy their sojourn here on the Plain, no matter what part they happen to be sent to at this time of the year.

Signalmen Wild T., Williamson E. and O'Hehir J. from E Troop for a spell. I hope we don't spoil 'em for the Troop. Signalmen Cross and Mullen D. from the Training Battalion. Corporal Warman E. from a Brain Trust course at Shorncliffe. Perhaps we will know how to work out the B.B.C. komik klock times now, and then we shan't be late for parade. Sigmn Farley J. returned in a hurry from Tilshead and was sent to Woolwich the next day for a course in core cable. He leaves us in October for Malaya. Lucky Jim! Sigmn Dale M. from an upgrading course with D Company Training Battalion. He brought home the bacon, too. L/Sergt Bye from 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot, to garner some experience for next year.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Shreeves L. on his promotion to that rank on the 1st May. Yes, we are moving, but oh! so gradually. To Corporal Warman E. on snaffling a Q.1 from the Grind Shop.

To Sergt Shreeves on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Marjorie Joan Sedgwick at Stoughton, near Guildford, on the 30th June. If this goes on much longer, A.F.V. Signals will only require a block of married quarters and an office.

To the following on passing trade tests as shown: L/Corpl Allen C. and Sigmn Lafford E., operator signals B.i. Sigmn Wood A. E., instrument mechanic A.ii. Signalman Hodgson R., clerk C.ii.—a triumph over the new tests, this. Sigmn Crosley E., electrician fitter A.ii. Sigmn Dale M., electrician fitter A.i.

Departures.—Sigmn Harrop W. to the A.V.T.C. Hounslow. Every success, Wes, and may you always prosper! Sigmn Cross F. to F Troop. L/Corporal Potts J. to the Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Section at Tilshead. Signalmen Dale M., Scriven F. and Mullen D. to the Light Tank, Tank Brigade H.Q. and No. 1 Tank Signal Sections respectively. Signalmen Harmer H. J. and Tickle G. to civvy street. All ranks wish them the best of luck in their new spheres of life. Sigmn Cooter R. to the Army Reserve. May he never lose his travelling rug.

Sweat Off.—The names of the following n.c.o.s and men provisionally warned for service overseas are published as they may be of some interest to our chums abroad. India: L/Corpl Paling R., Signalmen Hodgson R., Bailey E., Price E., Adams W., Crosley E., Craig J., Houghton T., Everard J., Addlesee J., Barnes J., Liley A., Brown N., Charlton E. and Hendry A. Mauritius, Sigmn Bristow S. Malaya, Sigmn Farley J. China: Signalmen Brand R., Harrison E., Graham J. and Cox A. C. Egypt: L/Corpl Hubbard F., Signalmen Yule J., Perrins H., McGinn J., Oliver U. and McConnell-Wood F.

Royal Signals (Tidworth) "At Home."—This took place this year on Thursday 12th July, on the Oval at Tidworth. In previous years we have had the delightful surroundings of the Tattoo arena to enhance the beauty of the setting, but unfortunately it was not available this year. Still, a very brave show was made at the Oval, and our thanks are due to those concerned, who must have worked very hard to make the at home the great success that it was.

The show was scheduled to start at 3 p.m. and as luck would have it, it kept fine until just before the end, when we did get a few drops of rain. We considered ourselves very lucky, as we had very heavy rainstorms and thundery weather the day before.

The comic events, races, etc., that the officers and R.Q.M.S. Noonan had arranged were very well patronised and went with great gusto.

The chute, kindly lent by the O.C. 2nd Battalion Loyal Regiment, and presided over by Busty Houghton, kept the kiddies well occupied until the greater attraction of races, etc., claimed their attention. On the strength of his great ability with children, Busty is advertising for a job on the boat out—you know, the usual "Experienced nanny requires post, etc. . ."

Lieut-Col. and Mrs. Sykes, Major and Mrs. Prescot, Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Moore went round amongst their guests, chatting here and there, to make them all feel very much at home.

The well chosen music was a delight to listen to, being ably rendered under the skilful baton of Mr. R. R. Ricketts. All ranks wish to thank the Corps Band very much for coming and playing so well for them.

After several events and musical items by the Band, tea was served in the marquees—and awfully nice it was, too. The N.A.A.F.I. are to be congratulated on their splendid arrangements. If you doubt that statement, ask "Whiskers," Lieut. Gordon's dog. He thought he was in for a good time when he followed two full cake stands, but he spoilt himself by behaving badly—he tried to help himself.

Tea was followed by a few more items in the sports line. These proved very amusing for the spectators, if a bit damp to the competitors. The winners of the various events are as follows.

Running backwards race.—1st L/Corpl Belton (E Troop), 2nd Sigmn Songhurst (A.F.V.).
Children's race (over 10).—1st Marjorie Wood, 2nd Herbert Honnor.
Children's race (under 10)—1st Maureen Warren, 2nd Eileen Neal.
Mixed three-legged race—1st Miss Winteringham and Signalman Houghton, 2nd Sigmn and Mrs. Lomax.
Stake your claim—1st Mrs. Coy, 2nd Mrs. Bradshaw.
Apple and bucket race—1st Sigmn Lane (E Troop), 2nd Sigmn Williams (A.F.V.)
Mixed relay race—1st Mrs. Honnor, Marjorie Wood and L/Cpl Belton, 2nd Mrs. Collyer, Fluffy Collyer and Corpl Warman.
Hopping race—1st Sigmn Williams (A.F.V.) and Sigmn Lane (E Troop) dead heat.
Wheelbarrow race (men)—1st L/Corpl Belton and Sigmn Rogers (E Troop), 2nd Signalmen Scriven and Mornington (T.S.S.).

Section relay race (walking, running backwards, hopping and crawling on all fours)—1st F Troop (L/Corpl Reed, Signalmen Cox, Graham and Wills)

Musical pegs—1st L/Corpl Belton (E Troop), 2nd Sigmn Fall (E Troop)

Mrs. Sykes presented the prizes and was then cheered to the echo. The Band played the Corps March and followed that with "The King," and a wonderful afternoon was over.

I thoroughly enjoyed myself, as I'm sure everyone else did; and we all tender our sincerest thanks to Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sykes and the officers for giving us such an enjoyable time.

Boat Sense.—'Tis said that our Pal has already applied for a course in the above at Southampton. Can any reader give him any tips?—he will be so grateful for any received.

Heard in the Corporals Mess.—If the Headquarters of this unit gets any smaller, we shall have to alter the designation of the orderly corporal to the canteen manager's companion.

Obituary.—It was with deepest regret that we learned of the untimely decease of two old members of this unit, namely, Corpls Len Walby and Punch Humphries. Both were so well liked and such good comrades that it is hard to realise that they had gone.

Len was the leading light, when he was here, in the trick riding displays that were given by this unit. He never missed taking part in a Tattoo from the time it was inaugurated (1928, as far as I can remember) until he left us for India in March 1932. In fact, it was greatly due to his efforts that our trick riders were so successful in all the shows they put on. We will always remember his dogged persistence in surmounting difficulties, whether it was in his work or on the sports field.

Punch came to us in January 1932 and left us for India in February 1933, but even in that short space of time he impressed all who had the fortune to meet him with his perpetual cheerfulness and sincere air of friendliness.

All ranks tender their deepest sympathy to their bereaved wives and relatives, who may console themselves with the sure knowledge that, during their all-too-short stay in this small world of ours, our two friends acted always as men and good comrades—and that's as much as any of us can ask of life. RUSTY.

Tank Brigade H.Q. Signals Section, Tilshead Camp.

General.—Having a love of experimenting, we said to ourselves, why not seek broader acres to conquer?—sort of I came, I saw, I conquered, idea. Thus, whatever gods there be arranged a short holiday for us. Among the many suggestions for camping sites were Brighton, Margate and Blackpool; but, scorning such desert lands, we are now enjoying our summer vacation at that delightful home from home, Tilshead. Did I hear someone mention night life?

During the past few weeks much valuable groundwork has been accomplished in mastering the procedure of maintaining communication between Brigade H.Q. and the various Tank Battalions, and much useful data has been found concerning the range and efficiency of the various sets. In any spare moments that our operators happen to have, you may see them squatting besides the good old D.iii. learning how to put the B.B.C. announcer in the shade. Great stuff, these operators.

Arrivals.—Apparently someone's motto must be "A deal of good in a small space," judging by the few arrivals, but the other day we were remembered. We welcome 2/Lieutenant G. H. K. Hewlett from Catterick. Long may he enjoy the pastoral beauty and the old-world charm of the Plain.

Fire Fighters.—Someone whispered that the heath fire to which this Section wrote *finis* was an unprecedented success. I wonder if a supper of fried eggs, etc., plus a certain cask of nut brown, contributed anything towards this spirit of esprit de corps which pervades the place. Need I deny the rumour that it was a thunderstorm which put the fire out?

Stop Press.—The assertion that one of our Section is on a slimming diet, so that he can enter a tank via the turret, is grossly untrue.

Advert.—All handsome men are slightly sunburned. Come to Tilshead and see for yourself—passage paid.

Vocal Tech. Stores.—Who was the M.T. driver who was told to ask for four feet of screened grid leads?

Intelligence Department.—Scene: somewhere out in the blue, and an operator busily tuning in. "Hello, Tadpole! are you receiving me in a high or low pitched note?" Who but our one and only could reply "Receiving you medium and strength . . . ."

R.I.P.—'Tis said that a certain old soldier is on the tack. How long, how long, has this been going on?

Have the battling twins found a trainer yet?

And is it true that a well known figure at Tidworth is going to run to Andover, just to spite himself?

Departures.—And so till next month I leave you.

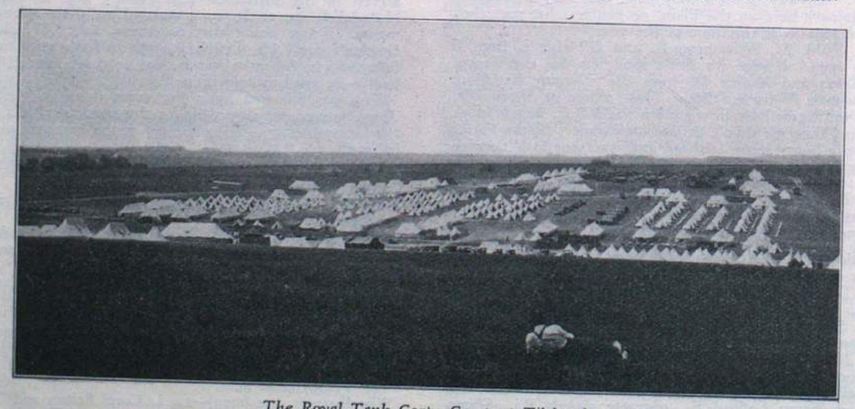
MERCURIUS.

No. 1 Tank and Tank Brigade H.Q. Signal Sections.

Attached 2nd Battalion R.T.C. Farnborough.

General.—There is not much to report this month from these Sections, owing to the summer leave period of seventeen days being on hand.

Since the last notes we have had a few more schemes, the outstanding one being an "A" and "B" Echelon night march and a "dawn" attack on the 26th/27th of June. There were no outstanding incidents to report, barring the very tired feeling which usually comes as a reaction to these stunts. The umpires made several calls for supplies of signal stores, and we were able in all cases to fulfil requirements.



The Royal Tank Corps Camp at Tilshead.

Revolver Training.—The Sections were able to fire their course on Ash ranges on the 18th and 19th June. There were quite a number of "dead eyes" among them. L/Corpl Adkins obtained the highest score of 41. Signalmen Richards and Henry tied for second place with 36. The average score for the Section was 26.5, or all qualified. So we can safely hold up our heads on our return to Tidworth.

Marriage.—Owing to the leave period I am unable to give full particulars, but Sergt Shreeves was married to Miss Marjorie Joan Sedgwick at Stoughton on Saturday 30th June. Congratulations from the Sections. Kohat, please note.

Promotion.—Congratulations to Sergt Shreeves on his promotion to that rank w.e.f. 1/5/34. He sure is combining business with pleasure.

Arrivals.—L/Corporal Potts from A.F.V. Signals on 10/6/34. May you have a good time with the Brigade Section.

Departures.—The Tank Brigade Section have left us for a spell on that hill of West Down, Tilshead, moving on 2/7/34.

Odds and Ends.—Did McCann know that his pay was to be increased as and from 1/7/34? If so, why did he leave Spike and Kid in the lurch like that?—poor kids.

Sorry to hear that it was a beer lorry you were following, Rusty. I did at least let you down lightly about your boots.

Drafts.—None yet, but oh! the quakes and airs of expectation. I hope we all get what we (don't) want.

Suggestion.—By a member of this Section: that outfits anti-dimming mk iii. should be used for boots and buttons to prevent them from becoming dull. What would the Q bloke say?

PANJANG.

No. 3 Tank Signal Section.

Attached 3rd Battalion R.T.C., Westdown Camp, Tilshead.

General.—The Section regret the omission of notes in THE WIRE in the past, but consider that it's better late than never at all—so here we are.

Well, we certainly have been very busy since we joined the Battalion at Lydd on the 1st May. We congratulate ourselves, in case nobody else does, on the very satisfactory results up to the present, and we hope that our luck stays with us. Half the Section came from Lydd to Lulworth in comfort by staff cars, but the rest came on in the Section lorry. After spending a very happy fortnight at Lulworth (by the sea) the Section moved with the Battalion to Tilshead on the 30th June.

We were very glad to see that some of the other Sections were already there, and we considered that the reunion called for drinks all round—only lemonade, though, Rusty. Still, we all hope that our stay here is a long and a happy one (ahem!) At present the Section are all looking forward to a fortnight's leave on the 28th July. Roll on!

Revolver Course.—Sergeant Lake and Signalmen Bristow S., Haslam and Mornington fired their annual course at Lydd. Good lads, these, with a gun. Sigmn Bristow made 50 not out, while Signalmen Haslam and Mornington tied for second place with 46 each. Sergt Lake scored 42—an invaluable innings before he was caught (sorry! I was thinking of the Test match). Anyway, well done, No. 3 Tank! keep it up. Note: Sigmn Bristow took first prize with his score in the combined Sections and A.F.V. Signals revolver shooting.

Hurrahs!—For Sigmn Bristow S. on being awarded his first class certificate, and also on obtaining his class ii. instrument mechanic. The Section are sorry to know that they are to lose this lad of merit, as he has been warned for overseas this trooper. For Sigmn McGinley on procuring the Section a mascot. It's a large ephelant, or summat. Anyway, it's said to have cost two perfectly good darts.

Departures.—We said goodbye to Sigmn Haslam in May on his return to A.F.V. for transfer to the Army Reserve. The lads miss you, Darky, and send their best wishes. All best wishes from Tess.

Sigmn Liley left us for the Light Battalion Signal Section at the end of May. Sorry you couldn't stay with us any longer, Ginger, but the lads said they couldn't teach you any more—you had learned all they knew.

Arrivals—Only the aforementioned mascot and a liberal supply of haggis. We ain't seed anyone else, unless they 'ave went to the rung 'ouse.

Nit and Wit.—We have procured the services of the two laffomaniacs mentioned. Nit would like to know if Rusty's average is still none not out, or does he square this year's scorer? Wit wants to know how a certain lineman managed to waylay—I mean, Malay himself.

An old soldier was washing in the annexe, when a recruit walked in loaded with all his necessaries—razor, soap, etc. The recruit looked at the old soldier and noticed that he hadn't shaved, nor had he any shaving kit. Recruit: "Say, don't you shave these days, or is it an old soldier's privilege?" Old soldier: "No, Charlie; I put children's toys away long ago." I'll bet Rusty can't beat that.

Obituary.—The Section tender their deepest sympathy to the widow of the late Corpl Humphries in her sad bereavement. It will be remembered that Punch came out with this Section in 1932.

In Conclusion.—I hope a certain unit scribe will be satisfied that we are chasing Panjang with notes—but not of the 10/- variety. W.A.S.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Variety.—There is usually one month in the twelve that is made up of little bits of everything, and I think the last month has been that one.

Athletics.—A three-sided Troop sports meeting was held at the beginning of the month—No. 1 set detachments, stable party, and D.R.s and fitters. Every event was keenly contested, and during the course of the afternoon some super sportsmen were making themselves heard. The results of the various events will be found in the Sports Section.

Cricket.—A rather outstanding victory was achieved this month, and although our modesty prevents our telling the world, cricket secretaries might please note. We were playing the 42nd Field Battery R.A. at Larkhill and, electing to bat first, we scored 93 runs. The Gunners batted after the tea interval. Their total score was 7! An offer to follow on was declined with thanks. (Is this a Corps record?) Sergt Honnor and Sigmn Rogers must be congratulated on their wonderful bowling average of five for 2 and five for 4 respectively.

Other cricket news will be found in the Sports Section.

Mounted Sports.—Many thanks to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, for a very sporty show, and for their true courtesy as hosts in allowing their visitors to collect numerous trophies.

The wrestling team send their sympathy to the toughs of B Cable Section, and wish them better luck next time.

A rumour went round that at last 'Erbert could be trusted with a box of matches. He had become the proud possessor of a petrol lighter. Alas! something went wrong with the ignition, so matches must still be borrowed when the lighter comes into use.

The veterans race provided a very proud moment for many budding young soldiers: over twelve years was the only qualification. The pace was a bit too fast for our lone entrant, though if Boy Scouts service counted, he might have been placed. As it was, some kind soul (probably a quarterbloke) tried to push him past the winning post.

"Nurmi" Pountain has started to collect athletic trophies. He was the last, but first home, in the all ranks relay which was won by the Tidworth Signals.

Shooting.—The last of our monthly pool shoots was won by Sergt Honnor with a score of 48 out of 50. It was, of course, no surprise to him; he always said he was just waiting for a favourable pool before he stepped in to scoop the pot. Just in case he has an off day, the pool is now being shared out after each weekly meeting instead of accumulating for a month.

Signals "At Home."—All ranks of the Troop wish to convey to Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sykes, and to all other officers of Tidworth Signals and their wives, their appreciation and thanks for a very enjoyable social afternoon on the 12th July. Im-

promptu sports, wherein the ladies made a grand show, provided fun and laughter and keen competition. There were some unofficial records broken, but that was at the tea. A great show.

Drafts.—Five good men and true to India, and one to Egypt. Well, that's started the ball rolling. This list is only provisional so far, so I will withhold the names until later. E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Regimental training has now finished, and except for the usual epidemic of inspections we are enjoying a temporary respite. At the same time, it must be recorded that we have received a visitation. The mystic hand of Records has swept lightly (?) o'er the Troop, leaving a trail of casualties and many sweating on the top line. Harry the Pawz has yet to receive the glad tidings, whilst Bunker is busily tuning in to a course of commercial Hindustani. No longer does he coyly murmur " 'Ow much?" The prospect of Bunker flogging sand to the Wogs is too much even for our imagination. Unfortunately, we still have vivid recollections of the Far East egg wangle.

Drumhead News.—Badgy, our unctious convert, has renounced the world, the ram and the legion. No longer does our bread pudding convert gather under the spreading chestnut tree in company with George the Mooch. He has seen the error of his ways and is torn between a desire to be in the mead menage and the legion lethargy. "A large tea and two of drip " is of more importance than a noggin or so of Friary. What happened when his sponsor advanced half an Oxford on a certain Tuesday evening?

Arrivals.—Sigmn Cross F. A. has arrived from Catterick via A.F.V. Signals. We extend the usual greeting and trust that he will soon settle down.

Departure.—Matilda.

Foxes' Passes.—The old school tie came into prominence at the recent garden party. Edgar, chosen to perform the honours at the tea table, chanced to scream for more sugar. Poising aloft a suitable receptacle, Edgar attracted the damsel's attention in no uncertain manner. His face when informed that the aforesaid article happened to be a slop basin was too good to miss. Now we can understand why trunk murders are committed.

Troop Cameo.—Blossom, the fitters' friend—a noble piece of work. Senior sheik of the Y.M. hops. Webs his weary way through life under the eagle and relentless optics of Ma and Popeyes. In one fell swoop Blossom has exploded the theory of i/c engines and self-starters. By means of the Everad theorum, we are now given to understand that the Austin continues to function only by applying a firm and steady pressure on the self-starter. Thousands of detachment commanders, operators and fitters failed to drag Blossom's hoof from the starter. The teeth of the Bendix almost turned round and bit him.

Cricket.—Despite the fact that a few of our better players have been playing regularly for A.F.V. Signals, we have managed to get a few games this season—mostly evening matches. Out of a total of five matches against other units, we have won three and lost two.

Two very enjoyable games have been played between the n.c.o.s and men, the result being in favour of the Nobology on each occasion.

In the first match a partnership between L/Corpls Allen and Reed (41 and 22 respectively) gave the n.c.o.s a good start. Sergt Archer, arriving next, helped himself to 34, after which the n.c.o.s declared with the score at 126 for eight. The men were soon in difficulties against the bowling of C.Q.M.S. Taplin (five for 14) and L/Corpl Allen (five for 29). Sigmn Wilsdon (15) and our Edgar (4 not out) resisted for a time, but the team were finally out for 45, leaving the n.c.o.s victors by 81 runs.

In the return match the men had the first knock and in comparison did much better. Sigmn Kennard made a fine score of 40 before he retired hurt. Signalmen Cox (15) and McGinn (10) also did their stuff. Eventually the men were all out for a total score of 107. The n.c.o.s again batted well. L/Corpl Allen (48), L/Corpl Speakes (24), Sergt Archer (19) and L/Corporal Hubbard (11) helped to swell the total to 129 before the last man was out. Hard lines, Snozzle!

A.F.V. Signals Garden Party.—This function took place at the Oval on Thursday 12th July. In spite of the fact that the weather was not all that could be desired, we all spent a very enjoyable afternoon, and our thanks are due to Colonel and Mrs. Sykes and Major and Mrs. Prescot for making the event possible. The Corps Band under Mr. Ricketts rendered a very fine programme of music, and we take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation. The usual trick-riding display was greatly missed, but the Olympic games organised by R.Q.M.S. Noonan were very well supported and the whole show was a success.

Agony.—R.U.T., having perused Unger's effort in the preceding issue, is deeply touched by the hidden pathos. Does Ginger still measure the 4+2 with a micrometer? Salaams to Steve. Does he still go to the Vienna? and if so, how much does he owe? R.U.T. would have Unger know that extracts from the original " Who's Who " should not be quoted without reference to the author, who is prepared to flog the rights of production for a mere song. Incidentally, that infamous notoriety, the Snurge, is now quartered at Tidworth. Thereby hangs a tale—many tales, in fact. Banzai to N.C., the Prince of sock snoopers, and any other derelict of the Tally Ho! R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

This last week has been grand. Band week, unit gymkhana, regimental guest night, Sergeants Mess socials, O.C.A. concert in Salisbury, and Old Comrades Sunday, to say nothing of a Divisional exercise and other odd jobs. All enjoyed themselves, and all once more have cause to praise their Corps Band and look forward already to its next visit.

Our Sergeants Mess correspondent reports as follows. Band week raised the activities of the Sergeants Mess from ordinary routine to a beehive of both pleasure and industry.

Sunday was helped considerably by a Band concert held on the lawn east of the mess.

On Monday another Band concert assisted, followed by a games tournament and a whist drive for ladies. How and why, we cannot say, but No. 2 Company's sergeant-major and C.Q.M.S. won the prizes in the games tournament, and Mrs. Kemlo and Mrs. Garnett in the whist.

On Tuesday we were a little quiet and allowed to recuperate, though a tennis tournament took place in the afternoon. Some old hands were dug out for this and managed to hold their end up, to the accompaniment of sighs from stiffness, etc., the next day. C.Q.M.S. Smith won the singles, and Sergt Fawl and Mrs. Brooke the mixed doubles.

On Wednesday a private invitation dance was held in the mess. The Corps dance band gave an excellent show, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Thursday and Friday were quiet, due to activities in the field. Saturday was given up to a welcome to Old Comrades arriving.

On Sunday, after church parade, one wondered how so many people could get into such a small space. However, they did, Old Comrades and serving members fraternising to their heart's content, living once again in the memories of the past.

On Tuesday the officers had the honour of entertaining the Divisional commander and the C.O.s of the 9th and 26th Field Brigades R.A. It is understood that their guests could do nothing at a quiet game on the billiard table against the home side, the latter including (need it be said?) that stalwart stand-by Captain Manton.

Wednesday saw all hands to the plough—or, perhaps more aptly, hammer and jumper—in preparation for the gymkhana. We had already spent three afternoons or so in reducing the 120 entrants for musical chairs, 100 for ball and apple race, 100 for V.C. race, etc., etc., to reasonable numbers for the final contests. As before, enthusiasm was great, and we saw men who ordinarily approached a horse as if it were an electrically charged body of high potential, jumping on and falling off as if to the manner born. All honour, too, to those of our attached infantry orderlies who refused to remain entirely on their flat feet whilst their temporary comrades cavorted around on horseback.

Well! Wednesday saw the finals, and the rain held off right up to the end of the last event. The sport was good, and from the attendance, entries and vocal accompaniments, we think we can write the 1934 gymkhana down as a definite success. The principal prize winners were:—

Inter-Section six-wheeler competition—1, D Section (L/Corporal McKenzie); 2, No. 5 A.S.S. (L/Corpl Robinson); 3, J Section (Sigmn Drury).

Pair jumping—1, Driver Bannister (Nutmeg and Nuggett); 2, Driver Williams (Beryl and Babs); 3, Driver Maile W. (Nip and Rose).

Wrestling, mounted—Final: E Troop beat B Cable Section.

Musical chairs, mounted—1, L/Corpl Abrahams; 2, L/Corporal Cowe; 3, Driver Bygrave.

Ball and apple race, mounted—1, Driver Bygrave; 2, Signalman Nicholson J.; 3, Sigmn Morris.

Tilting the bucket—1, Signalmen Waite and Boffy.

Inter-Company relay—Tidworth Signals.

Old soldiers' race—1, Captain Manton (again!); 2, C.Q.M.S. Smith.

Old Comrades Sunday will be fully dealt with elsewhere. It was a great gathering, and we were very glad to see so many late senior officers of the Corps. We were greatly indebted to the Bishop of Salisbury for coming to preach, and his sermon was one long to be remembered. The Bishop afterwards came down to the Sergeants Mess, where he met many of the Old Comrades and then had lunch with the officers. We must make it better still next year.

By dint of good planning, hard work and careful attention, the unit gardens and lines generally have improved enormously—so much so that at the recent Garrison quarterly judging we were placed eight points ahead of the R.A.S.C., who are usually well on top. We are out for the cup!

We entered two teams for the S.M.R.C. competition in June. " A " team, consisting of Lieut. North, Sergt White, Lieut. Gambier, Captain Solly, L/Corpl Johnson, Major Penney, L/Cpl South, Lieut. Charlton, Sigmn Sidney and Corpl Jones, averaged 79.5: and " B " team, comprising Sigmn Maudsley, Sergt Barraclough, Sergt Gladwell, Sergt Greenwood, Corpl Adams, C.Q.M.S Smith, Lieut. Winterborn, Sigmn Hutley, Sigmn Cole and Sigmn Dwyer, averaged 76.15. The scores were considerably less than those notched in practice. Nerves make a lot of difference!

We gather that several of the young hopefuls of Bulford Signals have been sweeping the board at local baby shows, and have also heard of one beauty prize having been annexed. Who says we aren't versatile?

Sergt Cotterell duly attended the Army championships, when the Cotterell cup was presented for the first time. We quote *The Aldershot Command News*: " This year, for the first time, the Cotterell cup was awarded to the best athlete at the meeting. This cup has been presented by the Royal Corps of Signals to commemorate the wonderful performances of Sergt W. M. Cotterell on the track and in cross-country events. It was presented in the presence of Sergt Cotterell by Lieut.-General C. Bonham-Carter to Sapper W. A. Land of the 59th Field Company R.E. In making the presentation, General Bonham-Carter spoke of the great performances of Sergt Cotterell, and said they all liked to remember him as *the* champion. He (the speaker) first became associated with Army athletics in 1924, and even then Cotterell was something of a veteran, but he continued winning the three miles and the cross-country championship after that. In all, Cotterell won the three miles six times, and the cross-country championship eight times. He spoke of the sergeant's pluck, courage in running, and the magnificent spirit he always showed. He was pleased to think his performances were being remembered in this way. Sapper Land, said the General, had won the high jump with a fine jump of 6ft., achieved in perhaps the worst possible conditions; he was second in the javelin with a good throw; and third in the weight. They all hoped he would go on as long as Cotterell had done."

Whilst on the subject of Cotterell, I might say that the C.O. recently received a letter from the Brigadier R.A., Southern Command, saying how excellently he (Cotterell) and his section had done when they were away, providing for not one but two Brigades at practice.

Still speaking of Cotterell, Egypt will be adding him to her strength in the autumn, and this brings me to a slight dissertation on the difficulties experienced in a Corps like ours in keeping athletic and other teams going. Between last year and this we lost no less than eight key performers: Agar and Taylor through sad accidents, and Davenport, Page, Hudson, Ward and Lieut Adams through normal postings and transfers. In addition to these, Lieut Blum, our best sprinter, has been sick; and now, in the very first draft, we are going to lose Sergt Cotterell, L/Corporals Robinson and Bain, and Sigmn Foley. We are not grousing, as it is all in the day's work, but it's hard on those in charge; and we call on all ranks to remember our handicaps as compared say with infantry battalions, and to put all they know into achieving success in spite of these handicaps.

Our team put up a gallant struggle in the S.P.A. championships and got as far as they possibly could. They just couldn't do any more. The team in the S.P.A. meeting and their performances are shown below.

440 yards relay—L/Corpl Etchells, Sigmn Foley, Sigmn McLaughlin, L/Sergt Murphy. 5th in 47⅗ sec. (equalled time of winners of first final).

880 yards relay—L/Corpl Bucke, L/Corpl Etchells, Sigmn Foley, Sigmn McLaughlin. 4th in 1 min. 39 sec. Winners' time 1 min. 37⅗ sec.

One mile relay—L/Corpl Bucke, Sigmn Hastings, L/Corpl Robinson, L/Corpl Black. 5th in 3 min. 50⅕ sec. Winners' time, 3 min. 43⅕ sec.

Two miles relay—L/Corpl Robinson, L/Corpl Bucke, Sigmn Hastings, Sigmn Strickland. 4th in 8 min. 50 sec. Winners' time, 8 min. 44 sec.

One mile—L/Corpl Robinson, L/Sergt Ayres, Sigmn Seaman, Sigmn Strickland. 4th. Robinson won in 4 min. 46⅗ sec.

Three miles—Sergt Cotterell, L/Corpl Robinson, L/Sergt Ayres, Sigmn Seaman. 3rd. Robinson won in 15 min. 57⅗ sec.

480 yards hurdles relay—L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Abrahams, L/Corpl Etchells, L/Corpl McKenzie. 2nd. Winners' time, 1 min. 13⅗ sec.

Hammer—Corpl Farmer, L/Sergt Murphy. 2nd with 193 ft 10 in.

Javelin—L/Corpl Abrahams, Sigmn Strickland. 5th with 222 ft 6 in.

Long jump—L/Corpl Etchells, Sigmn Foley. Equal first with 40 ft. 4 in.

Discus—L/Corpl Etchells, L/Corpl Bain. 2nd with 205 ft. 8 in.

High jump—L/Corporal McKenzie, L/Sergt Murphy. 2nd with 10 ft. 3 in.

Shot—Signalmen McKenzie and Softly. 3rd with 64 ft. 2 in.

Pole jump—Corpl Farmer, L/Corpl Kings. 3rd with 17 ft. 6 in.

We particularly congratulate L/Corpl Robinson on his wins in the mile and three miles events. BULFORD.

To Army Reserve.—The following have remustered as civilians w.e.f. dates as shown: Driver Wright E. 20/6/34. Signalmen Broadbent F. and Whitehead J. 28/6/34. Sigmn Dell F. 9/7/34. Sigmn Huntingford 10/7/34. Sigmn Orgill E. 18/7/34. Sigmn Green S. 26/7/34.

Service.—The undermentioned have decided not to remuster as civilians: Signalmen Briant R. and Lavis F. to complete twelve years. Sigmn Lee R. for eight and four.

Births.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Field C. on the birth of a daughter, Jill Margaret, at Tidworth on 20/6/34, and to Sigmn and Mrs. Chambers W. on the birth of a son, Cedric David George, at Bulford Camp on 9/6/34.

Promotions, etc.—Corpl Lee is congratulated on his appointment as Lance-Sergeant (vice L/Sergt Sell, transferred to A.E.C.) w.e.f. 16/4/34.

Arrivals.—Far too numerous to mention individually, but we wish them all the best, etc., and hope Bulford turns out to be all they think it is.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Nothing really exciting has happened this month, except that it rained slightly a fortnight ago. Judging by the number of brown faces one notices, most people are taking their fill of old King Sol.

Musketry.—During the past month we have been actively engaged in endeavouring to become first class shots. Having finished preliminary training, 75 per cent. of the Company went into camp on the ranges and spent a leisurely week in spotting bulls. At the moment of writing the remainder of the Company are in camp enjoying the same procedure. The final scores should be interesting, as the average put up by the first party was of a high order.

Drafts.—A goodly portion of the Company have caught the eye of Records and are now wondering when the boat sails. Up

to date drafts have been provisionally warned for service in China and Egypt.

Departures.—Signalmen Cohen, Brunt and Northway to a scrounge in civvy street.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Wookey from the S.T.C. Catterick is the only arrival this month.

Another Bright One.—Musketry instructor (this after being on a course): "The fourth and fifth grooves of this rifle are dirty." 'Elp! MASKER.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—For the first time for some months, we have now all personnel in barracks. F and G Sections returned from training with their affiliated R.A. Brigades at the beginning of July. During the first week in July E Section carried out training with the 3rd Medium Brigade in the Colchester area.

Musketry.—E Section and Company Headquarters fired their annual course at Middlewick ranges in the first week of July and obtained the respectable average of 66. F and G Sections are now in camp at Cockwatch, where they are firing their annual course and having a good holiday.

Marriages.—"Good luck and congratulations" to Sigmn Jago G., married to Miss Mildred Agnes Olley at Colchester on the 23rd June, and to Driver Coultish, married to Miss Evelyn Pearson at Selby, York, on the 5th June. Tock is on the waiting list.

Drafts.—Now that the drafting lists are beginning to come in, there is the usual cry of "Roll on, the boat!" L/Corpl Blanchard and Signalmen Slater and Marr were first out of the hat for China; also ten more lucky soldiers for Egypt.

Vocational Training.—Signalman Esslemont proceeded to A.V.T.C. Aldershot on the 2nd July to undergo a six months course of bricklaying. Apparently, they have now started building houses in Scotland.

Sport.—E Section are still looking forward to the cricket fixtures promised a few weeks ago.

Agony.—To Queenie, now at Scarborough: Congratulations on the pair (and set). Pip, late of 55 Squad.

To Horace, 5th Div.: Still cutting them up, Horace? Jock. Tos, Belfast: What business. Moonlight and roses. Lank. HAPPY.

Dibgate Camp.—The Company commander and the C.S.M. spent a very enjoyable ten days with the Cambridge University Contingent O.T.C. during June, and are hoping for the same period next year.

Stick to it, Cable Section, and mind you have your clasp knives and pliers; and remember, Cable Sections do not train on *ice cream*.

Also, Jumbo, good soldiers always sleep on the ground. TUBBY.

No. 3 Company.

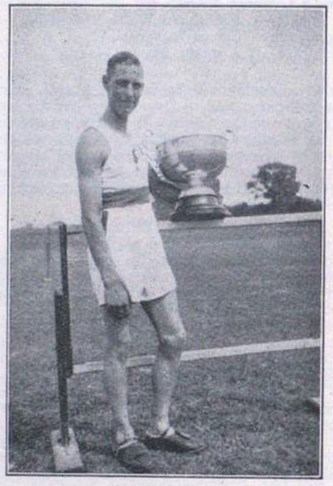
General.—Before proceeding to Cockwatch Camp on the 1st July to fire the annual course, the Company underwent fourteen days musketry; but from the results already to hand, it must have done them good. Old No. 3 Company men don't need me to tell them which Section have the best average so far; it's pretty obvious that L will be on top. Their average is 64, and considering the extremely hot weather it's very good shooting.

Nothing much has happened in the Company other than musketry, but I can't miss making a few remarks on that hoary old subject, the weather. Although this unit is almost entirely composed of ex-India wallahs, it has been far too hot for even them. Hard-bitten Frontiersmen in India will doubtless be astonished to hear that the clergy throughout the country are praying for rain. In England, too!

Congratulations are extended to Sigmn Cox of this Company, who recently won the 120 yards hurdles in the Essex County championships in record time. He received a gold medal and a cup. Cox was also fourth in the Army individual championships at Aldershot.

Drafts.—The undermentioned have received provisional warning for oversea service during the coming trooping season. China: Signalmen Foster, Verlander, Stoner and Lacey. Malta: L/Sergt Purcell. Egypt: L/Sergt Penn, L/Corpls Trivass and Woodhouse, Signalmen Herbert, Burdon and Allen. Palestine: Sigmn Booth.

The majority of the rest of the Company are anxiously waiting for the Indian draft to be published. I wonder why people object to five years in Punkie? On the other hand, some who came here in March have applied to go back again this trooper. It's hard to understand, as it is marvellous in England at the moment.



Signalman Cox.

Congratulations.—To Driver Shaw R. on receiving the L.S. and G.C. medal. To the swimming team on winning the Garrison swimming for the third year on the trot.

The Month's Best Story.—This concerns the man who put his sights down 50 yards after firing one shot during grouping, because it was an outer at 12 o'clock and he wanted bulls. Ripley says "Believe it or not."

To finish off. Will Ginger Cann and Badgy Lowe keep a corner bed for 2320821 Sigmn Foster R.? (see China draft). NICK.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—K Section (with the exception of an n.c.o. and four men) together with ten men of No. 1 Company, assisted in the production of the Northern Command Tattoo. I cannot get any information as to their likes and dislikes, as they do not rejoin the unit until after these notes are compiled; but from the reports of members of the unit who have visited them, they appear to have had an enjoyable time. Henceforth they will be known as the Noel Coward party.

Condolences.—To Captain W. A. Peachell in his recent bereavement. Also to Sergt Dodds (now with 52nd Lowland Divl Signals) who has lost his only child Joan.

Sergeants Mess.—L/Sergts Dicker and Sunderland are warned for another tour of duty in warmer climes, both being under orders for India. Their stay with the unit has not been too long, but the latter part of the saying "Join the Army and see the world" is being carried out in truth.

To C.Q.M.S. Taylor W. N. all members accord a hearty welcome.

Training.—Several local exercises have been carried out during the past month, and hopes are that the exercises to be held at Catterick will be of a similar character in order that what was learned on those already held can be put into practice.

We had a visit from Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., and Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate during one of the exercises, and I gather that they were pleased with the way the work was carried out.

The unit proceeds to Catterick on the 9th August for higher training, at the end of which we are taking part in a combined operation. Certain personnel are to embark and disembark with the "Landing Force" at points not at present known, whilst other personnel are to form Signals for the defence force. Quite an interesting experience for those taking part.

To allow the personnel taking part in the landing to get an idea of this work, a "mock landing" is to be held, but these notes will be in the hands of the printers when it takes place, so I cannot recount the experiences of those taking part.

Trooping Season.—Whilst the personnel required for drafting to India is not yet known, the unit is finding the following for station as shown.

Ceylon Signal Section—Sigmn Lee H.

Jamaica Signal Section—L/Corpl Webb C. F.

Egypt Signals—Corpl Wright F. C. B. E. C., Signalmen Harrison J., Hatfield H., Whittaker E., Hawkes J., Parkin J., Taylor W., McNair A., Johnson F., Bulman J., Coslett N., Ferguson J., Hobson E., Harrop C., Marr J., Oates J., Drury S., Pringle G., Hopkinson F., Martin W., Beaumont C., Barker H., Bailey W., Watt P., Fielding A., Anthony E., Johnston J. I., Philpott R., Ryder E., Scriven T., Drivers Boardman J. and Jarvis R. B.

China—Sergt Wilmot H., Signalmen Robinson W., McConnell J., Nash R., Northall J., Wright L., Veitch J., Sinclair D., Williamson E., Keith R. W., Armstrong C., Clevelly N. C., Kettlewell L. and Mellor T.

Palestine—L/Corporal Parry L., Signalmen Brewer C. and Mintram E.

Many of the remaining part of the unit are daily rushing to read Part II. Orders, and at times appear to be pleased that no information on this subject is included.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Perrins C., Salisbury R., Pitcher W. and Temme S. J. are extended a hearty welcome, and once having becoming accustomed to the beauty spot (?) of the East Coast, I do not think they will be wishful of leaving it.

Promotions and Appointments.—To L/Corpl Kelly J. A. on promotion to that rank, congratulations. May it be not too long before the O.C. i/c Records sends out the next promotion order including his name.

To the undermentioned on their appointment to the first rung of the promotion ladder, good luck! and may the higher rungs be attained in due course. 2316600 Sigmn Godley L. G. F., 2320903 Sigmn McTernan J., 2308474 Sigmn Pearson R., and 2322112 Sigmn Parry L. H.

Extensions.—L/Corpls Crawford H. and Ford T. P. J., and Sigmn Steer G. have obtained the O. i/c Records' permission to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Marriages.—2321707 Sigmn Lye G. (No. 2 Company) took unto himself a wife on 31/5/34. May married life be pleasant and the future a happy one for this couple.

Births.—To the wife of L/Corpl Carruthers F., at Scarborough on 17/6/34, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Georgina. To the wife of L/Sergeant Gould A., at Methil, Forfarshire, on 6/7/34, a daughter, Patricia Jean Ima.

Departures.—2321259 Sigmn Walton C. to Depot Battalion, S.T.C. 2317902 Sigmn Cain J. to Army Reserve. 528504 L/Cpl Hoole J. and 2315743 L/Corpl Jackson J. discharged. May good luck attend all of them in their new spheres.

Courses.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Webb H. on having obtained a "qualified" on a recent course at the School of Education, Shorncliffe; and to Sigmn Thom J. on having obtained class 1. on the upgrading course at the Training Battalion S.T.C.

No. 4 Artillery Signal Section, Catterick Camp.

General.—Once again the Section has made its billet in Catterick Camp. We arrived back from Redesdale on the 9th June, feeling and looking very fit. The last few days there were filled in with one Brigade day and two days working with two Batteries. As predicted in last month's notes, everything went off quite well. Even the weather clerk was kind to us and kept back the rain until we had arrived safely in Catterick.

On the morning of our departure from Redesdale, the adjutant of the 16th Field Brigade inspected the Section on parade. He expressed thanks on behalf of the commanding officer and himself for the good work carried out by the Section whilst attached to the Brigade, and said that all were very sorry to see us leaving but hoped that next year we should meet again. So, feeling very pleased with ourselves, we cranked up and blazed the trail back to Catterick Camp and the 20th Field Brigade.

The Field Brigade made us very welcome, and after a few days of overhauling stores and vehicles, we settled down to work again with the intention of collecting another excellent report.

Departures.—No. 1041873 Corpl Whybrow A. has donned his civvy suit and now comes under the list of pensioners w.e.f. 9th July. We are sorry to see him leave, and all ranks wish him the best of luck now that he has left the fold.

Appointments.—The Section congratulates Sigmn Pearson on attaining the appointment of U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 20th June. Hang on to it, Pip—you may get paid for this one.

Sport.—We have played two local games of cricket: M.T. v. the Rest, and Operators v. the Rest (I did not know that operators could play cricket). We are now quite confident and willing to meet all comers.

G Artillery Signal Section, Catterick Camp.

General.—Yet another month rolls by. How time flies! I shake myself and try to lay before my comrades once more the doings of this mighty little Section.

One bright Saturday morning—to be exact, the date was the 9th June—our stalwarts girded on their equipment and marched out of Fenham Barracks, Newcastle, on their long trek to the Scottish border, to that hardboiled country called Redesdale, where men are men (no, I am not going to say "Women are glad of it." I quote "Women are scarce"). Men must work and women must weep, but the Signals are not groaning.

The march of thirty-six miles was carried out under a hot sun in eight and a half hours, including halts, and this was the best time put up in the whole Brigade. I am sure our cyclist party will never become members of the Cyclists Union Club or the Hikers Union on their return to civilian life, because they certainly learned all there is to know about biking and hiking.

On arrival in camp we were allowed a couple of days rest before commencing work on the ranges, the country being some of the roughest to be found in this country. Our storeman seemed to enjoy his trips on the limber. What did you say, Syd: "Thanks for the buggy ride"? It gives one a floating chassis, doesn't it.

After the completion of the twelve days training the Section was paraded for Colonel Archer, commanding the 24th Field Brigade R.A., who expressed his appreciation of the hard work carried out by all ranks while with the Brigade. He commented very favourably on the work done, the turn out of the Section, and the condition of the horses, which showed that they must have been fit to carry out the hard work asked of them. He wished the Section good luck on the march back to Catterick, and looked forward to our joining the Brigade again at Bellerby in August.

The Section marched out of camp on the morning of the 21st June. The weather did not look too promising, and rain came shortly after the start. Halts were made at Knowsgate station and again at Ponteland. All the men were well soaked by this time, and efforts were made to make up for this by having a good wetting inside, and in spite of the weather a cheerful spirit was kept up. That haven of rest, Fenham Barracks, was reached at 8 p.m., when the horses had a hot feed and ourselves an excellent meal provided by the Brigade.

We left Newcastle the following morning at nine o'clock in pouring rain. The gods were certainly bent on damping our spirits, but our wagon wheels kept on turning. We reached Heighington at 5.30 p.m. The personnel found accommodation at the George and Dragon Inn, and the horses were put up in loose boxes belonging to private owners. It was certainly ideal here: outsides began to get dry and insides to get wet. The villagers were evidently unaccustomed to the ways of the Army of to-day, and certain of the fair sex seemed to regret the departure of our gay Lotharios.

The Section resumed the march the following day in perfect weather and arrived in Catterick at 2 p.m. on Saturday 23rd June.

[*Continued at foot of page* 364]



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Promotion.—L/Sergt McCormack M. to be Sergeant.

Agony.—To Sergt Gregory, Catterick: Many thanks for mailing the package. I have since found out that you received a memo from the person in question. Lay off. Chapman.

Congratulations.—To E'Spud, somewhere on the links at Elie: Send me a photograph of it. Jerry.

Map Making.—A large scale relief map of a local area, constructed in cement, is being made in the S.T.C. (India). The details, taken from enlargements constructed by officers as the result of reconnaissance, are being inserted on this map by the staff of the Signal Training School. This feverish activity is not limited to the map alone, but has inspired our scribe to produce the following (with apologies to Mr. Kipling).

IF IN RELIEF.

If you can draw your squares when all around you
Mosquitoes buzz and do their stuff on you ;
If you can work yourself when no man helps you,
And make allowance for their absence, too ;
If you can trace and not be tired of tracing,
Or, no squares fitting, not give way to curse,
Or, dealing with a Grid and with an Easting,
Produce the answer short and sharp and terse ;
If you can bear to see the notes you've jotted
Rubbed out by fools to make a space for " Ghat,"
Or watch the road, all nicely inked in, blotted out,
And scrap the lot and re-draw from the start ;
If you can wield cement, and contours please you,
And build the streams and not forget the slope ;
If neither suns nor monsoon rains can hurt you ;
If all your squares are built on fact and not on hope ;
If you can fill the fast-congealing plaster
With all the detail that the Staffs Cars won—
We're for a T.E.W.T. and all the fun that's with it,
And what's more, you've made a map, by gum!

A.E.B.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

A very pleasant evening was spent on Thursday 14th June, when we entertained the 1st Battn The King's Regiment Sergeants Mess at our annual comic swimming gala. We ran out winners by 5—2 events, details of which are given in the Sports Notes.

Old Jubbulporites will remember the Ashes pot, and those who departed from the unit last year will recall that the same pot was won from us by the Sergeants Mess of the 1st Battn The King's Regiment at our comic swimming gala. I am sure you will all be pleased to know that it is now back in the Mess after the absence of one year, through the strenuous efforts of our team. (They were strenuous, weren't they, Bram?)

The programme went with a swing right from the opening ceremony by the Mayor of Jubbulpore (Sergt McCormack) who performed his little part to the amusement of all. Later the programme was interrupted by a vocal effort of the Rev. Doughie and his Quire, with drastic results both to Doughie and Quire. The final event was a tug-of-war in the water, with the anchor man sitting (fully dressed) on the side of the bath on a stool which collapsed the moment the rope was pulled over a certain distance—an automatic result which left no room for doubt.

We then retired to the Mess lawn where our entertainment committee had prepared refreshments (well done, both Pips) after which the " prizes " were distributed and the pot presented.

R.S.M. Forster (King's Regiment) in presenting the Ashes to R.Q.M.S. Brown, challenged in no uncertain words our ability to retain it at next year's meeting.

R.Q.M.S. Brown, in reply, stated that though we were only few in number compared with what we used to be, we could always manage to turn out a team and put up a good show. (Hear! hear!—that goes for next year, too).

H.A.P. (FIDDLER).

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

Departures.—It is with regret that we lose our Chief Signal Officer, Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., who has retired after thirty-seven years service, eight of which have been spent in India. We wish him the very best of luck.

General.—Congratulations to our "A" team on winning the Buffalo football tournament. They played real good football right through the tournament. Details of the games will be found in the Sports Notes.

Detachments.—Our W/T Detachment at Murree may be deemed to be having a good time, judging by the following notes. The Rawalpindi folk have not submitted any, but that is really excusable, as 115 degrees is not a very pleasant temperature for a man to " scribe " in.

MURREE W/T.—To those old B Corps men who have at some time or other been associated with the work of the Northern Command Wireless Group, and are now scattered, I think these notes will prove of interest, for " drafts may come and drafts may go, but the group goes on for ever."

EPOCH.—That remote control with three s/w sets and one m/w set is not such a remote possibility after all has been proved to the satisfaction of all concerned by the work of F-of-S Wells and his able satellites. Ex-group wallahs will remember with mixed feelings those previous years of painstaking effort and experiment that were not quite satisfactory (ahem!) I am afraid I cannot divulge the modus operandi, but it is an accomplished fact and works quite smoothly. Gone for ever are those epithets and fervent imprecations directed towards the unfortunate mortal in the control room and against the powers-that-be who originated this once soul destroying contraption.

Our belated congratulations to Sigmn Copeman on taking the fatal plunge. May all their troubles, etc. ; and here's wishing them good luck.

The monsoon shows signs of being with us very shortly, to the despair of our long-suffering operators.

The social activities of Murree are now at their height. Numerous cabaret shows and dances, tennis, football, hockey, and even golf, all claim their devotees. The usual quota of amorous-minded sheiks can be seen sallying forth nightly, wreathed in Pepsodent smiles and lavender hair-oil. One or two of these notabilities can croon a gruesome falsetto to the accompaniment of the numerous jazz bands.

So much for Murree W/T Detachment. We hope that now news from Murree has started, it will continue to come along each month.

Arrivals.—L/Corporal Gill from 1st Indian Divisional Signals. L/Corpls Bartlett and Stonehouse from Peshawar District Signals. To them all we extend the usual greeting. It is pleasant to note that they joined the unit in time for a season up in the khuds.

Marriages.—Only one this time. Captain W. D. J. Harries to Miss Bathurst Brown, at Petersham, Surrey. Heartiest congratulations, sir, from all Bekorites.

Promotions.—A few more lucky ones have ascended the ladder. We wish them all the best and no " reps." L/Corpl (Badgy) Page to be Corporal. U/L/Corpls Nobby Noble and Tubby Cant to be paid. Chota Managan to be U/L/Corporal (this is the longest rank, in print, you'll ever have).

Exercise.—The unit square is a scene of great activity on four mornings a week, when L/Sergt Frampton and Corpl Denyer do their utmost to make more perfect slim figures of the lads on F.T. for twenty minutes or so before breakfast. " On the hands down " or " Small jumps begin " are becoming quite common. Great improvement has been shown since the hill season commenced, and I am sure that everybody is taking a great liking to these early morning exercises (the looker-on sees most!)

Whilst the P.T. is in progress, our young n.c.o.s try to eliminate C.S.M. Eastes' voice on guard mounting drill, but to no avail.

Agony.—Heard by a candidate for the first class certificate of education: " This book goes from two plus two equals five to algebra in a number of shapes." Keep it up, Ginger! if at "first" you don't succeed, try, try, etc.

Who is the member of the fair sex who inspires our outside left to score such wonderful goals? Come! come! Leslie.

Sergeants Mess.—This establishment has been very quiet for the last two or three weeks, due probably to this being a five-week month. " You'll hear no more about that," as one popular member remarked when he was asked what was he going to have! Do you still believe in the " no treating " act, Poney?

The usual weekly whist drives and dances have not been held recently, owing to the fact that we want to make a "splash" early next month with a big dance for all messes ; so, naturally, we are on a jew's course with the entertainments fund. We should have had considerably more had our "A" team not won the Buffalo football tournament ; that pot *did* hold some stuff!

The one function held this month was a great success, even if the rain did give some of us a wetting. This was in the shape of a family-cum-single men's picnic. After considerable scouting around, a flat space large enough to hold our motley throng was located within a short distance of barracks ; so away we went—grub, lemons, younger generation, old men (and old soldiers), and of course our one or two *very young* members. The grub soon went altogether, but that was to be expected when once Jock Laing and Shorty Lombard started cutting the cake ; some say they didn't bother to cut it. With the disappearance of the bread of life, the children were taken in hand by our able A.E.C. instructor, Sergeant Dickey Richards, and our two *very young* members. I believe hide and seek was the main attraction, but whatever it was, the kiddies thoroughly enjoyed themselves—at least, from the row they made, one reaches that conclusion. The more elderly ladies and gentlemen disported themselves at rounders. Mrs. W. S. Smith would do well with a Yankee baseball team. C.S.M. Eastes says he is buying all the necessary equipment for base keeper in anticipation of another game. Well, as I said before, everyone enjoyed themselves. The only fly in the ointment was the absence of the children's delight, i.e. one Busty of the smiling countenance. However, you won't always have special commissions, Busty.

Finale.—The dog show organised by Lieut. and Mrs. Treseder in aid of Upper Topa welfare turned out a very good show indeed. Dogs of all shapes, sizes, colour and temperament were to be seen in various items. The items were too many to tabulate here, but they were all very well thought out and appreciated. Sigmn Hughes' Peggy and Sergt Baker's Jeet were very much to the fore at the prize giving, their success meeting with a great ovation from the spectators. Our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, presided, and his lady assisted by carrying out the duties of hostess to all the competitors. Many thanks, sir, for an enjoyable evening. We hope to have more. BEKORE.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Sunday 1st July.

The following have arrived during the month: Sergt (Gentleman George) Read G. from Waziristan District Signals. L/Corpl Wright V. from Meerut. Bhalu can nearly slope arms now, after only a fortnight's training.

Another of our hockey stars has left us. Sergt W. Applegate has been posted to Waziristan District Signals, where we are sure he will get a warm reception, if not a dangerous one.

A couple of lines for congratulations to Signal Units, Upper Topa, on winning the Buffalo cup.

We hand round the drinks to the following for obtaining educational certificates at the March examination: Sigmn Simbler, special : L/Corpl Connor G. and Signalmen Cox and Marshall T., first class.

We Should Like to Know.—Who turned out the horse line piquet three times in one night? and was the signalman who cleaned his Troop sergeant's revolver on duty that particular night?

Ration strength—2327000 Signalman Blank out of rations on 1/12/34.

Equitation: Where is everybody? Staff parade: Everybody is doing it now. Equitation: Doing what? Staff parade: Duty despatch rider.

Owing to the fact that most of the Troop are away at Kashmir and Murree on matrimonial and technical courses, etc., representative games have been almost at a standstill. I am not, therefore, inserting anything in the Sports columns.

To L/Corpl Burrell H., 3rd Divsigs, Blighty: Salaams, Bert. See you at Christmas. Wot abaht a pillion? Fred. (Note: Christmas is mere speculation.)



H.L.G.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Sunday 8th July.

Repatriations.—A certain young fellow who delights in the appellation of Lord Chadd of Ewart is due for the boat in February 1935, after completing five years in this country—half at Jubbulpore helping with civil disturbances (!) and the remainder in Peshawar aiding the State with economy wagons. Now Lord Chadd, in May of this year, did take unto the unit draughtsman one bag—sea—kit and whisper to one Heaps, " Inscribe the necessary thereon." The said bag is now emblazoned with Chadd's number, rank and name, and " Southampton via Karachi." Who can beat this one?



Captain and Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst.

Congratulations.—This unit and, I am sure, all others who have had the pleasure of meeting this officer, heartily congratulate Captain and Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst on attaining his brevet majority for services rendered during the Mohmand—Bajaur operations in 1933.

To L/Sergt Barry T. on being awarded the medal of the Order of the British Empire—also for good work under the most trying conditions during the same operations.

To Sigmn Harrod C. (" distinguished " in mathematics and map reading), Sigmn King E. ("D" in mathematics), and Sigmn Huggett S. on obtaining their first class certificates of education.

To the signalman on a Trade Board who declared that a solenoid was something that contained water.

To the loose wallah who thought there was something in No. 2 Company stores (more pluck than judgment, eh, Cheddar?)

Extract from Indian Newspaper.—" For sale: in ???????, one Morris Oxford saloon car, property of an officer with sliding roof in perfect running order, very sparingly used, leather upholstery and very roomy and comfortable with adjustable front seats. . . . . ." That is what India does to us!

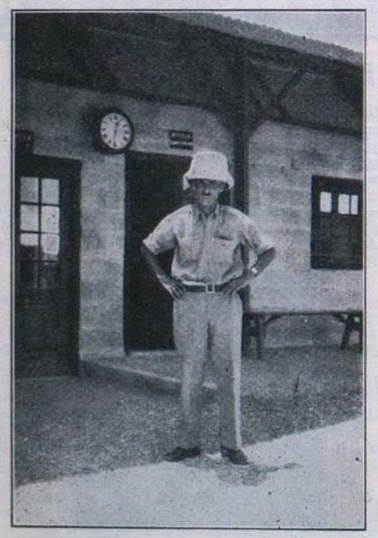
Gaelic Press.—Sigmn Hughes J. of this unit requires loving epistles from one Sigmn Rowles of A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

If Sigmn Pitt of Shanghai and Sigmn Tilney H. of India communicate with Sigmn Hale G. of this unit, they will hear something to their advantage.

Books Worth Reading.—"Gone Rustic " (Cecil Roberts), "The Portcullis Room" (Valentine Williams), "The Compulsory Wife," " The Compulsory Husband " and " The Compulsory Honeymoon " (John Glyder), and " Another Man's Wife " (Mrs. Belloc Lowndes).

Photography.—Enclosed with these notes are some snaps of the recently modernised forts or posts of the Kajuri Plain. Maybe some of the fellows who were holding 'em back in 1930/31 would like to see the huge difference between the ancient structures of that time and the homes-from-homes of to-day. The contrast is amazing, and it needs seeing to believe.

The buildings of all forts or posts are of concrete blocks. The original Bara Fort is still the same, but the area outside, that used to be filled with tents, is now like an English housing estate.



Type of New Structure, and one of this unit's linemen who patrol the Kajuri Plain lines.

This Month's Great Thought.—" Conceit is the compensation of beneficent nature for mental deficiency " (Hawkins).

MIIM.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

This is for June! How that word conjures up thoughts of happy days and long light nights, seasides and sand castles! Not for us these joys: June means the sun, the sun, and for a change—the sun.

It is jolly hot—too hot for you to expect many WIRE notes from me—even Tim (late of Colchester) has to retire to his bunk and " flake out." In any case, 'tis not he who finds the energy for " much ado about nothing." Along with the rest of us he is making much ado about this 'eat and 'umidity.

From a recent inspection we understand that the swank of the soldier of to-day is not a patch on that of yesterday. He is getting worse every year. The drill is not a patch on the drill of old. The Army has struck a bad patch.

We have struck a bad patch, too. It's June and it's hot, and there's nothing doing. Yet we *are* a patch on what we used to be. Last month I told of our eagerness to beautify the camp by taking advantage of a patch to make a garden. This month we have *found* a patch to put a guard in.

Despite the exertions of the thermometer to get us down, training (both British and Indian) has gone on steadily, and soon the change over will take place between the men for training at Topa. We are getting ready to welcome those who have a brand new rating, and to wish Morse success to those who are due for one. The change over will be celebrated in the usual manner with an evening's entertainment to be arranged by Quarters, so we can be sure of good rations.

We have been rather disturbed of late owing to an upheaval of our flooring. A considerable portion of our foundations is being dug up and relaid. In consequence, there is quite a lot of spare road material about, and the paths of the barracks have taken upon themselves a charming silver-grey effect owing to the concrete efforts of No. 1 Squad's chain gang.

The hill parrots continue to come and go—mostly for a month's leave. Some fortunate ones get two months at a stretch, and go up in pairs (like the minor birds or the Kohat twins) to Kashmir. The remainder must sweat on and wait for next cold weather, when the unit will again make history as of yore. (Shades of Lachi, Tatti Nasrati, and Nariab!)

The effort below by one of our bright youths is meant to describe the efforts of a clerk (K——) to cajole a fitter to make a Bitzer car (bits o' this and bits o' that) from one he has bought. It may also tell you who soldiers here.

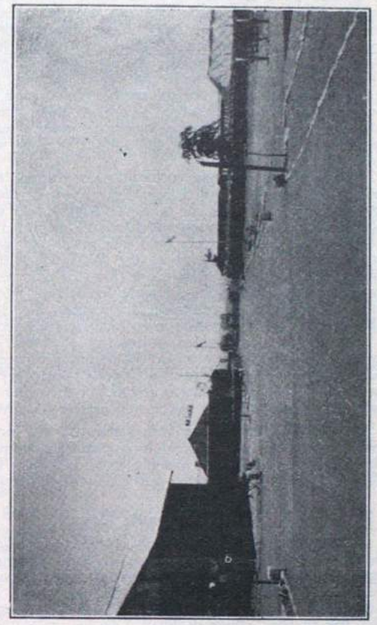
Scene: Garages. King of cranks and Radio Spats surrounded by twisted pieces of Steele and Gunn-metal.

S: Where the dickens is that Ball? I Hay-ter tell yer, James, but this might have been a 1906b Talbot before it left Parris.
K: It certainly is topsy Turvey, but I can't Cribb at the Price ; I couldn't a-Forder Moore expensive one.
S: If I get the Smith to put a Bolt-on here, and remove this Dent, the old bus Wil-son be able to Race with Kaye Don.
K: Something seems to be Ayling her ; she Burns too much juice when I'm Manning her. Last week she nearly went West, but after a hefty Shove she Rose to the occasion.
S: That oil you use sticks like a Leach ; there are better oils if you can a-Fordham. The Bow of this bus turns Brown with that stuff you use.
K: On the front Page of " The Motor Car " is a brand of oil used by the Hart company in their planes.
S: If the cops spot us, they'll Ang-us for causing obstruction.
K: O.K. I'll get some No. 1 brand ; that Ora-make a world of difference.
S: We have got our Bax-ter the wall now, but if luck holds we shall not have to Coop-er up for weeks.
K: Pick-e-ring out of that pile for this Turner joint, please.
S (with a sweat on): Hum! I can't Spring-ett any more now, but it can't Wagg about as she travels. As the oil soaks through, it will cling like the proverbial Ivey.
K: Well, that's Dunn. I'm feeling Green-halgh over. What about a glass of Seville to celebrate?

Some of us wish to congratulate No. 2 Company 53rd Divsigs, Cardiff, on winning the Webber cup. Good shooting.

And so the grass keeps growing in front of the guard room and the temperature keeps rising.

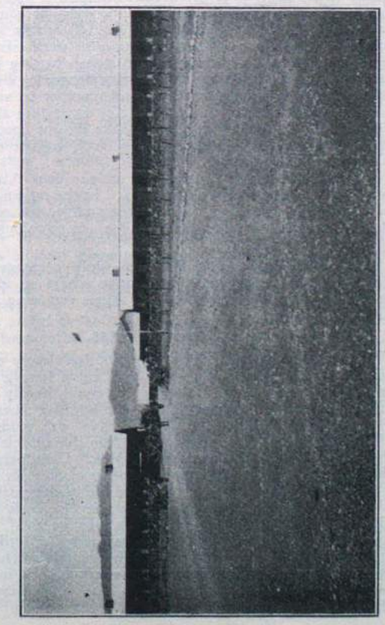
Some of the Recently Modernised Forts and Posts on the Kajuri Plain.



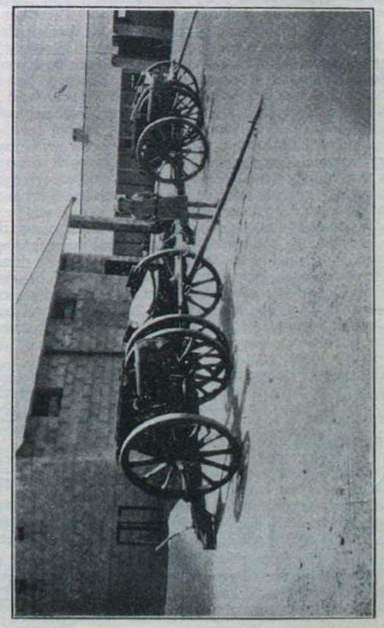
Part of Fort Salop.



The New Bridge at Jhansi Post (piquet post at each end).



Entrance to Fort Milward.



Gun Park at Jhansi Post.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Back to the Land.—It's curious how you can belong to a unit and not know of all the happenings in it. I suppose the local correspondent should be an authority on that sort of thing; and when a miniature farm with about a dozen enthusiastic farmers exists in the lines, it's about time somebody got up and told people about it.

In the course of a quiet stroll the other evening, it was my honour and pleasure to run into the R.S.M. Conversation led to my realising that I was speaking to none other than the director of A Corps farm. The offer of a personally conducted tour around the acreage was snapped up. Collecting the manager (known previously to me as a highly qualified D.R. only) we proceeded. The first person met was our farrier. In addition to a spot of horse breeding, I was informed that his Rhode Island Reds and White Minorcas were famous from Honeymoon Lodge to the Short-Wave Station, and that his daily haul of eggs was something akin to Messrs. Brooke Bond's bag of tea leaves. On leaving this expert on beast and bird, the manager informed me that the only blemish on his breeding reputation was a faint suspicion of his producing fighting cocks.

Continuing our way past neat layouts of water melon, radishes, cabbages and other well known pot herbs, we came upon a strongly fenced enclosure—something like the places where they house lions before shipping them to zoos. It surprised me to learn that the occupants of this demesne were nothing more ferocious than the pride of the turkey flock. It wasn't so surprising, though, when I saw the dimensions of the turkeys. They are a couple of youngsters in process of being fattened up for the ultimate honour of gracing our festive board at Christmas. At present they're built like a couple of young bulls, with a wing span resembling a trans-continental air mail. A wish to see them at closer quarters resulted in the director performing feats of strategy and heavy weight lifting unsuspected.

Leaving the duck pond on our right, and what I imagined to be the cow sheds on our left, we came to the pigeon training establishment. It appears that several patrons of the farm are interested in the art of training these birds, but the particular individual we called upon is the pioneer and by all accounts the expert. At his call a pigeon answers quicker than you do when the pay bloke shouts out your name on the last pay day of a five week month. If things progress as anticipated, it is expected that Karachi will in a short time become the Mecca of all pigeon racing enthusiasts in India.

Chicken appear to be most popular with this little colony of farmers, and owner after owner proudly introduced his prize bird. It is due to ignorance that I am not much of a judge of a live bird, but my imagination told me that some of them would have looked fine on the dinner table.

An introduction to the manager's and director's pet occupations followed. They jointly and in a highly technical manner discuss the ducks and, individually, chickens and pigeons. The director is never too enthusiastic over his chicken. To me, they were healthy looking beasts—I mean, birds—but he can usually ascribe some disease to them. The manager has his pigeons and trains them with mixed feelings. I can understand that: whenever I have previously seen him associating with this type of fowl, he's had a gun in his hand.

Not having seen any cows or pigs during the tour, I naturally enquired as to their whereabouts. The director explained that, although it was the farm's ambition to keep such animals about the place, neither Army Headquarters nor the Canteen Contractors Syndicate had any time for the idea.

Anyway, I must say that even the lack of cows and pigs doesn't prevent this part of A Corps lines from looking like a real farm—something of an achievement in this part of India, too! We trust that our gentleman farmers will keep it going. Future A Corps Signals personnel will always be able to look forward to its gardens, its club and stadium, and now—its farm.

I have to thank the farm executive for a very interesting and instructive evening. They desire it to be known that agriculturists and horticulturists, and breeders of flesh, fowl and fish, are welcome to try their luck on the farm.

What's in a Name.—In these days, when parties persist in giving themselves unpronounceable names, it is refreshing to hear of the forming of small bodies with such old-fashioned nomenclatures as the Scotch Mists, the Crabs, the Queens, the Night Hawks, the Nomads, the Dead Spots and the Crocks. These are the titles given to the various sections in the unit for the purpose of sport. All the British ranks, from the commanding officer downwards, belong to one of them, and conversations these days are usually preceded with the polite question "What's your Section?" Invariably, the answer is given with an unmistakable note of pride.

How the sections came to be so named would make an interesting tale, but too long a one, I'm afraid. I can tell you that one glance at the senior n.c.o. in the Scotch Mists was responsible for its name—and very dignified, too. The Dead Spots are not to be mistaken for a cheap imitation of Chicago gangsters. It is not every n.c.o. in charge of the W/T Detachment who can find one, and he earns no more than his due reward when its memory is perpetuated by naming his section after that historic crowd. The Queens contain a few gigolos, but that only shows the modesty of strong men in so naming their section.

Anyway, the amount of enthusiasm shown in regard to the sports looks like leading up to the renaming of one or two of the sections. Those who saw the Queens take everything (bar the goal posts) from the Nomads at football the other night agreed: what's in a name?

Agonies.—Several have been requested this month, but only two have been handed in at the appropriate moment. L/Corpl Bellinger L. wonders how one Pig Smith is finding life these days. Sigmn Dawton will send the postage money to Drac if necessary.

S.W.B.

Sergeants Mess.

Promotion Beer has been duly distributed by C.Q.M.S. Steed, Sergts Thorne and Bosworth, and L/Sergt Cosens, on their respective promotions. In the case of our "Young Jack from Australia" Steed, it also meant his once more proceeding on active service to the wilds of Waziristan. Send us all a wet on the bar to the "Burmah Shell," Jack.

Our Sports Superiority Complex has once more been regained at the expense of the I.A.S.C. Sergeants Mess. Thinking we were easy, they challenged us to a series of games. Cricket was the first. After roping in all the old crocks available, we managed to muster a team, and thanks to some hard hitting by Sergeant Andrews, some careful and stylish batting by R.Q.M.S. Trapmore, and some fine bowling by Sergeants Bosworth and Andrews, we scored a very noble and unexpected victory.

This was too much for the I.A.S.C. Collecting all the expert players in Karachi, they thought to take off our boots at hockey. Once again our old crocks did their stuff and we escaped with a very fortunate draw.

Billiards was the next item, and on our own "midden" we won very comfortably by 6—2 games. In the return match, with a depleted team and on a very funny table, we again escaped with a draw of four games each. We are now looking forward to their next challenge.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.—Only a meagre list to report. Sergt Bosworth took the plunge whilst on furlough, and we are now looking forward to our Aggie reporting having been caught.

NOBBY.

Corporals Mess.

Having had a great deal to do with the victory of the Mess, our erstwhile scribe, L/Corpl Bridges, could hardly be asked to write an account of it. I mean, he could hardly write! He played a very stylish game, hitting the bowling when and where he liked (which he did). Could he? No, sir! modesty forbids.

There is a bottle of beer (empty) for the first letter opened, giving the identity of the present scribe. Does personality give you a clue? Of course, there are other names for it. Enough of this small talk. Let's get back to the cricket match.

We were paying a return visit to the Corporals Mess of the Royal Sussex Regiment. And what a time we had! Remembering the good time we gave them, they tried to outdo us in hospitality. And did they succeed? When I tell you that we hardly remember leaving, I think you can safely take it for granted.

On paper, both teams appeared to be very evenly matched. There were pentangular, rectangular (or what you wil) players in both teams. Our team was certainly on form; irresistible is the word. We went in first and were all out for 112 runs, the Sussex replying with 54. (Figure out for yourself how many runs we won by. I'm much too busy!)

L/Corpl Bridges was the hero of the match, making 46 runs and taking seven wickets (well done, Ivy!) Corpl (Horsey, and how!) Clutterbuck hit 23 runs in nearly as many minutes. Corpl (Gigolo) Hutchison nearly scored a run! and Corporal Pink gave the finest contortionist display I have ever seen off the professional stage. His manner of wrapping himself around the cricket bat had to be seen to be believed; and what a stance! And the esprit de corps! Why, the wife of one of the Sussex corporals even went in to bat to try and save the game—and nearly succeeded, so susceptible are the members of the Mess to feminine appeal. At this period, Corpl (Too Tired) Mackenzie missed three easy catches. He said he was being chivalrous, but I suspect he was asleep.

After the match we adjourned to the Sussex Mess for an indoor sports tourney. I know many and various games were played, but for the life of me I can't somehow find out anything definite about them. I'm sorry, but you must blame the excellent (best in Karachi) "pig's ear."

Our best wishes and thanks go out to Corpl (Bullet, Smasher, the Major, or what you will) Mowbray and his gang for a most enjoyable day. Our turn next!

News: General.—A certain percentage of the Mess are at present on a ride: you know, horses and things. And do we other poor unfortunates know it? Yes. I've heard horses make the same noises, too. However, it has given Egyptian Charlie a fresh subject to talk about (honestly, Charlie, those camels were beginning to smell). For such small mercies we are duly thankful.

Things We Want to Know.—Who was out in the recent cricket match four times from as many balls, and in four different ways—i.e. bowled, stumped, caught and l.b.w.? Pinky! Pinky!

How long will Jock keep his teeth?

Whose horse took his rider to water and had a bath at the same time?

Is it true that Pat Mills is the best jack-knife diver in Karachi? (and the same to you!)

Phantasy.—Jock Hutchison has retired.

Tailpiece.—Overheard: An n.c.o. (hush hush species, voice treble): "You can't come to our party, see!" Dosra n.c.o.: "Who the —— wants to?"

THE CHAMP.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Saturday 30th June.

Unit Headquarters.

To-day's Solemn Thought.—What we could do to the fellow who started this "writing WIRE notes" business. "Kong" noises off. J.J.

And so, having gazed at a singularly uninspiring typewriter for the last three hours, we commit our souls to heaven and start.

The March of Civilisation: or the White Man's Burden. Baluchistan is a nasty piece of scenery, no matter from which angle it is viewed, but no part was so desolate as that in the immediate vicinity of the unit office. No captivating pansy reared his (sorry! for "his" read "its") smiling head in that dreary waste, and a never-ending struggle for existence went on between the humble house brick and the aggressive Baluchistan boulder. Poor souls, queueing up to take their hats off, brooded on the view for ten minutes and went sick—it wasn't fit for even a sergeant to live in.

Eventually it was decided to dig up this piece of India, throw it away, and start a lawn complete with grass. For months the chain gang laboured on pushing the pebble, bouncing the boulder and dumping the dirt, and the entire resources of the unit were devoted to collecting various products of the stables and riding school and spreading it around the unit offices. Seeds, specially bred from pedigree stock, were purchased and on the great day consigned to their fate amid the awestruck looks of the natives. For weeks, millions of gallons of water (doctored with M.B.) were poured over the holy ground, and in a sincere endeavour to assist nature we even whitewashed the surrounding bulwark of discarded boulders.

And four months later—what have we? Baluchistan is still a nasty piece of scenery, but no part is so desolate as that in the immediate vicinity of the unit office.

Yachting Club Notes.—With the advent of the annual allotment of deep sea yachts for the use of time-ex wallahs, the membership of the Unit Yachting Club has now reached forty, but owing to the intervention of autumn training the Club is not expected to hold its first gala day until November (or some other time).

Junior N.C.O.s Correspondence Course.—Copyright reserved; and it is notified for information that I am not in the least desirous of being anyone's father.

PROBLEM ONE.—You are unit orderly sergeant on the 1st October, and at about 16.00 hrs. on that date you observe an old soldier staggering past the unit office in a peculiar manner. You *must* take action! What would you charge him with?—(i.) Sec. 19 A.A., drunkenness, or (ii.) Sec. 5 (5) A.A., conduct calculated to cause alarm and despondency in that he did wilfully practise a deep-sea roll, knowing full well that several young soldiers were in the neighbourhood. Papers to be handed in when I have twenty-one years pensionable service. Take your time, girls!

Social Notes.—Owing to the recent monsoon, which washed away half the landscape and all our hopes of running a dance (I imagine that a certain pansy has enlarged on this theme elsewhere in these notes), there has not been much doing.

However, we managed to organise a senior n.c.o.s drill course, which ran for three weeks and ended up in the best Fred Karno tradition. And now the junior n.c.o.s are about to add a note of gaiety to the unit lines. On, Signals, on!

Correction.—Someone tells me that this section of THE WIRE notes is supposed to deal with U.H.Q. Company. Righto!

W.G.S.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Owing to leaving these notes to the last possible moment, I suppose I shall be the first with the Quetta rain news.

Up to a few days ago, the water shortage had been a serious problem. A few sergeants and people—evidently landmarks—were heard to remark that in all their service they had never known such a dry period. However, even they at last refused to believe that rain would fall soon and promptly made arrangements for a few whoopee weeks.

The grand finale was to culminate in a gorgeous open air dance on the B.O.R.s tennis courts. The day dawned, dull and dismal, but had no effect on the band of little heroes, striving might and main to prepare the courts for a punctual start at 9 p.m. However, Messrs. Thor and Pluto woke sharply at seven o'clock and decided that the committee people had taken advantage, and accordingly noises reminiscent of Kong at his best were heard, coupled with such a downpour that even I had never before witnessed. Naturally, the courts soon assumed a Flanders-like appearance, which ultimately led to the postponement of the dance to the 12th July. It was rather pathetic to see the dismal faces of the committee, and I felt rather sorry for them. At the same time, I must admit I saw the funny side of things. Perverted sense of humour, I suppose.

There is no need to remind you of the type of soldier stocked in Quetta—you all know; but the accompanying photograph, taken during the parade in honour of His Majesty's birthday, will back you up when you tell people how smart we really are. The G.O.C. appeared to be frightfully bucked and gave us a pat on the back.

Congratulations.—Everyone will, I'm sure, join me in tendering heartiest congratulations to Mrs. R. H. O. Coryton on her splendid performance in the recent Quetta Club tennis tournament: ladies singles *and* mixed doubles. Ye gods!

To Captain R. L. M. Rosenberg and Sergeant Eynott on being selected to play for the Quetta Gymkhana Cricket Club.

To the Sergeants Mess on avoiding the usual crushing tennis defeat at the hands of the officers.

Inevitable Agony.—Oscar, 5th Div. Scarborough: We need you badly. Come up and see us some time. Scant.

Reference No. 3 Company 2nd Div. Aldershot "Gallantry" note. We also have a Brunton, forenamed Bernard. He says you don't have to watch either Cuthbert or Billy for feats of valour: just come round and see *him* at the tennis courts. A nifty racket, indeed.

PURDAH.



2nd Indian Divisional Signals March Past on the King's Birthday Parade, 1934.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We are still indulging in that healthy pastime, scheming. This sort of thing promotes a much desired sun tan, and some of the late arrivals from England are very excited now that they have acquired the " strong men are sunburnt " hue. The elders look on pityingly and murmur " When you've been here as long as I . . . ."

The Birthday parade in honour of H.M. the King-Emperor went off extremely well, and from a Brigadier's view the whole parade appeared to be a very good turn out. We Signals marched past with a jubilant air to our well known signature tune " Begone, dull care." (Remarks here are unnecessary.)

The water shortage is still very serious, and the possibility of a summer camp is more than a rumour.

Social Activities.—The Scarlet Woman of the Div. has been attending the numerous dances held here of late. R.S.M. Shenton kindly referees these affairs, and one wonders what his thoughts are regarding the bright young things who swing a wicked hip to the strains of our second-to-none dance band.

Each night the tennis courts are crowded with the Nuttalls and Austins of the unit. The chic ensembles are a feast for the eye, and sometimes the tennis playing rises from the sordid level of " batting a ball."

Another Signals Record Broken.—When L/Corpl Drury sat on the record of the Royal Signals March past.

Have You Heard This One?—At a Staff College signal exercise, a Staff College student who is having difficulty with his tele. 110 shakes the hand set and hears the carbon shot rattle. " Sergeant, no wonder it won't work, the —— thing's full of dirt."

Births.—To Mrs. C. Hayward, on June 3rd, a bonny girl. We understand she is very much like her handsome father—poor girl! Congratulations, Fuzzy.

Sympathy.—The Indian ranks have gone on leave for farming and various other things, and we are left to look after their horses, etc., for them. We miss them in more ways than one, and of course must have everything o.k. for their return.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporals Smith H. and Cartledge A. on gathering in a few more shekels (or should it be pice?). To a signalman who returned from the last scheme in a lorry. " Did you ever see a dream walking?"

Agony Column.—Dolly, Joe and Nick are wondering if there is a scarcity of writing material in Blighty, as they've not heard from Sigmn McCoughay. Sigmn (Bill) Williams wants news from L/Corpl Pip Parsons of 4th Div. Sigs.

Does anyone know the quotation " The old order changeth"? Au revoir. Je ne suis fras une ange. E.G.C.

Sergeants Mess.

Tennis.—This is the order of the day at present, and we are endeavouring to uphold the regimental motto in our dealings with the tennis balls.

We held an " at home " tennis and flannel dance for the Royal Scots on Wednesday 20th June, and everything went off (and down!) magnificently, including the chasers.

The annual Harington cup tennis tournament has started. The Mess came off best in the first round against the Royal Tanks.

On Wednesday 27th June the Chief Signal Officer, the commanding officer and officers of the unit very kindly came along to give our team some stiff friendly opposition, but owing to a very heavy downfall of rain the match was put off, much to the disappointment of all.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

General.—Life drifts gently along and everyone seems perfectly happy. The flower gardens look a treat and the lawns are in splendid condition. Rain and thunderstorms have been the order of the day during the past week. In spite of this, however, the monotony has been broken by the antics of a certain



Our Colleagues at Zambaza.

fitter, Geordie, which caused great amusement. After putting in tons of spare time and poor spare parts into an *infernal* combustion engine which has two strokes and one speed, the remarkable speed of once round the canteen in an hour was attained. Still, the old maxim holds good: anything to practise on, etc.

Social.—Owing to the opening of our summer camp at Chautair and the subsequent departure of the ladies and Coop's beer barrel, our social functions and dances are at a standstill. Despite this depression, certain statistics show that this has not sufficiently affected the ability to entertain ourselves.

Sports.—Football: In recent matches our team have met with some degree of success. Trophies collected during the past month include two sweeper's shirts. Hockey, no injuries. Cricket: Several matches have been played, but owing to the prevalence of consistent bodyline bowling, both species of duck were most evident.



B.O.R.s Event, 7th Light Cavalry Dismounted Regimental Sports, Loralai.

Departures.—To Hindubagh, Corpl (Thelma) Todd, Sigmn Oozy Taylor, Sigmn Donnelly complete with plum coloured bags, and the inevitable John Cotton.

Arrivals.—From Hindubagh, L/Corpl McCann and hound, Sigmn McAra plus corporation, Sigmn Goodhand with Busty. From Fort Sandeman, L/Corpl Howard and Paddy Byrne (82 days to go).

During the month we have been visited by a party of linemen from 2nd Divsigs. We trust that their sojourn was a pleasant one (no church parades, of course). Taff, please note that your dart record has not yet been surpassed.

Appointments.—Congratulations, Smudger, on getting your foot on the rungs. Ours is a barrel.

Things We Want to Know.—Who placed the snake in the O.C.s car on the road from Hindubagh to Loralai?

What is the best preservative for ice when the temperature is 110 degrees?

Why John Cotton has failed to keep the Nazarite vow?

Why Tubby is so keen on Bhoosa and Khasil these days?

Agony.—To the Whipper from B.H.: How about that jawab? Kitna din George?

Birdie Beale: Conkers received. 'Ow's Trix, Mac?

Obituary.—The O.C. regrets to announce the marriage of Charbie Burke. Our sympathy is tendered to his wife, and a basket of fruit (seed variety) awaits the culprit should he ever dare return to the Zhob.

Conclusion.—'Ere's a kid wot's off.

" CITY LIGHTS."

Oh, here's a ditty of Loralai city—
A place only just on the map.
There ain't no talkies, we just go in for walkies,
And nobody worries a rap.

Some say the street lamps which brighten the place
When the moon isn't willing to show
Are to make all the locals reflect back to the road
Leading up to the old Barley Mow.

So when they emerge from the pub or hotel
With imaginings strong, they are led
To a lamp-post to have a good lean,
Then trip with a sigh off to bed.

But please do not think this is out of the world.
Dear me, no! And I'll think you'll agree,
For a voice that you all know says often to us
" This is London " in transmission three.

There's only one thing—this you'll probably see—
Could mar all this pastoral bliss.
You're right! 'Tis the fact that some blighter like me
Finds time to write rubbish like this.

T. URNIP.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Being here explains a lot—so if these notes appear a little unusual, please put it down to a touch of kafaires. You know, the state one gets into when heading walls or buying someone a snifter. Yet with only a short time in which to compile these notes, and with precious little of interest to relate, one is in a bit of a quandary to produce the goods; but like Mr. Micawber, here's hoping for something to turn up as I go along.

Inspections.—Ah, that's it! The G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command inspected the Detachment (?) and after a good look round he seemed quite pleased and told us what a nice lot of lads we were. You know the sort of thing Generals say. I was so bucked that I had to indulge in a little japani, and was then almost tempted to take on for the old pontoon nonsense. Fortunately, I recovered in time before any damage was done.

Entertainments.—The usual bevy of beauty from Woolworth's graced us with their presence on the occasion of the second of our hot weather dances, held here on Tuesday last. Mr. McAra and Mr. Fortes were again very prominent, other notabilities being China Ram, Ranga, and the old flying dhobi Allah Baksh. Last, but not least, good old Shamsuddin was very much in evidence and would persist in crooning the dud wallah's lullaby.

Sport.—Playing on that beautifully kept ground for which Hindubagh is world renowned, we have had some sterling games of hockey. Our last venture finished with the score standing at 16—1. I really thought we would have won, but after two hours play our goalie complained of a sprained back. The game was abandoned, much to the annoyance of a certain Scottish fitter who up to then had only put three fellows in the detained ward.

Isolation.—The whole four of us.

Appointments.—Congratulations to Sigmn Smith J. C. on getting the yard of tripe. Here's hoping you don't have long to wait for the conkers, Smudge.

Obituary.—Ruff. More lead poison.

Tailpiece.—Must now hurry. There's a good picture on, and I'm going to the second house. R.J.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Monday 14th May.

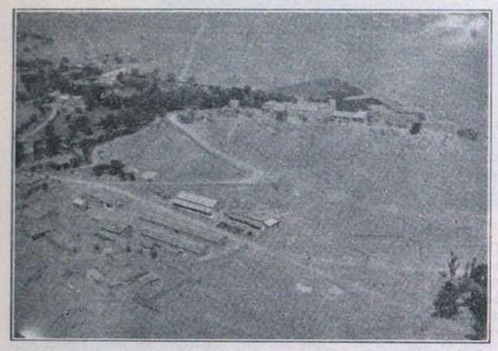
General.—Corpl Francis and Signalmen Smith, Johnson, Franks and Taylor held the fort while the remainder of the Detachment went to Loralai to attend the monthly ball which our O.C. (Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn) has introduced, and which is proving a great success. These dances are no " char anna scrum downs " but well organised affairs. The liquor, at any rate, must be of the best, as all our lads had a rattling good time and came back broke, and the Section sergeant was a day out in his reckoning when he came back. He is still a bit hazy as to what happened on the 31st April.

The lads left in Sandeman were very conscientious during this period, and not a single pint was consumed! Of course, this may have been in the interests of retaining their health and strength in order to fully appreciate the good khaná which the mess caterer was dishing up at the time. Everyone seemed to

be partial to a drop of chicken, which we had served up in the approved English manner, i.e. roasted.

In spite of our customary duties being tying, we managed to find time to take down our wireless masts, paint them, and re-erect them last week. Everyone proved highly skilled at this game, but when it came to plumbing the masts there was much controversy between Byrne and Taylor. The job was successfully completed, and the masts are still standing erect.

We celebrated Corpl Bartlett's birthday yesterday—Sunday, the 13th—rather an awkward day to have a birthday, but it went off o.k. Two prelims were sufficient this year instead of the usual seven. This is the result of the retrenching of which one hears a lot these days. Corpl Bartlett is now on the tack until his next birthday. What will power!



Fort Sandeman from the air.

Our representative skilfully cornered Byrne in his shop this morning and very tactfully wheedled this statement from him: "Sure! and I'm pukka cheesed off with Sandeman. It's got me all shaky. I'm sure that mozzie is going to get me any minute. I hope they don't post me to Quetta. Give me Karachi. I wonder phwat my blue-eyed colleen is doing? Roll on, the boat. I'm sweating on catching an early one. Struth! an' it'll be a great day." So rambles Byrne after five long years east of Suez.

Appointments.—After delving in his knapsack for five years, Smudger has at last succeeded in getting a line on the proverbial baton and planted his foot firmly on the first rung of the metaphorical ladder. We all wish him the best of luck. He has already gone to much expense over stripes, so we hope he won't have to get a new hat as well. (Tich Evans, please note.)

Sport.—Owing to the rain, we have not indulged in much sport recently, but we are still good, and after the rest we will be able to sail in with greater vigour than ever. You can't keep good men down.

Agonies.—To Arfer Smeed: Where are you? Is everything "oke"? What about a line? Smudger.

BUXMITH—APOZAI.

Tuesday 26th June.

General.—We spent a very pleasant evening on the 16th inst. in watching the 1/7th Gurkhas sports. There were a number of novel events which were quite new to me. Some of these were rather thrilling, especially the relay cycle race, which caused much amusement and great applause amongst the spectators. The less skilled performers were certainly the better entertainers. There were some wonderful exhibitions of handing over at speed.

The officers of the 1/7th Gurkhas Mess were very attentive, keeping us well informed as to the object of the various events and seeing that we received refreshments in the tent while the sports were in progress. One of the prizes was a sheep, and loud cheering was heard from everyone as the winning team went up to claim it; that is, from all but the sheep. Franks said it was what you might call a handy sort of a prize.

An excellent display was given by the bands of the 1/7th. "Hoots, mon!" said Jock McKay as the blood curdling screams of the pipes came drifting down on the wind. "Ah can smell the heather." We asked him to do a reel, but he said it widna doo wi'oot a kilt. Even the weather was roused to fighting fury, and we all did a reel as the tent blew over on us. If it had not been for Tubbi, who served as ballast, it would have taken off altogether.

Swimming.—The swimming bath is now open and very much patronised by the W/T Detachment, which is not without a certain amount of talent. If you see something surging up the bath in a shower of foam, that will be Corpl Bartlett. If it bobs up and down at one end, it will be Sergt Ward having a rest. If you thought you saw the Loch Ness Monster, that would be Johnson. And if you don't see anything at all, that will be Franks: J.C. is trying to perfect his crawl. He crawls out of bed every morning at six, and crawls round the bath a few times. The exercise is good for him, but it gives him a terrible appetite which is causing the mess caterer a lot of uneasiness. Incidentally, the lads are all very fit and contented since the new mess caterer took over. But that is as it should be, seeing he is starving himself to give them plenty.

Sport.—Numerous games of hockey have been played this month, in spite of the heat. We have now a very good team and are able to hold our own against most teams whom we come up against, chiefly owing to Smith J. C., our latest in goalkeepers. He can hold them out all right so long as the barracking is not too severe. Hockey is good for everyone, but best for the barman, who generally succeeds in selling large quantities of beer after the matches. It is good beer as well! Corpl Bartlett was seen trying to pop an already popped bottle after only two pints.

Arrivals.—Sgnalman Fortes. More guff than ever now! No wonder the rest of the Hindubagh Detachment went to Loralai.

We had the pleasure of the company of Corporal Harries and Signalmen Jones, Beevers, Cooper and McKay for a while. They formed the maintenance party from Quetta. They were all very agreeable except Jones, who doesn't seem to have any taste in music. Corpl Harries has exceptional taste in this line; at least, he can recognise a singer.

Departures.—The line party left us for Loralai, where we hope they fared well. Corpl Francis, L/Corporal Howard and Sigmn Byrne also went to Loralai. Corpl Francis has returned. We hope the other two will be happy in their new abode.

Personal.—Buck Taylor wants to know if Biff is still on der tac?

BUXMITH—APOZAI.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

7th (M) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

Saturday 2nd June.

General.—At last the monsoon rains are here and the burning plains are mud flats once again. Our younger hands are suffering from their first dose of prickly heat. Some of the old sweats have it on, but they are quiet about it.

We regret that Sigmn Cashmore has had rather a close shave (shears all over) and we sincerely hope that the lads in Chakrata whom he will shortly meet will not be vulgar and call him Bacon Bonce.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Lynham C. on attaining that rank once more. Now, Syd, hold it and see how many marks you can put on the wall w.e.f.

We also congratulate Sigmn Donohoe T. on successfully passing his first—all subjects together. Our praise is extended to his efforts at growing creepers around the Section bungalow. I think he is set on making his mark before he leaves us this trooper.

P.T. by Werp is a permanent feature of our Section night life, but he is making good progress towards 16 inch biceps and a 48 inch chest. Wait until the Chakrata locals see him demonstrate the barra salaam.

Discord and Scandal.—Our peace is being broken by four budding musicians who are enthusiastic enough to make an unholy din for the greater part of each day. The offenders are Signalmen Cashmore (mandoline), George and Uncle Abdul (banjo?) and Skinner (with what is left of a uke).

Now a certain amount of jealousy exists between the last of these celebrities, because they are set on serenading the same hefty dusky maids who live in a shack close to the railway. You should hear them croon as they sit and strum with that dreamy look in their eyes. Why, it's so nice that even I have tore them one off at times.

Worthy of Note.—Mr. Busty Clavering, alias Uncle Abdul, informs us that mardi gras is a special kind of Indian wild grass.

By Country Mail.—I heard that Petrol Feet has not been ill whilst in Chakrata.

Brave Deed.—Syd is again congratulated on catching a loose wallah single handed, but our sympathy is with Sigmn Cashmore, who lost twelve chips.

True Modesty.—Ginger Bentley has asked me to publish this extract from the R.A. Journal "The Gunner," under the heading of 26th (M) Battery. (He mumbled that it would do some people's eyes good.) "..... all worked well at camp, and our Signal Section deserve special mention for the efficient way they kept communications going during manœuvres."

HEAP.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Friday 22nd June.

Awards.—His Majesty's Birthday Honours. Heartiest congratulations are offered to 1859054 Corporal Thomson H. M. on being awarded the Medal of the Empire for distinguished service during the Alwar disturbance. Well done, Spud!

Education.—Sigmn Frettingham awarded first class certificate of education with a "D" in maths. Corpl McDowall passed in maths, map reading and geography towards a first. Signalman Sneddon awarded second class certificate. Well done, you fellows!

Birth.—To Sigmn and Mrs. Giles, at Meerut on 8th June, a daughter.

Repatriations.—The boat list having been published for the 1934/35 season, one or two hearts are now all in a flutter.

Finale.—Here's to the next time (Henry Hall). PIP.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

General.—Here we are again, in the middle of individual training and the beginning of the monsoon, both of which are very beneficial in their respective ways.

I will start this month by saying that Captain S. J. Fielder has returned from Poona to take over the reins of the unit, and Lieutenants C. C. Worrall, S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan and D. N. Van der Goot are away enjoying the spices of leave.

Some time ago—I think, a year—I reported that the unit might have a radio-gram. At last it has arrived; at least, temporarily, and from—no, not from the place originally promised but from K Section. Sigmn Scrivener, our wireless fiend, possesses a powerful set, and it is him that we have to thank for some really good music and turning what at times resembles a mortuary into a very fine concert hall. A very successful dance was held recently, and the music was provided by the radio-gram. It is hoped to be able to report next month that we have had more.

The results of the education examination have just arrived. The percentage of men in the unit holding specials and firsts rises to 50.6, and it is safe to say that this will be considerably increased at the next examination. The following successful candidates are to be congratulated: Sigmn Holt on gaining his special. Corpl Watterton on getting maths and physics, Corpl Broom on getting French, and Signalman Johnson H. on getting physics—all towards their special. Sergt Fairman, Corpl Brown and Sigmn Gibbon on getting their firsts, while C.Q.M.S. Hore got maths, Sergt Tucker English and maths, Sigmn Constantine English and map reading, and Sigmn Williams geography (sharbash, sub admi.)

Sergt Daniell is due back from a tour of duty at the Army Signal School, Poona, where he has qualified for the "distinguished" assistant instructor's certificate.

Sigmn Johns is undergoing a course in the workshops of H.E.H. the Nizam's State Railway.

Sergeants Mess on Shikari.—Tense excitement prevailed here recently. Kong, a neighbouring monkey, had settled down to a life of quietude and contentment in the grounds of the Sergeants Mess, much to the consternation of the members. The local deadeyes decided to try their luck and rid the unit of this monster.

Our special correspondent went out the other night and mingled with the crowd—an admiring crowd, by the way, composed of four kiddies, umpteen chokras, many more kootahs, a couple of dhobi donkeys, and (last, but not least) our special correspondent.

Sad to relate, the party ran out of ammunition and had to revert to the primitive weapon, the catapult. Registering several hits and driving Kong into the trees, he curled himself in a fork and appeared to settle down for the night. Now and again, however, he turned over on the other side and possibly grunted whenever a "bull" was registered.

In an interview afterwards, our special correspondent was told that the shikari wallahs owed their accuracy to their knowledge of the fundamental principles of ancient weapon training; but judging by the number of times the big game hunters "nipped in for a quick one," I suspected otherwise.

Night came on (it usually does, out here), Kong slept on, and the tired but happy band retired into the mess in search of somethiag less elusive.

Stop Press: Kong takes the Count.—The following morning, the chase again commenced. This time a member of the junior Mess joined in the fray. (Quite likely a medal will be struck specially for him—outsize, I'm afraid, to fit on that manly chest.)

Calling in at the married quarters for an early morning cup of tea, our elusive friend Kong played "chase me, I'm a cripple" amongst the flora. He was eventually patted on the sap by L/Corpl Small, the aforementioned member of the Mess (Aldershot papers, please copy) with a chota bit of lakhri which, I think, gave it a slight headache. After playing about like this for ten minutes, contact was made between the said bit of wood and the left ear of Kong. This must have been the knock-out. In any case, he had very little, or rather, no more to say in the matter, but lay outstretched for one and all to gaze upon.

Readers may wonder why he led such a "dog's life," but he only bit six people, and the medical authorities ordered the shooting of him, which seemed easier said than done, seeing that no ammunition was available (?) However, it has given me something to write about and bore readers.

The following glossary is added by request. The Indian names are spelt as pronounced. Chokras=small Indian boys. Kootahs =dogs, piehards and otherwise. Dhobi=surely you don't need to be told this one! Shikari wallahs=game killers or hunters. Chota=small. Lakhri=wood.

Things We Cannot Help Smiling At.—(1) Station Order No. ..... "The lines of the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop will in future be known as 'Mercury Lines.'" Do the Indian ranks appreciate this honour?

(2) "The Regimental Orderly Sergeant will sleep in the Junior N.C.O.s Mess." We have known occasions (way back) when certain junior n.c.o.s would very much have liked to sleep there instead of going home, but what about the dignity of the Mess?

(3) Chief subject in the same Mess: "And it weighs 9 lbs.—just like its daddy." Oh, those air mail letters!

Financial.—The Weekly Budget ("Jerusalem the Golden").

Tailpiece.—That old school tie again!

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Monday 11th June.

General.—A very uninspiring month has just elapsed, leaving this particular WIRE correspondent with the same feeling as editors of newspapers have when there is no murder trial on.

My chief purveyor of sensational news, "our John," has lost all his dash owing to the extreme heat, his only exploit being the purchase of a very reasonable gramophone and equally reasonable records (except for two of the yodelling variety). Even the introduction of a bald headed canary, which has the distinction of coming all the way from Bombay, failed to shake off the feeling of inertia which pervades the place. No doubt, the coming of the rains will do the trick and restore things to normal.

The heroes of the hot weather, the first class students, gained a welcome respite when the schoolmaster went on leave for a month, and hope to continue their studies under more favourable climatic conditions.

The King's Birthday parade was held on the racecourse, as usual, and we were represented by a small detachment who formed part of 15th Field Brigade R.A. Headquarters. Everything passed off in a most satisfactory manner, and the appearance of our cable wagon gained many favourable comments.

The Nerbudda Vale Hunt held their handy hunter competitions this week. We had several entries, but unfortunately none of them finished in the first three—a very unusual happening, as we generally win this event. Sergt Penfold had a very good round, and it came as a surprise to us when the result was announced and he was unplaced. Congratulations to Sergt. Green of the S.T.C., who gained second place with a splendid round.

Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy has left us for two months leave, and in his absence Lieut. J. A. Norman, R.A., is carrying out the duties of O.C. Section.

Congratulations to L/Corpls Saunders and Sweet, No. 3 Company 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot, on being promoted, extending their service, and dodging the boat so long. If you can hang on until early in 1936, I'll be back with you, Alfie, so keep the blue overcoat in good condition.

To dole dodger George, 4th Div. Trim.: Reference the extension, I was surprised. Have petrol shares fallen so low? When can I expect the " five spot "? N.H.D.

HANK.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Sergeants Mess.

An event of historical importance occurred on the 11th June, when—for the first time—the monthly Mess meeting was presided over by a regimental sergeant-major. This honour fell to R.S.M. Dorrington, who is thus the first warrant officer (cl. i.) of the Royal Corps of Signals to serve in Egypt. At this meeting the members welcomed new arrivals from home in R.S.M. Dorrington, R.Q.M.S. Smart and C.Q.M.S. Kendall.

Our entertaining season is getting into its stride in the capable hands of Sergt Wintermere and his committee. The Corporals have been entertained to a games tourney, which commenced with tennis in the afternoon and ended—well, somewhere near midnight. The R.H.A. Sergeants have also paid us a visit, the result of this being decided by a toss-up between the respective R.S.M.s. In both meetings, darts and draughts seemed most popular, for almost everyone left the o and d out of board for a draught—*very* clear, no doubt.

A small dance is taking place on the 14th July, to be followed by a larger affair in the near future—of which you will read further in our August notes.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Monday 2nd July.

Once upon a Time, or VE.—When these notes appear in print, my readers will be exclaiming " Ye gods!" " Great Scott!" and " Crumbs, O.B.!" and other forceful expressions that befit the college men of the Corps, at the length of these notes. Others who are more matter of fact will possibly say that I have had a night out.

More has happened this month in this one-hoss town than any other month since Waterloo. Our usual excitement here is a dog fight or something after that style.

Trade Boards.—Congratulations to Sigmn Samworth E. on rising to the dizzy heights of B.ii. on 22/6/34.

Promotion.—Sigmn Hartley F. appointed U/L/Corporal.

Musketry.—We fired our annual course on the 20th and 21st June, and maintained a good average. Out of twenty-nine other ranks, twenty-five were first class shots, and we had only four second class.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Hartley on attaining Troop shot with a score of 78 points. Several people have gone from bad seconds to good firsts. Great credit is due to these people for a good show.

The 12th Royal Lancers hold competition shoots every Wednesday, for which we are eligible to enter. We managed to win last Wednesday's shoot (the twenty-first) which wasn't too bad for us.

Summer Break Period.—We are indulging in this period now, and it is very welcome to most of us. The 12th Royal Lancers send their various Squadrons to every point of the compass, and as wireless communication is essential one of our W/T Leylands accompanies each Squadron on these trips, leaving one car in barracks to perform the duties of C/stn.

No. 4 Detachment, under Corpl Neal G., left here with C Squadron on the 22nd June on a four days return trip to Deversoir on the Great Bitter Lake. No. 3 Detachment, under L/Cpl Fielding, left with B Squadron on the 26th for that Mecca of delight, Alexandria, later meeting and waging war on A Squadron —both Squadrons then proceeding to Mersa Matruh for a sojourn there for a few days. No. 2 Detachment, under Corpl Shaddick A., left for Mersa Matruh with A Squadron on the 29th; and Nos. 1 and 5 Detachments, under Corporal Neal G., left with R.H.Q. Squadron for Berg-el-Arab. A detailed account of these trips will appear in next month's chapter.

Second Upgrading Course.—This commences immediately after the summer break. Loud groans and moans are the order of the day. I was taking a course of Pelmanism, but as time has flown rather quickly all thoughts of any courses have been expelled from my brain box.

Departures.—Our O.C., Lieut. M. G. A. Hepper, went on leave to U.K. on 18/6/34. No danger of dry rot in that glorious country, sir. During his absence, Lieut. D. A. L. Dwyer from Egypt Signals keeps a fatherly (?) eye on us.

Agonies.—To WIRE scribe, F Troop, Tidworth: When does your tour out here commence? Organise your spies and espionage service, and transmit results through these columns, calling SU I JL. I shall hear you. WIRE Scribe, G Troop.

To Sigmn Parkes, late 45 Squad (way back in '32): Wot abaht a line? Sigmn Knight.

To Sergt Guile: Congratters on the promotion. From the Troop and Mick.

Conclusion.—Colos.

PAT.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

General.—On Saturday 9th June we held our monthly all ranks dance in the Institute. It was enjoyed by a large attendance and was quite a success.

We have invited fifteen members of H.M.S. *Resource* to spend three days leave with us, from approximately the 9th to the 12th July. Further news of this will be seen in the next issue of notes.

Arrivals and departures are nil, but I know of some departures that are being awaited with a certain amount of eagerness on the part of those due for the U.K. in the forthcoming trooper.

Sports notes will be found in the usual pages of this issue.

Personal.—To Boniface, 5th Div.: Congrats, Bonny. It must be given for your valuable work at clipping! Ex-5 Divite.

HALF-GREASE.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 8th June.

General.—Nothing of importance has occurred this last month. Even the weather has remained the same, for which we are duly thankful. According to the papers, it is many years since Hong Kong has had such a cool May. However, no one is grumbling as it is quite warm enough for bathing.

The trek to Tai Wan has started again, though the Sunday morning crowd has been greatly reduced by church parades. There seems to be some controversy as to which does us the most good: the church or the beach, but I admit there's not a great deal of argument. Bathing parades are again a popular Wednesday morning fixture.

Sport during May was practically at a standstill. We played hockey once, but found it far too hot, so decided to lay off until about August.

A Section doubles tournament was held, and L/Corpl Funnell and Sigmn Lomax beat Signalmen Whitehead and Cord in the final.

Sigmn Cord played for the Hong Kong Football Association on two occasions. The first was against the Japanese Far Eastern

Olympic team, when Hong Kong won by 3—2; and the second was against the Chinese Olympic team, Hong Kong winning by 3—0. On the latter occasion Cord played the game of his life. I heard the wireless commentary, and the announcer made some glowing tributes. The following is an extract from *The Hong Kong Telegraph*.

" CORD'S GOALKEEPING.—Cord's goalkeeping for the winners was not only brilliant enough to bring the huge crowd to its feet time and time again, but it also drew complimentary remarks from Mr. M. K. Lo at the presentation following the game. Several times Cord appeared to be taking extraordinary risks, and on the face of it might have been described as lucky to get away with his clearances. Nevertheless, it was noticeable that his timing was faultless, and that whether under the bar or several yards in front of his citadel, he was absolutely confident . . . . Quite apart from the display of Cord in goal, which has not been equalled in the last eight months. . . ."

Leave.—The holiday bungalow at Cheung Chau is a great success, and everyone wants another week. Of course, with the dollar at 1/6, only the Tai Pans can afford that. The actual cost of messing, etc., is very low, but there's a book up there wherein one signs for beer, etc. It's easier to sign than to pay cash, and consequently nearly everyone goes " haywire." It's a good idea, though. You have your holiday free from worry, the bill is presented a few days after you return—*then* the worry starts.

Cheung Chau is a swell spot for a holiday. The island is about two miles long, and has one or two nice beaches. Everyone goes for a swim before breakfast; that is, the first day. After that, something else seems to have a big pull.

The food is wonderful. I'm sure of one Chinese who'll go to heaven!



While walking to the beach one day, four of the chaps were surprised to see a snake slither across the path. (No, it wasn't him; he was back in barracks.) They immediately fixed it, and after taking a photo it was dumped, as the smell was a trifle high. The snake was roughly 6 ft. 6 in. long, and a resident said it was the longest he'd seen on the island. I'm enclosing a snap, as I suppose some people who read this will have heard these snake yarns before. In case of doubt, the snake is in the middle of the group. It was rumoured that a certain person in these barracks had gone into mourning over this affair, but don't take this as official; I can't vouch for it.

I feel sure everyone has enjoyed the trip so far, and there are four more parties to go up yet. If some kind person had broken the gramophone record of " Come up and see me some time," I'd have enjoyed my trip better.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Chaffey on his appointment; also to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) West on his Medal of the Empire.

This is the lot for this month, so I will close down. Till next time,

MATA HARI.

Malta Signal Section, Valletta.

Command Signal Office, 30th June.

General.—Although notes have been on the missing list for the last few months, we are by no means dead. The Malta Signal Section is still in existence (very much so) and bearing up well under the conditions. A great many events are to be recorded, and I will try to give all the news for those interested in Malta.

The Trail.—Since the 1st January this year, the following have been congratulated and mentioned in despatches.

Congratulations went first to Corpl Keywood F. C., whose wife presented him with a daughter on the 11th March. Busty went bust that week-end, and Farsons were called upon to produce some of their reserve stock of the famous " blue." Sigmn Baker, please note.

The following were mentioned on the 14th March for passing in the trade tests as shown. Sigmn Attewell S. to lineman group C cl. ii. and Driver Thornhill J. to lineman group E. It is a pity that the former is now time-ex, as he will hardly see the difference on the A.F.N. 1510.

On the 1st May L/Corpl Stretch G. G. left for U.K. per the *Lancashire*. We wish him all the very best, and may good luck be always with him. Since he left we have heard that A Corps Signals was his final destination. We have one or two ex-A Corps Signals with us, and by all accounts A Corps will suit him admirably.

Then came the first class certificate of education examination. Signalmen Eccles K. and Summerfield J. passed in English. This leaves both with only one subject to get to complete the first itself. All the best next time!

On the 20th May we congratulated our Foreman-of-Signals (Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R., M.B.E.) on his wife presenting him with a daughter. Ann Patricia has since, I hear, taken the place of the notice " No. 1, 6 a.m. daily." Congratulations, sir.

Congratulations also went to Captain D. R. Paterson, who was gazetted to that rank on the 31st January.

Combined Operations.—These exciting days and nights were the 12th/13th June. The scheme was successful from our point of view, and the communications were kept to a high standard throughout. Our O.C. (Captain R. Sutton-Pratt) with the Foreman-of-Signals (Q.M.S. Flynn) made visits to the exchanges and look-outs in the manœuvre area and found all correct. I really know little about it as I was hardly in it, but Sergt Callegari told me it was great. Many miles were trekked in the days prior to the operations, and he certainly was brown (or " browned," did he say?) Anyway, the Corps kept the flag flying and those who took part are to be congratulated.

The Desert Calls.—On the 2nd May Captain D. R. Paterson left us for a little trip by car across the Northern Sahara and thence through Spain to England. He has now arrived safely, and we congratulate him on making such a splendid trip. The Ford must certainly have been fed on dates and cocoanuts to do it! We are wondering if the work of Corpl Keywood got bent at all.

Cruises.—Sigmn Grace D. has just left us on H.M.S. *Resource* for a cruise round the Mediterranean. This lasts for about eight weeks, and though perhaps not quite so interesting as the second part of the summer cruise, a few interesting places are visited. Somebody called it the " Mediterranean booze," which statement I really can't vouch for. There are no bus stops in the Med.!

Nuts and Wine.—The time-ex list has now a total of three. Signalmen Loveday, Lyons and Attewell will strengthen the Army Reserve. Sigmn Revill is thinking about it, and if he does " go out " there will be four.

Sigmn Attewell is going to apply for a bus conductor's job, and Sigmn Loveday as an assistant in a leading hairdresser's in Oxford. Sigmn Lyons has applied for the next vacancy as the Monster's keeper at Loch Ness. As I said, Sigmn Revill is still undecided whether to go down the mine or stay on top.

The tour-expired this season are Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R. M.B.E., Sergt Callegari F. C. and Corpl Ient. What a change over! Ex-Malta Sectionites, please note.

The Outing.—This year the outing with No. 32 (T) Company R.A.S.C. was held early. Owing to the departure of their popular O.C., Captain A. R. Smith, M.C., R.A.S.C., the committee applied for it to be held in June prior to his leaving. Everyone had a splendid day. The Malta Signal Section only lost the relay because Tishy crossed his legs. The same Sigmn Williams lost a challenge match by crossing them the other way.

Information.—Next month I hope to be able to give a little information about this Island for the benefit of those who will be coming here the next trooping season.

Stop Press.—Who is the D.R. lineman who numbered his combination "C.2319024"? FANNY.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 8th July.

The annual musketry is over (for the majority of the Section) and, no doubt, those men who fired are feeling very pleased at the high average obtained. Sigmn Taylor was top scorer with 80 points, and the average for the Section was 68.2. Corporal Hayden's squad, with an average of 72, has the distinction of being at the top for the time being, and it behoves the casuals who fire in September to shoot well, to keep up the high standard set and not let their squads down.

The married families outing took place on the 12th June, and a very enjoyable day was spent at First River.

The annual Section outing to Sandy Bay was held on the 23rd June, and all who took part voted that the change from visiting a large town was a great success. It is anticipated that future Section outings will be held on similar lines.

We have had a four-day visit from two French cruisers and six destroyers. Elaborate arrangements were made in the Garrison for their entertainment, and on the evening before sailing they entertained a number of warrant officers and senior n.c.o.s of the Garrison. From the very cheerful atmosphere which prevailed, it would appear that the French naval ratings had thoroughly enjoyed their stay in Gibraltar.

On the 18th June Sergt Rankin and his family left us for three months furlough in the United Kingdom. We hope that they will have a very enjoyable holiday.

HOME STATIONS—*Continued from page 351*

G Artillery Signal Section, Catterick Camp—*continued.*

It may be of interest to note that Brigade schemes during this week were held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, when approximately sixty miles were covered. On Thursday the march from Redesdale to Catterick was commenced: this distance was ninety miles. The total mileage therefore works out at 150 miles, covered in five and a half days. It speaks well for the horses and the trouble taken to get them fit while at Newcastle. The Section have requested that the old recruiting slogan "Join the Army and see the world" should be altered to "Join the Signals and ride round it."

Our thanks are due to No. 3 Artillery Signal Section for their co-operation in providing transport for kits, etc.

Whispers.—The Section are well represented for service in foreign climes. Many are sweating. We hope they will not be disappointed. As these are only preliminary warnings, however, it would not be fair to publish names at present; but watch our later notes for some surprises. BACHY GEE.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Ballykinler Camp.—We set forth for training amidst the rain, but we have been very lucky to have good weather for the schemes, and it is hoped it will remain so for a further month. Captain Jones has arrived from the Forts to take over command of the skeleton Company at headquarters.

Stations at Armagh and Omagh came in for Brigade training. Rather a contrast, from a 120 watt set to an A pack set. We wonder why it is called "A" set? there are numerous other appellations that seem more fitting. On the third scheme there was a lively interval. Our check, collecting paper around the signal office, discovered a gorse fire (at least, that is his version) and we had a lively hour in trying to put it out. Luckily no damage was done, and we returned to camp thoroughly exhausted. We hope there won't be a recurrence, as it is no joke to be surrounded by flames.

Education.—Signalmen Morrison and Hall obtained their seconds at the last examination. Congratulations! Now let's have your firsts.

Marriage—Unofficially, we believe Sigmn Hale went into "that ideal state of man" on his last leave. Confirmation please, Tubby, and congratulations. The best of luck!

Odds.—Under L/Sergt Betts the linemen have been doing much work, having erected a permanent route at Kinnegar and wired up for the N.I.D. shoot. We cannot give them all the credit for the latter, as the operators and D.R.s also helped. What's that beloved name we hear: Cas. . .? Funny how one forgets at times!

Draft.—Sigmn Lee has been provisionally warned for Egypt.

Inter-Section Moves.—L/Corpl Clarke from Dunree to Ballykinler. L/Corpls Lowday and Maguire and Signalmen Hedley, Costello and Jones to Helen's Bay for temporary duty with the R.A. (T.A.).

We Would Like to Know.—Who was the operator who thought the spark gap cleaner on the 120 watt was for sharpening pencils? Who called the 7+3 by a new name?

Post.—K.H.: How's the poor feet? Mick. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Potts: Which unit has been lucky? Maguire. Ex-Sigmn Pfaff (late 2nd Indian Divl Signals): Lost your address. Promise to write to you or any of the old gang on receipt of addresses. Am feeling out of it. Speedy. HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, Co. Cork, 11th July.

Provisional warnings for abroad have started to arrive, and C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) White A. finds himself going back to his old station in Jamaica which he left in 1931. Sigmn Dove J. W. (Lofty) after fourteen years at home, including about seven at Spike Island, is going to China; and Sigmn O'Sullivan D. is for Egypt.

Musketry this year was not quite up to the standard of the past two years, but for all that, the average for nineteen at Spike Island was 67, with two top scorers (Corpl Richardson G. W. and L/Corpl Wright F.) at 82 each. The detachment of five at Bere Island, who fired on an open range with R.A.S.C. officers supervising (Bere's excuse) scraped up an average of 45. Spike Island got fifteen first and four second class shots, whilst Bere Island managed one first, three second, and one third class.

We have not seen any new faces or lost any old ones, but rumour has it that Sigmn Turner, who left for the Reserve in August 1932 and is now serving again at Dover (I told him he would have to work in civvy street) may come back here.

There is very little to report in the sports section, cricket being the only game played. L/Corpl Spong, Sigmn Richardson and Sigmn Osborne (our demon bowler) are playing for Headquarters 2nd Heavy Brigade R.A. in the Garrison League.

Jim Crow would like to know if Pip Brewster still gets his pomelo and beer, and if this is the stuff that makes boxing protégées so "willing." LANKA MK. IV.

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on page 330 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

- - THE "TERRIERS." - -

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

The new heating apparatus has been completed and, judging from the tests which have been made, the innovation will make our headquarters much more comfortable next winter. A new floor will be provided for the drill hall while the unit is at camp in August. With these and other smaller alterations to headquarters, it will be possible to make our winter programmes of work and social events much more attractive. Our best thanks are due to Colonel H. M. Pryce Jones, D.S.O., M.V.O., M.C. (Territorial Army and Air Force Association, County of London) for his great help in dealing with these matters.

The Trade Board arrangements are now completed, and we wish those who are to be tested every success.

Full preparations are in hand for annual training at Manston Aerodrome from the 12th to 26th August, and it only remains for the weather clerk to provide the right type of weather in order to ensure an interesting and happy camp.

All members of the unit will be pleased to learn that Captain Boggis has recently passed his promotion examination. Our congratulations. What with the Royal Tournament, the Air Force Display, and promotion classes, it must have been a busy life! H.S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—News from the Companies is scant this month—no doubt, owing to pressure of business in the various departments relative to the imminent departure for camp.

Cranborne is a new spot for us, but we anticipate as good a time, if not a better one than we have had at preceding camps.

Employers in the main are giving of their best: that is, they are releasing men readily for the training and seem very sympathetic generally when interviewed on the subject, which speaks volumes for the personal touch.

Congratulations to Mr. C. G. H. Govier on obtaining his second pip.

We hope the first three officers from this unit to avail themselves of the course at the Academy will be having a first rate time, and find the course of great benefit to them in their subsequent service in this unit. MERCURY.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

Sunday 8th July—chosen for a combined Territorial church parade—gave the Company a chance to "show itself" to the public of Plymouth, and it had every reason to be satisfied with its performance. It was a beautiful day, and after the service in St. Andrew's Church the Guildhall Square provided an appropriate setting for the inspection and march past. In numbers, turn out and drill, the Signals compared more than favourably with the other units, and fifty who attended from the Company made a fine impression.

We are now generally suffering from those pre-camp blues. The training programme is practically finished, and we are ready to be "up and at 'em"; but meanwhile we are bothered with those minor worries which are so irritating reference personnel, stores and equipment. However, here's to the 29th and a good camp!

Mr. G. K. S. Edwards of this Company is away on the newly arranged course at the Academy, Woolwich. We are delighted to know that in addition to the course, he is attending camp for the full period. THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—We must first of all apologise for being "absent from parade" last month. As a matter of fact, we—but, there, what's the good of making excuses? You wouldn't believe us.

However, Section training is still going on apace. Camp is in the offing, and each Section is clearing decks for action, as it were. Each wagon is becoming a thing of beauty. What with the Rolls Royce coach paint work, chromium plated parts, and the buffed and burnished brass work, they are painful to look at in the sunlight; and it wouldn't surprise us very much if they wanted to plate the tyres, too! Really, an issue of anti-glare glasses is indicated. Still, it's very nice to see such enthusiasm among the troops, and we feel sure the considerable amount of extra time and labour put in on these wagons and fixtures is greatly appreciated by those who "only stand and wonder."

By the time these notes appear in print, we shall be nearing the end of our 1934 annual training at Colchester. We are hoping for an even better camp this year than before, but we are doubtful if we shall surpass last year's for its scenic setting.

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies spent a very useful and enjoyable week-end training at Chertsey on the 7th/8th July. About seventy officers and other ranks took part in a small signal scheme by the two Companies and in practising signal work generally. The work was good, and in spite of the extremely hot weather it was carried out with considerable keenness on the part of all concerned. We were better off this time in regard to transport—better vehicles and better drivers—but how very much better it would be if we could have our own pukka military transport. To see our glittering wagons being towed by odd types of lorries, mostly bearing advertisements of some commodity, reminds us of a coast town hospital carnival.

It is a pleasure to note that the D.R. Section is now a real live one and doing a bit of useful work.

We regret to report two casualties among the D.R. personnel and attached. Sergt Long, in apparently endeavouring to vault over an Austin Seven, made a faulty take off and crashed. The nose of his sidecar and the tail of the car received minor damage, but both were able to proceed under their own power; true, the front wheel of the motor cycle was a bit shaky! The other case was that of a D.R. who tried to miss a small boulder and hit another which bowled him over. His machine was damaged, but the rider was only shaken.

Officers.—The monthly dinner was held on the 5th July, and we were delighted to have with us Lt.-Col. R. E. Barker, Major R. Jee, M.C., Captain R. H. R. Steward, M.C., and 2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon, of the 1st Divisional Signals. We hope they spent a pleasant evening and arrived home safely.

The visit of officers from our parent unit is always looked forward to with great keenness, not only that we may show them our mess but because we appreciate the valuable help they give us in our training. We try in a small way to show this appreciation when they pay their annual visit to Fulham House. In addition to the officers mentioned, there were a number of other guests, making a total of thirty-two who dined.

We extend a warm welcome to 2/Lieutenants L. F. W. Salmon and W. H. Sansom, who have recently been gazetted to this unit.

Our second-in-command, Major C L. H. Humphreys, will unfortunately be unable to attend camp this year as he is in Africa. This is a great loss to the unit from every point of view, and certainly his cheery personality will be missed in the Mess.

Sergeants Mess.—The battle for the Murphy snooker cup has been fought—and lost, so far as we are concerned, any way. After a hard struggle the 25th Cyclists Old Comrades Association won it.

At present another "do" is on for a billiards shield, kindly presented by C.Q.M.S. Elms for competition among the past and present Mess members.

It is hoped to present both these trophies on the occasion of a Mess smoking concert which is scheduled to take place on the 21st July.

We congratulate and welcome among us Corpl Craig on his appointment as Lance-Sergeant, and hope he will be happy with us.

We are also very pleased to learn that R.S.M. Thomas S. and Sergt (Tiny) Joyce, D.C.M., have been granted an extension of their time with us.

We tender our hearty congratulations to R.S.M. Thomas S. on being awarded his roti medal ; to Sergt White G. E. F. (T.A.) and L/Corpl Davidson W. T. (S.R.) on being awarded the Territorial efficiency medal ; and to Corpl Rickwood E. and Sigmn Digman W. H. (both S.R.) on being awarded the Militia efficiency medal.

Speaking of medals, can any one enlighten us as to the penalty for a fellow who parades with his roti gong ribbon in front of those of his war medals? Drinks all round, I think, would meet the case. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

By the time these notes appear, we shall be happily installed on Bulford Fields. If the weather holds out as it is at present, the prospect is indeed a very pleasant camp for us. There will perhaps be the inconvenience of shortage of water to anticipate, but after all, we are only there for a fortnight, and so long as it is only the H_2O that is scarce, all may yet be well. We are looking forward to meeting once again our old friends of our parent unit, the 3rd Divisional Signals.

There is not much news to report, Company scribes having as usual defaulted with their contributions. (By the way, who exactly are they?) We are of course very busy with preparations for camp, and there is not much time left.

Week-end camps were held by the Companies for three successive weeks in June, and all took place as usual near Earlswood Lakes. Nos. 1 and 2 Companies both struck lucky for weather and came back well scorched by the sun. No. 3 Company had a repetition of their bad luck of last year, as it rained hard practically the whole time and the canvas had to be struck and brought into barracks for drying.

Everyone will be sorry to hear that Sergt Wilkinson J. F. will not be able to be with us this year. He had an unfortunate accident whilst motor cycling, resulting in a serious injury to his foot, and is at present in hospital. This, we know, is a terrible disappointment to him, and for our part we shall greatly miss his company and his services. Who will get the M.T. Section up in the mornings? We wish him a speedy recovery, and shall expect to see him up and about by the time we come back.

We apologise for our notes being short and sweet this month. There will be lots to report next time. GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

General.—Another month of activity in all directions. The moth balls have been shaken out of the regimental trumpets, and the oil engine electricity generator has once again sent its chugging voice echoing across the drill ground, making the recruits (or, to use the new term, freshmen) at rifle drill imagine they are under fire. In other words, the final touches are being put on all and sundry, ready for annual camp on the 5th August. Even our sedate old canteen governor, Corpl Benny Lee, has lately assumed a degree of youth and sprightliness thought by many to be long extinct. It's t'camp spirit i' t'air, lads.

Training.—The biggest event during the month was No. 1 Company's week-end camp at Arthington on the 16th/17th June. There was a fair attendance, and in grand weather the scheme was very enjoyable. It took the form of an attack by the Northland troops (which included the 49th Division) against a Southland enemy, and judging from the moves forward Northland did pretty well. At any rate, that State suffered no casualties, and in the post-mortem report on the action, general satisfaction was expressed. Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate (C.S.O. Northern Command) together with Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O.) closely watched the exercise. Incidentally, the new permanently wired signal office trailer of D Section was tried out on that occasion. It looks rather like a caravan and is drawn behind a motor vehicle, but, subject to a few minor alterations, promises to be a great success. The W/T Section also held a Sunday exercise, No. 2 Company had a week-end under canvas, and on the 14th/15th July No. 1 Company will wind up the pre-camp programme with a week-end exercise.

Drinking Song.—"Where my caravan has rested," or alternatively, " There's a long long trailer winding."

" London Gazette " Announcement.—Lieut. J. R. Sutcliffe, Supplementary Reserve, to be Captain w.e.f. 20/4/34.

Medal Award.—Sigmn Greenfield H. of the S.R. has been awarded the efficiency medal for twelve years service in the Militia or S.R. That's the stuff. Now, what about a bar or two?

Birth.—Yet more S.R. news. To L/Sergt Ashby W. H. a daughter, at Leeds, on 17/3/34. Well, you know, you *would* run those canteen raffles, Sarge, and now.. . . . . .

Marriages.—Nil at present. But there are rumours of activity in some quarters.

Death.—It is with great regret that we record the untimely death of Sigmn Orchard J. of the S.R., as the result of an accident while following his civilian employment. He was buried with military honours on Tuesday 3rd July.

True Story.—Date, 14th June. Scene, drill ground (Company C.O. inspecting the Cable Section just before scheme). C.O.: " Where are your pliers?" Cableman (looking intelligent): "Wot's them, sir?" Hastily reminded that they were pincers, a light of understanding came over the careworn line layer's phiz, and with a cheery " 'Aven't none, sir," he smiled again. Cæsar would have said, "Pro bono publico, have him shot."

Poem.—This " encouragement to young lads " is anonymous. Perhaps it's as well that it is!

We're out on the open road, lads,
And miles from the nearest inn.
The cablemen say the line's laid,
But to call it a line is a sin.

The phone is as dead as Lord Nelson,
The wireless cannot get through,
The D.R.s are lost, and the V/T's a frost,
And the counter clerk's nothing to do.

But don't sit and sigh on a pannier,
Or scream, or get angry or sore ;
Do summat to square up the tangle—
If you don't, you'll not win the war.

Remember, it's " Never say die," lads—
You must get Brigade or H.Q. ;
If you stay isolated and dream, lads,
The G.B.'ll never come through.

Men have been hanged for better efforts than that!

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—The past month has been a very busy one for the unit in general. Annual training this year was spent at Scarborough, from which we have just returned, having had a good time both in work and in play. We were camped on our usual spot, the old race course, which is two and a half miles out of Scarborough and up a lovely old hill (which is all right when you are walking down it). The weather clerk was very kind to us during the first week, there being a plentiful supply of sunshine, but not so good the second ; but we cannot grumble on the whole.

The unit was inspected on the first Tuesday in camp by the G.O.C., Major-General L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, C.B., D.S.O., who was favourably impressed by the bearing and turn out of the men.

After the G.O.C.'s inspection, the first of the unit cups was competed for, namely the Jennings cup (cleanest man). This was won by Sigmn Garthwaite, who was turned inside out by Captain P. Jennings, M.C., before he awarded him the cup.

The MacLeod cup (recruits squad) was taken from us by one tenth of a point by No. 3 (Gateshead) Company. A jolly good tussle, this.

Breaking away from cup competitions for the moment—we will refer to them again shortly—I must relate some general aspects of the training. I cannot pass without referring to the college held in camp. This was a signal school for all recruits plus despatch riders. Under the able mastership of C.S.M. Battersby this made excellent progress, and I am given to understand that this was one of the successes of the camp. Of course, I must also compliment C.S.M. Battersby's very able assistants, C.S.M.s Washford and Devey, who rendered admirable service.

The unit signal scheme was held during the first week, and the Divisional exercise in the second. These were successful and were thoroughly enjoyed.

The camp this year has been more or less a farewell celebration, as Captain and Adjutant W. H. N. Dent, M.B.E., R.S.M. Williams, and C.S.M.s Battersby and Washford are due for departure after this annual training. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new spheres of life.

A very keen competition was seen this year, being the first time held for guard mounting, which brought into the final L and E Sections. A special parade was held to decide the winners, and success eventually fell to the lot of E Section. The guard consisted of Corporal Craggs J. (now joined the Regular Army) and Signalmen Thornton, Chester and Knowles. This guard was highly complimented by the adjutant for their excellent turn out.

The Bagnall cup was again won by this Company, with a possible number of points.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to R.S.M. Williams on his departure from the unit with which he had the good fortune to be so long ; also to C.S.M. Battersby, who is shortly leaving us to take up a job in civilian life. To Corpl Craggs J. we offer our sincere wishes for a very successful future in the Royal Corps of Signals at Catterick.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sigmn Claxton A. on his appointment as A/U/L/Corpl. The best of luck, Darkie!

Arrivals.—We extend to C.S.M. Bevan a hearty welcome on his arrival to take up the duties vacated by R.S.M. Williams. We hope his stay with us will be long and happy, and assure him of our best support. (Boys will be boys.)

Training.—After a slight break from camp, we are looking forward to winter training, which we all enjoy. MIDBRO.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Worthy Wilson.—Thirty years and still going strong! We refer to that Territorial stalwart, C.Q.M.S. Wilson Maxwell, who has devoted the best part of his life to the Volunteer and Territorial movements. He has held various ranks with distinction, and has fulfilled many offices in connection with our unit's organizations. A long and useful war career did not damp Wilson's enthusiasm. He is as keen and as willing as ever to put his shoulder to the wheel. Dame Fortune has not always smiled on Wilson. He has experienced more setbacks in life than most men. But his journey along the rough road has undoubtedly contributed to the moulding of a splendid character in one who is an outstanding credit to the Territorial cause.

One of Ourselves.—We extend our belated congratulations to L/Corpl McNeil of A Corps Signals on his promotion to that rank. This bright lad is a son of our own Sergt-Major McNeil J., and served for some time with our S.R. units prior to enlisting in the Regular Army. We predict great things for this promising young man. During his sojourn with us, L/Corpl McNeil impressed his superiors with his intelligence and capacity for hard work, and we feel certain that his first promotion is a forerunner to a successful career in the Corps.

Dundonald Days.—No. 3 T.A. Company's two days (16th/17th June) at Dundonald were indeed happy ones. Glorious weather, first class arrangements, and the beauty of the Land o' Burns all contributed to ideal training conditions. Much good work was done, for this miniature holiday certainly combined business with pleasure.

Master Mason.—Congratulations to Sergt Mason G. and his good lady on the birth of a son. May young Mason be a chip of the old stone and a worthy son of a worthy father whose outstanding educational attainments have already been described in THE WIRE.

Shylocks Supplemented.—Yet another addition to the ranks of the Ravens! We congratulate Sergt Marshall A. on his elevation to A/C.Q.M.S. We feel certain that he is possessed of all the attributes which go to make the super-man and quarter bloke.

First Timers.—Lieut. Campbell of No. 2 Company Railway Telegraphs, Scottish Detachment, informs us that the Detachment have thoroughly enjoyed their training season with us. Splendid results have been achieved. Training has been concentrated on lectures and technical instruction. Our relations with our railway comrades continue to be most cordial. It gives us pleasure to record, for the first time in THE WIRE, notes relating to this Detachment.

Popular Promotion.—Our heartiest congratulations to Major G. W. Cumming (of the S.R. units) on his advancement. This promotion has given keen satisfaction to all ranks of the S.R. in Glasgow.

Honorary Colonel.—The announcement that Sir Harry Duncan McGowan, K.B.E., has been appointed honorary colonel of our units is of first rate importance. There are few names so well known in the industrial world as Sir Harry's. It is indeed difficult for us to realise our good fortune. The association of this most distinguished gentleman with our units can only be productive of much good, and under his influence we hope to go from success to success.

A Good Friend.—It is with deep regret that we say goodbye to our retiring honorary colonel, Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G. We are most grateful for all that he has done for us. His interest in our units has been unfailing, and his efforts have been at all times directed to help us. It will be sufficient reward to Brigadier-General Godfrey-Faussett to know that during his term of office we have indeed prospered.

Lowland Lyrics.—We are proud of our record. We do not seek to hide our light under a bushel. We think the following facts are well worth recording in THE WIRE.

The late Lord Kitchener of Khartoum was our honorary colonel from 1902 until his death.

The crown of the shooting world, the Queen's Prize, was won by Sergt Reid in 1888 when we were under the R.E. régime.

The Village Grocer.—He has sliced our bread for many moons and at many camps. He has cut our cheese and patted our butter. He is a bit of a grocer and a bit of a grouser. His home is the ration tent. His arms are not brawny, and his coat is white. He is trade rated as a blacksmith. Ye gods!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

Apologies.—Absence of WIRE notes last month. No good making any excuses. Nobody believes you.

General.—Since my last notes we have been very busy with week-end courses, Section training, etc. Successful week-end courses were held at Cefn Mabley on the 9th/10th June and at Porthcawl on the 7th/8th July. Our annual camp will be held at Pennard, near Swansea, and everyone is looking forward to a good camp with the same weather that we are having at present.

Our recruits this year are shaping very well under C.S.M. Maynard, and all are showing great keenness in their work, twenty of them proving themselves ready to help their Sections by being passed off the square by the adjutant last week.

Rifle Shooting.—Hearty congratulations to No. 2 Company on again winning the Victory shield at the Welsh Bisley Meeting this year with a record score of 490 points.

A Company of the 6th Welch were leading the field by 22 points with only the battle practice to shoot off. They scored 205 for the battle practice, which left us to score 227 to tie ; and as 226 was the top score ever made on this practice (incidentally made by No. 2 Company when they won the shield two years ago) the odds were 100 to 1 against our making the 228 points required to win. A Company 6th Welch walked off the range, receiving congratulations on winning the shield and not waiting for the result of No. 2 Company's shoot. But No. 2 are never beaten until the last shot has been fired, and they went down on the battle practice and scored 237 points, beating A Company 6th Welch by 10 points—a great achievement. L/Sergt Pinnell's score of 47 out of 50 in this practice will stand as a record for many moons. The excitement was great when the scores were coming through by phone at the firing point.

Well done, Signals! you can show the Infantry the way to shoot off a battle practice. This is the second time No. 2 Company has pulled off the double in winning *The Western Mail*

trophy and the Victory shield in the same year: they won both in 1932.

Social.—The Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s Mess held their annual outing on the 17th June with a trip to the Aldershot Tattoo, which proved a great success. The party left Park Street by charabanc in glorious weather. We take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Aldershot Signals who entertained us and made splendid arrangements to enable us to stay the night in Aldershot.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Sergt (Alf) Moss on 30/6/34. He was a very popular n.c.o. of this unit and was caterer to the Sergeants Mess for thirteen years. He joined the T.A. before 1914 and served throughout the war. To his sorrowing widow and three children we offer our heartfelt sympathy.

It is with great regret that we have also to record the death of Captain C. P. Wall, a late member of this unit. Captain Wall joined the Royal Engineers as a Sapper in 1897, was commissioned in 1916, served through the Somaliland campaign from 1902 to 1904, at Gallipoli in 1915, and in Egypt and Palestine from 1916 to 1920. A representative party from this unit paid their last respects to Captain Wall, who passed away at the Royal Infirmary on 8/7/34. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and children.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

General.—As the annual training camp period draws nearer, so on drill evenings do we see many new faces. The thought of Brighton without pay is a little disconcerting, I'll admit; but it is noticed that once we get a new face, we invariably keep it. The attractions at Stratford H.Q. have much to do with this. For instance, a miniature range is now on the spot, where, every drill evening at 9 p.m., competitive shooting for all classes of shots takes place. Then the canteen is really a cheery, homely club affair, where, on other than drill evenings, members can spend an instructive hour, for besides a billiard table, darts and shove ha'penny, a good wireless set will bring to you any programme that is required. Also, during the cold weather, a real coal fire roars its cheery message "to bring your chestnuts."

The great majority of the Company know, and have known for a good while, about these attractions, but the remainder are only just beginning to learn.

Training.—Our schemes during the month of June were limited to one for each Section.

B Cable Section sallied out and spent an enjoyable week-end at Hainault on the 16th and 17th June, laying much cable, getting perfect communication, and then reeling in the cable in the best of Army styles.

A W/T Section had something different in the way of wireless schemes, for a 120-watt set at Northampton tried to work to one stationed at Hertford. Owing chiefly to technical faults on both of the transmitters this was not the success deserved, but it was invaluable from the instruction point of view.

A C set at Hertford, trying to work to one at Stratford, was more successful, for communication was established and maintained, but only for a short period.

All the personnel concerned are now convinced that, owing to the experience gained, a similar scheme could be successfully carried out.

During the drill evenings local wireless schemes are being carried out. A unit lorry is loaded, sometimes with A sets, sometimes with C sets, or both, and off go the enthusiastic ones.

The new recruits are plodding along, still trying hard to master the elementary stages of signalling. They are coming along very nicely, too, and will find themselves in a different class after the benefits of the annual training camp.

Obituary.—Sergt Hancock E., our P.S.I. who recently lost his small son, wishes to thank the officers and other ranks and the permanent and office staffs for their kind sympathies and floral tributes.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Congratulations.—All ranks of No. 2 Company join in heartily congratulating C.S.M. Hooper W., our noted Company Sergeant-Major, on being awarded the M.B.E. This warrant officer joined His Majesty's Forces in the far off past and he has been in khaki ever since. The saying that old soldiers never die seems really true in C.S.M. Hooper's case, for he has contributed twenty-four years service to his country—so far! Well done, sir! we shall certainly hang your photograph in the Company office.

A wreath of laurels also to Sigmn Bainbridge S. A. (our nautical man) who obtained a "distinguished" at the School of Hygiene recently. That's the stuff, Bambridge. Your occupation at annual camp is assured.

Training.—We are preparing for annual camp at Roedean, and our "Spot" Section linemen are busy caressing drums of cable and D.iii. telephones in preparation for the lightning lines they are going to lay.

The operators are still exercising the key and the flag, and gradually increasing their efficiency.

The Trade Boards have finished, and to those who got through I will say "You've earned it. Well done!" To those who did not pass, "Do your stuff at the school at camp and catch the others up."

Departure.—We are sorry to lose Signalman Grey D., who is leaving us for the Royal Navy. Grey, who has been with us a very short time, has made himself a popular member and a very promising recruit. Our best wishes go with him in his new vocation. We are sure he will do well.

Bereavement.—All ranks of No. 2 Company express their deepest sympathy with Sergt and Mrs. Hancock in the loss of their son Ronald.

Transport (Ancient and Modern).—Salutations to the "Long" sergeant of No. 1 Company who has given up dodging traffic as a pedestrian. Rumour has it that his favourite melody is "Wagon Wheels."

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—Section training is going ahead in preparation for our annual camp, and the last month has seen the "Spot" Section doing some very good work both on week-end camp and in the drill hall.

A week-end camp for recruits and the V/T teams was held at Hullbridge on the 23rd/24th June. There is no doubt that one Sunday out is worth one month in the drill hall where training is concerned. Two V/T teams were tried during the above week-end with the complete D.C. test, and the results were as follows: "A" team 18.56, "B" team 20.6. Not too bad, but more practice is wanted so that the C.O.'s prize will come to Southend—its home.

S'END.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—Training carries on very briskly. We have had two week-end camps during June, both held at Turvey, and a very enjoyable time we had on both of them. We had an excellent turn out and the lads worked very well, considering we had so many of the new recruits out on their first stunts with us.

Sergt Thurley, ably assisted by Signalmen Deverick, Minnis and Giddings, supplied us with very good sustenance for the inner man, and we very much appreciate their efforts.

On the 30th June and the 1st July we had a scheme in the vicinity of Odell. The country in which we were working was of a very difficult nature, being very heavily wooded, but that did not deter the unit a bit. The linemen had cause for complaint, but there was none from them. In the lull of the action the fellows enjoyed themselves by throwing stones at the rabbits as they appeared: there were thousands of them swarming all over the woods. Better do a scheme over that area later on, sir, when they are seasonable. Help the cuisine!

Annual Training.—All ranks are looking forward to annual training, which is being held at Roedean. We are hoping to bring at least one 100 per cent. Section and the other one 99 per cent. All are anticipating as good a camp as the previous one.

Bereavement.—All ranks sympathise with Sergeant and Mrs. Hancock in the loss of their son.

BEDFORDIAN.



D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

We have lost all interest in the Mackworth trophy with regard to cricket, being beaten by F Company. Our side compiled the magnificent total of 50, but it took our opponents two half days to pass it—and not then until they had lost their three best men. Corpl Atkinson, going in first, carried his bat, but the remainder were very disappointing.

However, we are going strong, and although we lost our first outside fixture against the R.A.O.C. by ten runs, we were without four of our best men who were playing for the Training Battalion.

We have further fixtures and also very strong hopes.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cricket.

F Company Boys v. Ampleforth Colts.—Played on Scotton ground on the 4th July. The improved standard of the boys was most marked, especially in the bowling. Reedman, Silver, Adcock and Hawley all bowled excellently on a very hot day. Adcock's three wickets for 12 runs was the best performance. Murray played a great innings of 49, hardly giving a chance. The high standard of fielding was especially commended by our opponents. Willis was at his best at the wicket. The bowling of Kilpatrick for Ampleforth, taking six wickets for 31 runs, was a very good performance.

F COMPANY BOYS.

Terrey b Kilpatrick	0
Willis b Kilpatrick	4
Murray c and b Bohan	49
Verlander c Kilpatrick b Ryan	2
Adcock c Kilpatrick b P. Jarvis	17
O'Brien b Kilpatrick	11
Hawley b Kilpatrick	0
Reedman c Mounsey b Bohan	12
Harrison lbw b Kilpatrick	6
Silver c Sutton b Kilpatrick	0
Piddington not out	1
Extras	3
Total	105

AMPLEFORTH COLTS.

Kilpatrick c and b Adcock	29
Mounsey c Verlander b Hawley	21
Redfern b Adcock	3
Bohan lbw b Silver	15
Wild b Reedman	1
Sutton b Silver	5
Mitchell b Adcock	14
Potts not out	2
Ryan not out	2
Extras	4
Total (for seven wickets)	96

Mackworth Trophy.—First round: F Company v. Dismounted Wing. Won by 84 runs. F Company 163 (Sigmn Adcock 35, Sergt Napper 32). Dismounted Wing 79 (2/Lieut. Gordon took four for 24, Corpl Holden three for 21).

Semi-final—F Company v. D Company. Won by seven wickets. D Company 50. F Company 53 for three. Sigmn Adcock took four wickets for 8 runs, and Corpl Holden three for 12.

The final is being played against E Company on the 14th July.

Garrison Boys Competition.—First round: "D" Team (I.M.s) v. East Yorks, won by an innings and 51 runs. East Yorks 13 (Hawley eight for 4 runs) and 74. "D" Team 138 (Cornish 38 not out, Verlander 31).

Second round: "C" Team (Fitters) v. Royal Scots Fusiliers, lost by 42 runs. R.S.F. 63 and 77 for seven. "C" Team 51 and 47 (Gibson 31). "B" Team (Operators) v "D" Team (I.M.s) won by seven wickets. "B" team 44 and 48 for three. "D" Team 48 and 43.

Athletics.

Army Individual Championships, Aldershot, 1934.—Enlisted boys 220 yards race. On Thursday 28th June Boys Barrett R. and Smith J. both succeeded in getting through their heats and qualified to run in the final next day. Barrett's time in his heat was the fastest, and this seemed a good omen for the next day. So it proved, as in the final, after a magnificent race, Boy Barrett broke the tape in 24⅘ sec. (only a fraction of a second behind the existing record) and won the boys' championship. Boy Smith ran well and hard but was outclassed. Barrett now holds the challenge cup for one year, and as he is only aged 16 years and 2 months he is eligible to run again next year. He also received an Army individual championship gold medal. Both boys are to be congratulated on the way they stuck to their training, and the winner especially on putting up such a fine show.



Enlisted Boys 220 yards Championship.

Left to right—Boy Smith J. (fifth), Lieut. Boileau, Boy Barrett R. (winner)

Match v. Barnard Castle School.—This year the School proved too strong for us, and we lost by a considerable number of points. Boyd of the School, a very good all-round athlete, was largely responsible for this. Some of our stars were unable to perform owing to the inter-unit team championships which took place the next day. All our team tried hard under strange conditions and gave good performances. A very enjoyable day ended with a swim and supper in the School. Next year, *we* win!

Inter-Section Sports.—A closely contested match between the Sections resulted in a win for No. 2. Some very good performances were put up and great keenness was shown. Result: 1st, No. 2 Section; 2nd (tied) Nos. 1.B and 3; 4th, No. 1.A.

Boys under Sixteen Years of Age Sports.—Some very good performances were put up, and a large amount of talent was brought to light. Boys Player and Adams were outstanding, and Boy Player was awarded the trophy for the best performance for boys under sixteen years of age. The results were as follows.

100 yards, under 15—Hall, Bosten, Roberts D.
440 yards, under 15—Clover, Deane W., Martin.
One mile, under 15—Deane, Allen, Malone.
Throwing the cricket ball, under 15—Wythe, Bosten, Deane W.
100 yards, under 16—Player, Butler, Roberts J.
220 yards, under 16—Player, Murray, Roberts J.
440 yards, under 16—Butler, Connor.
880 yards, under 16—Campion, Peachey, Hicks.
One mile, under 16—Campion, Harrington, Connor.
Hurdles, under 16—Adams, Player, Parkinson.
High jump, under 16—Player, Adams, Connor.
Long jump, under 16—Player, Parkinson, Murray.
Javelin, under 16—Adams, Player, Hicks.
Shot put, under 16—Player, Adams, Murray.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

D Troop and A.C.S.C. Tennis Club.—In the final of the tournament doubles, L/Corpl Mohrstadt and Sigmn E. Verlander (Command) beat Signalmen Banbury and Tuck (D) by 9—7, 7—5.

Cricket.—We have managed to turn out a team on four occasions this season and have won all our matches. Considering the strength of the unit, this is good going. The results of our matches were as follows:—

Command Company 105 for nine wickets (Sergeant Harvey 38, Sigmn Harwood 23 not out) v. D Troop Cavalry Sigs. 77 (Williams four for 17, Corpl Stanley five for 40).

Command Company 92 (Williams 54 not out) v. No. 3 Company A Corps 65 (Williams seven for 32, Corpl Chamberlain two for 5)

Command Company 72 for no wicket (Williams 39 not out, C.Q.M.S. Yates 26 not out) v. A. Corps Signals 67 (L/Corporal Mohrstadt five for 33).

Command Company 50 for three wickets (Williams 28 not out) v. 1st Divl Signals 36 (Williams seven for 16, Mohrstadt four for 18). This match was played with twelve on each side.

Golf.—The first tournament resulted in a win for Signalman Williams, who beat Sigmn Verlander by 62—63 in the final.

Corpls Stanley and Chamberlain pulled off the pairs competition by beating Williams and Verlander in the final by 62—72.

Sigmn Verlander headed the Golf League championship, winning 92.8 per cent. of his matches. Sergt G. R. Bishop was second with 87.6 and Corpl Chamberlain third with 53.8.

Sigmn Goldsby won the handicap tournament over 36 holes by ten strokes.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Athletics.—Results of the inter-Section Troop sports.

100 yards—1st Sigmn Mullard, 2nd Sigmn Lane, 3rd L/Corporal Richardson. 11 sec. Won by inches
220 yards team relay—1st No. 1 Set Detachments, 2nd Stable Party, 3rd D.R.s and Fitters. Won by 20 yards
440 yards—1st L/Corpl Richardson, 2nd L/Corporal Belton, 3rd Sigmn Halliday. 58 sec. Won by 3 yards
One mile—1st Sigmn Johnston, 2nd Sigmn Barr, 3rd Signalman Robertson. 5 min. 25 sec. Won by 15 yards
Long jump—1st Sigmn Mullard, 17 ft. 11 in.; 2nd L/Corporal Belton, 17 ft. 5 in.; 3rd Sigmn Blake, 16 ft. 11 in.
High jump—1st Sigmn Glew, 4 ft. 8 in.; 2nd L/Corpl White and Signalmen Lane and Bluff tied at 4 ft. 7 in.
Hop, skip and jump—1st Sigmn Lane, 36 ft. 9¼ in.; 2nd Sigmn Mullard, 34 ft. 5½ in.; 3rd Sigmn Rogers, 34 ft. 3 in.
Throwing cricket ball—1st L/Corpl Belton, 245 ft. ½ in.; 2nd Sigmn Bluff, 229 ft. 11 in.; 3rd Sigmn Halliday, 229 ft. 6 in.
Putting the shot—1st Sigmn Lane, 28 ft. 11 in.; 2nd L/Corpl White, 27 ft. 5 in.; 3rd Sigmn Fall, 27 ft. 4 in.

Cricket Results.—v. Collingbourne, away, lost by 31 runs; v. A.F.V. Signals, away, lost by 75 runs; v. A.F.V. Signals, home, won by 85 runs (Sergt Honnor 57, Sigmn Bolton 36 not out; Sergt Honnor five for 22, L/Corpl Richardson four for 27); v. R.A.M.C., Tidworth, away, won by an innings and 40 runs (Sigmn Rogers 28, Sigmn Rapson 26; Sergt Honnor six for 14, Sigmn Rogers four for 8)

BATTING AVERAGES TO DATE.

	Innings	Not out	Highest	Total		Average
Bolton	5	2	*36	40	...	13.3
Honnor	15	1	57	169	...	12
Rapson	14	0	26	147	...	10.5
Richardson	14	0	19	105	...	7.5
Appleton	13	0	23	89	...	6.8
Rogers	10	0	28	66	...	6.6
Cassidy	11	0	13	57	...	5.2

* Not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES TO DATE.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets		Average
Rogers	90	29	197	38	...	5
Honnor	113	20	358	66	...	5.4
Rapson	14	2	54	10	...	5.4
Richardson	50	11	203	27	...	7.5

Catches—Rapson 12, Honnor 10, Richardson 9, Belton 7, Captain Knight 5.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket Results.—Matches played to date.

28/5/34 v. R.A.M.C. Tidworth. Lost by 19 runs. R.A.M.C. 90 (L/Corpl Reed two for 2, Sigmn McGinn two for 9). F Troop 71 (Sigmn Wilsdon 22, Signalman Clark 22)

4/6/34 v. A.F.V. Signals. Won by 13 runs. A.F.V. Signals 103 for three, declared (Lieut. Gordon 44 not out, Sigmn Nichols 32; Sigmn Wills one for 2). F Troop 116 (Sergt Archer 37)

6/6/34 v. E Troop. Won by 62 runs. F Troop 125 for seven, declared (L/Corpl Reed 30 not out). E Troop 63 (L/Corpl Allen six for 23)

19/6/34 v. R.H.Q. 11th Hussars. Lost by 45 runs. R.H.Q. 82 (Sigmn McGinn four for 27, L/Corpl Allen four for 34). F Troop 37

26/6/34 v. R.H.Q. 11th Hussars. Won by 116 runs. E Troop 130 for seven, declared (Sigmn Clark 60, Sigmn Wilsdon 17). R.H.Q. 14 (L/Corpl Allen eight for 6)

2/7/34 N.C.O.s v. Men. N.C.O.s won by 81 runs. N.C.O.s 126 for eight, declared (L/Corpl Allen 41, Sergt Archer 34). Men 45 (Signalman Wilsdon 15; C.Q.M.S. Taplin five for 14, L/Corpl Allen five for 29)

9/7/34 N.C.O.s v. Men. N.C.O.s won by 22 runs. Men 107 (Signalman Kennard 40 not out, Sigmn Cox 15; L/Corpl Allen six for 11). N.C.O.s 129 (L/Corpl Allen 48, L/Corpl Speakes 24; Sigmn Wilsdon seven for 42)

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Cricket.—Owing to training schemes, athletics, etc., we have been deprived of the services of our regular first team players, but in spite of this handicap we have had a fairly successful month's cricket. The features of the month have been some excellent bowling by Corpl Wellock and Signalmen Cox and Lundie, and good batting by the latter. The following matches were played.

v. R.A.O.C. away, won. 4th Div. Signals 120 (Cox 46); R.A.O.C. 36. We proved too strong for the R.A.O.C. Cox in hitting his usual quick and spirited innings scored 46 and then proceeded to take five wickets for 16 runs. Young, bowling at the other end, had the same average.

v. Great Yeldham, home, won. Great Yeldham 121 (Cox six for 43). 4th Div. Signals 126 for seven (Hall 36, Delaney 36). Cox again bowled very well, and thanks largely to him the Signals managed to win easily.

v. Brico, away, won. Brico 64 and 36. 4th Div. Signals 147 (Lundie 41). The bowling of Cox and Lundie was too good for Brico. In their first innings Cox scattered the wickets, proving too fast and accurate for the Brico batsmen, taking eight for 41. In the second innings, Lundie took over the attack and came out with the excellent average of six for 6).

v. R.A.O.C. home, won. 4th Div. Signals 204 for nine (Scott 58, Smith 39, Wilson 37). R.A.O.C. 55 (Coton four for 15). For this return match against the R.A.O.C. we tried out new blood and again won very comfortably. Scott, playing for the first time this season, rattled up 58, whilst Smith went in and "had a go" to the tune of 39 in very quick time. Wilson carried on the good work, scoring 37. As the Signals had lost four wickets for 28 runs, the total of 204 reflects credit upon the later batsmen.

v. St. Stephens C.C. home, won. St. Stephens 64 (Cox two for 3). 4th Div. Signals 136 for nine. We had rather a strong team out and were too good for our opponents. Young hit a spirited 43, hitting seven fours and a six.

v. Witham, home, won. Witham 103. 4th Div. Signals 144 for eight. Witham always send a strong team, and in dismissing them for 103 we had to thank Wellock for some excellent bowling on a pitch that gave him little or no help: 14 overs, 4 maidens, 20 runs, 5 wickets. We had four wickets down for 21 runs and things were looking in a bad way, but Lundie nobly stepped into the breach and scored a fine 68. His innings undoubtedly saved the game for us, as he batted very steadily through a period when wickets were falling cheaply, and it is certainly thanks to him that we managed to win fairly comfortably.

v. 7th Field Company R.E. home, won. R.E.s 96. 4th Div. Signals 101 for six (Hall 46, Smith 30). Not a very interesting match. Both Hall and Smith went for the bowling and hit it all over the field, scoring 50 in fifteen minutes.

v. Lancashire Fusiliers, home, won. Lancashire Fusiliers 57. 4th Div. Signals 159. Another splendid bit of bowling by Wellock once again allowed us to win comfortably. He had another good analysis: 12.4 overs, 5 maidens, 27 runs, 7 wickets.

v. Colchester Gas Company, home, lost. Colchester Gas Company 101 (Smith five for 23). 4th Div. Signals 89. Our first defeat of the season. We had anything but a strong side playing, and our fielding was very poor. One has to admit that we deserved to lose this game.

v. Severalls, away, lost. Severalls 103 (Lundie five for 27). 4th Div. Signals 51. Severalls batted first, and during the tea interval it rained. That was the end of us—Crompton, a spin bowler, putting paid to our account, taking seven wickets for 27.

v. Colchester Nomads, away, lost. 4th Div. Signals 109. Nomads 111 for six. Nothing very much to report on this match. The Nomads were too strong a batting side for us and hit off the runs with ease.

v. Earls Colne Grammar School, away, drawn. Grammar School 139 for seven. 4th Div. Signals 105 for five. It was unfortunate that this match had to be drawn. Our bus broke down and we were very late in starting, otherwise a result might have been obtained. Lundie scored a good 42, and Smith went in to try and beat the clock, but all to no avail.

It will be seen that Cox, who has been away on athletics, has been missed in the team. He is a very useful fast bowler and, as shown, was bowling splendidly during the first part of the season.

Matched played 18, won 13, drawn 2, lost 3.

Athletics.—Congratulations to Sigmn Cox on winning the hurdles at the Essex County Meeting at Brentwood. His time was 16 seconds on that occasion, and he shows promise of being faster next season.

The Colchester Garrison Meeting on the 13th/14th June resulted in a win for the 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers with 102 points. 4th Divisional Signals came fourth with 77½. At this meeting we scored four wins: 480 yards hurdles relay (team, L/Corpl Wilbraham, L/Corpl Fitzpatrick, Signalman Cox, and 2/Lieut. Duke) 1 min. 9⅕ sec. High jump (team, Sigmn Cox and 2/Lieut. Duke) 10 ft. 10 in.; Cox did the best individual jump of 5 ft. 6 in. Two miles relay (team, Lieut. Goldsmith, Lieut. McVittie, 2/Lieut. Pringle and Sigmn Merritt) 8 min. 35 sec. One mile relay (team, Sigmn Hetherington, L/Corporal Hayes, 2/Lieut. Pringle and Lieut. Goldsmith) 3 min. 34⅗ sec.

This was quite a creditable achievement, considering that we had last year's Army team champions to contend with. In the other events we were third in throwing the hammer, fourth in the javelin, discus, pole vault and 880 yards relay, and fifth in the mile team, three miles team and long jump.

In the sprint races we sadly missed the services of Captain Sugrue and Lieut. Gray, who have left us for other places; and we also had L/Corpl Wilbraham out of action owing to a strained leg muscle as the result of the unit sports. This last accident deprived us of a useful all-rounder at the wrong moment.

Two useful men in Signalmen Hetherington and Shewring have joined us—both from India—and they should do well next year when more used to this part of the world.

The Army Individual Meeting on the 28th/29th June gave us Sigmn Cox fourth in the hurdles final, and 2/Lieut. Duke also in the final; and 2/Lieut. Pringle fourth in the 880 yards final.

At the sports of the 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers we entered for the invitation one mile team race and got the first two men home, but were beaten by one point by the team from the 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I.

On the 4th/5th July, in the Eastern Command athletics at Colchester, 4th Divisional Signals finished sixth out of nine teams in a competition in which a very high standard was reached. The Training Battalion R.E. qualified for Aldershot, beating the Lancashire Fusiliers by a small margin. Our best results were: mile relay, second place, being beaten by about three yards by Lancashire Fusiliers. Two miles relay, third place to Training Battalion R.E. and Lancashire Fusiliers. Throwing the hammer, fourth place. Putting the weight, fifth place.

Swimming.—The Garrison swimming championships always provide a thrill. Last year we won by half a point, and the year before we were level winners with the Royal Fusiliers. This year we beat the K.S.L.I. by one point. We therefore finish our swimming in Colchester with the following record for the Garrison swimming championship: 1930 and 1931, runners-up. 1932—3—4, winners.

Special mention must be made of Driver Cross (now a civilian) who has represented this unit each year and has been in three races each time.

Results of the Signals' efforts in the Garrison swimming championships: First in two lengths breast stroke, two lengths back stroke and plunging. Second in diving and seven lengths free style. Third in two lengths free style.

Team—Lieut. McVittie (officer i/c), Lieut. Pringle, C.S.M. Terrell, Drivers Cross and Hannaford, Corpl Birkett, L/Corpls Hubbard and Peters, Signalmen Kendal, Kenneally, Wilkins, Turner, Donaghy and Callan.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Football.—Company Second Eleven drew with Attached Section at 4—4 and lost by 1—2; beat C.P. Police by 4—1; lost to F Section by 1—3. Attached Section drew with 10th Brigade at 1—1, and lost to F Section by 0—2.

Hockey.—Inter-Half Company League: A Company lost to B Right Half by 0—1 and beat C Right Half by 4—0.

Chitham League—A Company lost to Cantonment Sports "B" by 0—5 and 0—1; beat City Sports "C" by 2—1; beat City Sports "B" by 1—0.

Friendlies—A Company Second Eleven beat Attached Section by 3—1 and drew with St. Aloysius at 2—2. Attached Section lost to F Section by 2—3.

Garrison Hockey Shield.—In the semi-final (first round) of this shield we were drawn against the 15th Field Brigade R.A., who were defeated after a very hard game by 3—1 goals.

In the other match the King's Regiment were defeated by the Yorks and Lancs. Regiment from Kamptee by 1—0.

The final was played on the 26th May. The game was very fast in the first half, and we crossed over at the interval with a lead of 2—1 goals, scored by Whitehead and Burns. The Yorks and Lancs. played up strongly, and five minutes from time they scored a second goal; but in the closing stages Whitehead scored a further goal and put the issue beyond doubt.

Swimming.—A very successful swimming gala was held in the S.T.C. (India) swimming baths on the 9th, 11th and 12th June. In all there were thirteen events, and owing to the large number of entries in several of them, combined with the fact that our bath only permits heats of two, the programme was rather lengthy and necessitated a good number of eliminating heats. Our O.C., Captain A. E. Barton, presented the prizes to the winners on the final night, and he commented on the good work of the committee which made the show a great success. Mention must be made of our unit star, L/Sergt Baker L., who very sportingly gave up several of his numerous first prizes to encourage the younger enthusiasts. The following were the results of the finals:—

Open two lengths breast stroke—1 Sigmn Davidson, 2 Sigmn Douglas
Open two lengths free style—1 L/Sergt Baker, 2 Sigmn Nelson
Handicap two lengths breast stroke—1 Sigmn Strutt, 2 Signalman Davidson
Bun, lemonade and balloon race—1 Sigmn Douglas, 2 Signalman Jackson
Handicap two lengths free style—1 Sigmn Whitehead, 2, L/Sergt Baker
Handicap two lengths back stroke—1 L/Sergt Baker, 2 Sigmn Burns
Plunging—1 L/Sergt Baker, 2 Sigmn Smith A.
Handicap five lengths free style—1 L/Corpl Driver, 2 L/Sergt Baker
In and out the arches—1 Sigmn Nelson, 2 Sigmn Jackson
Relay race, eight lengths (teams of four)—"A" Team (Corporal Gourlay, Sergt Mackie, Sigmn Nelson, Sigmn Hull)
Diving—1 L/Sergt Baker, 2 Sigmn Smith A.
Novices, one length free style—1 Sergt Palmer, 2 Sigmn Hampton
Open two lengths back stroke—1 L/Sergt Baker, 2 Signalman Douglas

Golf.—The Barton golf cup was won by Corpl McKinnon (22) by 5 and 4. His opponent, F/S/Sergt Maguire (12), although driving well, did not play up to his usual form and at the ninth hole was 2 down, his approach shots being the chief cause. McKinnon, playing carefully, took full advantage of his handicap and well deserved his success. At the conclusion of the game Captain A. E. Barton, the donor, presented the cup and replica to the winner and a spoon to the runner-up, and in a few well chosen words thanked the committee for the undoubted success of the competition. (Thank you, sir!) Other results were as follows:—

Third round (concluded)—Sigmn Nelson beat L/Corpl Driver by 5 and 4.

Semi-finals.—F/S/Sergt Maguire beat Sigmn Nelson by 5 and 4. Corpl McKinnon beat Sigmn Spiers by 5 and 4.

All members are now practising for the open and bogey cups, to take place in July and August.

Sergeants Mess.

The following are the results of events in our annual comic swimming gala on the 14th June, when the Sergeants Mess of the 1st Battn King's Regiment were our guests.

Water polo, ladies—Signals won by one goal to nil. Team, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Paskins, Mrs. Humphreys
Two lengths underwater relay—Signals won (trophy event). Team, Sergts Snow and Baker
Breast stroke relay—Signals won (trophy event). Team, Sergts Bramwell and Mackie.
One length lighted candle race—King's Regiment (Sergt Cassidy)
One length girls' race—Won by the Signals girls. 1st Chrissie Maguire, 2nd Doris Murphy
Variety team relay race—Won by Signals (trophy event). Team, R.Q.M.S. Brown, Sergts Mackie, Baker and Matthews
Side or single overarm relay—Won by King's Regiment (trophy event). Team, Sergts Hodges and Ryder
Ladies' relay—Won by Signals. Team, Mrs. Deamon, Mrs. Fishwick, Mrs. Humphrey
Swimming backwards—Won by the Signals (Sergt Fishwicke)
Boys' race—Won by the King's Regiment (George Potter)
Pillow fighting—Won by the King's Regiment. Team, Sergeants Faulkener and Quaill
One length no arms relay race—Won by the King's Regiment (Sergt Cassidy)
Six lengths free style relay race—Won by Signals (trophy event). Team, Sergts Baker and Matthews
Costume race—Won by the Signals (Sergt Bramwell)
Ladies' breast stroke race—Won by Signals (Mrs. Deamon)
Gentlemen's diving—Won by Signals (trophy event). Team, Sergts Baker and Matthews
One length boat race—Won by the King's Regiment. Team, Sergts Ryder and Webb
Ladies' diving—Won by Signals (Mrs. Fishwicke)
Disgraceful diving—Won by the King's Regiment (Sergt Wilson)
Tug-of-war—Won by the King's Regiment (trophy event). Team, Sergts Webb, Blacoe, Quaill and Watson

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Both the football and hockey teams have now settled to the thin air here. Rugby has not yet started, but we expect it will assert itself as soon as the monsoon really hits us.

Football Results.

"A" Team, B Corps Signals—v. 93rd Highlanders, lost by 2—3; v. C Company 2nd Welch, won by 3—0; v. R.A.F. lost by 1—3; v. B Company A. and S.H. won by 3—1; v. 93rd Highlanders drew at 2—2; v. B Company 2nd Welch, won by 5—0; v. 93rd Highlanders, won by 3—2.

"B" Team, Upper Topa Signals—v. R.A.F. lost by 2—3; v. C Company A. and S.H. won by 4—2; v. B Company A. and S.H. drew at 2—2; v. C Company 2nd Welch, drew at 2—2; v. 1st Indian Divl Signals won by 4—3; v. B Company A. and S.H. won by 3—2.

The Buffalo Football Tournament, 1934.

Two teams were entered from Upper Topa this year. "A" Team eventually ran out winners, "B" Team losing to No. 2 Company Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the second round. The progress of "A" Team through to the final is reported below.

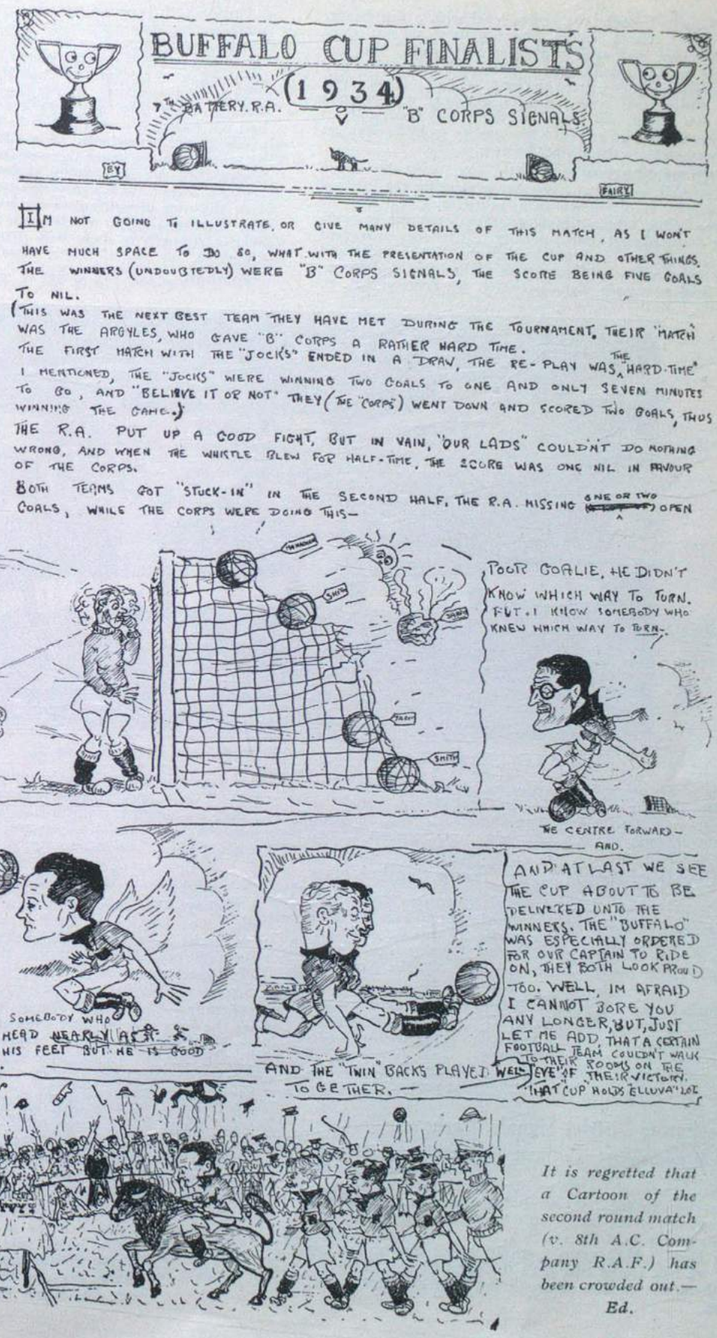
First Round: v. No. 2 Company 2nd Welch Regiment.—This was a much better match than the score indicates. Our team showed great form, which they maintained throughout the tournament. The goal scorers in this match were L/Corporal Jarvis (3), Sigmn Nicholls (2) and Sigmn Fleming. The final score was Signals "A" 6, Welch 0.

Second Round: v. 8th A.C. Company Royal Tank Corps.—This match produced some really good football and a clean game all through. The Tanks were continuously pressing in the first half, but our defence was playing extremely well. This pressure was only relieved after L/Corpl Jarvis had scored a great goal, and our team seemed determined to get more. Soon after this upset to the Tanks plans, they were awarded a penalty, which Sigmn Walsh cleared in great style. Almost from the clearance L/Corpl Managhan scored for us from a fine centre by L/Corpl Jarvis. The Tanks, however, would not give in and scored late in the second half, leaving us winners by two goals to one.

Third Round: v. 1st Indian Divisional Signals.—As might be expected, this turned out a real hard game from start to finish and produced some very good and fast football. During the first half the 1st Div. made great efforts to score and missed a number of glorious chances, but Sigmn Draper scored for them just before half time with a well worked for goal. The second half started off with a great rush by our team, but the Div. defence played a fine game, L/Corpl Swinson and Sigmn Thornton being outstanding. Sigmn Pollard in goal had an exciting time of it and made some splendid saves. We kept up our pressure and Tubby Cant eventually headed a goal for us from a corner kick. Very shortly after this, Sigmn Nicholls put us in the lead after a brilliant solo effort by L/Corpl Jarvis on the left wing. No further goals were scored, and the final score showed us winners of a great game by two goals to one.

Semi-Final: v. No. 2 Company Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.—This was a very evenly contested game and a draw of 1—1 was a fitting result. Both sets of forwards missed some fine chances. Our only goal was scored by L/Corpl Managhan.

The replay took place the following afternoon. It was a hard fought game all through, and we finished up as winners. At half time the score stood at 0—1. In the second half our team played better football than they had done in all previous games.



It is regretted that a Cartoon of the second round match (v. 8th A.C. Company R.A.F.) has been crowded out.—
Ed.

and Sigmn Nicholls brought the scores level with a fine header from a centre by L/Corpl Jarvis. The Argylls would not let us have it all our own way and soon got ahead again. We continued to press hard, but our forwards just could not seem to find the goal until eight minutes from the end, when L/Corpl Jarvis brought the scores level once more. Excitement was running very high at this period, and when everybody was looking at his watch for time, Managhan scored a fine goal to make us winners of a real good match by three goals to two.

Final: v. 7th Field Battery R.A.—This was a very close game during the first half, and when the whistle blew for the interval we were leading by 1—0, the goal being scored by L/Corpl Jarvis a few minutes before. Immediately after the resumption Jarvis again did the deed, scoring from a penalty. After this, it seemed all Signals. Our fellows just bombarded the R.A. citadel and further goals were added by Sergt Smith (2) and L/Corpl Managhan. The final score was Signals "A" 5, 7th Battery R.A. 0.

On the 10th June we met the 15th Mediums and drew after a somewhat scraggy game. As this team had not previously had a point taken from them, we did rather well to secure the first through Lambert C. This match was notable for the excellent goalkeeping of L/Corpl Mitchell W.

The 22nd June saw us playing the 58's in a Hot Weather Tournament fixture, which we lost by one goal. If our forwards had not bickered with the ball in front of goal like a lot of old maids at a rummage sale, we would have won easily. Somehow they have not the knack of co-operating to get a goal, but we are hoping they will get to know each other in time—the whole line between them have roughly eleven years to serve out here.

At the time of writing we are fourth in the Peshawar District Hot Weather League, which is not too bad considering our Headquarter strength is about half that of any other British unit in Peshawar.

Football.—Only two games to record. One was with the 2nd Battalion Highland Light Infantry, which we won by one goal (after a fierce struggle—those Scotsmen won't give much away) scored by Sigmn Chambers J. The other was with our Detachment at Landi Kotal. This we won by 4—2 (we could have made it eight, but did not want to rub it in!)



B Corps Signals Representatives in the Buffalo Football Tournament.

The teams which did so well in this tournament included Signalmen Walsh, Fleming and Jones H., L/Corpl Martin, Signalmen Cant and Sinclair, L/Corpl Managhan, Sigmn Nicholls, Sergeant Smith, Sigmn Thomas W., L/Corpl Jarvis and Sergeant Laing.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Polo.—The polo team of Royal Signals (Northern Command, India) succeeded in winning the Abbottabad Spring Polo Tournament for 1934. There were fifteen entries for this very popular event: two British Cavalry, three Indian Cavalry, one Mixed Cavalry, eight Royal Artillery, and one Royal Signals, Northern Command.

Royal Signals beat the P.A.V.O. Cavalry by 5—2 in the final. It is interesting to note that the P.A.V.O. beat the same Signals team by one goal after extra time in the Tradesmen's Cup tournament at Rawalpindi a month previously.

A photograph of the winning team, by Messrs. B. C. Dewan and Sons, of Abbottabad, is shown in the front part of this issue.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—Almost every night there are friendly matches with either the British and Indian units in Peshawar or the numerous Indian civilian teams who seem to abound in the district. The chief games through the last month have been with Peshawar District Headquarters (B.O.R.s), 15th Medium Battery R.A., and the 58th (Maiwand) Field Battery R.A.

With the District H.Q. team, I am afraid we took things too easily after we had scored two goals (Lambert C. and Barry T.) and gave them the chance of equalising. An excellent game, nevertheless.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Hockey.—No tournament matches have been played this season. The B.O.R.s v. I.O.R.s game resulted in a win for the former by 3—2 goals. On the 29th May the unit played the West Yorks and ran out losers, the score being 2—0 against us. We expect to do better next time, as we had five of our best men away, playing cricket.

Tennis.—The B.O.R.s Tennis Club is in full swing: one can see the boys running after balls at "Seven Streams." The unit dhurzi is very happy these days: he is doing a pukka Petticoat Lane trade with his Bunny Austin shorts. Nevertheless, for all the fancy dresses one sees on the courts, the following matches have been played:—

B.O.R.s v. Sergeants Mess—win for B.O.R.s by 21—4 sets
B.O.R.s v. R.A.F.—win for R.A.F. by 11—5 games
B.O.R.s v. R.A. (first and second teams)—First team lost by 5—11; second team won by 14—2.

Cricket.—Four matches have been played to date. We have done well in winning all of them. Results as follows.

29/5/34 v. Royal Scots, won by 100 runs. Royal Scots 73 (Sergt Cocks two for 14, Signalman Telfer two for 4, Sigmn Jenner one for 4, Sigmn Kraft two for 18, Sigmn Hatton one for 4). Royal Signals 173 for seven, declared (Sergt Cocks 42, Corpl Cooper 27 not out, Sigmn Telfer 26 not out)

1/6/34 v. No. 31 Squadron R.A.F. won by 21 runs. R.A.F. 92 (Sergt Cocks one for 20, Sigmn Kraft three for 31, Sigmn Jenner four for 11, Sigmn Telfer two for 21). Royal Signals 113 (Capt. Rosenberg 56)

5/6/34 v. 2nd Light Battery R.A., won by six wickets. R.A. 108 (Gunner Foster 64; Sigmn Telfer six for 7). Royal Signals 120 for four (Sigmn Telfer 47 not out, Captain Rosenberg 42 not out)

11/6/34 v. I.A.S.C. won by seven wickets. Royal Signals 184 for three, declared (Sergt Eynott 92 not out, Lieut Coryton 52 not out, Sergt Cocks 29 not out) [? the *three* not outs shown in copy—ED.] I.A.S.C. 61 (Lieut.-Colonel Phillips five for 27, Sergt Cocks four for 34) and 158 for seven (Captain Kelly 89 not out; Sigmn Kraft two for 35, Sigmn Telfer two for 37, Sigmn Jenner two for 43, Corpl Cooper one for 37). We beat this team by ten wickets in the Baluchistan and District cricket tournament last year.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Football.—The chief interest during the past two months has been the Garrison hot weather football tournament. Of a total of thirteen matches played we have won four, drawn four and lost five. Goals—for 13, against 23. Our position in the table at the end was seventh. The form shown was very up and down, but on some days—especially against E Battery R.H.A.—the team played really well, being possessed of a dash and fire that was entirely lacking in other matches. The soundest players in the team were Corpl Robson (of the famous 4th Divl Signals team) and L/ Corpl Teal, while Sigmn Payne was discovered half way through the tournament and proved a very good back.

The detailed results were: v. A Company Black Watch, won by 1—0; v. C Company Black Watch, drew at 2—2; v. 6th Battery R.A. lost by 0—2; v. D Company Black Watch, lost by 1—4; v. 91st Battery R.A. lost by 0—4; v. 49th Battery R.A. lost by 0—1; v. H.Q. Squadron The Royals, won by 3—2; v. C Squadron The Royals, won by 1—0; v. R.A.M.C. drew at 0—0; v. H.Q. Wing Black Watch, lost by 1—5; v. A Squadron The Royals, drew at 2—2; v. E Battery R.H.A. drew at 1—1; v. B Squadron The Royals, won by 1—0.

Swimming.—The following matches have taken place:—v. E Battery R.H.A. lost all events; v. C Company Black Watch won by 6—3; v. D Company Black Watch won by 6—3; v. E Battery R.H.A. lost by 2—7; v. The Royals, lost by 1—6; v. 12th Field Brigade R.A. lost by 3—6.

Section Tournament.—This has been somewhat interrupted by the arrival of the monsoon, and has also been delayed by the failure of many teams to arrive at a decision, with consequent replays. The finals will be fought out (weather permitting) as follows:—Soccer, A v. No. 2 Company details; billiards, H.Q. v. D.R.s; swimming, H.Q. v. D.R.s; tennis, H.Q. v. winners of No. 2 Company details and D.3.

The hockey has come to a standstill. The grounds are unplayable, and certain teams will insist on playing drawn games. At present the winners of No. 2 Company v. D.1 will play the winners of A v. D.3.

Hockey.—Since the last notes, no British ranks matches have been played. The Indian ranks hot weather tournament has commenced, and we are doing exceedingly well up to the time of going to press. Two matches have been played to date and have resulted as follows: v. E Battery R.H.A. drew at 0—0, and v. Veterinary Hospital won by 2—0. Three British ranks are in the team: Sigmn Leonard (goal), Sigmn Lawson (back) and Corpl Robson (centre half).

Tennis.—A match promoted by the Tennis Club has just concluded with Sigmn Giles as winner and Sigmn Dorsett as runner-up. Both players are now the proud possessors of cups.



Egypt Signals Sports Representatives.

[This illustration should have been included with the Sports Notes of this unit in our last issue, but space could not be found for it then.—ED.]

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Sport in the pot hunting line seems very quiet. Hockey and football are receding into the background, although now and again a game of football is played against the B.M.H., the 65th Battery R.A. and Deccan District, and the honours seem to be equally shared. Cricket, however, continues happily, and many games have been played lately. Following are the results:—

v. 65th Battery R.A. lost by 125—137 for nine, won by 160—118, won by 181—129, won by 130—76, and lost by 99—112 for three.

v. 1st Battn North Staffs lost by 140—143 for five, lost by 97—196 for eight, and won by 164—119.

v. 1st Battn Q.O.R. West Kents lost by 95—195 for three and won by 186 for five—172.

v. 17th/21st Lancers lost by 150—178 and by 131—198.

v. 18th Battery R.A. won by 131 for four—108.

v. D Company Q.O.R. West Kents won by 158 for eight—152.

Tennis is as popular as ever. The doubles tournament is still progressing, while the singles tournament has just finished. C.Q.M.S. Meredith was the winner, playing some very fine games throughout.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Football.—v. S Battery in Abdul Sattar cup, lost by 0—3; v. Attached Section S.T.C. won by 2—1; v. S Battery, drew at 3—3; v. U Battery, won by 4—1; v. A Company S.T.C. won by 3—1.

Hockey.—v. Attached Section S.T.C. won by 3—2; v. H.Q. King's Regiment, won by 3—1; v. B Company King's Regiment, lost by 3—5.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

Tennis.—The Sarafand and District League has now started, and the unit has three teams entered, namely, A.1, B.1 and B.2. Results to date are as follows.

"A" League—A.1 v. Supply Depot R.A.F. won by 3—1 matches.

"B" League—B.1 v. R.A.S.C. won by 4—0 matches. B.2 v. R.A.F.G.H. B.1 lost by 0—4 matches; and v. R.A.F. Ramleh B.2 drew at 2—2.

Cricket.—So far we have had a very successful season, having played eighteen matches, of which thirteen have been won, three lost and two drawn.

On Sunday 10th June we travelled to Haifa to play the Iraq Petroleum Company, and had a very good day out. Scores:—

No. 2 W/T Company.

Pettit b Bampton	104
Locker c Bampton b Holt	5
Whitaker c Whittall b Calder	21
Page c Whittall b Calder	0
Fegan b Stone	15
Smith c John b Holt	13
Swann c Bampton b Calder	16
King lbw b Bampton	10
Billingsley c Stone b Calder	4
Musgrave not out	4
Cameron c Bampton b Calder	4
Extras	5
Total	201

Iraq Petroleum Company.

Whittall lbw b Pettit	48
Humphreys run out	4
Holt c Page b Whitaker	3
Bampton b Billingsley	14
Shaw c Billingsley b Whitaker	23
Marshall b Pettit	5
Danaher b Pettit	1
Griffiths lbw b Pettit	0
John not out	7
Stone c Swann b Pettit	0
Calder c Cameron b Pettit	1
Extras	3
Total	109

Bowling—Holt two for 47, Calder five for 55, Bampton two for 28. Pettit six for 12, Whitaker two for 41, Billingsley one for 53

Other Matches

23/5/34 Home v. R.A.F.G.H. Won. Signals 73 (Fegan 26); R.A.F.G.H. 33 (Billingsley six for 15, Whitaker two for 14).

26/5/34 Away v 1st Battn. Seaforths. Drawn. Signals 140 for nine, declared (Fegan 32, Swan 17 not out). 1st Seaforths 98 for seven (Pettit four for 42).

27/5/34 Home v. Detachment Seaforths, Sarafand. Won. Signals 169 for eight, declared (Pettit 97, Whitaker 27). Detachment Seaforths 35.

30/5/34 Home v. A.H.Q. Won. Signals 131 for seven, declared (Pettit 47, Swann 24 not out). A.H.Q. 43 (Billingsley seven for 9, Pettit two for 6).

2/6/34 Home v. Depot Police. Lost. Depot Police 87 (Pettit four for 23, Billingsley three for 41). Signals 70 (Pettit 25, Whitaker 23).

6/6/34 Away v. R.A.S.C. Jerusalem. Won. Signals 146 for seven, declared (Pettit 83, Page 25). R.A.S.C. 137.

13/6/34 Away v. Jaffa Police. Won. Signals 135 (Pettit 22, Whitaker, 22, King 22 not out). Jaffa Police 40 (Whitaker six for 19, Billingsley four for 19).

20/6/34 Away v. R.A.F.G.H. Won. R.A.F.G.H. 58 (Whitaker five for 17, Billingsley two for 28). Signals 96 (Locker 33, Smith 12).

23/6/34 Away v. R.A.F. Ramleh. Won. Signals 177 (Pettit 68, Whitaker 38, Musgrave 19). R.A.F. Ramleh 70 (Pettit six for 22, Whitaker three for 27).

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Rowing.—The challenge oar has been won; but although we have a fine crew, we were unlucky in that we were drawn against D Company 2nd Battn. D.C.L.I. in the second round. This proved a very good race, and had we proved victorious we might have won the oar, as our victors eventually proved the winners. However, we are not downhearted, but are determined to have a go for the July oar.

Cricket.—During the month we have had four matches. The results are as follow.

v. H.M.S. *Shamrock* won by 29 runs (101—72). Corpl Parry 36, and seven wickets for 44.

v. Signal Section D.C.L.I. won by 16 runs (83—67). Corporal Parry 37, Sigmn Harvey 23; Corpl Parry six for 25, Sigmn Waller four for 18.

v. an R.E. Eleven won by 97 runs (171—74). Corpl Parry 42, Sigmn Goodanew 24; Sigmn Fuller three for 9.

v. Rock Wireless Station won by 9 runs (186—177). Sigmn Taylor 55, Corpl Parry 31; Corpl Parry five for 46.

Tennis.—The Section entered in the Command Inter-Regimental League (corporals and under) and have had two matches. That v. 2nd Battn R.W.F. resulted in a draw, each side winning one game. Carr and Taylor won by 2—6, 6—2, 6—3, and Tavender and Blake lost by 7—5, 4—6, 3—6. Our second match resulted in a win for us over the 2nd Battn. D.C.L.I. Carr and Taylor won by 6—1, 6—3, and Blake and Waller by 6—4, 6—2. So at tennis, as at all other sports on the Rock, we have proved ourselves worthy opponents of any of the bigger units.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?
IF NOT, JOIN NOW!
Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 330. The subscription is only Two Shillings per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

[*Supplement to* THE WIRE *September 1934*]

HELD AT ALDERSHOT, SUNDAY 22nd JULY, 1934

ROYAL SIGNALS OLD COMRADES REUNION



Back row (left to right)—Messrs. C. Cresswell, A. Smith, A. E. Jenkins, G. Healy, I. Hutchins, A. Jenner, H. Davenport, H. A. Armfield, D. Andrews, H. G. Hose, A. G. Sorrell, G. W. Pearcey, E. Powell, W. C. Cayley and — Foxer

Third row—Messrs. R. G. Sheale, B. H. Purkiss, T. Daver, F. Harrington, W. J. Nicks, A. C. Cooper, F. J. Gray, A. Stuart, R. Tidmarsh, C. Burgess, W. Johnson, W. Bent, C. L. Foot, J. Ammells, W. Tyler, A. Floyd, F. Morgan, C. J. Cadwell, G. S. Walshaw, J. R. Cadwell, H. Bellringer, T. W. Millgate and E. Cartrell

Second row—Messrs. F. J. Early, C. H. Evans, A. Mountey, G. Purchase, R. Spalding, C. A. Bryant, F. Thompson, H. A. J. Foster, J. E. Campbell, W. Butler, H. J. Cotton, F. G. Lane, J. Hayes, C. Hoskyns and J. Colpus, Lieut. P. Gillett, Messrs. A. Hallbuerger, C. Harrington and H. E. Mallows

Front row—Messrs. W. Wish and G. H. Beatty, Captain L. R. C. Watson, Captain T. H. Cullen, Major J. C. Bray, O.B.E., Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., Major-General Sir M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Captain E. A. Longley, D.S.O., Messrs. C. Mepham, J. Barker and W. Hayward

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XV.—No. 175 SEPTEMBER, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

An Apology.—We desire to express our very sincere regret for an unfortunate error in the August issue of this Magazine. The obituary paragraph published on page 326 of that issue is of the late R.S.M. J. Heyburn (not Hepburn, as stated therein). We are extremely sorry if our carelessness in this matter caused annoyance to any of the late R.S.M.'s relatives or to any WIRE reader.

❀ ❀ ❀

Registration for Civil Employment.—The Committee of the Signals Association have under consideration a scheme whereby they hope to be able to assist members of the Association of good standing to become eligible for nomination to better classes of employment.

It has been brought to their notice that cases frequently occur in which ex-members of the Corps are unable to take up lucrative situations owing to their inability to provide a monetary guarantee of fidelity. Members of Signals Association are therefore now informed that the Committee are prepared to consider requests from suitable applicants for such assistance with a view to securing a Fidelity Bond, the first premium of which will be advanced as a loan to the applicant from Association funds.

Each application will be treated strictly on its merits, and this notice does not commit the Association in any way until full enquiries have been instituted and a satisfactory agreement reached between the contracting parties.

❀ ❀ ❀

We regret to announce the death of Colonel W. C. Macfie, D.S.O., of "Colonsay," Kingsweir, Devonshire, who passed away at Dartmouth on Saturday 28th July last.

❀ ❀ ❀

If William Barlow, who served as a Corporal with A Corps Signals, Karachi, India, eight or nine years ago, will communicate with this office, he will hear of something to his advantage.

❀ ❀ ❀

Ex-Driver R. A. Haigh, late of C Company and Depot Battalion football teams of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, would like to hear from some of his old friends in the Corps, and asks them to communicate with him at No. 4 Wentworth Road, Thorpe Hesley, near Rotherham, Yorks.

❀ ❀ ❀

Situations Vacant.—The services of a married couple are required by a serving officer of the Corps, preference being given to Royal Signals applicants. Those desirous of being nominated, and in possession of the following qualifications, should submit their applications to this office without delay.

(*a*) No encumbrances.
(*b*) Man—ex-N.C.O. for preference—to drive and maintain car, help in garden (gardening experience not essential), help wife with house work as arranged, and occasionally wait at table.
(*c*) Wife—Cook-General: a good plain cook who would not object to her mistress helping in the kitchen occasionally.

Preference will be given to a couple prepared to look after children, and with some previous experience of all or some of the above duties.

Wages according to qualifications, up to £100 per annum, all found.

❀ ❀ ❀

Without Comment.—The following endorsement appears on a "Third Party" Motor Insurance Policy which recently came to our notice:—

"It is an express condition of the within policy that the vehicle described in the schedule hereto will not be driven by Army officers except for the purpose of trial, and that on such occasions the Insured will always be carried in the vehicle."

Sports Clothing, etc.—The following articles are stocked at Signals Association H.Q. Office and can be had on application at the prices quoted:—

Blazers, Barathea, Corps Colours	from	42/0
Badges for Blazer Pockets	each	3/6
Sweaters, Corps Colours	from	11/6
Scarves, Woollen, Corps Colours	each	7/6
Silk Squares, Corps Colours	each	10/6
Double-ended Silk Ties, Corps Colours	from	2/6
Cuff Links, Corps Colours	per set	3/6
Tobacco Pouches, Corps Colours	from	4/6
Signals Association Badges of Membership	each	1/0
Ditto ditto Sterling Silver	each	3/0

(Postage extra; cash with order)

Any of the above articles can, if desired, be sent on approval to accredited and responsible Unit Representatives. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

It is notified for general information that the next Annual General Meeting of the Signals Association will take place at Headquarters Offices, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd October, next.

All who contemplate being in attendance are asked to notify the General Secretary in writing not later than Monday 24th September.

❀ ❀ ❀

The attention of all Honorary Branch Secretaries and Unit Representatives is drawn to paragraphs 2, 6 and 8 of Editorial Notes in this issue.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Electrician
2	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Porter
3	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Painter
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Waiter
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
7	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Packer
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Officer's Batman
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Officer's Batman
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Officer's Batman
12	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	Officer's Batman
13	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Kitchen Hand
14	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Distributor
15	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
16	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Telephone Mechanic
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
20	Ex-N.C.O. London	Gatekeeper
21	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Porter
22	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Waiter
23	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.
Aldershot Branch Signals Association.
Mr. J. E. C. Banham.
Sergeant J. K. Murphy, R.Signals.
Royal Signals Officers Mess, Catterick.

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from:—
Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B.

APPEALS dealt with:—
1 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £1/10/0 grant
2 Ex-Signalman, Bath. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
3 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic and other difficulties. £10 loan; £5 grant
4 Ex-Signalman, Derbyshire. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
5 Ex-Signalman, Scarborough. Domestic difficulties. £3 grant
6 Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth. Temporary difficulties. £3 grant
7 Ex-Signalman, London. Domestic difficulties. £1/1/0 grant
8 Ex-Signalman, Yorks. Domestic difficulties. £2 grant

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—
Lieut. W. D. Horniman from S.T.C. Catterick to York.
Lieut. R. B. Ridley-Martin from Cambridge to School of Signals
Lieut. H. Winterbotham from Cambridge to S.T.C. Catterick.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 20/7/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
K. E. Wilson to be 2/Lieut. 21/7/34

War Office 24/7/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
43rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. P. W. Shaw to be Lieutenant 20/6/34
2/Lieut. L. E. O. Evans to be Lieut. 4/7/34
48th (S.M.) Divl Signals—P. W. Malins to be 2/Lieut. 25/7/34
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. S. J. Lovegrove to be Lieut. 24/7/34

War Office 27/7/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
52nd (L.) Divl Signals—R. Graham to be 2/Lieut. 12/7/34

War Office 3/8/34

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS
Major F. N. Fawcett, from 53rd (W.) Divl Signals, T.A., to be Major 1/8/34, with seniority 11/2/29

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Lieut. G. H. Foss, from Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Lieut. 19/7/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
50th (N.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut B. Minor to be Lieut. 17/7/34

War Office 14/8/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF
Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., half pay, to be Commander, 10th Infantry Brigade, and is granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst so employed, 1/8/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
43rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. A. S. Crocker to be Lieut. 27/7/34

War Office 17/8/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
Major D. D. Bannerman retires on retired pay 16/8/34
Captain G. P. Pavey, M.B.E., to be Major, 16/8/34

A Military Career for Boys.

BY CAPTAIN V. C. HOLLAND, R.SIGNALS.

In the July number of THE WIRE appeared an article entitled "What shall I do with my boy?" This article was, no doubt, read by a great number of all ranks of the Corps, who will remember how the advantages of parents sending their sons to the Army Technical School, Chepstow, were extolled to the full.

Now, many readers of THE WIRE, who know we have a large Boys Establishment in Signals, must have wondered why we have been so modest in publishing a long article on how to get into every Corps of the Army but our own. Other readers of THE WIRE, scattered far over the face of the globe, may be much out of touch with the Signal Training Centre at home and, though they have heard vaguely of the Boys Company, probably do not know what the conditions of enlistment and service are. One point in the article "What shall I do with my boy" is particularly misleading. It states that boys, when they have had their training at Chepstow, are posted (among other Corps) to the Royal Corps of Signals. The second type of reader mentioned above, who may be contemplating a career in the Army for his son, might send him to Chepstow, thinking he would eventually be posted to Signals. In actual fact, we only get on an average one boy a year from Chepstow—a carpenter by trade.

I do not wish in any way to decry the advantages of Chepstow, but merely to point out that the Signals Boys Establishment at Catterick has all the advantages of Chepstow as regards pay, promotion and prospects of learning a skilled trade. There is the additional advantage for sons of members of Signals that they are serving in the same Corps as their fathers. This is of immense advantage to the Corps, as it stimulates esprit de corps and the familiar spirit and tradition so important for the building up of a young Corps like ours.

F (Boys) Company, Training Battalion, Catterick, consists of 150 boys comprising 70 operator signals, 35 electrician fitters, 35 instrument mechanics and 10 despatch riders. The age for enlistment is between 14 years and 15 years 5 months. By the time the boys are eighteen they have completed their training up to class iii. of their trade and have a very good start on the men who enlist at that age, both in military and technical experience. That boys' training develops the powers of leadership is evident from the fact that a very large proportion of warrant officers and senior n.c.o.s in the Corps are ex-boys. Many ex-boys with more of a technical bent have become Foremen-of-Signals. One with whom I am acquainted has just passed the Foreman-of-Signals course with flying colours, with barely six years man's service. He is now a C.Q.M.S. In addition, all the Signal trades taught to boys are of great advantage to those leaving the Army for civil life.

At the present time from 60 to 70 per cent. of the boys are the sons of soldiers or ex-soldiers of nearly all the Corps and Regiments of the Army, but a very small percentage are sons of Signals or Sappers of the former Signal Service. I often receive letters from fathers who are serving or who have served in other Corps or Regiments, praising the Royal Corps of Signals as a fine Corps for their sons to be in.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Migrates: 1914.—From the East they came, and like the three Wise Men they came not in automobiles, trains or horse-drawn vehicles, nor in aeroplanes, triplanes or biplanes, but—just the same as those renowned men of old—on their plain flat feet.

From Antwerp to Ghent, from Ghent to Roullers, from Roullers to Ypres, and so on, all down the Western Front they came in their thousands. Old men and old women, young women and boys, babies in arms, invalids in wheelbarrows and two-wheeled trucks, and each and every one strong enough to do so carrying such earthly possessions as they could lay their hands on in the quick exit from what they held most sacred, "home."

Tired and weary, unwashed and dust-stained, the hungry legions travelled those roads which eventually became not roads but shambles. Husbands, sweethearts, brothers and cousins, all those who could do a man's job were left behind—it is not necessary to tell you why—and on each and every face of those legions was that look of hopelessness that only those who have plumbed the depths of despair can realise.

You who were there can, I know, still picture those refugees migrating from the "menace," and, what was just as important, migrating for the benefit of their health.

Migrates: 1934.—From the South, East and West they came. Some came by rail, others did part of the journey by plane, but each and every one finished up by car and on their plain flat feet. Young women and children, boys and girls, dogs and more dogs, trunks and trinket boxes, bags and baggage made the great trek to the North. My memories of the rush to the Klondike in '98 faded into the background on witnessing such a stampede.

Happy and contented—perhaps a tear (crocodile) here and there—the legions made their way to Murree, Simla, Kasauli, Mussoorie, Kashmir and—oh yes! Upper Topa. And just like those migrates of '14, they were fleeing from the "menace."

But what of their husbands and sweethearts (if any)—able-bodied men all—who were left behind? Day in and day out, by the sweat of their bodies they did toil and cuss and growl amidst a heat like the stokehold of hell itself.

You who were in their company will, I know, remember their remarks about the migration to the North. "Why should our wives, our sweethearts (if any) and our dear little dorg have to undergo this enforced parting?"

The answer will come in October, when the battle is over; when, instead of young women turned haggard and irritable, children pasty-faced and anæmic, and the little dorg with his tail between his legs, you will witness happy mothers, bonny sweethearts (if any), kiddies with the bloom of health in their cheeks, and the jolly little old dorg wagging his tail and saying "Where the devil is that bull terrier?"

You husbands, you wives, think of 1914—it's a parallel case. You women got away from the menace that spoils your beauty, and, what is more important, you migrated for the benefit of your health!

By the way, it's 120 in the shade—phew! TIM.

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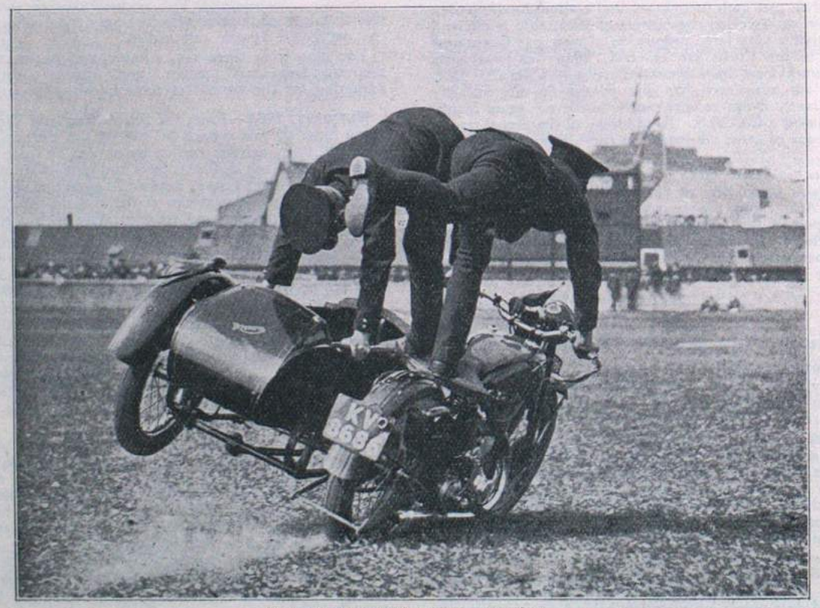
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A Pony and its Handler jumping through a Hoop.
[*Photo by Sport and General Press Agency Ltd. London*]



Motor Cyclist Trick Riding at Belfast.
[*Photo by "The Belfast Telegraph"*]

Royal Signals
Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display.

Northern Command Tattoo.—Last month's WIRE notes were concluded just as the Northern Command Tattoo was getting into its stride. The performances on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were marked by a slightly increased attendance each day. The weather was still very fine but very hot.

On the Wednesday afternoon the Royal Signals Display, having booked the arena for a rehearsal, gave their full fifty minutes programme to a very enthusiastic audience composed of most of the troops taking part in the Tattoo. Captain R. H. Hooper, M.B.E., and his loud speakers provided the music, and everything went well. It was something of a revelation to many of the audience to see what we really could do.

After this, the deluge. It started to rain during the grand finale on Thursday, and so far as the writer is aware it did not stop until about 5 p.m. on Saturday. Already overcrowded horse lines became a quagmire. Our tents leaked and small streams of water ran through them. We were consoled only by the fact that other units were, if anything, wetter than ourselves.

The producer decided not to allow our ride to perform because of the risk owing to the slippery nature of the arena ; and it was only after much argument that we prevailed on him to let us appear. Friday's was a trying performance before a small, damp, but surprisingly appreciative audience.

On Saturday most of the infantry (whose tents were very wet) were moved into the castle, and the officers who were evicted to make room for them were provided with hotel accommodation in Newcastle. The two officers with the Display, however, found a couple of dry tents amongst the sea of sodden canvas and stayed in camp.

Lieut. H. N. Crawford and the men of the Mounted Wing donned motor cyclists' overalls, borrowed from the despatch riders, and took the soaked horses out for a good twelve miles trot to warm them up. Meanwhile, the despatch riders diverted much of the mud and water from the horse lines.

Miraculously at 5 p.m. on Saturday the rain stopped, the sun came out, and no less than 56,000 spectators witnessed the last performance. For the performers the arena was even more dangerous than the night before, as the sun had turned wet into grease. We managed our turn without serious mishap, though one horse did sit down and gaze at the audience. Just to show our contempt for the elements, we staged a sham accident which brought the house down. The silence while the " injured " man was placed on a stretcher could be felt, but when the vast audience realised it was a " fake " there was a shout of laughter which must have been heard in Newcastle.

All things come to an end, and Sunday 15th July saw us back in barracks. Both units had rallied round, and hot meals, dry blankets and every comfort awaited us.

We were very sorry to lose Sigmn Flemming of the despatch riders, who was taken to hospital from Ravensworth, suffering with rheumatic fever. How he contracted this in the middle of the heat wave will long be a mystery to him and to us.

Harden Moss Sheep Dog Trials.—After a well-earned rest, tempered by a spate of guards and fatigues, the Display party journeyed to Holmfirth, near Huddersfield. Here two full performances were given before a good crowd. We were evidently appreciated, because we have been asked to go again.

On the 24th July Pathetone took an extensive film of the Display, the release of which we are anxiously awaiting. Some 800 feet of film was taken, which necessitated three hours hard work for everyone.

Dumfries Agricultural Society.—The Scottish members of the Display came into their own again when we crossed the border and gave two full performances at Dumfries. The weather was threatening, and rain fell heavily during our last performance and throughout the night. Here we were assisted by the sound truck of *The Bulletin*, one of Scotland's most widely read daily papers. The operator, who had seen us in Edinburgh, gave a most successful running commentary on our show. He announced each turn as it was presented, and "faded in" appropriate music to suit each item. This running commentary was of such assistance that it is felt that something of this nature must be arranged for next year.

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Through the kindness of the Show committee and the generosity of a neighbouring farmer, we were able to get all our horses under cover for the night. Despite the pouring rain, some of us went into the town and attended a dance given by the local Territorial Battalion, and the mastering of the intricacies of reels, etc., speedily dried our clothes.

Durham County Agricultural Show.—On August Bank Holiday we set off in pouring rain for Sunderland. It poured all day: heavy drenching rain. Two performances were given despite the slippery condition of the arena. The Show officials had cut the grass really short, and so there was no holding up either horse or motor cycle. We had a few falls and got very wet, but no one was hurt. Despite the weather 15,000 spectators stood in the pouring rain to see the show, which is some tribute to its popularity.

We were delighted to have with us C.S.M. Young and Baby. C.S.M. Young was the mainstay of the 1933 Displays. He and his horse, together with Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot Pot and Captain F. P. L. Gray on Tired, entered for the jumping. Hot-pot and Baby divided the second, third and fourth prizes with a civilian entry, not being quite good enough to beat the winner, who got two clear rounds.

Soaked to the skin, but cheerful, we started for the station, and here the most amazing incident occurred. After doing a trick riding display on motor cycles on a really slippery field all the afternoon with few falls, nine of the D.R. ride came to grief on the way to the station. When the writer (who was leading the ride) looked up from under his machine, he saw the entire road covered with prostrate D.R.s. A sudden traffic jam—met with just as the cobbles gave way to greasy wooden blocks—brought about our downfall. Fortunately other traffic was confined to three trams, all of which were under control. Little or no damage was done, and the astounded populace who saw our fall must have been even more astounded with the speed at which we picked ourselves up. One of the Mounted Wing, not to be outdone, fell off at the same place a few minutes afterwards, so the D.R.s consoled themselves with the thought that the road must have been *very* slippery.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.C./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 15th August 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the September 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting list for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 25/5/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

- Plain Tales -

Aldershot Again.—Morris and I have really parted at last. It was like this here. We made up our minds (you wouldn't think Morris had a mind, would you?) to go to Aldershot again because we had such a topping time last year. We carried Ginger Tidmarsh, Bill Bent and Johnny Johnson, and decanted them on to the sports ground at 3 p.m. on Saturday 21st July. At 3.30 p.m. I patted Morris on the radiator, folded the cheque in three and strolled into the fray.

From a welter of impressions emerges the indisputable fact that this Aldershot affair becomes yearly more successful. No doubt, an excellent photograph of the Old Comrades will be published, so that there is no need for me to tell you who was there. Yet I cannot resist mentioning a few by name. Mr. W. Butler, profiting by previous experience, brought his assistant Willy Wish to help with Association work. I believe there was more than enough for both of them. Snowy Marshall was to be seen everywhere at once and was no doubt finding customers for his excellent eggs. Sir Claude Foote Bark, O.B.K., Y.M.C.A., strolled about—not too far from the Sergeants Mess bar—in a panama, blue jacket, white flannel slacks, white shoes, malacca cane and an Old Bailey tie that matched his unique complexion. I am sorry that L. H. Drake was not there to secure a first-hand impression of Claude going round the course on a cable wagon. Mr. Tich Adams looked very much at home in civilian life, in gent's natty plus fours. Bill Nicks is growing a beard, or maybe he just thought it didn't matter. Sergt Chicko Leath has grown a moustache, but that doesn't matter, either. "The man who dropped it" in the open section tent pegging was R.S.M. Kneebone, and if he comes down here about it, I shall be out. C.S.M. Freddy Strange—who went to school with me many years ago, my children—shyly confessed that he was married two weeks ago. Good luck, Fred! Bill Brotherton, whom I last met twenty years ago, tells me that C.S.M. Alfred Brooks is on the T.A. at Manchester and is again very ill. We can only hope for some good news very soon. Did I hear someone ask if Mrs. George Ruffle and her excellent sister were there? Don't be silly. It was the Aldershot Reunion, wasn't it? Well, then! where do you think I had my second tea afterwards? Be a bit bright.

The Old Comrades cable race attracted more attention than anything else. They certainly put plenty of pep into it, and if a few guys, tele. pole did get tangled up in tails, horse, and Old Boys went peering round for a hole in which to fix a pole, the job was eventually completed to the satisfaction and amusement of all.

On Sunday there was the usual church parade, but it is not my business to write about that. Skipping a few hours, we arrive at the O.C.A. luncheon. This was a triumph of catering and organisation. There were speeches and cheers and much beer. Sergt (Misery) Williams wore his medals: Egypt 1885, another 1890, and the rooti of 1899. He called them Maresfield, Crowborough and Aldershot. His number is, I think, 23987612800 or thereabouts, and he finishes in 1960.

I suppose I can't have more than my fair share of THE WIRE. Professional jealousy and what not among the Aldershot correspondents. One mustn't poach.

Later in the evening, at Bulford, I asked Ginger Tidmarsh what he thought of the lunch. "Lovely!" he said. "I can't remember a d—— thing."

* * * *

Three Pictures.—Ukann Larfe recovered consciousness to find himself in a snow-white bed—a sufficiently unusual situation to cause him considerable surprise. "Where am I?" he asked, weakly.

"Friday afternoon," replied a sweet womanly voice.

"Thanks! I thought it was a foxtrot."

The nurse shook her head sadly and hit the detective on the head with a mallet. They were very short of chloroform in the hospital.

On the opposite side of the ward was a figure propped up in bed. By the bedside sat a policeman holding a loaded pistol. A white-coated doctor (or he may have been a painter) entered the ward and went straight to the policeman. "So this is the Plugger?"

"Yes, sir; that's 'im," said the officer, who fired a couple of shots into the ceiling with pardonable pride. At least, I think that is what he fired with. I won't swear to it.

"Is he married?"

"No, sir. He's just naturally miserable."

"Well, give him the usual."

The policeman hit the Plugger on the head with the butt of his pistol: the mallet was at the other end of the ward. The lights were turned low, and all prepared for a quiet night.

At the Café Jet d'Eau, the fun was fast and furious. Inspector Faceache felt that, with the Plugger in safe custody, he could relax. He was relaxing. And how. With him was the beautiful Hermione Larfe, who also felt that, with her husband securely fixed in hospital, she could step on it a trifle. She was stepping on it. And we don't mean maybe. The floor was littered with empty champagne bottles, pea nuts and potato crisp bags. Claude Crumpet and his Crippling Crochets were playing a red hot number, and the Seven Snaky Sisters were tying themselves in rhythmic knots on the tiny dance floor.

"Kiss me again, Facey," said Hermione, grasping the neck of a bottle in her great red hand.

The Inspector looked round nervously. "Darling—don't you think——"

"He who hesitates, Facey—kiss me, or I'll crown you."

Poor Faceache opened his arms, and the beautiful Mrs. Larfe threw herself into them with a choking cry! I think her necklace had caught on the back of the chair. The weight was a little too much for the already swaying detective and the two fell over backwards, clasped in each other's arms, their lips sealed in a fierce kiss.

"Are you comfortable, Hermy?"

"Yes, dearest."

"Happy?"

"Sure, Facey dear!"

"Well, take a look behind you. There's your husband!"

Ukann Larfe regarded the couple with cynical amusement. The pistol in his right hand wavered ever so slightly.

. . . . . .

This ought to be the end, but I feel that there are possibilities in the present situation, so look out. Become a registered reader at once.

* * * *

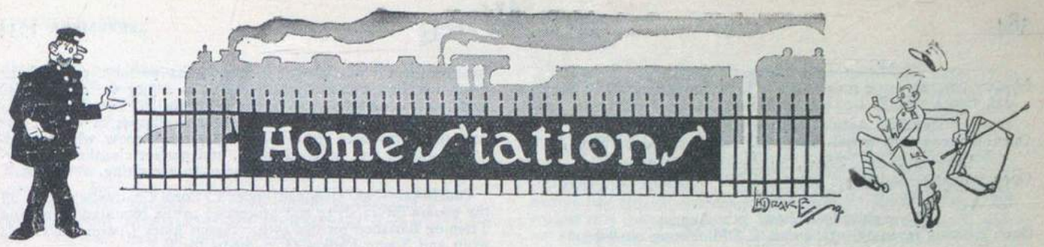
With and Without Comment—It is notified for information that Signalman Blither completed a course of plumbing at the A.V.T. Centre and has now secured employment as a water diviner's secretary. Well, well!

Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Pickering on the birth of a daughter, Janet Marion, on the 21st July 1934. Further outlook, unsettled with occasional squalls.

Will the young gentleman who claims to have travelled at 84 m.p.h. in his 8 h.p. Ford come up and see us next year, when we hope to be in a position to tell *him* one. We will bet that he couldn't turn a somersault with his car like one of our officers. Ah—and get away with it, too.

The following friends from India paid us a short visit (what! again?) Sergt Eric Marchant, Mrs. ditto and child ditto, Pop

[*Continued at foot of page 424*]



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Fatted Calf Section.—England has won the Davis cup, half our pay cuts have been restored, Mr. McDonald is not so insistent on wur-r-r-r-ld fr-r-r-r-iendship, and Larwood's toe is almost normal, so the time seems ripe for more news from this department. Joining in the general celebration, you know. Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a guard room. Well, well!

Drafts.—Initially, bad news. The undermentioned are provisionally warned for service overseas: L/Corporals Froggatt and Rolls. India. Next January. They've got you, pals. But you put up a good fight. L/Corpl (F . . . .) Froggatt is well known locally, and his colleague equally well known some distance away.

Rifle Shooting.—Corpl Walker put up a very fine show at the N.R.A. meeting at Bisley, reaching the second stage of the King's prize, and L/Corpl Poole was a member of the winning team in the Queen Alexandra cup competition. They put up a record score, by the way. But what does "Broke collect urgent" in a telegram mean?

Congratulations and so on to our doughty musketry staff. Just now there cometh news that they have upheld our honour (?) at Bellerby in the Northern Command weapon training meeting. Sergt Seabrook won the eleventh prize in match 1.b, and Corpl Walker shared the highest score in match 1.c besides scoring a pool bull.

Books to Read.—(Apologies, congratulations and thanks to Peshdist.) "Magnus Merriman," by Eric Linklater; "Fly Away, Youth," by Godfrey Winn; "This England," by Gerald Barry; "Men are Unwise," by Ethel Mannin.

And although not quite suitable for this paragraph: About your gentle discontent re imperfections in senior ranks, Peshdist. Remember Whitehead's comments on the initial formulation of Christian ideals: "In that ideal environment (Galilee) forgiveness unto seventy times seven may have been possible, whereas in our modern world forgiveness to seven times borders on the impracticable." Incidentally, it might be interesting to know how much punishment is due to bad cooking.

Departures.—Quite numerous. Sergt Burr, M.M., and Signalmen Lines and Herberts have left us for the wide open, etc. We wish them the best of luck in that most tricky place, civvy street. But, pour encourager les autres, the dole has been further extended. No, life's not a bad thing, taken as a whole. But, as Prodnose might say, what a hole!

Appointments.—U/L/Corpl Thomas to be Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster (highly technical term) w.e.f. 26/7/34. Suitable congratulations. Apologies for absence of engraved barometer.

Arrivals.—Few. I can only think of Signalmen Smallman and Norton—from various Divs. They broke our fine weather spell. But they are very welcome in spite of that. When you think that August leave was spoiled for many, that forgiveness stunt seems to be not too impracticable.

We nearly have another arrival: C.S.M. Ingles to relieve C.S.M. Bale in the Mounted Wing. He is to come from 5th Div. but so far we have only seen his name in Part II. Orders. On command, you know. Will lay red carpet and produce band when appropriate—if still out of prison.

Beauty.—The Garrison went all lovely-like a week or so ago and held a Flower and Horse Show; on same day; in adjoining fields; quite family. The Depot Battalion did rather well out—sorry! in it. We were third in the rose competition; and since this was open to all, professional and amateur alike, I think it was not bad. In the fruit, vegetable and flower display we were second. Life in the old corpse yet. The Horse Show was a very strenuous affair, and the Battalion was rather empty during its . . er . . . while it lasted.

Oh, yes, flowers. The roses that won the third prize were planted by Colonel Walsh. Now they bloom and (as usual) show when too late for their fons et origo to know. I hope this catches his eye, if only to show him that Catterick is not ungrateful.

Sports.—In spite of appearances, the Depot is not—very definitely is not—a back number in the realm of sport. If you will turn to the Sports pages, as usual, you may find some trace of our enthusiasm in this direction. I could become almost lyrical about our successes; sagas and so forth. But something forbids. What is it? BAXTER.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Gambit.—The majority of the news this month is horsey, so say what you think fit.

The mounted sports are to take place on the 22nd August. By the time you see these notes, they will be a thing of the past; so you, poor fish, will be just too unlucky. There's a curious alarm race featured, of which I don't know much.

Training.—To show that we are not a back number, we have recently been raided at most curious hours by an aeroplane. The object of these raids was to give us practice in anti-aircraft defence measures. It was rather fun to see a drive, staidly proceeding to the moors, suddenly scatter like hail at the sound of what turns out to be a quite harmless and anonymous machine; but it was fine practice.

Cricket.—I don't like to mention it, but truth will out. We played the Headquarter Wing at cricket. Beyond spotting a new Strudwick and an embryo music hall turn, I don't think much was discovered. But it was a very decent game. We insisted on playing them again, with the same result. We *are* modest.

More Training.—The annual firing has taken place, with the usual crop of humour, fatigue, and thus and so forth. Hopes are entertained of our ultimate splendour in this line.

Now I think it's about time for a few notes on our horses. We've lots about them, too. Here goes.

Catterick Garrison Horse Show.—The unit managed to sneak the following prizes at this show, which was held on the 30th and 31st July.

Open jumping—1st prize, C.S.M. Young on Baby (this is for the fourth time in succession).
Novices jumping—1st prize, 2/Lieut. D. A. Nolan on Lizzie.
Handy hunter competition—2nd prize, Corpl Bull on Bertha.
Best trained Troop horse—3rd prize, Sergt Hill on Dolly; fourth, Corpl Bull on Cherry.
Open charger class—3rd prize, Lieut. P. R. Wainman on Brighteyes.

Apart from the Royal Tournament, the International Horse Show and the Garrison Horse Show, all of which have been reported ad infinitum elsewhere (note the tired sneer!) the Wing has to its credit the following successes to date (August 10th):—

Three Counties Show, Hereford, 12th June.
Open jumping—3rd prize, Sergt Bennett on Galleon.

Darlington Show, 25th July.
Open jumping—1st prize, C.S.M. Young on Baby.
Evening jumping—1st prize, C.S.M. Young on Baby.

Middleton Tyas Show, 1st August.
Military jumping—2nd prize, Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot Pot ; 3rd, Captain F. P. L. Gray on Tired.

Dumfries Agricultural Show, 2nd August.
Open jumping—4th prize, Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot Pot

Durham County Show, Sunderland, 6th August.
Open jumping—2nd prize, Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot Pot and C.S.M. Young on Baby (tied).

Boroughbridge Show, 9th August.
Open jumping (evening)—1st prize, C.S.M. Young on Baby.

The Display party are intermittently back in the Wing, and appear even more keen rather than weary of repeated shows. Their progress is entirely triumphal, and they have done much to make Signals known in most curious parts of this land. Scotland appeared to take them to its bosom when they performed at Dumfries.

And for the rest, well, it can wait awhile. I have the hunger.
POSTLETHWAITE.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

August Holidays.—As I write this, all the recruits are rushing about drawing their pay, etc., preparatory to departing on leave. This is the time to see bright faces. I hope they will all look the same on their return!

Northern Command Tattoo.—A party from the Wing spent an interesting and enjoyable day at Ravensworth Castle on the 13th July. I believe there was one exception. The sketch of the occasion was given me by one of the party.



Tales of the Tattoo.

Scene: Newcastle, 6.30 p.m.
Let us hope that the small sized Signalman, found weeping bitter tears because his pals had deserted him, realises that beer and whisky in equal quantities mix only too well.

Recruits.—Since my last effort in this publication, we have had another addition to the social amenities of our reception hut for recruits in the form of a magnificent portable gramophone given by the commanding officer. It is a pity we cannot hold some sort of reception day in the Wing for the friends and relatives of the recruits. I am sure that a glimpse of one of our barrack rooms with its brilliant equipment, snow white woodwork, stained and polished floors, and perfect cleanliness everywhere, would be an added incentive to recruiting.

Postings.—No. 51 Squad under L/Corpl Chadwick passed off the square on 23/6/34 and proceeded to the Mounted Wing and Training Battalion on the 25th. Sigmn Jones J. won the C.O.'s whip and Sigmn Rankin G. a medal for P.T.

No. 53 Squad under Corporal Nicholls passed off on 30/6/34. Sigmn Davidson T. won the C.O.'s whip and Sigmn Driscoll D. a medal for P.T.

No. 52 Squad under L/Corporal Allen passed off on 14/7/34. Sigmn Usher W. won the C.O.'s whip, Pte Shiner a medal for musketry, and Driver McGiveron a medal for P.T.

No. 54 Squad under L/Corpl Deegan passed off on 20/7/34. Sigmn Cloughley won the C.O.'s whip and Sigmn Knight K. O. a medal for P.T.

Gardens.—This is where we shine! The Depot Battalion came sixth in the inter-unit lines competition. The judging committee reported a marked improvement on last year's showing. I understand that the Depot has not been in the "mentioned" list before. At the present time hundreds of wallflowers are being planted all through the Wing lines.

Courses.—L/Corpl Stirk to York to join the 45th assistant instructors course in P.T. L/Sergt Chadney and Corpl Nicholls are due to depart on 11/7/34 to the Guards Depot, Caterham, for a drill course.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Davies from the Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, to take over the duties of storeman. We hope his stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—The Three Musketeers are now reduced to two on the departure of Signalman Pye, our bold storeman, to the A.V.T.C. Hounslow. That quiet table in the corner of the N.A.A.F.I. billiard room will no doubt miss his presence.

Musketry.—The cadre have all fired their annual course. Mention of Bellerby still evokes memories of that nice long afternoon stroll!

Congratulations.—To Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young on winning a Command standard medal for throwing the hammer in the Northern Command individual championships. To Sergt Carpenter on representing the Corps at cricket at the Oval and at Aldershot. To L/Sergt Chadney on obtaining third place in the St. Quentin Lines married quarters garden competition, class 2. To L/Corpl Day on his first step on the Corps promotion roster.

Sports.—Inter-Squad tabloid sports were held on 1/8/34. The results were as follows:—1st, No. 61 Squad, 11¾ points ; 2nd, No. 55, 25½ ; 3rd, No. 56, 31½ ; 4th, No. 58, 32 ; 5th, No. 60, 34 ; 6th, No. 57, 43 ; 7th, No. 59, 46½.

Things We Want to Know.—Who are the two senior n.c.o.s who complain that as key men their names were not shown in these notes on arriving in this Wing from overseas?

Who pinched the gong? (The less said about this, the better.)

Billiards—The Wing met the 46th Division (T.A.) during their stay at Catterick. The score was Dismounted Wing 625, 46th Division 500.

Agony.—To T.E.S., A Corps Signals: When are we going to hear some more about the beautiful Lal? Drop me a line some time.

The Taylors wish to hear from their pal Peddlar Palmer of Quetta.
EL PEE.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The absence of our notes in the last issue is regretted. June was a very quiet month.

The Corps Band commenced their tour on the 27th June at Scarborough. A trip to Gateshead was arranged by the Training Battalion to see the Northern Command Tattoo on the 11th July. Everyone who went had a jolly good time, and I'm sure they would like me to thank those who arranged it.

During the past month nothing really exciting or important has occurred. We managed to secure the first prize in the inter-Company hut garden competition (won by Hut No. T.1). Hut No. T.7 received a prize for the most marked improvement during the past year. We congratulate all who had helped to gain the prizes.

Departures—C.Q.M.S. Donaghy M. left us for F Company during July. Sergt Cayley (Cabbo) is now in civvy street after six months vocational training. L/Corpl Gibson has proceeded to D Company. Four squads have left for Divisions since the last issue. We wish them all the very best of luck.

Congratulations.—Sigmn O'Connor P. has signed his name to complete twenty-one years with the Colours. L/Corpl Forster A. E. is now a full-blown one with the cash attached. Signalmen Gibson and Wilson F. were appointed A/L/Corporals on the 2nd August. L/Sergt Hart R. is now Sergeant. Corporal Lewis is now L/Sergeant. The Company wish all the very best of luck for the future ; and may those with stripes soon have them "married."

Marriages.—Only one since the last issue. Sigmn Mills G. to Miss Ivy Brookes at Burniston on the 23rd June. We congratulate him, and hope that he has thought out this step wisely and truly.

Births.—Sigmn Gibbons W. of the Corps Band was presented with twins at Richmond on the 17th June. Congratulations and good wishes from everyone.

Agony.—To Gordon Young, Colchester: Do you know where they hung the monkey in Hartlepool? Shoo-shoo Boy.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Owing to the Company having been away for the past three weeks, we apologise for the fact that these notes are short. There are obviously not many items of interest to record, but we will endeavour to bring the affairs of this Company to the fore.

We returned to the fold on Saturday 11th August to find the usual depression from Iceland hanging over the Company lines and scattering its contents all over the place. Many were the cries of "This time last week, I was . . ." But enough of that, for it has already altered to "This time in another four months." I saw several lingering on the steps of the bus as they got down. Maybe they were looking for some Sir Walter Raleighs. By now, we hope, everybody is settled down to the usual routine of the Company.

Arrivals.—We welcome with open arms Boy Barr from the Dukies and we wish him all the best. Sigmn Milroy has been posted from D Company to become one of our R.E. fixtures, and many others on the inventory board have had their fear of becoming obsolescent allayed for another year.

Departures.—We ain't 'ad any.

Congratulations.—This is one of the few occasions when I have been glad of having left the typing of WIRE notes until the last minute, for to-day brought us the good news of the promotion of our C.S.M. to that rank. The Sergeants Mess has been placed out of bounds for the next six weeks.

Congratulations to E Company on winning the Mackworth cricket trophy. The margin was narrow and there was a very exciting finish. We will try to beat them next year.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 1 Section, No. 4 Wireless Company.

Why should a normally half dazed mind become completely so on the day that WIRE notes are due? More than one would welcome a really intelligent theory on this question, for so far the only remedy seems to be innumerable cigarettes. After all, tobacco is the solace of humanity and the unfailing support of National Budgets. I am smoking as I write this, and it's odds on that you who read it are smoking too.

The draft board of our Company presents an ugly sight. Five of our doughty warriors have received provisional warning: five from our little Section. (Mr. Records, how could you!) Here is a list of the five fortunate globe trotters. First and foremost, Sigmn Charlie Capp—he goes to Egypt Signals and should prove a good 'un. Sigmn Waterston J. A. is under orders for Palestine. L/Sergt Mullins A. and Signalmen Campbell P. and Davis S. T. are earmarked for India. Just think of it! days in an open boat and no hut orderly—hardship, my brothers, hardship. And how enthusiastic they all appear to be! But I suppose, after all, without enthusiasm life would be a dull, sordid existence.

High Society Blues (News).—Let me introduce a new member to our community: Squire Jimmy Walmsley. A gentleman (by the way, "gentleman" is a term invented to describe a man of whose indefinite quality you approve) of commanding appearance and outstanding ability. Wearing a pair of baggy flannel trousers and a canary yellow sweater, he reminds one of the perfect country "toff." His facial features betray his super-intelligence, and he amuses many of us by the amazing way in which he twiddles various knobs on his super-three howler.

We regret to announce that the Hon. John Waterston intends proceeding on an extended tour of the Holy Land. He carries with him the best wishes of our notables and of numerous maidens inhabiting this district.

What a lot of sentimental rubbish is talked nowadays about the rearing of children and the right treatment of impressionable young people! Of course, infants should be rightly nurtured—and the only suggestion Dusty Miller can offer is "Eat more fruit."

At lunch yesterday I met Lady Jenny Stamp, the authoress of "Barrack Room Ladies," the first radio play to be censored. She has just returned from a visit to Portsmouth. "Few playwrights realise the field that wireless offers them," she said ; and Squire Jimmy, her helpmate, voices the same opinion.

Tug Watkins has startled the community by announcing that he intends to enter a monastery in the near future. This reminds me how near the world was to losing Charlie, who at one time contemplated doing the same thing.

Sunshine Sketches of Our Community.—No. 2: Jimmy Walmsley (by Slightly out of Mind). No mean performer, this colt, mind you—except in money matters. He only spends money on principle—never on anyone else, so backers are advised to be wary. Is a big noise in local cinemas, especially when the film does not suit him. Won the Argument Stakes with plenty to spare, and has never been extended. Has been East, but climatic conditions destroyed his complex(ion). Trained and owned by someone in Lancashire. W.G.B.

1st Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

Starting Post.—The powers that be have ordained that No. 2 Company shall appear in the literary world. As not more than 75 per cent. of the Company are barrack room lawyers or budding Press men, the unfortunate lot of describing events of the past and present (incidentally making mistakes in all) has fallen to your humble servant. So, if I make any inane remark regarding any heavier-fisted merchant of the Company and that merchant should object, the only flower I have a passion for is a cauliflower.

Musketry.—"Sam, where's tha musket?" is the burning question in the Company at the present time, for once again we take up arms to prepare for the time when we will have to trek weary miles and then blow —— out of the banks at Ash ranges.

Training.—We are looking forward to our forthcoming stay on the Plain (except those who have been there before). The latter, I expect, will be entertaining the M.O. with complaints of campitis and Salisbury throat two or three days before departure. Unfortunately, he has heard them all before.

Sports.—The Company did great things during the past year in this line, for not only did they win the Cobb trophy for all-round sporting events but they also bagged the Powell cup for shooting. We are about to show the other Companies that we are out to retain these trophies, for we play off our inter-Company cricket in a few days. Look out, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, for you have a stiff proposition.

We must congratulate Lieut. C. H. Stoneley on his fine performances at the White City. It is not necessary to relate his achievements, for they are well known to the sporting world.



Lance-Sergeant Farlow on Whistler.

Our congratulations are also extended to L/Sergt Farlow on bringing home a first prize from the Aldershot Show for the best trained Troop horse (sorry, Darkie, for not publishing it before, but the typewriter refused to function last month).

True Stories.—Driver Philmore still believes that the Fleet put in at Cove Pond for a summer vacation. The same driver is also convinced that a second chin strap is essential on musketry.

Marriages.—It is understood that Sigmn Stevens is now paying twopence for a penny bun. We offer him both our congratulations and sympathies (poor blighter!)

Births.—I don't know of any, but perhaps there are some in the offing.

Addendum.—We wish to draw attention to the fact that *The Aldershot News* was incorrect in so far as it related to the 2nd Divisional Signals winning the inter-communication race. This should read 1st Divisional Signals.

Agony.—Tad wants to know if Busty Jones has awakened from that long sleep for which he went to Catterick many moons ago.

Finishing Post.—So long, you fellows. J.A.E.

No. 3 Company.

Disclaimer.—In case No. 1 Company do not disclaim the notes which appeared under their heading last month, we do. We wonder whose fault it was. [No. 1 Company must have received a tremendous shock on seeing Jessamine's notes attributed to them. At any rate, they have not forwarded any of their own in reply. In the meantime, we mourn in sackcloth and ashes, for the fault was ours.—The Printers.]

Old Comrades Reunion.—We had put together a sweet little paragraph about the visit of the old comrades, but the Editor has stolen all our thunder. Smart work that! But, there, he's the only old comrade who can flout the sixteenth Commandment with impunity.

Corps Sports.—We congratulate the 2nd Divisional Signals on tieing with us for the Prickett cup. It was a dour fight and the issue was in the balance till the very end. With just a little extra effort we'll hope to save the engraving fees next year.

Without Comment.—"Creeping? The blinking battery had broken into a canter when the colonel looked at it."

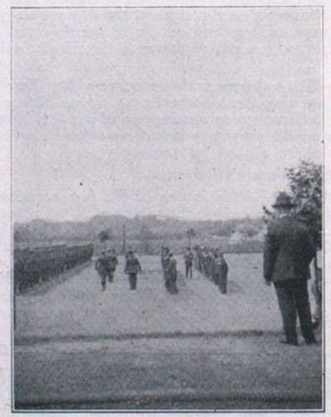
Courses.—L/Corpl Griffin has returned from his boxing course with unimpaired facial geography and a benevolent look which we suspect is deceptive.



The Band leading the Old Comrades.

Draft.—India has called. Here's the roll. Signalmen Ashwell, Palfrey, Prentice, Panter and Hunt. We have heard no railings against fate. Why should we?

Training Break.—Nearly every soul aboard has managed to squeeze in ten days leave—a bit of a squeeze here and there, what with sending detachments to assist the T.A. training, etc.; but where there's a will, etc.



Inspection of the Old Comrades.

Drought.—By the time these notes appear we shall be sojourning on Salisbury Plain. The drought has not deterred us—fortunately, or unfortunately, entirely according to the weather. To see us with our sleeves up is to have your face lifted—and that's not a threat.

Meanwhile, drought in another quarter. JESSAMINE.

Hello!—Someone else has popped up with some stuff, so let's have it. Rather unusual to have two scribes in one Company. Something fishy about it, somewhere.

Social.—Everyone enjoyed the social which was held in No. 2 dining hall on sports night, and judging by the loud voices to be heard some had imbibed rather freely. Anyhow, the excuse is that it only comes once a year.



Inspection of A Corps Cable Section.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Sweet L. on the confirmation of his bar. A few more pence to spend in London, eh? To Sigmn and Mrs. Whatton on the birth of a daughter, Joan, on 14/8/34.

Departures.—Sigmn Norton to the permanent cadre, Depot Battalion, Catterick. We wish him all the best.



B Cable Section 1st Divisional Signals.

Corporals Mess Outing.—The Corporals Mess arranged an outing to Southsea on Saturday 11/8/34, and those from this Company thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is the young man who indulges in expensive luncheons, with beer, when on a train?

Who is the young man whose vehicular means of transport broke down whilst he was proceeding on leave?

And some people are anxious to know if Goldy is getting married shortly, as the heavy rain does not deter him from an occasional clandestine meeting in Guildford.

Photography.—These notes are accompanied by snaps of the Regimental sports and Reunion church parade. I hope that ex-1st Divites will be interested.

Cheerio! VEDAH.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

It is going to be a hard job to write notes this month, as we haven't much time to think of what is worth writing about; but if we can't publish anything but the Arrivals and Departures, we shall do that, rather than be marked absent.

As was published in last month's Editorial of THE WIRE, Signals Week was held in Mons Barracks at the end of July, when the usual church parade, sports meetings, etc, were held.

The 2nd Div. won the Worlledge horse trophy for the mounted inter-unit events and shared with 1st Div. the honour of holding the Prickett cup. We were rather unfortunate in losing the communication cable race, as we obtained top score in the turn-out; and talking about the turn out, we did not employ the regimental barber to trim the horses' tails and shave their noses. In the actual race we were well away until some unforeseen misfortune bobbed up at the pole crossing, and then things started snapping. However, we got our message *through* despite the broken pole; and after all, that is our motto.

In the 2nd Div. sports this Company simply romped home, although the other Companies gave an excellent but unavailing display. Unit Headquarters won the Cooke shooting trophy. If you want to know how, ask the Bell medallist.

On the morning of Thursday 10th August five luxury coaches "floated" into Mons Barracks to a rendezvous outside the Sergeants Mess. Gradually a crowd of smiling faces with open neck shirts and all the latest Paris modes in summer dress drifted up and quickly took their seats. There were roughly 150 passengers—big ones and little ones—and they were all seated in less than no time. There was no pushing and arguing as to where they wanted to sit: they knew that the night before. They didn't have to bring attaché cases with food: that was all packed the night before, also. There are several ladies and gentlemen (all of 'em) who could tell you a bit about it. In fact, 150 people, fully equipped for a jolly good day by the sea, were all set for "off" in fifteen minutes from the time of the buses reporting, and so the married families of 2nd Divl Signals hit the trail for East Wittering at about 9 a.m.

The journey there was not eventful except that the i/c messing informed us that we were passing "The Six Bells" and then asked why? and we had a little game of ring-a-roses round the arches at Chichester. We arrived at the sea just after eleven o'clock, and straightway we erected a couple of tents, telegraph, for the food stakes and the ladies. This was in the car park, by the way, which was only a matter of twenty yards from the sea. I might mention that as we drew in we passed two beautiful things with lovely tanned backs and red beach pyjamas, and more than one hushed whisper of "Why did I bring the wife?" went round the more sophisticated menfolk.

To get back to the trip. Those who didn't nip down to the sea busied themselves in preparing the midday meal, which I can assure you was well up to Ritz standard. This was no mere haversack ration packed in a yard of greaseproof, but dainty sandwiches of numerous assortments, pies (not Salisbury ones), fruit, etc., served up on attractive papier maché plates, and various cordials in equally attractive imitation glasses. Tea was brewed by the indomitable Corpl B., whose motto should be "Ubique"; and I might mention that he received moral support from two young married ladies who sat by him nearly all day and then complained of having sore feet coming back. For those gentlemen who wore trousers there was a nice chubby barrel, the contents of which were the only thing for which they had to sign on the dotted line. When lunch was over all scraps were brought up on the plates and dumped, and (to put it in the words of the car park owner) "No one would have thought that 150 people had just sat down to lunch there"—it was so tidy.

In the afternoon everybody made for the sea for bathing, etc., and at least one lady found how useful a macintosh could be when hard pressed. Others were introduced to various bathing pastimes which have no hard and fast rules. Steve provided a few laughs when he put two legs in one hole in a bathing costume and his neck through another, and then swore he had a lady's costume on, back to front.

Tea was provided at the appropriate time, and once again it might have been the envy of the Rothschilds, there being all kinds of fancy cakes, etc.; and when this was over, there was such an

assortment left that everyone was able to have a bumper supper before leaving.

Eventually goodbye was said to the sea at 7.30 p.m. Two stops were made on the way home, which was reached at about 10.15 p.m. The buses were so well planned in seating arrangements that they were able to branch off on reaching Aldershot, thus taking everyone to the nearest vantage point for their respective homes.

Altogether the day was much enjoyed, the weather was good, and everything worked out to plan ; and great credit is due to the R.S.M. and his staff, who set up a model of organisation and greatly helped to impart the holiday feeling to everyone.

The married strength is due for a big boost up before next year, but here's one content to remain an uncle.

Arrivals and Departures.—Unfortunately, we cannot give individuals any publicity this month ; but to those who have joined us we give a hearty welcome, and to those who have left we wish all the best.

Trooping Season —The majority of the provisional warnings have now been received, and already several deletions and additions have taken place.

The Palestine draft sail on the 3rd September and the China draft embark on the 10th, and we take this opportunity of wishing them bon voyage. May they soon feel at home in their foreign stations. We hope that at least one of them will not forget to let us know all about it.

Salaams.—To Bill Potesta, 3rd Indian Divl Signals: Salutations received. Salaams. Bob B.

Jealous.—To Bill, Command Signal Company: Tich and myself went on an outing the other Saturday, and we also saw *your* uncle on South Parade pier, but we preferred to pay our own way. We also went for a moonlight trip to Cowes, but they came from Northampton—not Bristol.

Is It Right?—That a certain somebody took off his cap to show someone else his complexion after spending a week at Ramsgate?

That L/Corpl G. of the O.R. has actually spent a complete leave away from the aforesaid O.R.?

That Nurmi is really a shorthand typist?

That Wog M. ever had a return ticket?

That a certain n.c.o. in D Section told the military correspondent of *The Daily Mail* on a recent scheme that a coffee wagon was a *portable* signal office?

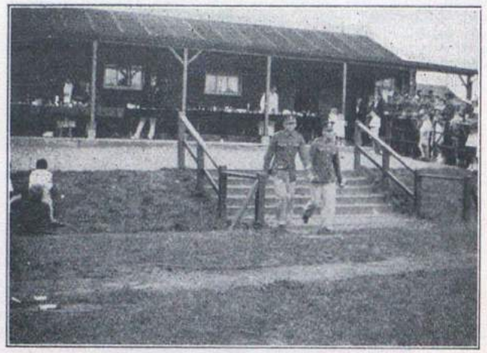
EASY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—E Section have returned to Brighton to recuperate after their stay at Okehampton and Stoney Castle. We hear from them occasionally, but we shall have to wait until their return to barracks for all the exciting news. It is said that a certain Scotsman is going to write a book on his experiences by the sea in the last two years. That will be a little better than listening to him relating them each Sunday afternoon.



No. 6 Section.



No. 6 Section taking some of the Prizes.

F Section spend half their time with the 13th Field Brigade R.A. and the rest of it in barracks preparing for the next scheme. They are working hard and looking forward to the individual training period, when they are likely to get some rest. However, the experience they have had ought to bear fruit in the form of higher ratings this year.

No. 6 Section are again at Deepcut, keeping silence and also a pair of shoes that I loaned to one of them. The Section did very well in the unit sports and were quite happy, as shown in the two accompanying snaps. Another shows our javelin thrower Sigmn Thorpe, of F Section, who vows that by next year they will have to set a limit for him.



Signalman Thorpe.

Company Headquarters (why smile?) are doing o.k. and are just managing to crawl about. Nothing exciting ever happens to them, and everybody (with the exception of the orderly room) allows them to work peacefully and alone.

Departures and Arrivals.—L/Sergt Bye (Busty) bade us goodbye early in July to squeeze into the A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth. L/Corpl Goring is now a respectable citizen of Polegate, Sussex, where he recently completed an "outside voc." Best wishes to both of them in their new abodes.

L/Sergt Sykes, posted to us from No. 1 Company, is enjoying life in being attached to different units of the T.A. Corpl Smith C. G. is attached to this Company from No. 3. We hope that their stay with us will be pleasant.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpls McKeer, White and Peuleve on their appointment to that rank.

Drafts.—Sigmn Taylor E. R. has been warned for China early in October this year. I wonder how they do it?

Quite a lot of provisional warnings affect this Company, and some good sportsmen are sweating on leaving us. We pray that they are replaced by some equally as good, for we were looking forward to the next football season as being a good one for us.

S.O.S.—Did my letter reach you o.k. Mac? J.C.

Things We Hear.—Atcha! atcha!

J.C.

No. 3 Company.

General.—By the time these notes appear, our annual summer leave (seven days) will be just one of those sweet memories of the past. It was thrust upon us, and before we knew that we had it, it was all over and gone. K Section had to be satisfied with just a short week-end and a promise of a week's leave later on. One well knows what Army promises are, but we hope for K's sake that those who are responsible for all this leave business will keep their word. Anyhow, a short week-end was apparently quite enough for the lads of K: they all arrived back "stony broke." It strikes me that the fun fairs along Waterloo Road did pretty well.

Schemes are continually looming up before us these days. Still, they too fly past eventually, but not nearly so fast as that seven days did—leave, I mean, not jankers.

Signals Week was a great success. Although our Company did not exactly shine at the inter-Company sports, we did our best and it was well worth watching. Naturally, we don't want to keep our athletic trophies too long ; that wouldn't be cricket, old boy.

We congratulate C.Q.M.S. Winkle on a really fine burst of speed in the 100 yards. C.Q.M.S. Laurenson (our George) did not compete. All his time is still taken up around the Elstead district. I wonder where all this young blood will eventually land us.

Drafts.—Yes, eager eyes still scan the latest published bulletins, hoping against hope. Perhaps our old friends of the Company who are abroad would like to know what they have coming to them, so here goes. China, Sigmn Russell. Egypt, Signalmen Dickerson, Miles, Millington, Reardon, Spencer, Drane, Stubbs, Pearce H. (Tilly) and Cameron T. (Terry). Palestine, L/Corpl Cole E. India, L/Corpl Webster, Signalmen Breach, Cass, Heap, Stubley, Falconer, Herberts, Jones, Lawson, Thackray, Copestake, Davies, Grant, McGowan and Parker. Jamaica, Sigmn Bracegirdle (lucky guy!) Malaya, Signalmen Parkin and Chatfield (lucky guys, again, so they tell me).

After deducting the above from our present establishment, well, Three Company just won't be Three Company any more.

Marriages.—Lieut. G. B. Bell to Miss Lewis-Hall at Aldershot on 28/7/34. We wish them both all the best.

Births.—Nil, but we all still keep hopefully singing "Some day the stork will pay us a visit."

Postings.—Sigmn Linton to No. 1 Company (unit H.Q.).

Agony.—To Purdah, 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta: What! is there still another one? Ask him nicely to avoid No. 3 Company 2nd Div.—two is company, you know, but three! well, it would drive us scatty. Don't harp too much on the gallantry ; Cuthbert is rather sensitive.

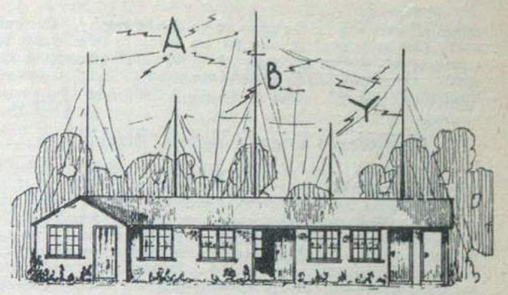
Arrivals.—Signalmen Stannard, Hurrell and Garner from the Training Battalion. The usual glad hand is extended. You know where to find the grooming kit, I suppose.

We Would Like to Know.—Why Sigmn Parkin always sleeps in the centre of the room these days? He seems to have developed a permanent disgust for Army lockers. Where is Brunno? and what is she? When is Hank going to pay up that bob?

Correspondence.—To J. Richards, attached 2nd Battery R.T.C. Farnborough, and J. Pemberton, Spike Island: How about a line to Mac of the old 22 Squad?

Conclusion.—We close to the signature tune of "S Relief" (i.e. "Little man, you've had a busy day"). That goes for me too, so cheerio everybody until next month.

T.B.C.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

General.—News being scarce, this seems to me the month in which to tell the world who are the people so nobly earning their pittance in this unit. If you don't feel like reading this, don't ; but I love seeing my name in print, so here goes.

Captain H. H. Anthony (O.C.), Captain L. R. C. Watson (acting C.S.O.), Captain G. Rooker (acting adjutant), R.S.M. Wigglesworth J., M.B.E., C.Q.M.S. Yates W., Sergts Bishop G. R., Cole W., Harvey A. and Weeks W., Corpls Stanley R. and Chamberlain J. (Pride of Pompey), L/Corpls Mohrstadt H., Durand A. and Abbott W., Signalmen Williams L. (Body-Line), Verlander E., Goldsby T. (Barber's Friend), Summers G., Macken W. (Toe-Grip Mahatma Ji), Harwood H. and Bateman G. (Sheik). Reading these names, you will no doubt wonder how so many wonderful people manage to be together in such a small unit. Working together, we also are staggered.

Loa-Bio-Saa-Waa.—We are still in the land of the living and hope to be with you soon. In case you may be thinking that we are finding difficulty in putting it together again, the delay is due to the fact that we have used up all the wire in England and have to wait until another mine is dug to get some more raw materials. We know that you are terribly missing us and those beautiful dead o' night watches ; but never mind, we'll be with you before many moons have passed.

Watisit.—The following watisit was prompted by Body-Line Bill on hearing of a fellow correspondent's busy day last Thursday. It is copyright, and anyone heard reciting it at socials, smokers or other gatherings will be impounded.

LITTLE MAN, YOU HAD A VERY BUSY DAY.
or, An Ode to Friend "Easy."

'Twas on a Thursday morn
That Easy did adorn
The back seat of a bus to Wittleberry ;
Arrayed in all his splendour,
Young Easy did endeavour
To satisfy the hungry and forlorn.

He was the sandwich man,
In charge of tongue and ham
And other things which make an outing breezy ;
He also nursed the offspring
Whilst the parents had a fling—
It must be nice to be an Easy man.

And so it was till night begun,
A-holding someone else's son,
And trying all the time to be so gay.
We hope your lesson's learnt, young man—
That family outings you will ban.
Easy, you had a very busy day!

Sporticism.—The Cads have gone all athletic. Whether our successes at cricket have stirred them, or whether they are after that slim figure so much admired by the fair sex, I do not know. Anyhow, it has been decided that during the coming season we are going to win everything there is to be won, and with that object in view a sports meeting was held to discuss ways and means. We have entered as a separate Company for the Cobb trophy, and we have great hopes that when the final reckoning

comes off ours will be the name to go on the trophy. Our only worry just at present is how we are going to raise teams for cross-country, boxing and rugger with only eighteen men to call upon. The chaps have all gone into strict training, and if enthusiasm counts for anything, we are already champs.

AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

The Cads had a spot of bother last month. Some question of etiquette regarding the old school tie: hence our absence from the news in the last edition. In accordance with our frank policy we dare publish such news, coming as it does so quickly after Barleux had given us a snappy edition on this subject. There is no limit to our utter caddishness. Incidentally, we wonder where he obtained his copy. Granted, we are few. One might even say we are isolated. But who dare deny the existence of our Cads? Let us tell of their recent jaunts and excursions.

The glorious month of July found them—under the name of G Cable Section—expending unbounded energy at Kenley and North Weald. For three joyful weeks the laddies laboured to assist the 1st A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E. by providing a system of communication and service of which Sir Kingsley Wood himself might well be proud. Sacks and sacks of letters of appreciation arranged themselves in brave array before the unit office, formed fours and quietly stood at ease, whilst an overworked office staff dealt with their contents and passed on the fifth aspirin bottle. Surely, the ancestors of this Section may well have been versed in knightly graces, courtly diplomacy and honourable service. There are times when one may well be proud of the Cads. What they did during brief rests from duty is best left untold. History should never go too deeply!

We welcome C.S.M. Bale H. J. from the Depot Battalion, to relieve C.S.M. Bevan B., now with the 50th Divisional Signals (T.A.) at Darlington. This is the second C.S.M. we have had whose sporting abilities are a definite asset to the unit.

Records must have known what they were about when they made out the drafting return for the forthcoming trooping season. They have simply skinned the cream of the unit and warned them for service overseas. Such stalwarts as Sammy and Enoch, not to mention dear Henry and Tut, will not come our way again, I'm afraid. Here is a list for your information.

Gibraltar—Signalmen Wiseman H. and Adams R.
Egypt—Signalmen Pritchard E., Wake A., Caulfield R. and Coombe L.
China—Sigmn Blake W.
India—Corpl Beard C., L/Corpl Robinson L., Signalmen Easdown W., French A. and Forster G.
Palestine—Sigmn Medlycott, A. due to sail on 7/9/34.

Might We Know.—Why the young damsel in the café on the Bagshot road likes flowers? If pansies aren't her favourites?

Why O'Malley sometimes spells his name O'Mailley?

If Chipping Ongar isn't one of the most beautiful spots in England? But was it worth three days C.B. for an extra couple of hours there?

Whether the lance-corporal didn't find the walk on Kingstown pier unduly fatiguing?

What broke the springs of the C.S.M.'s car? If Sergt French feels at all guilty?

If these notes are not rather more daft than usual? If so, whose fault is it?

B.A.S.—E.F.M.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

No. 1 Tank Brigade Headquarter Signal Section.

Tilshead Camp.

General.—We are all set now for the big push. Our Section schemes have come to an end. Everyone worked like true signalmen, so that we achieved some good results. Occasionally we had a few late nights, but our amateur cook kept us amply satisfied with his wayside suppers.

Light Freights.—There is a story, told after lights out, that two of our honourable Section, with the help of their Indian magic and a little prayer, kept their set through *rhiner*, although the radiation was "matchsticky."

Things We Don't Know.—How the incomparable one manages to get his breakfast when everyone has left.

Why the alphabet can mean so many things when there is a job to be done.

How to remain idle when the work day commences.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Scriven, Mullen, Songhurst, O'Hehir and Wild.

Agony.—Sialkot: Bust has not found the monster, but one cannot leave *The News of the World* spare.

Smudger: Are you coming home here? It's no dhodha rest, but the manduri spirit prevails.

TANK BDE. SIGS.

No. 1 Tank Signal Section.

Attached 2nd Battalion R.T.C., West Down Camp, Tilshead.

Moves.—The Section, taking the advice of an old veteran, moved from a land flowing with milk and honey to the vast wilderness and hunting ground of Tilshead on Saturday 21/7/34.

As is only natural, one would hardly expect to find a really wet day during the past weeks of glorious weather. However, just to let us know that one can never be sure of the weather, rain greeted us during the early hours of the morning of our departure and continued to drench the countryside with much needed water. Of course, the personnel of the Section did not look on the rain and reflect on its blessings. The thought that was in everyone's mind was "?*!!*!! what a ?*!!*!! fine start!"

We have heard that the insect world has received a copy of THE WIRE and is now on the move towards Tilshead. The advance guard, of many species, has already arrived. Messrs. Keatings, please note, there is room for a trade boom down here.

Congratulations.—To Brigade and No. 3 Tank Signal Sections on the appearance of notes in THE WIRE. Keep it up!

General.—Since our arrival here several battles have been fought and, of course, won. What we would like to know is whether it is always necessary to have rain before going into action. Most of the battles here seem to have been fought whilst the heavens wept. Perhaps it was always so, because history records it.

Arrival.—We welcome to the Section L/Sergt Bye from the 2nd Divl Signals, who joined us here on 21/7/34. He has since proceeded on fourteen days leave—presumably to recover breath after the climb up the hill. What do you say about Tank Sections, Busty?

Event.—During the early hours of the 2nd August a terrific gale smote the camp area. Brought to sudden consciousness by a rending and crashing of boxes and general utensils, the keepers of the store tent came face to face with umpteen square yards of wet clammy canvas. To scramble out into the elements was a task harder than one would imagine. However, after a while we were clear of the canvas—and what a sight met our gaze in the early dawn light! We were not alone in our plight. The Q.M. store tent and part of the Officers Mess and N.A.A.F.I. tents had suffered a similar fate to our own. This happened even after all precautions had been taken in slackening off guy ropes and re-fixing pegs where necessary before retiring; but what can one do when a main guy rope breaks?

Heard This One?—Scene: Night scheme. "B" Echelon cars parked in a wood. When all was quiet, a voice from out of the darkness said "Are you the L.A.D.?" Voice from a car: "No! we're the ruddy Gurkhas!"

Sudan Habbis.—Which in English almost means auf weidersehen—sorry! I mean au revoir. Anyhow, you know what I mean.

PANJANG.

No. 3 Tank Signal Section.

Attached 3rd Battalion R.T.C., Westdown Camp, Tilshead.

General.—Well! here we are again—still jogging along, singing a song. Sorry! we have no singers now. We came back from leave on the 11th August, and all had traces of lost smiles on our faces. I believe everyone had a perfectly good time, however, and we are now settling down ready for the big business—meaning the Tank Brigade exercises, of course.

Amendments.—Sergt Lake informed me that he scored two more (while I was not looking) than the total I gave against his name in last month's WIRE. His score should have read 44 and not 42. Fancy that, now! and me a strict T.T.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Newman L. on being re-classified as an electrician fitter class II. Well done, Len! keep it up! Talent? I'll say we've got some.

Departures.—At present none. In the near future there will be, I hear.

Arrivals.—Same old nonesome.

Nit and Wit.—I am afraid these two lads are unable to contribute this month. I left them in the office arguing as to whose name should appear first in order.

Things We Would Like to Know.—If it's true that a certain young man of A.F.V. still trims his moustache? He first started, I hear, when a young lady friend of his sang "You ought to be in pictures" while he was in the vicinity.

Why can't Farley J. write to Musket Sam? Are you among the "elites" now, John?

In Conclusion.—Anyone who would like to keep young and healthy always should come to Tilshead Spa, the Queen of Salisbury Plain. As it is, so be it.

W.A.S.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—With regimental training finished until the end of August, we have been having an off period to recuperate for the annual wars in September. Three bright spots illuminated our life last month, each of equal importance in their own sphere.

Annual Inspection.—Brigadier F. B. Hurndall, M.C., commander of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade, inspected the Troop and everything that was in it on the morning of the 2nd August. We had been looking forward to this visit with a confidence which later, to our gratification, was justified. The Troop standard is being well maintained, and a reminder to all Troopites to keep it up is really unnecessary.

Social.—D Troop, Aldershot, kindly promised to show us a thing or two about cricket, and we were glad to welcome them on the 28th July. A glorious afternoon and a perfect wicket, but the home team had an advantage in knowing that they had been chosen to avenge our defeats in hockey and football at Aldershot last winter.

The visitors batted first, but could not make the time to enable them to get used to the wicket—all except the last man, Sigmn White, and he wagged his tail to the tune of 17.

E Troop went out to bat, but when the first wicket was lost without a run being scored, strategy demanded that the visitors should be fed—maybe with the idea of making them just comfortably lazy. The oracle worked, for after the tea interval we carried on to make a score that gave us a wide margin of safety. Only one innings was played, and all wickets were taken when stumps were drawn at 7 p.m. Our G.O.M. of the willow, Sergt Honnor, made a brilliant 50 before he decided to give the younger folks a chance.

Weather.—Really, I never intended to write about this unknown quantity. I was thinking about a heading for the third of our bright spots, the August break. Usually, leave means better and brighter topics for discussion than the weather; but when the first party came back, they were of the opinion that the drought scare in the daily papers left a lot to be desired, and that a Sun Bathing Society should be formed on the Plain. The after-leave feeling may account for a lot of this talk.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Smith: a welcome addition to our office staff to replace Sigmn Ould, long lost to the Pay Corps.

E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Apart from sundry activities in connection with the Southern Command Tattoo, we have not had a very exciting month up to the present. Under the heading of "sundry" may be included guards; ex-Troopers, please note for future reference. Mamba and Cobra, with much malice aforethought, had the intelligence to snake away on furlough prior to the eruption. A number of specially selected (?) individuals were chosen to perform the duties of horseholders to the band of the 11th Hussars. Still, as Emerson once remarked, everything has its compensations, even fried fish and mash—less the mash. The horses of the 4/7th Dragoon Guards (loaned to the 11th Hussars for the occasion) must be a trifle doubtful of their various pedigrees, judging by the sweet nothings one chanced to hear at odd times. However, August leave is due to commence on Friday next, so roll on!

Condolences.—The Troop extend their sincere sympathy to Signalmen Oliver and Lafford in their recent losses.

S.U.1.J.L. Helmich.—Apropos a recent effusion concerning tours, Egyptian, mk. 1. (many stars). Organisation and co-ordination of the various espionage systems has resulted in the following code being issued from the Higher Formation: Geetroop Helmieh Uvadit. As the bearded matelot from Pompey once remarked, "Hands across the sea." The mysteries of Clot Bay will have to be revealed at some later date. Ask Freddie.

Troop Cameo.—Flatto, the Troop Sunbeam. As a mark of appreciation, we have decided that he may be permitted a week-end pass in the near future. Flatto may sometimes be observed in the vicinity of the nudist colony at Ferndown, complete with Douglas 1¼ k.w. charging set—less spares. We were promised a report of the full dress rehearsal, but up to the present none has been forthcoming. Known to his intimate acquaintances as the lad with the limpid orbs, he is an easy first among the early morning exhibits at the kiosk. A staunch supporter of the Society for the Provision of Fish Suppers for the Rank and File.

Congratulations.—Our hearty congratulations are due to Blossom on the occasion of his two successive boundaries in the recent Troop cricket match. Keep it up, Blossom! you will soon be up to the standard of your prototype Snozzle.

The Parable of the Bargain.—And it came to pass that an elder of the tribe of Efftroop did chance to journey forth unto the tents of the chieftains in Ayeffvee, complete with chariot. But he fell amongst thieves in that he did tarry too long by the wayside, much to the detriment of the chariot. Girding up his loins, he did depart from Ayeffvee in great anguish. Loud and long were the cries in the wilderness, and there was much weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth among the elders of Efftroop. Many teas were offered and many were accepted, but he would not be consoled. Like Rachel of old, he mourned and would not be comforted. And he did gather unto himself all the wise men of Efftroop (including the I.M.s) saying "Go ye and search the highways and byways," and they did depart in great haste.

Then there came from a far off land one Demp-sey, dragging in his wake a battered and dusty chariot. For it chanced that an infidel from the 16/5th had actually had the barefaced effrontery to snaffle the great W.A.'s bike whilst the owner was discussing affairs of state—first aid or something. Then came the great rejoicing, and the elders of Efftroop did tarry awhile at the kiosk, putting many teas and wads on the book (probably Bunkers').

Moral—Never leave the ration transport unprotected on unhallowed ground. Even Troop sergeants are not immune from the old Spanish custom. We shudder to visualise the consequences had it been the tar-sprayed chariot.

Sayings of the Great.—"Tossing up or tossing down, this gambling must cease!"

Short Story.—"The B.M.'s Dilemma; or, Baffled by Benjy."

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We hope these rather sketchy notes will be excused, but our regular compère (?) is on leave. However, we will do our best.

This month finds us very shorthanded owing to leave, which comes as a very pleasant break at this time of the year. After sending our last contribution we had a succession of exercises, finishing up with a Divisional Artillery exercise on the 20th/21st July. This was interesting, as it took us over new ground away from the familiar landmarks of the Plain and we ended up in the vicinity of Marlborough. After this was over, we started getting ready for such important items as assistance for Territorial camps, O.T.C. camps, Tattoo duties, and last, but not least, leave.

We always enjoy the short visits to our Territorial friends, and this year we sent the following assistance. Lieut. P. B. G. Gambier, 2/Lieut. J. P. North, L/Sergts Barraclough, Greenwood and Little, and Corporals Gibson and Waite to the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals who were in camp at Cranbourne in

Dorset. Captain J. A. I. Watts to the 53rd (W.) Divl Signals in camp at Pennard, near Swansea. Captain J. F. Charlesworth, Sergt Higham, L/Sergt Barnes and Corpl Clarke to the 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals who are now in camp at Bulford Fields. Lieut. L. C. C. Harrison, M.C., L/Sergeant Southwell, Corporals Adams, Davey and Clarke, L/Corpl Pape, and Signalmen Brown, Manser and McKenzie provided assistance to the O.T.C. camp at Warminster, and whilst there they staged a small signal demonstration which we understand was very much appreciated.

Tattoo duties have fallen heavily on us this year, but our efforts have not been in vain, as we hear from sources all round that it was a great success. This was also the subject of a special order by the G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command.

We are now preparing for our move to camp in North Wiltshire at the end of this month. Headquarters and the mechanised portion of No. 1 Company are moving to Charlton Park by road on the 1st September, and Sections are joining their Brigades on various dates at the end of the month. This is the first time since 1930 that we have been to camp as a unit, and we are looking forward to our stay of three weeks. Charlton Park is a lovely place, and given good weather we ought to be very happy there.

The anniversary of the death of Lieut. J. W. Agar falls this month, and we had intended to commemorate it in our notes by sending a photograph of the sundial which has been placed as a memorial in the Officers' Mess garden. Unfortunately the photograph has been mislaid, but we hope to forward it next month.

Promotions.—We offer our congratulations to our second-in-command, Major W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., on his recent brevet promotion.

Marriages.—L/Corpl Dodd C. to Miss Lillian Squires on the 1st August.

Courses.—Driver Emptage L. returned from a course at the Army School of Farriery, Aldershot, having qualified as farrier class iii.

Arrivals.—The following arrived from the Training Battalion and Depot Battalion respectively: Signalmen Smith E. G. and Abrahams E. G.

Departures.—The following have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve and discharge: Corporal Harrison J., L/Corporal Etchells J., Signalmen Orgill, Staton R., Hull H. C., Green S., Richley J., Newbury C., Huntingford L., McCreeth J. and Penton F. Sigmn Goold was discharged.

Sigmn Hirst G. proceeded to Chisledon to attend a vocational training course.

Re-Engagements.—Corpl Freeman C. and Sigmn Hawthorne re-engaged to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Drafts.—Signalmen Hawthorne W. and Binstead are leaving us for Gibraltar on the 7th September. We are sorry to lose them, and wish them the best of luck in their new unit.

Births.—A daughter, Janet Marion, to the wife of Sergeant Pickering E. on the 21st July 1934.

Deaths.—The sympathy of all ranks is extended to Sergt and Mrs. Goble in the death of their infant daughter.

Sergeants Mess.—In sympathy with the unit, the Mess has suffered somewhat on account of leave. However, we had much pleasure when the 43rd (Wessex) Divl Signals called in on their way to the Tattoo. Their visit was all too short, but we hope that they enjoyed both the half-way house and the Tattoo, and offer our sincere apologies for being unable to repay their visit —the difficulty being the shortage of members.

To brighten up the atmosphere again, the 48th Divl Signals played us in a games tournament in the mess on the 13th August, and though at the end a draw was declared some doubts existed as to the hieroglyphics on the score sheet. However, the cup will go back with them to Birmingham with hopes that it will find a suitable resting place for the time being, and remind them of the night's struggle (?) and sentiments already expressed.

One query arises out of the latter, and that is: did the bus driver take a wrong bearing on the way home, or was the result of the map reading sojourn a success?

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of No. 2318924 L/Corpl Patrick Lawrence Fitzpatrick on Saturday 11th August. Whilst on leave with his fiancée at Southend-on-Sea, Fitzpatrick somersaulted into three feet of water in the swimming bath and received severe injuries to his head and neck. He was taken to the Southend-on-Sea District General Hospital, where he passed away two days later from pneumonia following his injuries. Needless to say, the whole unit was deeply shocked when the news was received of his death. Not only was Fitz a keen and promising young n.c.o., but his capabilities as a hockey player and athlete were above the average. He was a regular member of the unit cricket and athletic teams for the last three years, and played hockey for the Colchester Garrison on numerous occasions. The sympathy of the whole unit is extended to his mother and family now residing in India.

Signals Band Week.—(The following is an extract from a local paper.) This week has been one of pleasant reunion and outdoor festivals for the 4th Divisional Signals, who after a long stay in Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, will be leaving in the autumn for Canterbury.

The Corps' fine band has been in the borough to delight the officers and all ranks with a daily programme, and the director (Mr. R. R. Ricketts) and his musicians have added to their reputation by the quality of their renderings and the popularity of their choice. Bandmaster Ricketts is an old friend in Essex, for he was the bandmaster of the Pompadours (2nd Battalion Essex Regiment).

Applause greeted the selections given at the gymkhana on Monday and Tuesday, when the n.c.o.s and men, well supported by the officers, gave a fine display. Wrestling and tugs-of-war on horseback provided much excitement, and interesting also were the fancy dresses of the children—one tiny tot, June Worth, appearing as a Signals Bandsman, booted and spurred and with toy trumpet. The results were as follows:—

Six-legged race—Sigmn Hobson's team.
King's Messenger race—L/Corpl Wilbraham.
Slow motor-cycle race—1 Sigmn Herbert, 2 Sigmn Shepherd.
Dismounted tug-of-war—J Section beat E Section.
Mounted tug-of-war—E Section beat F Section.
Team tilting—B Section beat D Section "A" team.
Wrestling on horseback—B Cable Section beat K Section.
Staff relay—1, No. 2 Company; 2, No. 1 Company.
Band race—Bandsman McGregor.
White cargo race—1, D Section; 2, B Cable Section.
Boat race—J Section.
Medley race—Corpl and Mrs. Worth.
Boot race—1 Sigmn Crocker, 2 Sigmn Green, 3 Sigmn Tyers.
Fancy parade—1 June Worth (Bandsman), 2 Patricia Pearce (Jap).

The staff relay team winners were Captain W. G. L. Kennard, Lieut D. J. Goldsmith, C.S.M. Griffin, C.Q.M.S. Newman, Sergt Cowan, Corpl Ward, L/Corpl Watson, Signalmen Watson and Arnold.

Married families and old comrades were hospitably entertained in marquees during the week, and the bandsmen and their director were also guests of the unit, their hosts including the junior as well as the senior n.c.o.s.

On Wednesday the Band met the junior n.c.o.s at cricket, and on Thursday the officers played the w.o.s and sergeants. A social evening and an all ranks dance were other features of the week; and on Friday, the last day of the programme, the Band played at No. 1 Garrison ground on the occasion of the visit of the Free Foresters for a cricket match, and also at an Officers' Club dance in the evening.

The commanding officer (Lt.-Col. R. A. C. Henderson, M.C.) took a great interest in the festivities and ran well in the staff relay. He was assisted by the adjutant (Capt T. C. Thompson, M.C.) and other officers of the unit in all the undertakings of the week, and R.S.M. Beattie A. H. was again to the fore in the organisation of the sports events.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Colchester Carnival held recently drew upon the ranks of B Cable Section to provide a suitable escort of men and horses for the Beauty Queen. Sergt Gale surrounded by his gallant band dressed in military uniform of a past period made an inspiring sight, and the manner in which the sergeant handed over his charge to the Mayor at the Town Hall could not have been bettered for courtly bearing by Sir Walter Raleigh himself.

Weapon Training.—The second musketry party proceeded to Cockwatch Camp on the 8th July and maintained the high average set up by the first party. The cup for the highest Section average was won by A Section, for the second successive year, with an average of 66.9. A splendid score of 87 by Sigmn Melhuish won him the title of unit shot. The complete Company average was 61.7, which is a decided improvement on last year.

Band Week.—Once again we have been visited by the Corps Band, and we are indebted to them for a most delightful week. At the gymkhana B Cable Section cleared the board in the mounted events and D Section annexed the white cargo race.

Marriages.—Two more n.c.o.s, Cpl Smith and L/Cpl Gillott, took the plunge during the August leave period, and there is now a possibility of a few more carriages being added to the "Shanghai Express."

Arrivals.—Sigmn Green from No. 3 Company and Sigmn Walters from the S.T.C. have joined us since last month.

Departures.—Quite a number of old faces have disappeared since our last notes—all trying their luck in civvy street: C.Q.M.S. Warr, Corpl Franklyn, Sigmn Gartland, and Drivers Cross and Barnet. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Now that the August leave period is ended, the Company is back to the normal routine. F and E Sections are preparing for their move to Shorncliffe and Dover, to join their affiliated Brigades for a short spell of training. G Section proceed to camp at Bures on the 27th August for the 11th Brigade training until the 17th September. E and F Sections will proceed to Canterbury in the middle of September as advance party, prior to the unit moving there in October. G Section are remaining in Colchester as rear party.

Postings.—Sigmn Williams A. to Catterick (School of Signals) for employment on the permanent cadre.

Marriages.—Sigmn Wilce W. to Ruth Kathleen Tietjen at Ipswich on the 4th August. The usual congratulations to the happy couple and the best of luck.

Indian Draft.—Eleven other ranks have been provisionally warned for service in India, and many are the applications for exchanges. Some people do not seem to like India.

Army Reserve.—By the time these notes appear in print, Sigmn Scott E. will have left us for civvy street. We trust that he will do well in civilian life and soon get a job as a policeman.

Departures.—Captain W. G. L. Kennard will soon be leaving us for Iraq. We wish him every success in his new sphere of activities. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Musketry has now ended for the year, and the Company did extremely well to obtain the highest average marks with 64—incidentally winning the unit challenge cup for the third successive year. L Section nearly won the prize for the best Section average, but A Section of No. 1 Company beat them by a very small margin. Well done, A Section! Sigmn Carey A. was Company shot with a score of 84, also being second unit shot.

After the divine service parade on Sunday 22nd July, Driver Shaw R. of this Company (with others, of course) was presented with the L.S. and G.C. medal by Major-General W. D. S. Brownrigg, D.S.O. The Brigadier, before presenting the medals, said he was always pleased to do so, as he considered them to be the highest honour to be won by a soldier in peace time and they might well be called the Victoria Cross of Peace. Those interesting remarks should be borne in mind by those who are inclined to think lightly of this medal.

After the August leave, on the 13th J and L Sections left for Shorncliffe and Dover respectively for collective training with their Brigades. Newcomers are rather keen on going to Dover, especially after all the yarns that old L Section men have been spinning. As far as I can see, the only snag to prevent one living an ideal life there is the hill that has to be climbed on the way back to barracks.

The Corps Band spent a week with us from the 15th to the 22nd July, and we hope they all enjoyed their stay in East Anglia. Next year they will come to East Kent. I wonder how many more years will pass before the Band loses all its original members? At present they are, like the famous advertisement, "still going strong."

Drafts: India.—The undermentioned have been provisionally warned for India during the coming trooper. Signalmen Leebrick A., Peacock J. (save a bed for him, B Corps), Bruce J., Cox F., Donaghy P., Hatton S., Moase R., Wilson W. J., Duggan A., Hunt I., Tyers W., Gamble R., Rushen L., Salmon A., Barran T., Hanlon A., Buckles C., Harding L., Hamilton A. and Leverston-Allen A. Sigmn Barnett S. has also been warned for China.

Obituary.—We regret to record the death of Betty, the day-old daughter of Sigmn and Mrs. Hardy, on 17/7/34.

On Saturday 11th August the whole unit was shocked to hear of the death of L/Corpl P. Fitzpatrick, which occurred through a swimming accident. NICK.

5th Divisional Signals.

"On Tour," August.

Literary.—The notice "Under new management" is hereby displayed for the information, etc., etc. (There is no need to look at the end for the nom-de-plume: you will reach it soon enough.)

Many thanks are due to the departed scribe (C.S.M. Ingles) who has now left us for the S.T.C. Many scribes mention the difficulty they have in finding time to write notes, but they should try this place. For outside attractions it reaches the limit, and I am sure the C.S.M. would many times have preferred to stand on the promenade with a rod and a can of worms instead of compiling notes.

Talking of attractions recalls a remark passed by the office wit on my arrival. Here it is. "The girls here are no good; they won't let go when once they get hold." Checking the married personnel of the unit gives ample proof of the above. The number of those married off the strength exceeds those on the M.Q.R. by 200 per cent. It is said that the Registrar proposes to migrate to the Channel Islands to avoid paying death duties.

In spite of the many attractions, I hope to keep everyone posted with regard to activites of the unit. There will be plenty to write of next month—but will there be time to do it?

Society of Pod Pickers.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Waller on being awarded full marks for the best-kept garden. Had the allotments been judged from a futuristic point of view, I think my garden (also taken over from the late scribe) would have been in the running for honours. However, there is another year.

Training.—This branch of sport is flourishing considerably. Having mastered communication by tanks, aeroplanes, and kite hawks in Quetta, we turn our attention to the deep sea.

Mention was made in the notes last month of the practice landing that was to take place. It took place all right—in bathing costumes and canvas. Two boats were hired from the harbour authorities (at Scarborough prices, by the way—none of your "modified for India" about them). The idea, I think, was to land a complete signal office, sufficient to establish communication between land and sea. Having made a few enquiries for "hysterical record" purposes, I gleaned information to the effect that the boats, duly loaded, left the pier and proceeded shoreward. No mishap occurred, and all equipment, etc., was carried safely ashore through one, two, three or four feet of water. Comments from interested spectators were varied (I wish I could have heard them, especially after hearing the telephone conversation when the boats were ordered). During this conversation all doors and windows were opened, and several of the younger soldiers were noticed trying to creep under the tables. Some of the remarks passed at the landing referred to "mill pond," "smooth as glass," and so on.

However, it is to be hoped that the experiment will have proved useful when September arrives. In view of the weather experienced en route from Scarborough to Catterick, the whole unit would have benefited by a practice landing.

Drafts.—This seems an everlasting topic. Since our last issue we have received information concerning India's requirements for the forthcoming trooping season—fifty-three! Don't make any mistake: the dash doesn't mean *less* fifty-three. Oh, dear

[*Continued at the foot of page 416*]



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Congratulations.—To Sergt and Mrs. Shepherd on the arrival of a daughter on 3/7/34. To Sergeant Green on passing in map reading and maths towards his first class certificate of education. To Signalmen Bourner and Tyler on passing the British Service Urdu parts i. and ii. and part i. respectively. To L/Sergeant Appleby, Corpl Wright and L/Corpls Hickman and Roberts on their respective advancements.

Things We Want to Know.—Has the Quartermaster got a lucky staff, and is there any likelihood of the boat being pushed out? or have the Civil Police been warned to double the guard at the Bank?

Is "Q" slimming, or is it only the elastic band on his blue shorts which is becoming stretched?

What will Mac do with his gold medal clubs?

How does Sam spend his Thursdays and Sundays?—there being no kit issues in Birmingham.

Who is the fittest man in Jubbulpore? and why does he always look tired by tiffin time?

General.—After a short stay in this unit Captain A. E. Barton has left us for Quetta, where he hopes to find an imitation of our home climate. We are very sorry to lose you, sir, and hope you will like Quetta.

We welcome to the S.T.C. (India) Captain L. C. Boyd from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, and hope his stay will be a long and happy one. Our golfers of the unit have " eagle " and " birdie " eyes cast in the direction of the O.C.'s office, in the hope of picking up a few tips.

There's a Fire.—At about 10.35 hours in the morning on the 20th July, the S.T.C. (India) received a telephone message which later developed into a call to all offices and departments instructing all British ranks to report to the S.T.C. (India) guard room for the purpose of taking the fire manual to the R.A. Lines—a distance of about one mile.

At last, it seemed there was to be something exciting in Jubbulpore! Every B.O.R. of the unit turned out—except about 75 per cent. who in all probability " stood to " at their offices or departments. After trotting the 1760 yards, lugging the manual loaded with its equipment complete to scale, the brave 25 per cent. arrived at the R.A. lines and enquired for the fire. Some robust young lads of the R.A. were strolling about uninterestedly; others, by the look on their faces, wondered whether our fire manual was some antediluvian type of motor-car or a new type of refuse trolley being introduced into the lines : and still others, looking out from the balconies, were apparently waiting to be carried to a place of safety.

At last we found the people who mattered: the Jubbulpore Brigade fire committee and the R.A. Brigade sergeant-major. Our first enquiries produced the startling information that there " weren't no fire ": but as we are apparently responsible for arresting fires within an area which includes the R.A., we had been summoned for the purpose of testing our powers of combating them.

After a discussion on the capabilities of our fire engine, a search was made for water viz. fire hydrants, but apparently the M.E.S. did not think these were necessary. Finally we obtained a small trickle from one of the ablution rooms, and after a spell of about half an hour we got enough water into the tank of the manual to commence pumping. Sad to relate, however, when we got the pump working there was only just enough water in the tank to flow into three lengths of hose, and the jet that came out at the far end resembled a garden sprayer.

Having successfully run out of water within three minutes from the time of pumping, we were delighted to find that our services were no longer required and we then made tracks for home.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

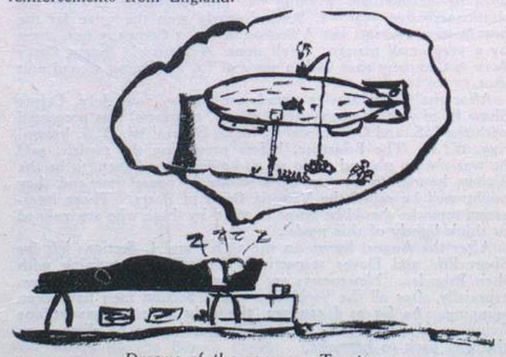
General.—The first half of our sojourn in the hills is over. Most of the outstation B.O.R.s have returned to their parent units, and candidates for the second course have arrived and are now well settled.

The results of the first course were very satisfactory, and the cheerful countenances of those concerned on the promulgation of these results in Part II.s are sufficient encouragement for the instructors to carry on with the good work on the second course. Congratulations to all concerned.

Entertainments.—A carnival dance was held as a farewell to those leaving. This was a great success, or so we are led to believe by the conglomeration of empty bottles and dull eyes which were very much in evidence the next morning.

Repatriations.—" Roll on, Ock!" is a phrase which can be heard in most nooks and crannies of this little bump. B Corps have over thirty proceeding to the Reserve and about forty to the home establishment. This is a large number for one trooping season. There are still quite a number who may yet pluck up courage to put a " duskat " on a B.221, or say " D.R.I. one year" (for the benefit of those young and old soldiers who have not served in the land of milk and honey, this means " Desirous of remaining in India.") This time next year there will not be too many old hands left here to keep us on our high pinnacle, but we will extend the welcome mitt to new arrivals and rely on 'em to maintain the high name of Bekore. Our O.R.S. will still be sorting out Passage Regulations, K.R.s, etc., though. He is one of those special roster ginks ; you know, unfortunate enough to have arrived in this country sufficiently long ago to have been caught.

Enclosed is a drawing by one of our artists who is due for a sea trip this year, depicting the return to the U.K. of the 1934/35 reinforcements from England.



Dreams of the 1940—41 Trooper.

Arrivals.—It is with pleasure that we welcome Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., who has now taken over as Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. He is well known by us all, having recently commanded the 1st Indian Divl Signals in Rawalpindi. Also L/Sgt Frampton from Waziristan District Signals (a king of " Small jumps, begin "), Sigmn Hearne from the 4th Indian Divisional Signals, and Signalmen Britton and Hoare from Cherat.

Departures.—Sergt Parker (Badgy) to Waziristan District Signals. Sigmn Brown W. G. on discharge, to Ceylon. Signalmen Hogg (Busty) and Waters (Baldy) to the W.E.S. Cherat. Corpl Burton on discharge, to the United Kingdom. This last is a blow to us, as Corpl Burton was a very capable Mess secretary and also a wizard for sorting our our khana. He could do just as he wanted to with food. The best of luck to all of you in your new spheres.

Corporals Mess.—Colonel Yule and the officers were recently at home to the members of the Corporals Mess and their families. It was a very enjoyable afternoon, everybody very quickly making themselves at home. Some fine sets of tennis were played between clouds that would persist in dropping over the courts. One match in particular was well worth watching: Major Newton and Capt. Sketch v. L/Corpls Jarvis and Cant.

A series of games, both indood and outdoor, has been commenced with the Sergeants Mess. So far, football, hockey and tennis have been played, with the following results: Football, lost by 2—3 ; hockey, won by 7—0 ; tennis, lost by 31—42. The indoor games are being held over until the monsoon gets a grip on us and it becomes impossible to play outside at all.

A dinner and dance was held on Monday 9th July as a farewell to the members leaving us for outstations. The catering for the dinner was carried out by our very able messing n.c.o. Corporal Burton—not forgetting, of course, his young assistant Badgy Lennon. Everybody agreed that it was a first class meal, one certain junior even asking for a " double." (Tich, you may be small, but you show us the way home where food is concerned.) The dance was a great success and large numbers attended. It was our most enjoyable function this year. Everybody entered into the spirit of the evening, and at packing up time (2 a.m.) it took a long while to convince them all that the last dance had really finished. Our M.C. Darky Wallis keeps things going very well, and his efforts are untiring to make all our guests feel at home. He was ably assisted by Buck Taylor. BEKORE.

Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Headquarters.

During June two smokers were held in the canteen. One was of a private nature, while Razcol was out ; the other was more than well attended and was held on the return of the column. Two most enjoyable evenings were spent.

Our next door neighbours, the officers of the 4/15th Punjabis, say that the Corps is very religious. It appears that this mistake is due to a new and very select body called the Boat Club (limited to aspirants for the first trooper) singing " For those in peril on the sea " at every meeting. There is no truth in the rumour that they have been asked to join the Garrison choir.

The last column was attended by certain distinguished visitors from H.Q. Section. The column spent two nights in Ladha, where the usual 2320 sniper came up to scratch. The column reconnoitred up a veritable Turkish bath of a nullah on the second day, and on the third day proceeded to Bibizai via the Baddar Algad. The paddling was inferior to that at Brighton.



Visual Terminal at work.

A flood in the office a few nights ago has provided the clerks with an excuse of unprecedented value.



: Captain Wall issuing orders at Ladha.

Razmak Signal Section.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Wright from H.Q. Section. Sigmn Pay M. to Bannu (complete with Hector and fiddle).

More Departures.—A large number of kikos next trooper.

Courses.—The upgrading courses for operators and despatch riders which have been in progress for some time conclude this week, and at present the candidates are being kept busy by the Trade Board. Four n.c.o.s and men depart for Topa this week for the second course, and it is hoped they benefit from the trip.

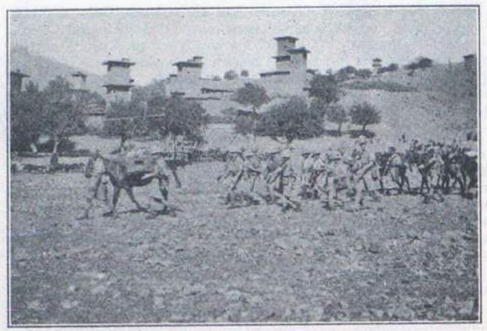


The C.O. in conference with the Officers of the 5/6th Rajputana Rifles.



Torwam Camp : Visitors from Wanacol with Captain Wall.

The one with walking stick is not an S.W. Scout but Captain F. K. Wilson, O.C. Wana Signal Section.



Section en route to Chalwesti.

Promotions.—Heartiest congratulations to L/Corporal Dunlop W. on dropping the "U/" and collecting the back pay.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Williams J. J. on winning the light weight championship of India. To B Corps on annexing the Buffalo football trophy. To H.Q. Section W.D. Signals on winning the Brigade basket ball tournament (we had to give them best in the final).

Columns.—Since the last month's notes the Section have done two columns. On the first, which lasted six days, we went to Ladha, Chalwesti and Torwam, returning by the same route. At Torwam our advance guard and main body met Wanacol, who were on their way to Tiarza Narai. The meeting was brief, but it enabled most of the fellows of both Sections to renew acquaintance. The second hike was of five days duration and, it is rumoured, the last until the end of September.

C.W. on the Move.—It may interest late members of this Section, and also other units, to know that for some considerable time the No. 1 R/T—W/T sets have been used on pack mules, replacing the A set. By experiments we made locally, we have now improved on the A set, in so far that the No. 1 sets are worked on the move, thus providing continuous communication all the time the column is on the march. This enables each station to keep its place in the line of march, and also dispenses with continually unloading to get W/T communication with other parts of the column.

The disposal of the sets is as follows: one each with advance guard, column H.Q., main body and rear guard, the set at column H.Q. being directing station. R/T communication can be established in a few seconds, enabling the O.C.s of the units of the column to speak with the column commander. Thus, in addition to passing traffic by W/T, the evolutions of the column can be controlled by verbal orders from the staff.

The worth of the No. 1 set for column work has been proved beyond all doubt. It has become an indispensable means of communication.

The accompanying photos were taken on recent columns.

Tailpiece.—Come up and see us any time.

To Trimulgherry.—Mac wants to know how the Jap is getting on?



Razmak Signal Section marching to Torwam.

Lieutenant R. G. Yolland in command.



No. 1 Set in river bed at Kanniguram.

Captain R. H. Wall, O.C. Section, on the right.

J.C.S. would like to know whether Monty ever got his towel back?

The old firm of Wheeler and McWard are once more united and are going stronger than ever. Telegrams: Bible Class. Telephone: 2319885.

To Pip (C.R.S.): The honorary B.O.R.s send their best wishes to you and the memsahib, and would like a line some time.

RAZSIGS.

Wana Signal Section.

We have really very little to report at the time of writing, for most of our recent activities have been directed towards those hardy annuals, columns and mutti-ing; and to anyone who has no knowledge of the art of bricklaying or plastering with mutti we can offer bags of experience. The object of all these labours on the part of the Section is the erection of our new institute, but for the time being our budding Epsteins are held up by the lack of window and door frames. At present, in this connection, the M.E.S. and the Sappers seem to be indulging in a game of passing the buck.

A very good wireless set was installed in the reading room recently, but so far the n.c.o. i/c W/T has had to hold off the budding dial twisters with a club.

With the thermometer standing at 105°, one bright lad remarked that it was the coldest winter we have had for years.

Sport.—In this line we have been rather stagnant, owing to the loan of five players to the unit team for an unsuccessful attempt to lift the Buffalo cup, but since their return we have had a few games, the results of which are shown in the appropriate column elsewhere.

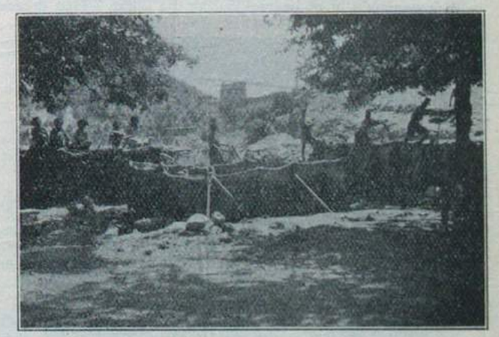
Later.

General.—Since our last contribution, very little has occurred other than a series of preliminary inspections in connection with the annual visit of the C.S.O. in August. Even our mutti-ing operations are suspended. At present all energies are directed towards making a success of our fête next week-end. All hands are spending their spare time in preparing sideshows, but it is marvellous how limited one's scope is in a place like Wana.

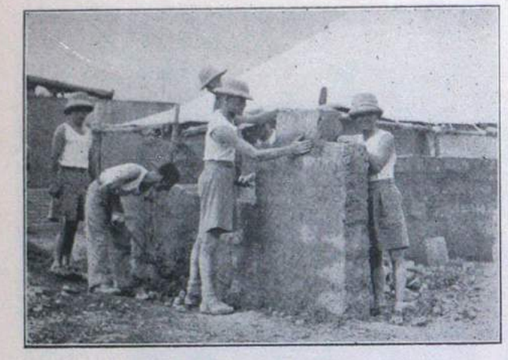
The accompanying photos were taken by Corpl Lloyd.



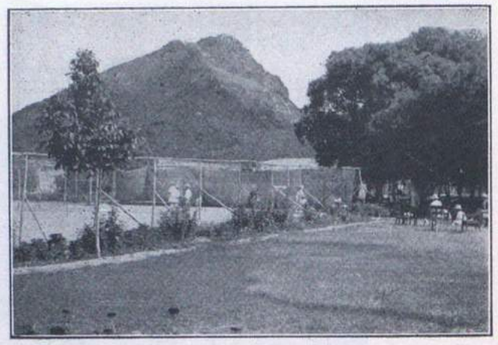
No. 1 Set with operator receiving on the move.



Sappers and Miners pumping water at Ladha.



The Mutti Fatigue.



The Tennis At Home.
Gibraltar Picquet in the background.

Sports.—Outside the usual routine games of hockey and football, we have had two events. Firstly, the Section played the Garrison Sergeants Mess at tennis on their courts and were handsomely beaten. The other event was the Section swimming gala on the 29th July, for which the officers' bath was allotted to us for the afternoon. The results were:—

Novices race—1 Corpl Willcocks, 2 Sigmn Thompson.
Sprint, one length—1 Lieut. Sladen, 2 L/Corpl Bridgman, 3 Pte Jarvis.
Diving—1 Sigmn Healy, 2 Sigmn Green, 3 Sigmn Anthony.
Plunging—1 Pte Jarvis, 2 Lieut. Sladen.
Four lengths free style—1 Lieut. Sladen, 2 Sigmn Grant.
Picnic race—1 Sigmn Hoyle, 2 Sigmn Wilson.
One length back stroke—1 Sigmn Healy, 2 Sigmn Green.
One length breast stroke—L/Corpl Bridgman.
Plate diving—Sigmn Anthony.

Football or hockey matches have been played practically every night, but unfortunately the results and scores have not been recorded.

Cheerio. WANASIGS.

Bannu Signal Section.

General.—The summer is now upon us, and the heat has so far put an end to serious activities. The married families have left us for the cooler climate of Khyra Gali, Upper Topa, and have just been joined by Sergt Payne and Corpl Brett—the former on three months leave and the latter for two months. We only wish we could have the same luck.

Bannu has so far registered an average temperature of approximately 115 degrees, the highest registered being 116.6 degrees, although inside the Fort area it reached over 120 degrees one day with a minimum of 96 degrees during the night. That dreaded affliction prickly heat is prevalent, and we would like to know of an effective cure for it.

Sports.—This Section would like to congratulate the District team who took part in the Buffalo tournament at Murree on the splendid show they put up against the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Although they failed to bring off a victory, we feel sure that it was not due to lack of effort on their part.

As regards sport in the Section, we have been unable to field either a respectable hockey or football team owing to the fact that several of our players have been away on courses. We hope that they will soon be with us again. A few of us were able to secure games with outside teams in the Brigade, and were eventually in great demand, especially for football.

We have played one hockey game against the 5th Battn 2nd Punjab Regiment and suffered defeat owing to the fact that we were out of practice.

The Brigade swimming bath is now in full swing. We are able to boast of several good swimmers in the Section, and are looking forward to swimming competitions with the Tank Corps Section, who also have some good performers.

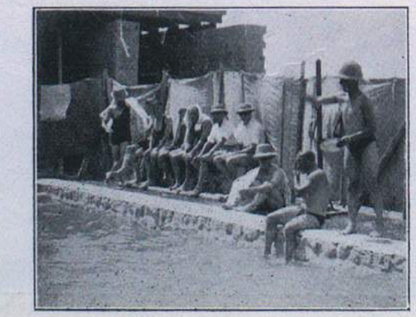
The Section tennis court is very popular and is much used. Recently we entertained and played the Royal Tank Corps Section and defeated them decisively. Our best players were Sergeant Payne and Signalmen McFee and Beever. We have been given an allotment of Rs.200 towards the upkeep of the tennis court, and consequently we have been able to resurface it thoroughly and to build screens around it.

Arrivals.—Sergt Ramsden from Razmak Signal Section. Sigmn Stanley from Wana Signal Section.

Departures.—Sigmn Hoyle to Wana Signal Section.



The Picnic Race at the Swimming Gala.



Interlude in the Plate Diving Event.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Sunday 29th July.

Apology.—Our usual contributor, "Wagg," has departed to Kashmir for a spot of well-deserved leave. Readers, please note and do not pass any worse remarks than usual.

General.—Since last month's notes, great improvements have been effected in the Brighter Kohat movement. Gardens in embryo have sprung up all around us, and paths in concrete form are here to stay. Ex-Kohatites would not recognise the lines now.

The clerk of the weather is still continuing to smile (?) upon us. The order of the day is long cooling drinks, and in consequence a lot of voluntary P.T. in the form of elbow bending is carried out nightly.

All n.c.o.s have passed out on a ride in front of the commanding officer. The styles were varied. Some favoured the Italian school, some the haute ecole as used by France, and some the forward seat; but the majority favoured the "A and A" grip as a distinct improvement upon all these as a method of sticking on.

Arrivals.—Captain E. V. F. MacSwiney and Lieutenant C. H. Barker rejoined the unit after their three and two months sojourn in England respectively. We hope they enjoyed their stay as we hope to enjoy ours when it falls to our lot to be posted to the H.E. or go on leave.

The first Topa party (too numerous to mention individually) have returned from the hills complete with new ratings and a spirit to "show 'em wot us B.ii. operators can do" during the forthcoming training season. We congratulate all who acquired higher ratings.

L/Corporal Stringfellow has returned from Bangalore, having completed a vocational course in electrical house wiring.

Departures.—Major B. G. Rowley, our commanding officer, has departed on three months furlough in the U.K. We all hope he will enjoy his stay and return fit and well to guide the unit through the fog of war as conjured up by training and manœuvres.

L/Corpl West left for Poona on an A.I.s course at the Army Signal School. We have been told that every soldier has a pair of crossed batons in his haversack, but all Jimmy is sweating on is a pair of crossed flags on his arm.

Quite a number have gone to Topa in search of extra shekels. May they all be successful.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl West on getting paid for it. To L/Sergt Shreeves on his forthcoming marriage (and all the best from the old Brigade).

Earthquakes.—On the 24th July, at 1.30 a.m. and again at 1.35, earthquake shocks of some intensity were felt. The first lasted about twenty seconds, and the second about forty. Nearly everybody turned out of the bungalows with a rush, especially those who are going home this trooper: their motto appears to be "Safety first." Anyway, we cannot blame them.

Concert.—The unit held its annual mid-summer smoking concert on the 18th July. Unfortunately, we were not able to hold it whilst the majority of the unit were present (as in former years) because the second Topa party had to leave before the first party returned to Kohat. Thanks to the unflagging energy of the entertainments committee, a varied and very enjoyable evening was spent by everybody. The programme was in the hands of C.Q.M.S. Molyneux, and a number of our old favourites were present. The string trio (Page, Reece and Greenhalgh), "The Unemployed Band" (under the direction of C.Q.M.S. Molyneux), Mr. Barker complete with piano, the Two Dough Boys (Sergeant Costello and Sigmn Angus), and numerous other turns kept us amused and in good spirits right up to the end—which was no small task. I am sure all members of the unit will join with me in a vote of thanks to the entertainments committee (not forgetting those behind the scenes) for producing such a fine show.

It would be as well to mention here that this trooping season will remove almost the last of those who have helped to make these smokers so popular, and we shall have to look to our latest arrivals and those who are to join us in the near future to provide the turns in the days to come. Should this strike the eye of any likely artistes (or even would-be artistes), C.Q.M.S. Molyneux would no doubt be glad to hear from them.

SMUDGER.

WESTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

General.—The arrival and duration of the monsoon really leaves us with very little to say, but I noticed that it didn't curtail the outings of the Lido enthusiasts.

The latest progress report of our aquatic-minded, which I have before me, makes interesting reading. Firstly, Corporal Mills, having lost so much flesh from the lower part of his chest, is now considered to be in the first flight of the jack-knife dive exponents. Experts such as L/Corporal Roberts and Signalmen Clark, Edwards T. and Lamb abound, but for spectacular and hair-raising feats Sigmn German is reputed to be *it*. Although the smallest of our Weismullers, he specialises in diving from the top of the berth cranes. Aspiring to even greater heights, the possibility of the Port Trust authorities providing higher cranes is being discussed. In the event of this not materialising, the shifting of the control tower to a point giving a better take-off is a possible alternative.

Lower down, but none the less important in the report, we have the attainments of the ladies. Miss K. Bradbury, in addition to perfecting a new one, has reached double figures in her strokes, whilst Mrs. Bayliss aspires to a modest nine. What Miss C. Bradbury sports in the matter of apparel is considered the height of fashion. Keep this up, ladies!

Someone once accused Karachi of being the Blackpool of India. This is trying the imagination a bit—I suspect that they meant Wigan. There is one spot where homesick natives of that spa can stand and visualise the old home-town, but if our local authorities made an effort, that stretch of sand which is rather flattered by the name of "the Lido" could be made a trifle more inviting, to say nothing of a possible source of revenue. Anyway, I'll get Corpl Mills to speak to the mayor about it.

Trooping.—Already, those who figure on the unit's repatriation roll are counting the days—rather half-heartedly, though: they're still in the hundreds. When the nineties are reached a "boat" table in the dining room will be agitated for (and, we hope, provided). Here, during the last days, will be recounted the events of their babu-twisting sojourns in the East. Some who have the moral courage may even discuss their intentions when "next time out."

Agriculture.—Farming continues to prosper in A Corps. It is hoped that such an announcement will not be the cause of a migration to this part of the world, but prominence must be given to the enterprise of the unit smallholders. There's hardly a grain of truth in the rumour that an orchard is in prospect, but L/Cpl Gales actually has his own piggery now. True, there's only one, but it's the most faithful little pig you ever saw—follows its owner around like a dog. Reliable authority, in the form of Corpl Hawthorne, states that a cow will shortly be seen decorating the scene and devouring the pasture of the farm. All we need now is a spot of bee keeping and the loan of one of the near-by grass farm's stacks to complete the picture. At the present rate of progress, even this isn't impossible.

The Band.—The object in raking these people out again as a topic to write about is really to make an apology. In the short paragraph devoted to Sigmn Williams' abilities, he was described as a keen all-round sportsman. In the spirit of the thing, this was a trifle exaggerated, as the gentleman concerned isn't exactly a familiar figure on our sports grounds. I beg his pardon for unintentionally being the cause of his waking on the morning after the unit had received last month's WIRE and finding his bed space littered with every conceivable kind of sports kit.

Our Oldest Inhabitant.—Sergeant Bosworth has at last said goodbye to twelve years of bachelordom in Karachi. With all due ceremony Mrs. Bosworth arrived and was installed in married quarters. We welcome her. To those who are disappointed at the non-arrival of her piano, she would say that it was "lost on the voyage."

Promotions.—Not enough space available for them. Honest!

Arrivals.—The annual stationery supply. Company and Quartermaster clerks stand back. The orderly room sergeant will now be able to spend a little more of his own money on himself.

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Monday 6th August.

Day by Day.—Bank Holiday Monday: and here am I, sitting by this accursed typewriter, waiting for an idea to strike me. When it does, I shall probably faint under the sudden stress. It is a glorious day and the unit has a day off, but (to misquote several of the great English daily papers) the general exodus to the seaside is not expected to take place until 11/11/34. And that's when the word "exodus" will be used in its true sense, 'cos there ain't no comin' back.

Night by Night.—In my spare moments (few and far between) I have often wondered why the British Army is encumbered with R.S.M.s. Lately I have seen the light. Our R.S.M. has been dashing around in an indefatigable manner, arousing the Signals Association Branch from its forty years' sleep and bringing back to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals its departed glory. At one time the Signals band and dances were sufficient to send the entire population of Quetta into rhapsodies. Then came the day when it sent them into raspberries. Now we are regaining our old status, and twice weekly the community congregates in the Regimental Institute in a noble endeavour to wear out a perfectly good concrete floor. The repercussions of this revival are being felt in many outside concerns—notably the Murree Brewery, whose shares, I see, have now jumped from Rs.12 to Rs.30.

Schemes and Things.—Regarding schemes, we have been enjoying a very welcome rest from such nasty pastimes. Apparently, "G" staff have exhausted their stock of excuses for perpetrating night ops and day hops with the troops, and for some time Quetta will be quite safe from the invasion of a singularly dense Red Army, who seem to sweep everything before them in the advance on Quetta and then allow a small Infantry Brigade Signal Section and a handful of infantry to wipe them up.

I'm afraid that my remarks on things have been censored as not fit for public consumption. However, in the very near future I intend to circulate privately a monologue on this subject, copies of which will be sent to all concerned in a plain wrapper.

Military Matters.—The junior n.c.o.s drill course was a great success (except from the seniors' point of view), and the swinging of arms from front to rear, the "At the halt, on the left, form squad; what are you doing, corporal?" and similar evolutions left nothing to be desired—except, of course, to get the darned thing over as quickly as possible.

Owing to the deplorable lack of schemes the unit is now indulging in an orgy of individual training, and in a month or two a rush on Part II. Orders is expected. I hope these casualties will not be crowded out through lack of space.

The unit office—a relic of Cromwell's Iron Army—has been renovated. Previous to this, my top speed on a typewriter was four words a minute; but with the assistance of painted cupboards and varnished tables, I expect to do at least ten per minute in the near future.

Agony.—Writing this stuff. Anyhow, it's very unfair. We have three WIRE note writers in this unit, and only by the most diligent concentration can we scrape up an idea between us. I lost the toss this month, which explains why the above notes are so sadly deficient in intelligence. W.G.S.

No. 1 Company.

General.—A welcome is extended to Captain and Mrs. A. E. Barton, who were recently posted to us from Jubbulpore.

The annual O.C.A. dance held on the B.O.R.s tennis courts proved a social success. Financially, there wasn't much in it, but that has since been rectified by numerous dances held in the unit lines. These appear to be very popular, especially when run in conjunction with a whist drive. I've just won a second prize (Bernard Brunton won the first) so I can speak feelingly.

Last Wednesday we had a cabaret and dance affair which lasted until well into Thursday morning. Unfortunately, the weather again decided to be rough, so the show was put on in the Institute. [Incidentally, if the lady who went for a moonlight walk on the damp tennis courts that night would call round and see me, I'll tell her all about her footprints. Nice dinky little high-heeled shoes!] Anyway, a couple named Mary and Gus, or Peggy and Guy, or something, were supposed to be the chief attraction at the show. Speaking personally, I thought they were pretty awful—rather like a cheap imitation of Nervo and Knox, but the unit talent pulled the show up, Jock Clayton's rendering of "The Nervous Englishman" being particularly good. I liked his opening remarks best. Sergeants never were popular with me, anyway.

Talking about sergeants reminds me that I must apologise. You may remember that I congratulated the Sergeants Mess on avoiding the usual heavy tennis defeat at the hands of the officers, owing to the weather. The match has since been played and resulted in a win for the sergeants. There are all sorts of rumours as to the condition of the officers' team prior to the match. I understand that several members of the Sergeants Mess spent quite a lot of money but consider the result well worth it. I say no more, except to apologise, but the said sergeants are *still* steering clear of a match with the B.O.R.s second team. If the latter were handicapped minus 30 in all games, I think it would be a good match.

Autumn training is in the offing and people are busy getting tough. Musketry has started, but you have to be tough to start on that. I appear to be due to win the booby.

Congratulations.—To Corpl and Mrs. Harries on the birth of a daughter. To the Corporals Room on taking Sigmn Jenner S. off our hands. To the unit cricket team on the manner in which they are "socking" their way to the Baluchistan District cricket trophy. To Bill Mays on the publication of his life's work entitled "Ringcraft in U.H.Q." (record sales expected). Lastly, to the unit dance committee on the good shows they are putting up.

Inevitable Agony.—"'Erb, Quetta," finds "Joe." The repatriation people find double figures: 96 days and 21 steps up the gangway! PURDAH.

No. 2 Company.

General.—A dusty dhurrie complex permeated No. 2 Company during last month, and its consequences have had a "beater" effect on those involved. Several budding poets, inspired by this event, attempted an ode to immortalise this ruthless yet classic clean up. I'm afraid the poem only reached the "Beat your dhurries, beat them one by one" stage. At least, that is the only printable piece.

Thanks to the generous activities of R.S.M. Shenton and his indefatigable committee, several dances of an outstanding nature (aw, shucks!) were held during last month. The last one, a cabaret dance, introduced Peggy and Guy (with tiger skins) and some local talent. As W (or is it H?) C remarked, "I don't approve of women dashing about in tiger skin brassieres." Sigmn Clayton's rendering of a speech from "The meanderings of Monty" was characteristic (don't ask me of what).

The swimming bath is now open, and the bathing beauties (beauties is right) are swimming around friskily or frisking around swimmingly, as the case may be.

Garbo's emulator is still hard at it, although it tends to make one anti-Greta.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain and Mrs. Barton and Sigmn Coltman from their respective units.

Departures.—Sigmn Kitson to Waziristan. The memory o his voice lingers yet.

Snapshots.—Jimmy and Laurie rehearsing (perhaps) for their (again, perhaps) forthcoming film "Loves of a Soldier."

Birth.—Sergeant Binham is to be congratulated on the recent addition to his family. Born on the 20th July—still going strong.

The Latest.—Instructor (indicating jacks in 7×3 exchange): "What are those holes?" Pupil: "Air holes."

Since seeing Lorenze's name mentioned in D Company notes, Nobby assumes that he might write some time.

Jack S, A Corps: My new address is "Charlie, Quetta."
Mackenzie, Sialkot: What about a line? Dolly.
Kid and Spike, Tidworth: Am still alive. Al.

Personal.—We don't have to be. Cheerio. NOBBY.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

Tennis.—For the information of ex-members. The Mess having survived the second and third rounds of the Harington cup tournament, it looked as if we were going to avenge last year's defeat. But, alas! in the fourth round we met our Waterloo, the Gunners beating us in both home and away matches. However, we still have a chance if the R.F.A. do their stuff and lick the Gunners—even once.

On Wednesday 18th July the commanding officer and officers of the unit kindly came along with some friendly opposition, the game resulting in a win for the Mess—but by a very narrow margin.

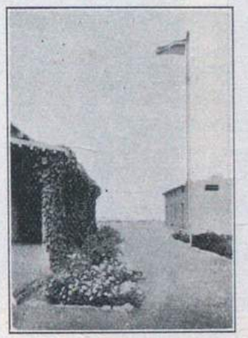
Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Sunday 29th July.

General.—To be one has always been my ambition, but to hear the Q.M. snarl 'tis plain I'm only a general . . . .! However, that's only between friends. To get on with the news is the game, so here goes.

Loralai has proved rather a healthy spot on this side of the herring pond, as according to medical statistics, admittances to hospital during 1933 and 1934 have been very few, and those only minor complaints. Anyhow, who's afraid of the big bad mozzy? Providing you treat him kindly, why fear?



Dafta Verandah, Loralai.

Chautair summer camp, now in full swing with a detachment of B.O.R.s who maintain communication with Loralai, is from all accounts experiencing that Blighty complex: so cool that the institute has lost all trade in supplying necessary aërated waters and light refreshments (Steel, Coulson's noted Elephant Brand). News in detail is issued under a separate heading.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Franks H. and Johnson P. from Fort Sandeman.

Departures.—Corpl Cooper W. and Signalmen Franks H. and Johnson P. to Chautair summer camp. Sigmn Scantlebury C. to Fort Sandeman.

Extensions.—U/L/Corpl Smith J. C. to complete eight and four. Corpls Norman B. and Bartlett J., Signalmen Constantine H., Fortes H., Jamieson H. and Kinsey L. to complete a further six months tour in the Zhob. Who said they wished to return to civilisation, anyhow?

Trooping.—The following have specially requested that they may be allowed to proceed to Blighty by the first available boat in November, which they say is most essential. Corpl (Thelma) Todd A., who after having completed eighteen years service decides to pack in. U/L/Corpl Howard N., whose former service having been restored, now becomes eligible and desirous of allowing his service to expire on 9/9/34 and not '37. Lucky . . . . (?) Signalmen Byrne J. and Cotton E. on posting to H.E.

Postings.—According to Father Time the undermentioned will be due for the next reliefs to take place with the 2nd Indian Divl Signals on or about 1st November. Sergt Pout A. J., L/Sergt Ward D., Corpl Cooper W. and Sigmn Shields J.; also Signalmen Nabarro D. and Smith E. E. direct on return from payment furlough in the U.K.

Furlough.—L/Sergt Ward D. has signed once again on the dotted line to say that he is willing to re-engage to complete twenty-one years service, providing he is allowed to proceed to the U.K. on the March boat for nine months free furlough. Whether it will eventually materialise this time, well—who knows? U/L/Corpl Smith J. C. and Signalmen Kinsey L. and Taylor A. are also hoping to enjoy six months of Blighty's heat wave during 1935. Here's wishing them luck.

Gardening.—Everything in the garden is lovely. What with rows and rows of fresh home-grown tomatoes, "Pick where and when you like" is the slogan at present. To see the whole Section trooping into the dining room for their morning break, heavily laden with this luscious fruit, inclines to make one's mouth water with 100° in the shade. Then there are the runner beans: as fast as they are picked, the more they seem to grow. Other varieties include cucumbers, radishes, lettuce-in-seed, marrows, mint, etc.

Apart from the kitchen garden, we also possess five others containing all the up to date blossoms, and it is considered that the grass lawns of each have now attained the highest standard in India.

The only eyesore was an old flag pole which stood in a rather misjudged position, but this has now been replaced by a new wallah, together with a pukha Corps flag of reasonable size which defies all winds and weather, in a more appropriate place, surrounded by a rockery which, in time, our chief mali (Signalman Shields J.) hopes may bear forth—I forget the name of the Indian plant he mentioned, but it's going to be good for the eyes, so he says.

Well done, Georgie! keep it up. Your name has been duly recorded in the big book for handing down to future Zhobites, who will surely ask "Who designed this Garden of Eden?" Your fine results are much appreciated by everyone in the station, both military and civilian, and when you are old and grey, sonny . . . . there will come a day when you will read in THE WIRE of such a thing as a flower and vegetable show taking place in Loralai.

Now comes the fly in the ointment. Who is going to relieve this most efficient gardener when he shortly takes a change of air and surroundings, his time having expired in the Zhob? A tour well run.

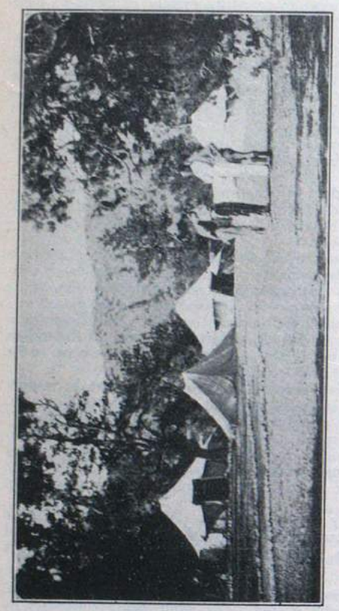
Obituary.—We record with regret the sudden death of Condr. M. G. McAuliffe, who passed away while being conveyed by plane to Quetta on the 12th July. He was well known and respected by past and present members of the unit in his capacity as chief clerk at Headquarters, Zhob (I.) Brigade Area. To his relatives we tender our deepest sympathy.

Sport—The long awaited deck tennis court has been completed and opened with due ceremony. Although not up to the standard of world beaters, the boys show us some pretty stuff at times. The hockey team continue to improve and have actually won two matches on the trot. At football we have met with even greater success, our prize meat being the Young Afghans, whom we wrapped up to the tune of 5—0 on one occasion. Against the Police we were not so successful; in fact, they weren't playing, so they said, and proved it at half time by putting their skates on. But look who had the whistle!



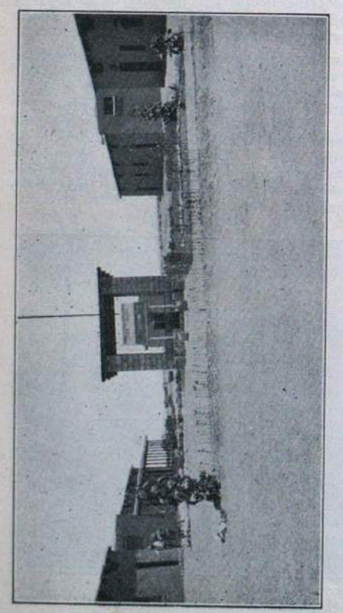
B.O.R.s Event, 7th Light Cavalry Dismounted Sports, Loralai.

Snaps of the North-Western Frontier, India.













Social.—The ladies of the Cantonment are still enjoying themselves in our summer camp at Chautair, and thus dances, etc., are still going by the board. However, this does not deter the locals from doing themselves a bit of good.

On Saturday evening last the B.O.R.s challenged the officers of the station to a dart match, and oh, what a dart match! Didn't we duffy 'em up? We had 'em. McAra was superb. The last time he had anything to do with Johnny he was almost shot at ; this time he was almost shot in. His eyes were lovely —just like pools of scintillating water. Geordie smashed all existing dart records and (alas!) also the only existing Lister engine. The O.C. waggled a nifty dart, too. His only trouble is that he forgets to let go of the dart when he throws. The evening terminated with everyone taking each other home, so you can guess what a success it was.

Local Scenery.—In the opposite page of snapshots are shown (reading up the columns):

1 Headquarters, Loralai.
2 Chautair Camp.
3 and 4 Chautair Valley.
5 Wheat Threshing at Chautair Camp.
6 The Loralai Road.

Things We Want to Know.—Who pinched Darkie's false teeth? Cann Mac sing? Who thought hockey umpiring was duff? Who said Geordie couldn't drive? Why Copie prefers Simla to Loralai? and Davey, Loralai to Quetta?

Agonies.—L/Corpl Hakesley: 'Ow's Sid and the pigeons?

Hindubagh.—The absence of news this month is regretted, but communication is still being maintained.

PHILLUP—BLOS.

The Ravings of a Medical Orderly in the Zhob.

How can a gallant Signalman
Preserve his honour bright
By keeping in touch with Quetta
On a dark and stormy night?

With X's coming in wholesale,
And other things as well—
What the . . . . is this message?
Poor Zhobite, he cannot tell.

For Hindubagh he's got logs
Piled high up on his shelf ;
The best thing that he can do
Is to take them up himself.

Who is this we hear approaching?
It's Sandeman, and Chautair as well.
No, corporal, this is not Blighty—
Will you kindly go to h——?

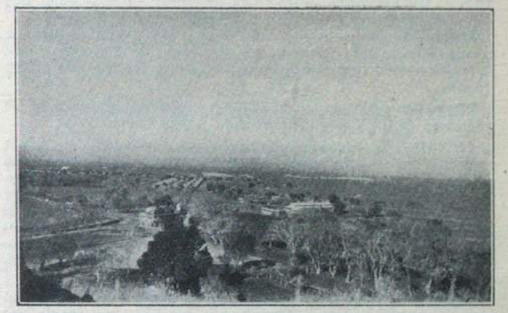
Now, folks, you know what it is
To be stuck on the medium wave
With a dud B.iii. and a wonkey key—
It simply makes one rave.

My H.T.'s down, and L.T. too—
I'm tired of the whole d—— thing,
So I'm going to pack up operating
And transfer to H.Q. Wing.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Now that working hours are longer for the operators and half the fitters have gone to Chautair, everyone in the Detachment at Fort Sandeman is very busy. The weather is hot and working is scarcely an ideal pastime, but nothing deters these men of the frontier. Most of them will find themselves in a hotter place yet. Who knows? They're no angels. On account of a rush job to be done in the fitter's shop, the help of L/Corpl Smith J. C. was enlisted for a couple of days. He gave much valuable assistance to the fitter and is thinking of applying for an additional qualification. It will come in useful in the next fifteen years, perhaps.

Celebrations.—Corpl Francis celebrated his birthday on the 1st of the month, with the help of some of his contemporaries. Everything went off splendidly, although they had held no prelims. A carriage and half a pair were chartered for the occasion,



Fort Sandeman, 1933.

and the happy individual concerned and two others who were involved rode along with great pomp and dignity. The weather was favourable, if a little hot. A certain amount of refreshment was served, and all callers received a hearty welcome. We all extend our best wishes to Corpl Francis for the current year.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Scantlebury has joined us from Loralai in spite of the reputation of the place. He's not afraid of the big bad mozzy.

Departures.—Signalmen Franks and Johnson have left us for Chautair.

Visits.—We have again had the company of our O.C. (Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn) for a few days ; also Sergt Pout, our Q.M., and L/Corpl Cann M., who has been on a test for referees.

BUXMITH—APOZAI.

Chautair Summer Camp.

Sunday 29th July.

General.—Chautair summer camp is open annually from June to September, affording married families a sojourn of peace and quietness. It is 43½ miles from Loralai and fourteen from Ziarat (another well known summer camp, for officers and their families).

The climate is always refreshing and invigorating, and the camp, consisting of several marquees, is established in a copse of juniper. The odour from the juniper is most health-giving, and any loss of appetite experienced prior to arrival here is soon restored ; in fact, one lives to eat in this case, and not eats to live, as the old adage goes.

On the 12th June the advance party of one n.c.o. and three B.O.R.s—one being an R.A.M.C. orderly, in case of accidents—proceeded by Government transport, with full stores, to erect the camp, and they were ably assisted by a party of Police, who also take up residence here.

A tri-weekly dak lorry service started between Loralai and Quetta, via Ziarat, for the season w.e.f. 1/6/34. The days and timings on which this lorry runs are as follows: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, leave Loralai at 09.00 hours, arrive at Quetta at 18.00 hours. Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, leave Quetta at 09.00 hours, arrive at Loralai at 18.15 hours. The contract has been given to Seth Kalu Ram, of Loralai, who may be addressed direct for booking seats, etc. The charge for passengers travelling from Loralai to Quetta and vice versa is Rs.4, and from Loralai to Chautair and vice versa Rs.2. There is a dak bungalow at which accommodation can easily be obtained, together with refreshments.

In the camp itself, " joogies " are utilised for cookhouse and dining rooms, the tents being used for stores, sleeping quarters, and W/T station.

As the personnel stationed here on duty are not over-worked, periodical reliefs take place to give one and all a fair deal.

Bread and fresh meat are sent out from Loralai, the remaining entitlements being obtained locally. Extras, which would have to be purchased in the big cities, are obtainable here providing one has plenty of self-confidence with the gun or a bent pin and fishing line. Admitted, there are other means, but keep it dark! otherwise the whole population will be coming sick with a head-

ache or tummy ache. Fruit is by no means in abundance this year, owing to late frost, but a moderate share is obtained.

Sport.—Shooting, fishing and hiking. It is regretted that the tennis court is unfit for play, and owing to the shortage of pice it is anticipated that it will be out of action for the rest of the season.

Enquiries.—All enquiries will be welcomed, and should be addressed to the Camp Commandant (Corpl Cooper W.).

Arrivals.—First and foremost, the pay bloke (why, it is not understood, as nature provides the majority of requirements free of charge). Corporal Cooper and family, Mrs. Pout and family. Signalmen Byrne H. and Kinsey L. The two latter have since been relieved by Signalmen Franks H. and Johnson P., who were recommended for a spell here by the doctor at Fort Sandeman, with a view to recuperating after being attacked by that harmless little creature the mozzy. By gad, some doctors are nice, aren't they?

Appointments.—Corpl Cooper W. is appointed Camp Commandant w.e.f. 1/8/34. This, by the way, does not entitle him to any extra issue of clothing, decorations, etc. ; only the satisfaction of knowing his great authority and responsibility, and the little extra work called for under that appointment. Cheer up, Frosty! it all comes within the " twenty-four hours a day " stuff.

Establishments.—One n.c.o., one operator o/s, one electrician, one fitter, and one R.A.M.C. orderly.

Entertainments.—Poker dice set. Strip Jack naked. This, by the way, is played with cards, in case you should be misled. Various other amusements which you make yourself. BLOS.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Tuesday 24th July.

General.—After spending three months at Ckatrata, which possesses an almost English climate (it rained for two months out of the three) No. 2 Company have returned to Meerut.

A dinner was held at Chakrata to celebrate the conclusion of the Trade Board, and all who attended the dinner (including the O.C., Captain M. C. Bennett, and Lieut. N. E. Pocock, who were very welcome guests) thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The journey to Meerut, like all other journeys in India, was rather uncomfortable, but the fact that we proceeded to Kalsi by motor coach (?) instead of route march did a great deal to make the trip more bearable. It is true that sardines were almost hermits compared with the way we were packed in these so called motor coaches ; but still, a third class ride, etc., etc.

Can You Tell Us?—What is the " lure of the East "? and is it necessary to come back for another five to find out all about it?

Agony.—Sigmn Cummings would like to hear from Signalman Salter. Thorpe, at Colchester: What about it? Bert.

Finis.—Good. R.A.C.

Chakrata Detachment.

Tuesday 24th July.

After a perilous and awe-inspiring journey through hill scenery of the most remarkable grandeur, the Detachment arrived safely at Chakrata.

We came through the hills on native-driven vehicles, the drivers of which had our hearts in our mouths as a result of bravado which appeared very ill-timed on that most dangerous of roads. Those who have visited Ranikhet are of the unanimous opinion that the route was quite tame in comparison.

A heavy mist has hung over Chakrata since our arrival, and consequently we know very little of the place or what it looks like. But one thing we do know is that if one wishes to find any place, one has only to find the football pitch and the required destination is in the near vicinity.

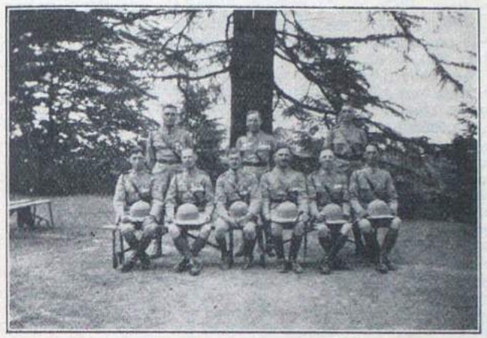
Intensive training has commenced, and by all appearances our students have gone into it body and soul. May we ask why the dickens they talk about it in their sleep?

Sports appear to be out of the question, and we are reminded of this by a little phrase which runs: " All sports grounds out of bounds to-day." Albeit, many of our bright young things have taken eagerly to basket ball and deck tennis. Our little Albert already shows great promise in the former, with Eric as a runner up, and it is plain that Willie throws a pretty ring at tennis.

It is rumoured that a panther has come to stay in the vicinity, and prominent Detachment sportsmen have been earnestly pursuing it through the silent watches, but without success so far. Rumour is notoriously a lying jade. (Any luck yet, sir?)



Chakrata Detachment, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.



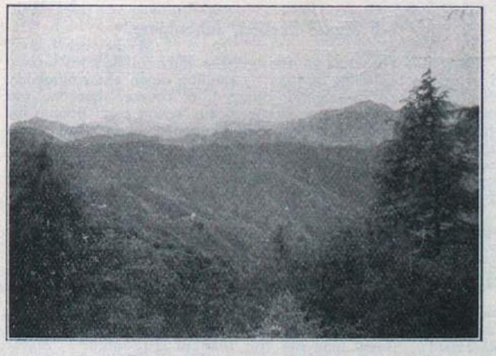
The O.C. and Senior N.C.O.s of the Chakrata Detachment.

Reminiscent.—A heavy mist hung over the valley. The night was cold and dark. Gazing into nothingness, one could pick out the pin points of light from neighbouring hills. Two men gazed silently into the distance. One shivered. And then—" No wonder it's cold, Bill ; we are higher than the blinking stars."

Agony.—A khud walk and leeches.

Later.

General.—The end of the first half hill season is drawing very near, and although the monsoons have broken we are anticipating a warm reception on our return to the Plains. Trade tests are due to begin in a very few days, and the majority of the candidates on the upgrading course have great hopes of coming through with flying colours. During the middle of the month a hike to Deoban was organised. The O.C. (Captain Bennett) and Lieut. Conner took part, and all who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The King's Birthday parade took place on the Depot parade ground, when medals were presented to Signalmen Bovill and Clegg.



The Chakrata Hills.

Departures.—L/Corpl Sanderson (n.c.o. i/c Kong) to Waziristan, and L/Corpl Ditchfield to Kohat. Our best wishes go with them, and we hope they will soon settle down in their new units.

Arrivals.—Lieut. Pocock arrived on the 12th June and took over the duties of chief instructor from Lieut. Conner, who returned to Meerut.

Life Members.—There has been quite a revival in this Branch of the Signals Association, and we are expecting several more new members in the near future.

Howlers.—" A knoll is a detachable hill " (presumably part of barrack furniture).

" A watershed is a big, high tract of land separating two countries " (No man's land).

" Should the telescope be dropped, the reflection will be reversed " (we can now read flag on our heads).

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Mutra.

Monday 6th August.

General.—Last month was rather uneventful, so there is little to report. The drought has really broken and all electric lights are besieged with beezers and flying atchars, which still persist in diving down on the poor folks who dare to sit under the lights. This sort of thing seems to happen every year.

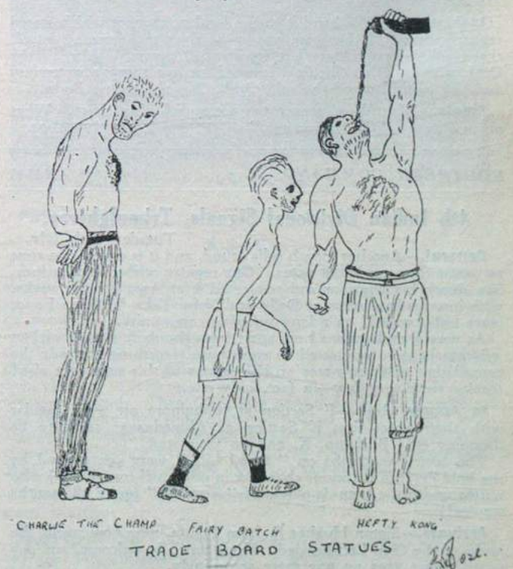
Native Cattleman Fined.—The local bullocks munched our choicest creepers and chota plants. This led to the O.C. Section making a bandobast with Captain I. V. —— an officer sahib of Brigade fame, who thought it was quite a good hookum. All Sectionites were asked to exercise vigilance over the remains of our garden, especially at night whenever they could not get to sleep. The outcome was the capture of a native bullock wallah by Sigmn Rose P. L. on the very first night, with the help of Corpl King (Banger), who was rudely awakened for the purpose. The W.O.G. (late i/c marauding bullocks) was gently ushered into the previously prepared cell in the Brigade guardroom, where he spent a cheerful night crooning to himself after the manner of all distressed W.O.G.s. The following morning, after being interviewed by the O.C. and the said Captain I. V. ——, he was set free on conditions which were most beneficial to the Section sinking fund.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Rose P. L. on getting his class ii., and to all those who now know their position on the boat roll.

Our Month's Best Howler.—By Ginger: " I'll bet you I once knew a Sikh who used to clip his beard."

Agony.—To Dinger, Pindi: How about a line? Pip.

From the Hills.—The accompanying sketch, with a few words by a Sectionite who was up the khuds in the first half, may be of interest to No. 2 Company of the Div.



I offer my apologies for not having drawn Inky and Chesty, as they would make a good pair. There is a clue in the sketch to

"Who pinched Inky's whiskey?" and "Has the champ got inferiority complex?" Query: Is Snowy still on the jew?

B.H.H.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Monday 30th July.

General.—

"And that inverted bowl we call the sky,
Whereunder, crawling, coop't, we live and die,
Lift not your hands to it for help—for it
Rolls impotently on as Thou or I."

—*Omar Khayyam.*

When the late lamented "Tentpegger" wrote the above verse, he must have been suddenly called upon for WIRE notes. Having lifted my hands to all and sundry without avail, I find that there is about three hours to go for the air mail—hence this mush.

With the exception of cash and stores audit, prickly heat and such like afflictions, nothing of interest has occurred during the past month. The long awaited monsoon has so far been a dead flop, and the resultant weather has made the nerves of everybody as ragged as the seat of a despatch rider's guard-mounting slacks.

Leave.—Captain M. Duncan, our C.O., has left on a two months pleasure cruise to the Far East, while L/Sergeant Boyle, Corpl McDowall and Sigmn Spencer have had six months U.K. leave during 1935 forced upon them, despite their protests! In the case of L/Sergt Boyle, several rude people have been heard to remark "What! again?"

Crime Club's Selected.—No. 1860274 Sergt O'Rourke L. A. has been awarded the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity. Congratulations.

Shipping Intelligence.—Lloyds (or it may be District H.Q.) have been playing with the Bibby Line again, with the result that the "Roll on, Oct!" contingent talk in whispers about January and have readjusted their P.O.S.B. allotments. The following will be appreciated by all who have experienced the joys of bed-down journeys on the Indian railways:—

First Signalman: "Do you want to buy a good valise?"
Second ditto: "It's no good to me; I'm going home."
First: "Well, what about week-end leaves?"
Wouldn't there be consternation in the old blue bus?

Incidentals.—We hand it to the local newspaper which stated recently that "If there are any more shirt movements formed, there will be no colours left for football teams." Also to the Q.M. who says that Sheffield is noted for two things: its cutlery and the birthplace of the said Q.M. No names, no Pudsey.

Finale.—Mae West seems to monopolise this space. What about Zasu? "Oh, dearie me." NUN NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Tuesday 24th July.

General.—Another month rolls round, and it is once again time to concentrate on WIRE notes. Our regular scribe, one Sydney, has struck his wigwam and re-erected it at Agra for six weeks, with intermediate stops at Delhi and Naini Tal. Thus do I once more inflict myself on a long suffering community.

As very little happens here apart from the daily round, various individuals were requested to contribute something towards the compilation of these notes on the doings of this unit, but alas! results were very few—in fact, only one.

In Appreciation.—F Section at Jubbulpore are very regular with their notes, but K Section at Ahmednagar seem to be dropping off. Buck up, K, and do your stuff.

The later paragraphs on "Social Life" were contributed by the bold Peter (a notorious character in our small community) who writes under the nom-de-plume of "Tyme-X" (quite 18 months service!)

Arrivals.—Sigmn Hughes E. from Quetta, who now swells the ranks of the Clan Left-handed. He is cordially welcome, and our guard roster goes up one more accordingly.

The hill party returned from Wellington on the 30th June and were pleased to see Trim again—knew there was a catch somewhere in a holiday (?) up in the hills.

An old friend, Sergeant-Instructor C. G. Mort (A.E.C.) likes Trimulgherry so much that he has made a re-appearance on two months leave from the School of Education, Belgaum. When he was stationed here he had a motor bike, but now he runs to a dinky little two-seater.

Sergt Daniell (of Scottish Command Signal Company fame) has rejoined from the Army Signal School, Poona, together with his family. May they like this station as they did Poona.

The Passing Pageant.—That Monday morning feeling. Delhi and Turkish baths—oh, Sydney! Sam the Sudden (no connection with P. G. Wodehouse). That mystic symbol "Q." Our usual wail: Church parades and guards.

Overheard: "Shall I come up to the office again at half past ten, sir?" "No; make it 10.30" (and quite serious about it, too).

Social Life.—They say that life is what we make it, yet strange are the tricks that fate on us will play! But fate, too, has played tricks to our advantage. In spite of the Indianisation and the reduction of British ranks in the unit, things have commenced looking on the bright side in so far as we have once again commenced a fortnightly eight anna hop, to the delight of the gigolos and gigolettes and to the disgust of the anti-jazz propaganda wallahs. Wherever one goes two sides are always to be found, but in our case the dance committee are fighting against two opponents, namely the A.J.P.W.s and the M.E.S., who have cut up rough over a slight difference in opinion and are charging us for the means of lighting our darkest hours.

Up to the present three functions have been run, all of which have been successful in spite of the heavy liquidating scheme the heavens practised upon us on the last occasion. The adjutant and Mrs. Younie attended the last two and seemed to be pleased with the way that they were run. The music for our shows was very kindly supplied by Sigmn Scrivener, who is the proud possessor of a portable pickup. C.S.M. and Mrs. Kingman do their big bit towards the success of our dances, in catering for the refreshment side of them.

Still, whoopee! Here's to our big show—the sanction of the C.O. having been obtained for these dances to be run on rather a larger scale. Cheers! TYME-X.

Forthcoming Events.—The Secunderabad Horse Show. Manœuvres. The 1934/35 trooping season (and what an event!)

Greetings.—To all ex-members of this unit now scattered far and wide o'er home stations: We'll be seeing you soon.

A.F.W.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Monday 9th July.

General.—The clerk of the weather duly fulfilled his annual duty at the beginning of June by sending down the commodity that one swims in—always provided, of course, that one *can* swim. Some people think that our rain is sent from heaven for the express purpose of softening rugby pitches, and we are suffering from an attack of that state of mind at present. Of course, having so many old Varsity men in the Section, it comes natural for them to hie away to the rugby field and play with the egg shaped ball.

It was one of these old boys who, on being asked by one of our Gunner friends for the name of the man who invented gunpowder, replied (with the air of one who shouldn't be bothered with such trifling questions) "Guy Fawkes." Which only goes to show that modern education is very sound.

Another favourable sign is the rapidity with which our men pick up the language of another country. The following little conversation will show you what I mean. Indian rank (to our storeman): "How long has this soap to last, sahib?" Storeman: "Two din." Indian rank: "What, sahib?" Storeman: "Doh day." Which is not too bad after only four years in the country. Of course, some Indians pick up English with the same ease. One who was asked to bring THE WIRE returned ten minutes later with about 200 yards of T.13 and carefully deposited it on the bed of a gentleman who thought he was going to have a nice quiet read.

Last Saturday the 15th Field Brigade R.A. Sergeants Mess held their handy hunter competition, and Sergt Penfold gained third place. The next two successive Saturdays will see an event for junior n.c.o.s and one for the gunners, drivers and signalmen. In both of these events we hope to finish in the first three, just to keep up the name of the Corps.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Penfold A. on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal with gratuity.

The Lure of the East.—This has a grip on us again, and L/Corpl Howard has decided to stay in India for another year (just to get sunburnt, we suppose).

The Gripper.—We read with great interest the notes entitled "Ghoras," by Non-Nunquam of the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut, in the June issue of THE WIRE. His advice and remarks, on the whole, were excellent, and Sections like us (i.e. "mounted infantrymen," who only ride about 10,000 miles a year) greatly appreciate them. I am extremely sorry to hear that gram-orderly is a vulgar name for feed-major, but when I tackled our gram-orderly on the subject he was extremely rude. His opinion was that feed-major is a term used exclusively in England but is taboo east of the Suez. One thing the writer omitted to mention was whether he is a gripper in category 1 or 2. Popular opinion in this Section points to category 2; but, of course, being only mounted infantry we are not really entitled to an opinion. To conclude, I would like to suggest an addition to the paragraph entitled "Horse": An animal which can easily jump 4 ft. 6 in. if he is handled correctly, i.e. as handled by members of an Artillery Signal Section.

Agony.—To Velvet Belle, 52nd Divl Signals, Glasgow: Congratulations. Seen any scent bottles recently? Come out and see us some time. Pony to note. D.P.

Will 2319132 Sigmn Barringer (whereabouts unknown) please communicate with 2319133 Sigmn Johnson H. of this Section?

HANK.

Egypt Signals, Cairo

No. 1 Company.

No. 5 Tank Signal Section.

As this is our first instalment, a word of introduction will not be amiss. The Officer i/c Section is Lieut. E. R. N.-W. Nanney-Wynn, who has just enjoyed a well earned rest in the U.K. and has now taken up the reins of unit musketry officer. The Section comprises Sergt Stevenson, Corpls Orton and Adams, and Signalmen Lowe, Hawcroft, Stringer, Buckman, Parry and Hebb. Sigmn Howard has just left the Section to take up an appointment with Imperial Airways Ltd.

Last year we made our maiden voyage with the 6th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, and judging by reports and results the prologue of our drama as a Section was very satisfactory. The Inspector-General of Tank Training visited the Royal Tank Corps during our stay and was very favourably impressed with the Section's "own" method of installing the sets in Medium Tanks.

At present we have four "Bulged" Turrets and four Standard Turret Tanks fitted, but by local modification all turrets are now traversable through the full 360 degrees. This in itself is a big asset from a tactical Tank training point of view.

The Section is the proud possessor of six No. 1 sets which have given every satisfaction during collective training.

The first individual training course has come to an end, and judging by the relieved look on all the candidates' faces, higher ratings have been given a secondary consideration. All the instrument breakers (sorry! makers) have been under C.Q.M.S. Rushworth and are now talking about two pie fly and left-handed taps and dyes.

As a sporting Section we stand out in every sphere of sport. The Section sergeant excels at all the indoor sports, including tiddlywinks and ice hockey. Lowe, Buckman and Parry fill the gap in the spectators' gallery at all rugby matches out here, whilst Hawcroft, Stringer and Hebb complete the roll of Garrison film fans (front row only). Corpl Orton is a faithful follower of the Heliopolis Wheelers Club (married crocks only) and can be seen every Friday carrying out the old proverb, "Never put all your eggs in one basket." (Watch the wife doesn't go to the wrong pocket, Bill.)

A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth, will recognise a few of the above names, and all wish to be remembered to the old parent unit.

Next month, providing no libel cases are instituted, these notes will be continued (I nearly said discontinued).

KING OF THE KYBER.

Polygon Notes.

A little while ago we experienced a real sandstorm, which also caused a fire. Being quickly on the dig, we soon had it under control and then waited for the Fire Brigade. On thinking things over, we were perhaps a little too prompt, as no attempt has been made to shift the "Flies' Paradise," or riding track, and consequently we are still being pestered by flies.

Owing to Polygon being the nerve centre of the Army W/T Group—all nerves—and thereby an important agony hole, the barbed wire has been strengthened and a new gate installed—but why climb that?

However, despite these precautions an Egyptian wardrobe dealer managed to increase his stock. The 108th Earl's man-eating quadruped gave the alarm, but as it suffers from Polygonitis it was quickly silenced by Big Bill Mawson. Unfortunately for the wardrobe dealer, a curious promotion-seeking native policeman observed his corpulent state and detained him. Observing that our purloining friend was wearing four pairs of trousers and a few other odds and ends, he escorted him to the station. Consequently an enquiry arose, and now the wardrobe dealer arises at dawn and will do so for a few years. Hard lines!

None of us suffered any inconvenience except Bud, who was unable to make a rendezvous with his blue-eyed tent pegger.

There are rumours of promotion floating around again, so would-be aspirants are reverting to N.F.R. in anticipation.

Below is a photo of the Polygon tent-pegging team. Beauty is only skin deep—luckily!



Agony.—Ollie: We are in sore need of thee.

A Section.

Nothing was sent in last month, unfortunately, just when it should have been, because Egypt Signals won the Command athletics. What excitement! Positions were denoted as usual by pennants. We crept up point by point. Excitement, and more excitement! On the last day the Middlesex Regiment and the King's Own Royal Rifles were leading, with Egypt Signals third. We won the pole jump (Sigmn Buckman gave an exhibition, clearing 10 ft. 6 in.). The K.O.R.R.s won the hurdles, and we were second. Then there was only the mile relay to go. I had long before then shouted myself hoarse. What a day! With Signalmen Barber and Boreham doing wonders, we won it. What cheers and shouting when we chaired the runners from the track! What a team!—and what a night out afterwards!

Training.—One set of courses has just finished and another starts shortly.

Musketry.—No. 1 Company firing is over, with a very good average, and I believe the Section is on top.

I.S.S. Schemes.—Detachments from the Section had a trip on the armoured trains and all managed to get through on the move.

Guards.—These are now on a unit basis and come round less frequently. This may help you to while away the time on a main " stag ":

THE SENTRY.

A sentry while on sentry-go
Should move correctly to and fro:
You never, never know
  Who may be round to see.
A casual gait, a cap awry,
May catch some crusty colonel's eye,
And that means trouble by-and-by
  For Private Atkins T.

He may not bandy on his beat
Strong words with strangers on the street,
Who stop to photograph his feet
  Or estimate his girth.
He must maintain in either case
An equally impassive face:
Reserving for some meeter place
  His rancour or his mirth.

No sentry of the better type
Will prod pedestrians with his kype,
Or puff in public at his pipe,
  Or light a large cigar;
Nor will he wander from his post
To meet the lady he loves most,
Or commune with the courtly host
  Of a convenient bar.

He may not whistle, dance or sing,
Or do a little yodelling,
Or any other pleasant thing
  To pass the time away.
Still, he can always contemplate
The beauty of the barrack gate—
And that alone is adequate
  Diversion for the day.

Have You Heard This One?—A small boy was leading a donkey past a military camp, when two soldiers thought they would take a rise out of him. They said " Why are you holding your brother so tightly?" The boy replied " So that he won't join the Army."

Departures.—The Section officer, Mr. Ruck, to U.K. on leave.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Smith from Alexandria after successfully passing a P.T. course. A new draft of promising lads—one is 6 ft. 4 in. and promising to be more.

M Section.

Introduction.—All apologies for notes which have been lacking for a few months.

Courses.—The courses started in full swing on the 9th July: the operators course under the able supervision of Lieut. Nanney-Wynn, and the M.T. course under Lieut. Dwyer, Sergt Stibbs and L/Corpl Parry.

In the latter course one budding driver has already discovered that the easiest way to remove a mudguard is to pass another car. Another one thought: Why open the garage door when backing in?

The only thing of interest on the operators course so far concerns the operator who, having had a sending test, went to the sergeant and said " What does 'F' against my name mean, sergeant?"

Agony.—To Taff, from Frank: Safety first. Just doing M.T. course. What about a trip down the Abbas?

To Mrs. Beaton, from Egypt Signals: Please forward key to code. Urgent.

Congratulations.—To the Corps billiards team on winning the cup offered by King George's Soldiers' Home.

Plain Tales from Alexandria—G.N. 2.B.I.

Things We Should Like to Know.—Why can't a helio be erected on a lamp stand?

Any device for drinking beer so that the liquid does not wash the Adam's apple and give one a sore throat. (Replies to A.S., A Section, please.)

What is this boat like? We've heard so many people mention " boat " lately.

Where is the Egg Boiler that we saw a sergeant riding for a few weeks? There are such things as seize-ups.

If a helio has been read at a distance of 70 miles, why can't we get a decent reading at 1¾ miles?

Departures.—Sigmn (O.K.) George from the operators course to Polygon W/T Station vice Lofty, now working hard in the Company office. FOSAS.

No. 3 Company.

J Section.

General.—Somehow or other, nothing of real importance—or shall I say, nothing exciting—seems to happen around here. Whether it is due to the law-abiding citizens or to the fact that our Section is situated here, we cannot tell, and the only alternative is to babbie about the everyday work (?) that we do.

The opening chorus just lately has been something like this: " Bat Eye," " One Eye " and " Nelson." Naturally, this suggests musketry. For those who fail to see it, try scoring ten out of a possible ninety.

Having been issued with five arrows and a bow, and led by I'll-tell-'em Bobbin Hood, we took the C range by force. Upon loosening our arrows we commenced to aim at the Citadel, whereby (taking the finest sight possible) we hit the target. The firing results did not come up to expectations, but on the whole they were good.

Sport.—Billiards a speciality. Tuition given; 25 piastres per lesson. Our Section sportsmen will sell you the secrets of their success (or " How we win matches ") at a reasonable price.

Howlers.—After the shooting, the marksman was heard to say " Next time I'll use the. . . foresight instead of the foresight protector."

Agony.—To Richy of No. 2 Company A Corps: What about a line? Cado. ABDULLAH.

Polygon W/T Station.

Excelsior for Adonis (Ross for Height).—The latest craze on this station is body building. You know, any form of exercise that enables one to develop and make the body beautiful, such as strand pulling (note that I said strand pulling) and dancing.

Talking of body beautiful. Lately I have been rather intrigued with the expression, soul mate. I first heard this when attending a dance as Polygon's representative. Someone came up and asked me if I had a soul mate. I replied in the negative and, thinking it was a cocktail, said that I liked a splash of soda with my drinks. Imagine my surprise when my reply was greeted with a roar of laughter. Being rather peeved at making such an ass of myself, I decided to find out what this soul mate business was.

First of all, I asked someone what a soul was and was told it was a flat fish. Somehow this seemed wrong, so I decided to obtain my information from the dictionary. Here, soul was defined as follows: The moral and emotional or intellectual part of a person. The first half of the definition seems to be most applicable. Anyway, one cannot expect too much. What one gets at the shooting gallery, one loses on the round up or something like that.

Next I turned to the term mate. This was rather confusing, being defined as " to paralyse" and " a suitable partner, *especially* in marriage." I think the latter definition is correct, but why " *especially* in marriage "? No doubt, the paralysing part of the business comes later.

Being a regular attendant at dances, I have concluded that the originator of the expression must have known some stuff.

Dress: Ayes and Noes.—Another thing that puzzles me is why we men have to wear clothes distinctly unsuitable for certain occasions. Women don't do so. Why should we? One sees soldiers out walking, wearing breeches and spurs (a most unsuitable form of attire). Imagine some women wearing pipe-seamed panties and moleskin grips! I consider the Navy's clothes a much more suitable outfit.

Kudos for Us.—The Navy folk are here again (not actually at Polygon) and of course we are working with them as usual. We are hoping they will pay us a visit; it will mean a change of diet and other little pleasures derived from it. (What's that about Navy cake, Bud?) Wait till we show them the old 4-k.w. It will shake them (it often does us).

Addendum.—Referring back to that body building beautiful business at the beginning of this heap. Why is it that our local dirt track merchant is so gifted with S.A.? There must be something in this body building stuff after all. He told us that whilst cycling back to the compound on his sky blue roadster he passed two eligible young Venuses (or Venii). As we approached them, he heard one say to the other " Oh, isn't he beautiful?"

And there is 2.B pining for romance. He always runs to answer the phone, but invariably says " Tich, some dame wants you " or " Bud, she's after you again."

Junior N.C.O.s Mess.

Apart from the fact that the Junior N.C.O.s Mess is still on the map, very scant is the news therefrom. We can only apologise for the unusual delay of so many months, and promise that in future we will endeavour to keep our readers and past, present and future members interested with a regular contribution to THE WIRE.

To get down to brass tacks. The Mess is now beginning to look up, and the usual band of six regular members has increased to at least a dozen. Things are on the move, so to speak—but, shsh! I may be speaking too soon. Still, don vivimus vivimus.



Grants.—By gentle persuasion, tact and the brass neck and ingenuity of our entertainments committee (namely, Andy, the unit sleuth-hound and Sherlock Holmes, and his able assistants, Dr. Watson and Pedro Wardley) we managed to wheedle from the P.R.I. a small sum of money sufficient to purchase a few games as a contribution to our Brighter Mess movement.

We congratulate our entertainments committee and thank the P.R.I. for his generosity. The efforts of the committee have brought good results; and though I won't go so far as to say that one can't get into the mess for fear of being killed in the rush, I must say it is a real treat to see the dart and shove-ha'penny boards and the ping-pong table all in use. This, I am sure, will be a surprise to some of our old members. Honi soit qui mal y pense.

Games Tournament.—On Tuesday 3rd July a games tournament took place between the W.O.s and Sergeants and the Corporals Messes. I must say that it was a good show; they did us well. We appreciate their efforts, and trust that in the near future we will be given the opportunity of repaying their hospitality.

After a hectic struggle, deep sighs and groans, we wrested the golden pot from their hands by a lead of 16 points (not pints). Perhaps we caught them on a left leg, or maybe the fact that we had a rub down with *The Sporting Life* had something to do with it. I notice, by the way, that they intend to shake us next time, for they are getting in a lot of secret (?) practice. Sergts Lawrie and Stibbs have been seen in white shorts with hard hitters and tennis racquets, making for the Mess. (Presumably going bird-nesting? I wonder!)

Congratulations.—To Corpl Ted Collins on winning the 440 and 880 yards in the Depot Battalion sports. Keep it up, Ted.

To Corpl Perfect G. on pulling the second one. Expecting to see you on the next boat, George.

To L/Corpl (Sophie) Tucker on his engagement to some fair damsel. Soon be joining the blood-stained kit bag parade, eh, Sophie?

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Corpl Wheeler and L/Cpls Wagner, Honor and Williams, and trust that their stay with us will be a happy one.

Lost.—A Mrs. Beeton's cookery book. Will finder please return to Corpl Broadley, our chief bobajee? Reward, one Scotch egg. (Why give poor old Scotland the blame?)

Births.—Nil.

Marriages.—None yet, but who's sweating?

Agony.—L/Corpl Chadwick would like a line from L/Corpl Lauriere, last heard of in F Company, Catterick.

L/Corpls Watson and Smith C. W. would like to hear from L/Corpl (Arthur) Honly, 4th Divl Signals.

L/Corpl Hurt would like to hear from L/Corporal (Dutchy) Hollands, No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals.

Tailpiece.—The rebate question is in abeyance, and we are still trying to flog the piano. SMIFF.

(*Later*) Thursday 9th August.

Will wonders never cease? We have yet another contribution to THE WIRE, and apparently bags to speak about, too. In fact, it seems almost as if we have the monopoly of the Egypt Signals notes at the moment. After our previous effort, you'll probably think that it's too good to be true; but truth is stranger than fiction. And say, folks, you don't know us *when* we do start.

We spoke last month about our games tournament with the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess. On Saturday 28th July we gave them a return—and oh, boy, what a do!

We started the afternoon with a few sets of tennis, and although I cannot quite remember who was on the winning side at the conclusion of this event, there was very little in it either way—and, quite as I expected, they shook us a trifle.

We were looking forward to seeing Sergt (Big) Lawrie in action, but were given to understand that he was on exhibition at Gezira Sporting Club with Shukri, the Egyptian champ. Nevertheless, his sparring partner Tommy (I can't help being good) Stibbs turned out to delight us with his Austin-like accuracy, fairy-like action and a borrowed racquet. (He can't help being good, so we must help him to live up to it.)

To cut a long story short, at the conclusion of the games we managed to win by the small margin of four points and thus retain the golden pot.

The remainder of the evening (and part of the morn of the 29th) we spent in the usual way. That needs no explaining.

The honours of the evening, I think, went to Sergeant (Jock) Stevenson for his rendering of " The green eye of the little yellow dog," incorporating a dance of his own invention which is a combination of the sword dance, veil dance, rumba, Charleston, and many others too numerous to mention. Anyway, whatever

dance it really was, it was a good show. A good job the missus wasn't present, Jock.

We were indebted also to Sergts (Arthur) Crockford and (Jock) Lawrie for their duet can-can, and to R.S.M. Dorrington, Sergt Stibbs and Big Boy Barron for the various parts they played.

Overheard in the Lines.—Certain N.C.O.: "Say, Jim! I had a shock when I saw your dog registered as a collie."

Chief Bobajee: "Well, it's not, see? Only, were I to put its correct name in writing (probably he couldn't spell it—Scribe) no one would understand it."

Certain N.C.O.: "Get away!" (or words to that effect).

Chief Bobajee: "All right, then. I have a book in my bunk which is all about dogs, if you would like to see it."

So, folks, now we know where he gets his recipes—at least, it's food for thought.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Who has the best wireless set in the camp? This seems a very sore point with some people, and one we should like to see cleared up.

Who is Andy's mate? Now that we have a Mobile Police Force, is he going to get a sidecar on the Silver Bullet?

Agony.—To Jock McGregor, somewhere in India: Salaams, Jock. What about it? Andy.

L/Corpl Harris would like to hear from Corpl Charlie Hodge, somewhere in India.

Willie (of Dunree, 1928) is requested to drop a line to L/Corpl Ashworth.

Congratulations.—We heartily congratulate R.Q.M.S. Smart, Sergt Arthur Crockford, Corpl Jerry Dawson and Sigmn Harry Smith on receiving the rooti for eighteen years undetected. Oh, Jerry! you are a one. What did the other half say when you got home?

Tailpiece.—Stanley is still sweating and doing his eighteen pages per diem. SMIFF.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

Naval Visitors.—H.M.S. *Resource* called at Haifa early in July, and we took the opportunity to invite our old friends of No. 7 Mess to spend three days leave with us at Sarafand.

They arrived on the 8th, bearing in their midst Sigmn Grace (recuperating from his labours with the Malta Signal Section by taking a seven weeks cruise at the nation's expense). Some arrived by train and were met by a party of enthusiasts from the unit, whilst the remainder came by bus via Jerusalem. The first item of note was tea, provided by the nimble "Miss" Simpson, and then everyone made his way to the canteen, where during the evening much singing of songs and ditties was enjoyed by all present—and so the first day's leave came to an end.

The morning of the 9th July was spent in the canteen by those jockeys, trainers, owners and backers who could manage to do so, getting ready for the big race meeting to be held on the unit sports field in the afternoon. The meeting was under the arrangements of those well known race producers, Messrs. Lawson, Fergy-Nick and Hope.

About 2 p.m. large crowds of one or two were seen making their way towards the course, with many bottles of beer tucked under their arms: and on arrival there I found that the first race was just about to start. This was the Maiden Stakes for virgin Jennies, over one furlong. There were twelve donkeys entered, and I don't think there was anything likelier than the favourite winning, but from the "off" Tiger Lil (owned by Mr. Burton and ridden by A. McKechnie, and a rank outsider) made a great start and led the field all the way to win in a canter at 25 to 1.

The second race was the Sarafand Plate, over two furlongs. This was won by K. E. White on Fat Rosa. On looking at my card, I found that this moke was owned by the Tote, and of course there were no bets on it. Lucky Tote!

The third race was the Palestine Derby, over one mile. It was the race of the day and the horses lined up as follows:—Liver Sandwich (owned by Baron Cheesman), Twilight Kiss (Mr. J. Shipley-Spice), MacDonald (Mr. W. Page), Move Over (Sir J. Shipley), Charley's Aunt (Samuel Goldwyn Locker), Dinner for Eight (Mr. G. Twiss), Deadly Curry (Count Simpson), Nonotmemate (Mr. J. Green), Bedtime Story (Mr. Fred Mallett), Vulgar Boatman (Mr. Masters), Yes, Sir (Mr. J. C. Cooper), Plausible (Mr. Leonard Murray). From a good start Liver Sandwich (ridden by Gordon Cameron) made the running and drew away from the bunch. Keeping to the rails, there was no doubt as to which had won, and the Tote returned 5 to 2 on Liver Sandwich. Baron Cheesman led in his moke and, interviewed afterwards, said "Liver Sandwich was not in the same class as the others."

The fourth race was the Ramleh Selling Plate, over three furlongs. This time E. Parsonage, riding Sir J. Shipley's Move Over, got home by a short neck. Tote, 7 to 1.

The 4.15 p.m. winner presented no surprise, and Gordon Cameron, riding Baron Cheesman's hard-working filly Marie, walked home. Tote, 2 to 1.

The last race of the day, the Ludd Sprint, was once again won by Gordon—this time upon a red-hot favourite, Badin Buks—by five lengths. Tote, 2 to 1.

At the conclusion of the meeting a children's race and a ladies' race were run, and so ended a very good afternoon's sport.

At the banquet held in honour of the Derby, Baron Cheesman presented Sigmn Grace with the Palestine Derby cup to take back to Malta Signal Section, there to be competed for annually.

On the Wednesday morning, after a very enjoyable leave, the Navy left us, and once again things became normal.

This Month's Best.—Was there any mail yet?

Views on seeing a man drowning: What would you do? Dash to the nearest telephone and inform his unit.

It is heard that the unit carpenter has taken over as chief publicity manager to a certain café in Tel-Aviv.

Agony.—To the Cads (Borstalians) of 1st Div. Signals and B Corps, Rawalpindi: The school tie is still worn, but oh, those photographs! Wally, did you break the camera? If so, the money may have gone to buy a new one. Our sincere regrets in this respect; but even so, a fade-out would have better than nothing at all. Can Aden explain? Cads o' Palestine.

HALF-GREASE.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Saturday 30th June.

Fort Canning News.—Since we laid low that combination of pitch, lead and ten pairs designated a submarine cable, as related in our last notes, our strenuous activities seem to have come to an abrupt end. We just go along doing odd jobs here and there, repairing sadly abused telephones and pushing up odd pieces of line, just to show there is no ill feeling. Our dashing D.R.s on their "not so trusty" Triumphs are, perhaps, an exception. There is no doubt that they earn their pay.

So This is Singapore.—Perhaps some of you ambitious young soldiers who have not yet drawn your rupees or dollars east of Suez may be interested to hear something of life in Singapore. Those of you who are to come here may like to learn a little of the joy to come. We must, however, remember that this is a Regimental Journal and not a guide book, and be brief.

Command Headquarters at Fort Canning, where we have a detachment of ten, is splendidly situated on a hill in the centre of the town, commanding an excellent view of the harbour and the beautiful vista of the green tropical islands beyond. At night there is a real touch of Eastern enchantment in this view, with the lights of the city, streets, theatres and shops, and of the shipping in the harbour beyond. At the top of the hill is the town reservoir, and the roof of it comprises our recreation ground, roughly 250×120 yards. You see, we have ample room there to enjoy sports of all kinds.

The city is one of the world's largest seaports, with a population of about a million—mostly Chinese, the remainder consisting of various types of Indians but not so many Malays as one would expect in Malaya.

There are no fewer than ten cinemas and theatres, but only four of these are regularly frequented by Europeans. The syndicate which runs the cinemas is controlled by some kind-hearted people who let soldiers, sailors and airmen, and their families, into any cinema at half-price—a privilege which is much appreciated. The nearest and best cinema is the Capitol, which prides itself on its comfort, coolness and perfect reproduction. We get the very latest films, often before they are shown in London. Some we have recently seen are "Queen Christine." "The House of Rothschild," "Flying Down to Rio," and "Nana" ("Lady of the Boulevards," by the censor's order, in England).

Two of the real high spots in the town are the rival amusement parks, "The Great World" and "The New World." They cater for the amusement of all races. There are open air theatres for the Chinese, Malays, Japanese and Indians, where one may see the audiences gazing in rapt attention at the weird antics of the performers in the various traditional national plays. There are many side shows of all kinds, shooting galleries, skating rinks, cinemas, and restaurants and cafés of all nationalities. But for the European the cabarets are the big attraction. These are well fitted out with fairly good dance bands, bars and restaurant accommodation. The professional dancing partners are an amazingly mixed crowd; you take your choice of Russians, Phillipinos, Chinese, Eurasians and Japanese. They are a real selection of Eastern beauty, and most of them can dance beautifully. The young dancing fiend is well advised to draw his month's credits before attending a cabaret, for an evening on the floors is apt to be expensive. A book of seven tickets, each of which entitles you to a dance of three minutes with a partner you may choose yourself, costs 4/8 in good English money.

The streets are teeming with vehicles of all kinds—cars, rickshaws, miniature native buses, trolley and motor buses—all of which rush to and fro. We get used to nipping about in taxis, and most of us have spent enough money on them to have become taxi owners by now. Baby Fords are used extensively as half-price taxis for two passengers, and they provide a handy and cheap means of getting about.

Our climate is quite pleasing. We get so much rain that it brings the temperature down if it tries to heat up. Owing to the damp atmosphere, perspiration soon begins to flow if one uses much energy, but by sitting still for a while it is always possible to get cool again. We get plenty of sea breezes: sometimes they get too strong and the local form of storm known as "Sumatra" springs up, but they never last for very long. We can easily get a "cooler" at any time in the nice big bath next to our barrack room in Fort Canning, which we use every day.

You see, Singapore is not such a bad place; so if you are thinking of a trip out East, come up and see us some time.

Departures.—Sigmn Barcock has bought his discharge and is now a member of the Straits Settlement Prison Service. Perhaps some of us will meet him again! SMUDGER.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 12th July.

General.—This last month has been rather eventful: one or two piracies, Chinese running wild, and Randolph on the loose again. All this is quite unusual for this place, where nothing ever happens.

The rainfall for June was 20.4 inches, eleven of which fell in two days. Naturally, all this rain started after the King's Birthday parade had passed off.

The holiday bungalow at Cheung Chau is proving a great success, and another bungalow has been hired for a further month. All the men with money are having another week's leave. One party went up on a Sunday, and on the following Tuesday one of them was seen back in barracks—ordering more beer! It will not require much thought on anyone's part to guess who was on this party.

Our new C.S.O. arrived on the 13th June and is now settled down. We wish him a pleasant tour in China.

Since the arrival of the 1/8th Punjab Regiment from India, we have been treated to a band concert every week. The regiment has an excellnt band, and though some of the lighter music is a bit old, it is very well played and much appreciated. Now, Bryce, lay back and tell 'em about when the 3/15th Punjabs used to play!

"Jimmies" for the 1933-34 season have been awarded as follows. Football, Corpl Pope, Signalmen Martin, Buttery, Fielding and Drake. Hockey, L/Corpl Cross, Signalmen Neale, Dilley, Larking and Austen. Swimming, Signalmen Cord, Farrell and Henshaw. Tennis, Signalmen Lomax and Whitehead.

The Tennis League has started, but the weather has been so bad that only one match has been played, which was lost. Three friendlies have been played—we won two and lost the other.

The hockey ground is being re-conditioned, and the R.E.s are making a very fine job of it. As soon as the work is completed, we are commencing practice for the forthcoming season.

Although the weather is so mild, several of the Section are, to put it mildly, sweating profusely. Two boats leave here in November, and according to all I hear they are to be loaded to the bridge with Signals. At least six think they are sure to go, ten are nearly certain, and twelve have hopes—all this according to rumour.

Congratulations to the Shanghai Signal Section on their success in the Hockey League. Attaboy, Cavill!

A good laugh we had from the June issue: "Welcome to Corpl Huggins. Another one for the guard roster."

Reference Spud Can's notes in the June issue. Peking Mills is now a member of this Section, and is so named because he did a tour of duty at Peking while on charge to North China Signals. I'm sorry to hear that you went to the trouble of looking up the records and also consulting the No. 1 boy. The records have most likely become mildewed, and you should know that Chinese boys seldom remember anyone who is not given to lashing out cumshaw. You will not know Mills, as he left Peking some months before your arrival in that station. He *really* was in Peking, and the veiled suggestion that he wasn't didn't look too good in print.

I must confess that your remarks re my scandal column hurt me at first, but on second thoughts I see that you are quite right. However, those remarks are only meant to be amusing to members and ex-members of this Section, who know to whom I'm referring. Some remarks in THE WIRE leave me cold, but as long as someone gets a laugh out of them, why should I worry?

A Candid Confession.—"I don't know the difference between Handel and Rembrandt," says Ooch (Em. collapses).

Song of Ex-Trooper.—"I got a lot, a lot of what I've got." He's telling us.

Agonies.—Stan, Tientsin: Hope you're on the same boat. I'll live on you for four weeks. Jonah. Ditto above, one week. Austen.

Johnno, Egypt: Wot abart a line? Mush.

Gunboat: You should know. Bunny.

Till next time. MATA HARI.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Wellington Front, 7th August.

The past month has been a very quiet one, very little happening to disturb the normal trend of life here.

Captain and Mrs. B. H. House left on the 20th July for two months leave in the United Kingdom. We hope they will have a pleasant holiday and that the clerk of the weather will be kind to them.

Lieut. Hon. G. R. Clegg-Hill (2nd Battn The Royal Welch Fusiliers) has assumed command of the Section during the temporary absence of Captain House. We hope he will not find his new duties too irksome.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 378.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

- - THE "TERRIERS." - -

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Another annual training camp has come and gone, and many of us have not yet settled down to a civilian existence after the freedom of the open spaces. We were fortunate in having such delightful surroundings, and we owe a debt of gratitude to the Earl of Shaftesbury, on whose estate we were accommodated, for his kindnesses and the interest he took in our activities. Our fortnight was packed both with work and recreation. Being on this occasion some distance from a town of any size, we had to provide our own amusements, and no one can say these were not fully catered for. The weather might have been kinder, but even so, we did not suffer to any great extent, and the cheerful spirit in which some exercises were carried out in the rain spoke well for the enthusiasm of all concerned to get on with the job under trying conditions.

The training programme was a progressive and varied one, commencing with miniature exercises for each Section, continuing with individual exercises over a wider area for Sections, and terminating with two unit exercises. These were all fully appreciated and were favourably remarked on by the inspecting staffs. An innovation this year took the form of a night march and deployment, terminating with Company commanders collecting their Sections and returning to camp by Companies in the early hours. There is something fascinating about a night march—or rather, a night ride—which I think appealed to all ranks.

The Divisional commander (Major-General R. J. T. Hildyard) and his staff officer (Colonel O. H. Tidbury) inspected the camp and the unit at work, and we were delighted to welcome both the C.S.O. (Colonel Bradley) and D.C.S.O. (Colonel Martineau) for a three days stay with us. Other official visitors included the secretaries of the Devon and Hampshire Territorial Army Associations.

All ranks of the unit paid a visit to the Tidworth Tattoo on the opening night, and the experience is still being discussed by those who had never seen a Tattoo before.

Football, cricket, boxing and netball claimed the attention of the bulk of the unit, and 100 per cent. entries were recorded from each Company for our annual sports on the Bank Holiday. Keen but friendly competition existed between the three Companies on this occasion, and history was made on the sports ground by each of them scoring equal points (12) towards the Murray sports cup.

Mrs. Earle, the wife of our honorary colonel, kindly presented the prizes. The ground was packed both with official guests and local spectators. We were very disappointed by the unavoidable absence of Lady Basing on this occasion, as it happens that this is the last camp for our commanding officer, Lord Basing. He has commanded the unit for six years, and having to say farewell is not an easy matter for either side. During his tenure of command the unit has progressed, and we who are left are more than grateful for the interest he has taken in our welfare. It is only au revoir, as we feel sure he will wish to keep in touch with us and visit us whenever opportunity affords. He is assured of a hearty welcome at all times.

We were glad to have 2/Lieuts. H. W. Fenwick and G. K. S. Edwards with us, as they had already carried out their official course at the Academy and came to us fresh from their labours at the Shop.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lieuts. P. W. Shaw and L. E. O. Evans on obtaining their second pips prior to camp, and to Lieut. A. S. Crocker on his second as we go to press.

Decorations.—The C.O. presented Sergt Nightingale of No. 1 Company and Corpl Clift of No. 2 Company with the efficiency medal after church parade on the 5th August. Congratulations to these n.c.o.s on completing twelve years service. There should be more of these decorations ere long.

Sports.—Details of these will appear in the next issue, as time prevents their compilation for this month's issue.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

Another annual camp is over. No doubt, it has been written about generally elsewhere. I shall therefore content myself with writing in connection with No. 1 Company only. Although we were very small in numbers, we were a very keen Company and every man put in a tremendous amount of work. The training was the best that we have had for many years. Need we say anything further than that communications were practically established at the first time of asking in every case?

The most pleasant thing was probably the great show put up by the Company in the annual sports. We had about half the numbers to draw from as compared with the others, but we managed to tie with them for the Murray cup. Competition was very keen, and we have to offer our heartiest congratulations to the few who represented the Company. A word of special mention is due to Corpl Colwell, who surely was a very over-worked member of the team. The tug-of-war was a very keen event. We managed to beat No. 2 Company after three most strenuous pulls, but had to bow our head to No. 3 Company in the third pull in the second round. Who knows what the result might have been had the first round been decided the day before? Six pulls on one day is too much for the untrained man. Again, our numbers did not permit us to put in a large number for the boxing. Our entry of four was diminished by two in view of the fact that Corpl Colwell had had enough the previous day in the sports, and that the doctor was not on our side when it came to the entrants being "vetted." However, we got five points out of a possible six, which is excellent going. Sigmn Fildew deserves a word of special praise for the manner in which he tackled and beat a man who had about six inches more reach and was also about six inches taller. He showed the finer points of the game in the way he went in and met his man at close quarters.

In closing, our thanks are due to every man for the way in which he pulled his weight. The Company did very well, and this was only achieved by all working cheerfully and willingly. We were excused a number of guards, and every man showed his appreciation of that by doing his utmost to see that the guard was an efficient one in turn-out and drill when we *were* called upon.

The turn-out of the Company was very good towards the end of camp. It is hoped that everyone will remember to keep his kit in good order during the winter, so that when it is taken out again in the summer there will be no great difficulty in getting it up to scratch again.

Now let us settle down to a good winter training. It is hoped that the bar in the men's recreation room will be opened in the very near future, and that all ranks will turn up and make the drill hall their recreation hall. Also, remember we want fifty recruits as soon as possible. If every man only brings one, then our numbers will soon be where they should be. What a happier camp it is bound to be next year if our numbers are doubled!

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

We will at least show ourselves in print by apologising to our Editor for the delay in forwarding notes this month. Our budget will be along next time.

PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

Absence of notes from this Company is due to the scribe taking a spot of leave. We hope he will return suitably refreshed.

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals

Unit Headquarters.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Apologies are tendered for the absence of notes from this unit for the past couple of months. We have an endless variety of excuses, but you must be content with the time honoured ones: Training, camp, etc.

Camp Visits.—During annual camp the following officers visited the unit: Major-General Sir J. Burnett of Leys, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (G.O.C. 51st (H.) Division), Colonel R. Chevenix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E. (hon. colonel), Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D. (D/C.S.O. Scottish Command), Lieut.-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C. (C.S.O. Scottish Command), Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland (1st Divl Signals), and Lieuts. C. C. Worrall and W. A. R. Stodart (on leave from India).

The G.O.C. 51st (H.) Division inspected the unit during a signal exercise and afterwards visited the camp area. He expressed his general satisfaction with all that he had seen.

Colonel R. J. Nicol was, as usual, keenly interested in all the unit activities, both at work and at play. He was a most capable non-playing captain for the unit golf team versus the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.

Colonel E. G. McHutchon and Lieut.-Colonel P. C. Snatt spent a very enjoyable seven days with the unit, and their assistance during training was very much appreciated.

Officers: Promotions and Examinations.—Congratulations to Major T. P. E. Murray and Captain J. Cochran on their promotion to their respective ranks; also to Captain A. H. Reid on his success in passing the examination subject (c) (i.) for promotion.

Unit Sports.—No. 1 Company's scribbler will probably have something to report about this. We must congratulate No. 1 on their many achievements in cup annexing at annual camp. Keep cheerful, Nos. 2 and 3. Better luck next time!

Golf Trophy.—This was a dry affair, but Sergt Stephen won it. Good old Steve! Congratulations.

Sergeants Mess.—The members of the Sergeants Mess and their families spent a most enjoyable outing at Aberfeldy, Kenmore, and district on Sunday 12th August. From the writer's point of view, everything was very enjoyable. Some enjoyed the food, some the waterfalls—'nuff sed. Our only regret is that we have to wait so long for the next trip.

Births.—Many have taken place since this item was last recorded, and congratulations are showered on all the proud parents; but special mention must be made of the P.S.I. of No. 1 Company, C.S.M. Thomas R., whose wife has presented him with a bonnie lassie, Lillian. Judging by the sounds of revelry by night issuing from the direction of C.S.M. Thomas's quarters, the bairn is quite able to speak for herself. The chief thing that No. 1 Company are thankful for is that it's not a boy; for if it had been—and anything like its dad—they might know about it some day on the square. But still, one never knows yet, even.

Camp Functions.—Special mention must be made of a dinner and smoker held by the Sergeants Mess in camp, when the D/C.S.O. (our late commanding officer), the commanding officer and all officers of the unit gave us the honour of their company. It was such an enjoyable evening that everyone votes that it should be an annual affair—something to look forward to and not back on. My! the tears in many eyes when Major Murray rendered that popular song "She's the lass for me." Cheer up, lads! Was it the thoughts of those you left behind, or sympathy with the single members in not being able to get out for the night?

Furlough.—The scribes of No. 2 (Stirling) and No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Companies are enjoying well earned furloughs, and so we don't expect news from them this month. They should be all the sprightlier in the October issue.

Cricket.—51st (H.) Divl Signals 58; R.A.F. Leuchars 103 for three wickets.

Golf.—51st (H.) Divl Signals v. Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St. Andrew's, lost by 1—2 matches (one halved); v. R.A.F. Leuchars won by 7—1 matches (one halved). J.D.T.H.

No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Annual Training in Camp.—It was damp when we paraded at Fonthill Barracks before cock-crow on the 14th July, ready to move off to St. Andrew's, where we debussed in a deluge. The wettest day since the Flood was the 28th July, when we struck camp, and a pontoon with a lid on (like Noah had) would have been a handier thing to send back to Ordnance than lines of tents. Now and again during the fifteen days the sun shone, but hardly a day passed without a downpour.

However, it goes without saying that in the history of the unit there has never been a more successful annual training, and it is agreed by all ranks that they have never worked harder or enjoyed themselves more than at St. Andrew's, 1934. Everyone played and worked just as hard as the C.O., on the first parade in camp, said that he wished them to—and with all so confident from the start, how could the whole show have possibly turned out any better than it did?

Training was first class. The signal exercises, in which all Sections took part, were a great success and enjoyable.

The sports, too, were great, although, being run on the tabloid system, they were perhaps more fun to the participants than to the spectators—an opinion which seemed general. The local "rags" wrote up the unit sports very glowingly, and made comment on the prowess of No. 1 Company, the winners of the unit sports trophy, the inter-Company drill competition, the inter-Company boxing, and the tug-of-war.

Mrs. E. Birnie Reid, the wife of the commanding officer, who was present and graciously presented the prizes, was gallantly assisted by the hon. colonel, Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E.

A loud speaker van, kindly loaned for the occasion by *The Dundee Daily Record*, proved most useful, especially as there was a high wind and ten megaphones in series wouldn't have amplified the sergeant-major's marshalling voice. The C.O. and Colonel Nicol made good use of this handy appliance to broadcast final Sports Day speeches—both have excellent "mike" voices.

Happy thought! Would it not be a good idea to dispense with the Pipe Band, with its goat-skin pianos, and get a loud speaker van which might lead us to kirk to the strains of our camp theme song, "Let's have a jolly good snivel." The pipe-major, becoming redundant, could become n.c.o. i/c records, gramophone, loud speaker.

Talking of theme songs, here are the words for another.

Now, we were told the other day,
That a local celebrity was heard to say
That it made him weary to hear the way
Some poor folks pitied the Terriers
"Out there in the camp, layin' out in the damp!"
The life of the Signalman harsh and rough?
Tell me, where d'ye get that stuff?
Monarch is he of his own domain,
Wi' nothing tae dee but tae rest his brain
(For twenty-four hours at a stretch!)
"Out there in the camp, layin' out in the damp!"
Aye, and what are we doing whilst he blaethers like this?
We're on P.T. in the blizzard's bliss,
We're on parade and forming fours
(Whilst the rest of the world are asleep indoors)
"Out there in the camp, layin' out in the damp!"
We're reeling out lines, or we're lining up kits,
Or we're losing D.R.s and finding the bits,
We're doing route marches that'd give infantry fits,
And *he'd* join the Signals if he had the gits—
And be "Out there in the camp, layin' out in the damp!"

Promotion.—All ranks of Headquarters, No. 1 Company and No. 207 Section join heartily in congratulating their O.C., Major T. P. E. Murray, on his promotion to that rank.

"Advance, Australia!"—

Farewell to Captain H. Trethowen!
The unit's sorry that he's goin',
"Will ye no come back agen?"
(A plea from the sick, lame and lazy men)
Adieu, in short, to the posh-hat M.O.,
Who did two weeks camp for one week's dough—
And how!

LANKA MK. II.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Joan Dodds.—It is not only the soldiers sworn to allegiance to king and country who serve the Corps. There are the women folks and the children. In barracks and in bungalow beneath sweltering skies, and enduring all the trials of the Tropics, our women and children also serve and nobly play their part in maintaining the ideals of our great comradeship.

No better little soldier ever served the Corps than Joan, the beloved daughter of C.S.M. Dodds of our permanent staff. But Joan has left us for the Higher Command. Aged nine years, this sweet child passed away on the 8th July, from diphtheria, after only three days illness.



Joan was known to hundreds of our comrades. She served a full tour in India, going out in March 1928—when she was two and a half years old. To the heat of the Plains and the coolness of the hill stations Joan's winning smile and delightful attractiveness brought cheer and grace, and in time she became the darling of many a barracks and the pride of many a station.

At the time of her death Joan was a pupil of great promise at Hyndland Higher Grade School, Glasgow, where she was a prime favourite with teachers and pupils.

Our hearts go out to C.S.M. and Mrs. Dodds. No words can adequately convey our most heartfelt sympathy with them, but we can assure them that during their sojourn with us we will share their sorrow and strive to comfort and solace them.

Joan has but gone on ahead. It will not be long ere we sight the distant station and see the light on the hill, and Joan will be there to greet us!

"Gem of purest ray serene."

The New Guard.—That was a great show on sports day! The guard excelled itself. An ex-R.S.M. was loud in his praises of the youngsters. We ex-Service men must look to our laurels. This youthful guard under the boyish-looking Sergeant McNeil attracted the attention of staff officers and visitors. All honour to R.S.M. Wylie. He is bringing up the youngsters in the faith.

Annual Sports.—The annual sports held at camp were a great success. There were over three thousand spectators. Competition was keen in inter-unit events, and the open events attracted the best of the Division's athletes.

Film Fun.—Our camp exhibition signal office was a bright idea. The filming of the office in active operation was a brain wave, which should prove most useful for recruiting purposes.

Colonel F. L. Robertson.—The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess marked their farewell to our late chief, Colonel F. L. Robertson, by presenting him with a silver salver. R.Q.M.S. Sinclair, in a few well chosen remarks, bade Colonel Robertson goodbye, and the ceremony was not without its touch of parting emotions. We will not soon forget Colonel Robertson's ever ready word of encouragement or his unceasing efforts to help our less fortunate comrades. Many a man he has placed in work and many a home he has brightened. May you reap the rich reward of all your good works, sir!

No. 3 Company.—The visit of this Company to Dundonald prior to annual training proved most helpful. Despite difficulty with the ack sets, the Company thoroughly enjoyed the Maybole-Turnberry scheme at camp, and the opportunity given to visit Girvan was appreciated by all ranks.

The Company is greatly interested in its officers, and it is a matter for wonder why the officers, who do so much to ration the Company on its schemes, should themselves go short—especially the maritime gentleman whose staple diet at all times was apples.

The Company showed great enthusiasm in the competition for promotion under the new standards, and all round satisfaction was expressed at the re-arrangement of ranks.

Arrangements are well in hand for the schemes next spring, and the O.C. is especially pleased with the grand spirit prevailing in the unit and the excellent results obtained at Troon camp.

R.A.F. Signal Sections.—It was in 1931 that the Sections last camped at Troon. This year, pleasant associations were renewed. The Sections are especially proud of this year's film venture, and it was due to the excellent work of all ranks that such a splendid show was made. There was a marked increase in the numbers examined by the Trade Boards, and the great demand for the various text books is indeed a good sign.

Sergeants Mess.—Things functioned perfectly at camp. Sergt Christie, the recently appointed caterer, deserves great credit for work well done. The installation of the radiogram was a most successful innovation.

Going South.—All is now in readiness for the S.R. Cable Section's visit to Aldershot. There is every prospect of pleasant training and a happy holiday, and we feel certain that all ranks will do all that is possible to enhance our good reputation and maintain our record for efficiency down Aldershot way.

Mrs. Peter Murray.—It is with profound regret that we record the death of Mrs. Peter Murray, the wife of our S.R. pay sergeant. We assure Sergt Murray that his loss is shared by each one of us, and all ranks tender their condolences.

Brigadier-General Godfrey-Faussett.—The officers marked their farewell to this distinguished soldier by forwarding to him a piece of silver plate, suitably inscribed. We look forward with great pleasure to meeting him once again.

Musical Murphy.—Our good friend Spud Murphy is blessed with an ear for music but not for the bagpipes. His first camp with us had for him the terrors of Hades. This Scot-English-Irishman has no admiration for our national musical instrument. He now looks forward to the Judgment Day with equanimity: the bagpipes did it all. Our splendid pipe band is much to the liking of our Sassenach comrades, but not to the liking of Donald MacMurphy. We have hopes for Murphy the Morose: he has purchased a kilt and sporran. Scotland yet!

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters Company.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

General.—On Sunday 29th July the unit moved down to Roedean, Sussex, for the annual camp. The camp was very pleasantly situated on the cliffs overlooking the sea, within a few minutes walk of Roedean School.

Training commenced on the Monday, and from the first things went with a swing—the various Sections out on work and the individual training squads, under their various instructors, learning the principles of transmitting and receiving Morse signals in all its branches. A camp exchange was installed and the surrounding units were all linked up by phone.

During our stay we were visited by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, the C.-in-C. Eastern Command, the Divisional commander and the Chief Signal Officer, all of whom had things to say of us which were very pleasant to hear. We must not forget to mention, too, the visit of Alderman J. Rumsey, Mayor of West Ham, who spent a day with us and complimented the unit on their extraordinary appearance of smartness and fitness.

The following, taken from *The Stratford Express* of the 11th August, gives more or less in detail the chief events of annual camp 1934.

ESSEX TROOPS AT ROEDEAN.

Signals conclude Annual Training.

Keen Workers and Athletes.

The 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals return from their annual period of training this week-end, and the whole of the personnel will assuredly be sorry that their pleasant stay by the sea near Brighton has come to an end. Windmill Camp, on the sea front near Roedean, has been one of the most pleasant spots that these two units belonging to the 54th Division have been allotted, for it was ideal for work as well as amusement during the leisure time that has been liberally given. Training at these Territorial camps is not all hard work. Although the main object is developing a state of efficiency in whatever particular branch of the Service the men may be serving, the work is always made as interesting and as pleasant as possible, and between times the troops are able to enjoy the amenities provided by the town nearest, which in this case is Brighton, a short bus ride distant.

A further visit to the camp this week by a representative of this Journal found the troops in fine fettle. Invigorated by the air and tanned a healthy colour, they presented a very fit appearance, and the smartness displayed was evidence of the fact that their training had been of a very useful character.

The Signals, who have Headquarters and two Companies at the Green, Stratford, a Company at Southend, and Detachments at Ipswich and Bedford, have had a very useful second week, and probably have been able to astonish the staff officers who have visited them by their advanced state of efficiency. This interesting branch of the Army should attract a desirable type of man, because the work is particularly interesting. Wireless plays a prominent part in signalling these days, and transmission and reception of messages by this means has been well developed by this unit during the year by the use of sets at Stratford and Southend. On Thursday morning they went out and carried out a definite scheme of communication in the field at long distances, and they have been inspected while at work in the field (using visual, telephone, and despatch riders, as well as wireless) by Colonel Henderson, commanding 4th Divisional Signals; the Chief Signal Officer of the Eastern Command, Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.; and the Deputy C.S.O., Colonel A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.

On Thursday morning there was an interesting parade in the camp when the Chief Signal Officer presented a long service and good conduct medal to R.S.M. Dowie F. J.; Indian general service medals to C.S.M. Collins H. J. and Sergt Finn V. L.; and Territorial efficiency medals to Sergt Simons W. and L/Sergeant Parker T. In the afternoon the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command (General Sir Cyril J. Deverell, K.C.B., K.B.E., A.D.C.) inspected the troops.

On Wednesday the Mayor of West Ham (Alderman Rumsey), accompanied by the Mayoress, visited the camp and made a tour of inspection, and was greatly interested in all he saw. He talked with some of the troops, and must have been greatly impressed with their keenness as well as their fitness. He and the Mayoress were photographed with a group of officers and men.

To-day (Friday) the Chief of the General Staff, General Sir Archibald A. Montgomery-Massingberd, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C.) is at the training areas, where he is inspecting both Signals and the Artillery while they are carrying out schemes.

The Signals held their sports on Monday, when an interesting programme of events was witnessed. The inter-Company cup was won by No. 1 Company with 14 points, the Ipswich and Bedford Detachments combining as a Company for the purpose of the sports and being second with 11 points. The results were:

Inter-Company relay—1st, Ipswich and Bedford; 2nd, No. 3 Company; 3rd, No. 2 Company.
Four-legged race—1st, No. 1 Company; 2nd, No. 2 Company; 3rd, Ipswich and Bedford.
100 yards—1st, Sigmn Smith E. W. (No. 3); 2nd, Sigmn Elliott J. (Ipswich and Beds); 3rd, Sigmn Day T. (Ipswich and Beds).
Obstacle race—1st, Sigmn Ordum (No. 1); 2nd, Sigmn Scott (No. 1); 3rd, L/Corpl Bines (Ipswich and Beds).
Tilting the bucket—1st, Sigmn King and L/Corporal Thompson (No. 1).
Boat race—1st, No. 1 Company; 2nd, Ipswich and Beds.; 3rd, No. 3 Company.
Tug-of-war—1st, No. 1; 2nd, No. 2; 3rd, Ipswich and Beds.
Bun and treacle race—1st, Sigmn Miller (No. 2); 2nd, Signalman Tracey (Ipswich and Beds).
Boot and sack race—1st, Sigmn Towler (No. 1); 2nd, Signalman Kemp (No. 2).
Motor musical chairs—1st, L/Cpl Anderson (No. 2); 2nd, Sigmn Simpson (No. 2).

No. 1 Company.

General.—Our annual training camp has terminated, and it was on Sunday 12th August that all ranks returned to Stratford, looking bronzed and handsome after having fifteen days of the Brighton air. The weather was a mixture of sun, wind and rain, but despite this all agree they have had a good time and feel very fit.

In work, on parade and at sports, we kept our proper place—always first—but being modest, we hand it to the whole unit for putting up a really remarkable show. Which again proves that training plus experience plus keenness will beat anything.

"A" W/T Section.—The progress made by the Wireless Section was very marked during the training camp, and all the schemes held went like clockwork. It was quite an experience to hear nothing else but "Through by W/T to so-and-so."

The wireless trophy which is competed for each year was retained, and by a rather big majority of points. The V/T trophy, won by No. 3 Company, will soon be ours, judging by this year's results. We congratulate No. 3.

The recruit operators made huge strides towards obtaining a rate, and we know that they will shine at the next Trade Board.

"B" Cable Section.—The lines laid down by the working section were, as usual, very good ones, communication being perfect and maintained with very few snags. We always have to hand it to this Section: they know and do their job.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—During July we were busy preparing for annual camp, which was held at Roedean in sunny Sussex and also by the sea, so these notes had better be headed

Annual Camp.—Our fortnight's change has left us much wiser and browner, and we have satisfied ourselves that we can function in wet weather or fine. During camp we provided one R.A. Field Brigade Signal Section and the majority of the instructors for the individual training classes. We cannot but compliment those instructors on the really good work they put in and the amount of patience shown with some of the really raw material.

A wreath of laurels must also be handed to our noted storeman, L/Corpl Cook S., who guarded his stores so zealously and jealously—so well, indeed, that by the last day in camp we had three D.iii. telephones and two blackboards *too many*.

Camp Exchange.—This was erected by personnel of No. 2 Company, and the lines laid out by B Cable Section and the recruits of the linemen's class. Were we through? Well, ask our exchange operators who requested permission to charge two-pence per call!

Company Supper.—This was held at the Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, and a very successful evening was enjoyed. We tender our thanks to the members who discovered the place and arranged our delightful accommodation and repast.

Recruiting.—During annual camp we inspected the youngest, or rather, some of the younger visitors to the unit and selected one as being a probable member of this august Company. He has agreed that it will be a very good thing for him to join us, and we have the dotted lines all ready for him to sign. He is one of the Anderson-cum-Hurley-cum-Millar bunch, so that should be sufficient recommendation as to his suitability.

Congratulations.—To the following upon their recent step up the ladder: Signalmen Cook S. and Pond W. to L/Corporal. L/Corporals Caslake and Asplin to Corporal. Corpls Clarke D. and Sinfield R. to L/Sergeant. Also to those who passed the recent Trade Board and are now full blown tradesmen.

Original.—Our Dan, the man who has invented a marching step all on his own and believes in sticking to his own invention. Rumour has it that at next camp he is to have a squad to train in the new method of locomotion.

Things We Hear.—A bunch of despatch riders out on training, learning to identify staff officers. A group of actual staff officers standing near. Instructor: "Who is the officer with 'B.M.' on his armband?" Bright pupil: "The Bandmaster, sir!" TWOCOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Annual Camp.—This Detachment proceeded by road (Eastern Omnibus Company) and had a very nice journey down to sunny Sussex. We left our H.Q. at 8 a.m. and arrived at Roedean about 2.40 p.m. On arrival we met a nice gale blowing, but that did not worry us in the least.

We were amalgamated with No. 232 F.A. Artillery Signal Section and No. 209 M.A.B. Signal Section, and formed into No. 4 Company 54th Divisional Signals, under the command of Capt. A. P. Angel from Ipswich.

On training we found one working section and the remainder of the Section were allocated to the individual training school and n.c.o.s class. Our training area was in the vicinity of High Hill and Balsdean Farm, and a more delightful spot of country could not have been found anywhere unless it was up in the hills round Murree or Razmak. Training was carried out in conjunction with the Infantry Brigade Sections from Southend, and quite a lot of fresh knowledge was gathered.

The n.c.o.s class inform me that they also gleaned very useful knowledge from their fortnight's instruction, and the school personnel also admitted that they had learned quite a lot during the time that they had been in camp.

After duty the lads enjoyed themselves down in Brighton and other places round about. From what I saw of them, they were certainly enjoying themselves on the "dodgems," etc., in the amusement park.

In spite of the weather during the second week being rather unsettled, the fellows all say that they thoroughly enjoyed that camp. Anyhow, they came back to Bedford looking well bronzed and certainly more healthy in appearance than when they left.

Congratulations to No. 3 Company on winning the visual event once more.

We give ourselves a pat on the back now. This unit had all but two members present at annual training for the whole fifteen days: 94.2 per cent. Not a bad average for these days.

Sports.—At the unit sports held on Bank Holiday Monday, we helped No. 4 Company to win the relay by supplying Signalmen Dale and Tracey. Sigmn Day secured a place in the 100 yards. Well done, lads! BEDFORDIAN.

HOME STATIONS—*Continued from page 393*

5th Divisional Signals *(continued)*

no! That makes a total of one hundred and eleven from this unit. Names are too numerous to mention, but they all come from good stock and should be well browned (off) before they reach their destination. L/Sergt Dicker proceeds to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut, on the 14th September, and Sigmn Toogood to Malaya on the 3rd October. The destination of the remainder are, as yet, unknown (thank heaven!)

Sergeants Mess.—Hello, hello, India! listen to this. C.Q.M.S. Millross is married. On Saturday 28th July, at Scalby Church, he forsook all others and proceeded down the aisle to join and be joined to Miss Margaret Garlick. Members of the Mess attended both the ceremony and the reception that followed, taking with them the best wishes of the whole Mess. It is understood that other weddings are to come, but all in good time. One at a time, please!

Congratulations to L/Sergt Gould, who has obtained a billet with the Glasgow Terriers. Patience, Nat. November will soon be here.

The visit to the Mess of the 49th Div. R.E. (T.A.) was thoroughly enjoyed by the few who attended. We came off very well in the games tournament, in spite of the fact that we played with their cards. Murmurings from our phat school indicated that things hadn't been too rosy. However, the replay on our ground will prove more attractive. No doubt, our snooker experts will hit the high spots.

[On the occasion of the return match, the high spots *were* reached—but not by us, and we lost the games tournament by a small margin.]

Agony.—Sorry, G.B.S. Quetta (I mean W.G.S.). Nothing doing. Never catch 'em. And, by the way, I disagree with your remark re the view of Baluchistan. Viewed from North Marine Drive and my allotment, "Quetta and surrounding country" seems a fair place. Distance lends enchantment, and so on.

Section Notes.—Absence of these regretted. There are too many mushrooms about. OXO (again).

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

On the 4th August we returned once again to our old groove in Belfast, after an enjoyable five weeks at Ballykinler. Unfortunately the rain damped our enthusiasm and cancelled our last big stunt in the last week. Still, there is another year.

Battalion training has commenced, and we are endeavouring to copy our big brothers with mobile wireless lorries—with jolly good results.

Astounding discoveries have been made. We possess two Longfellows, although their poetry lacks the metre of that celebrated poet. Perhaps you can judge for yourself (see "Literary Circle").

Promotions.—Nun: sorry! nil.

Arrivals.—Same as above.

Departures.—Signalmen Turner and Burnett have been transferred to the Army Reserve, and we wish them the best of luck.

Draft.—Corpl Wootton and Signalmen Morrison, Parkinson, McCormack, Jones, Leedham, Hedley, Ashby, Miscummons and Hale have been provisionally warned for India.

Literary Circle.—

VIVE LA . . .

We hear much talk of Oxford blues, and old school ties as well—
One wonders where one really is; it's rather hard to tell.
I say, you chaps, just keep this dark; I'll only tell a few.
Do you know our old friend Herby? I don't suppose you do.
Well, he's the Duke of real blue blood from some ancestral hall—
I know it sounds fictitious, and maybe just too tall.
It's rather tough, after "Your Grace," or something high falutin',
To have to drop those ancient rites and be Dick Smith from Tooting.
So, just to ease things off a bit, friend Herb gets one idea:
He'll tell the cock-eyed world he's a wireless telephone engineer.
—*Wormwudscrubs.*

HEAR MY PLEA.

I'm getting fed up with Omagh—
I've been here far too long:
The Depot's too hot for a soldier,
At Belfast they do me wrong.
I don't like the thoughts of Armagh,
And can't get a course of hygiene;
The Skins are too regimental:
If I don't get away soon, I'll scream.
Oh, Officer i/c Records,
Hear this, my final plea:
Post me to my old station—
From Omagh set me free.
Send me abroad again if you wish to,
For three years or five and a bit,
But for goodness sake don't get me posted
Until I've obtained a full kit.
—*Llerttag.*

Tell . . . E' . . . .—Some Scotch transmissions. To G. Evans, Risalpur: What's wrong, Judda? does the heat over there affect your writing? What about a line? Swetnam. Waz. District Dance Band: Who cares? my son's home and the bonnet is not on straight yet. Bear up, Stan! McNoon.

Tailpiece.—That's all from N.I.D. HEC ME.



Editorial Note.

Will Correspondents please study our general style of presenting Sports details and draft their notes on similar lines, taking care, also, to type them with an open space between the lines instead of crowding as much as possible on a sheet? (Sports Notes should always be kept apart from Unit Notes and typed on separate sheets.)

This request has been made on several previous occasions, and we appreciate the co-operation of many whose copy it is a pleasure to handle; but we want the help of those others to whom our appeal is really addressed, and we say "Thank you!" in anticipation of their prompt compliance.

S.T.C. (Catterick) Athletics, 1934.

The athletic season at the S.T.C. is now finished, and the following is a brief account of the season's fixtures and results.

On the 12th May we held our annual fixture against Durham University and Northumberland and Durham A.A. at Newcastle. This fixture always comes too early in the season for our team to be really fit, with the result that we never make a really good showing. We were again third this year, our chief scorers being 2/Lieut. P. C. Williams in the long jump, 2/Lieut. Read in the shot, and L/Corpl Vaughan in the pole jump.

Three Mackworth inter-Company meetings were held during May, and these resulted in a win for the Mounted Wing, with D and E Companies a good second and third.

The S.T.C. sports were held during the first week in June and resulted as follows. [A few photos are shown on the next page.]

100 yards—1st, 2/Lieut. Western, 10⅘ sec.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Read; 3rd, 2/Lieut. Williams
220 yards—1st, 2/Lieut. Read, 23⅗ sec.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Western; 3rd, L/Corpl Thomas (Mounted Wing)
440 yards—1st, L/Corpl Thomas (M.W.) 54⅖ sec.; 2nd, Sigmn Griffiths (E Company); 3rd, Sigmn West (Dismounted Wing)
880 yards—1st, Corpl Collins (E) 2 min. 5⅗ sec.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Gordon; 3rd, Sigmn Griffiths (E)
One mile—1st, Corpl Collins (E) 4 min. 48⅗ sec.; 2nd, Private Slaymaker (D); 3rd, Sigmn Green (E)
Three miles—1st, L/Corporal Verlander (F) 16 min. 45⅗ sec.; 2nd, Boy Terry (F); 3rd, Sigmn Bates (E)
120 yards hurdles—1st, 2/Lieut. Read, 16⅗sec.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Lvall; 3rd, 2/Lieut. Williams
High jump—1st, 2/Lieut. Miller, 5 ft. 4¾ in.; 2nd, L/Corporal Gibson (D.W.); 3rd, Corpl Holden
Long jump—1st, 2/Lieut. Williams, 20 ft. 10 in.; 2nd, Sigmn Linee (School of Signals); 3rd, 2/Lieut. Mervyn Smith
Pole jump—1st, L/Corpl Vaughan (D.W.) 9 ft.; 2nd, Signalman Beavan (D); 3rd, Sigmn Simms (E)
Putting the weight—1st, 2/Lieut. Read, 35 ft. 8¾ in.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Gordon; 3rd, Corpl Jerram
Throwing the hammer—1st, L/Sergt Harrison, 89 ft. 10 in.; 2nd, Lieut. Denholm-Young; 3rd, Sigmn Beavan
Throwing the javelin—1st, 2/Lieut. Williams, 129 ft. 1 in.; 2nd, 2/Lieut. Read; 3rd, Boy Adams
Throwing the discus—1st, Sigmn Gibbons (E) 101 ft. 7 in.; 2nd, Corpl Jerram (E); 3rd, 2/Lieut. Williams
Victor Ludorum Cup—2/Lt. Read won with a total of 25 points. 2/Lieut. Williams was runner-up with 19.
Cobb Cup—Winners, Mounted Wing
Pinsent Cup—1st, F Company, 59½ points; 2nd, Mounted Wing, 58; 3rd, E Company, 51; 4th, D Company, 20; 5th, Dismounted Wing, 15½; 6th, School of Signals, 5

At the Northern Command individual championships held on the 13th and 14th June, 2/Lieut. Read won the putting the shot event, beating his own Command record of last year by a foot. Other prominent performers were 2/Lieut. Williams, second in the long jump; L/Corpl Moore (D Company) second in the high jump; L/Corpl Vaughan (Dismounted Wing) second in the pole vault. Lieut. Denholm-Young and Sigmn Gibbons gained Command standards in the hammer and discus respectively.

At the Northern Command team meeting on the 18th and 19th June, the Training Battalion was placed fourth, points being scored in the following events: First in javelin; second in one mile relay, high jump, hurdles relay and discus; third in putting the weight; fourth in three miles and long jump.

During the course of the meeting 2/Lieut. Williams made an unofficial Command record of 162 ft. with the javelin.

The Mounted Wing of the Depot Battalion won the small units medley relay race. Mention must be made of a very fine effort in the half mile by Sergt Shardlow. He had to run this distance quite unexpectedly, and after a clever race he just managed to get home for his team by a yard in the last section of the relay.

On the 22nd June an S.T.C. match against Durham University, held at Catterick, resulted in a win by 85½ points to 84½ for the University. Some good performances were put up on both sides.

On the 26th June a boys and young soldiers team from the S.T.C. met Ampleforth College at Catterick. This is the first event of this kind we have had, and it resulted in a fairly comfortable win for Ampleforth, some of whose team showed very good form indeed.

At the Army individual athletics (as announced last month) Boy Barrett won the boys 220 yards—a very fine performance, considering he is not yet seventeen. Boy Smith also reached the final.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

I'm not much good at writing about sport. I play it too often and like it too much. But as in war-time phraseology, "They gives me a nail and a 'ammer and a —— lump of wood and tells me to make a —— dug out," so here they give me a pencil and paper and bid me produce notes. Shove ha'penny, darts, ludo, banker, and even bridge, I am told, are not to be mentioned. The ground is cleared with the elimination of knur and spell, skittles, and roll or bowl 'em. Here we are!

Let's talk about shooting. We have a rather decent small bore shooting team, and we now stand at the top of the Yorkshire Summer League (Division I.). This may not mean much to you, but it's a kick in the pants for Huddersfield. Details are:—

	Fired	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Depot Battalion Royal Signals ...	11	9	0	2	... 18
Huddersfield	11	8	0	3	... 16
Doncaster Comrades	11	8	0	3	... 16

Tennis.—In this, too, we are top dog. Pardon the boasting. We have recently acquired Sergt Shardlow and . . well, that's enough. A brief appreciation and account of the games follow.

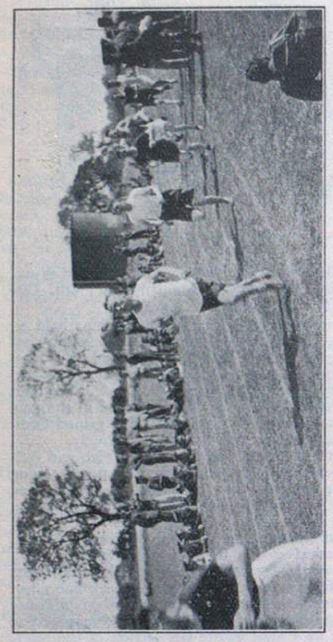
Sergeant M. Shardlow, who was recently posted to the home establishment from the Special Roster (India), has just cleaned up all the military trophies and has become the holder of no less than six championships: Army inter-unit singles, Army open doubles (other ranks), Northern Command singles (other ranks),

S.T.C. (Catterick) Individual Sports June 1934

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Photographs by Lieut. C. P. S. Drakeford-Young

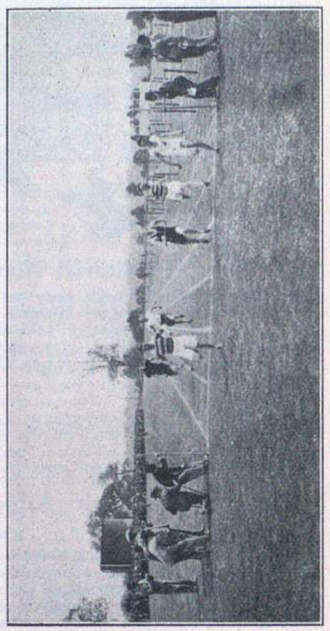
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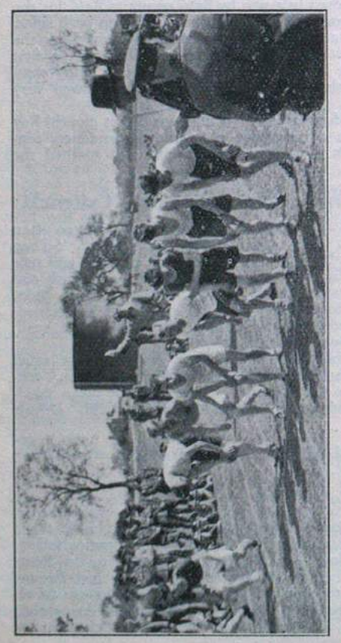
Above: First Lap of a Mile Heat



Below: 2/Lieut. Western winning the 100 yards



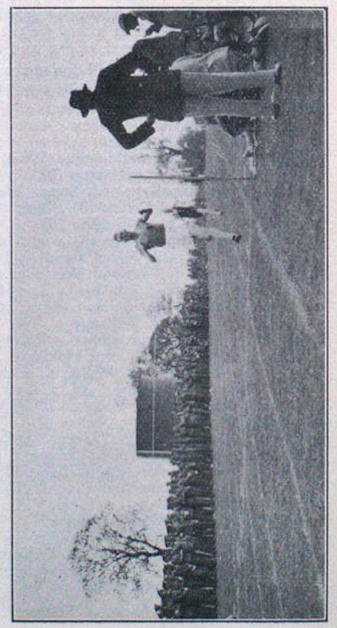
Opposite: 2/Lieut. Williams winning the Long Jump



Above: Start of a Mile Heat



Below: Corpl Collins winning the 880 yards



Opposite: L/Corpl Vaughan winning the Pole Jump

Northern Command inter-unit doubles (other ranks), Catterick Garrison singles (other ranks), and Catterick Garrison inter-unit doubles (other ranks), and also the Catterick Garrison handicap doubles. The whole of these events were played over a period of three weeks, in which he took twelve cups, including five challenge trophies. Here is a tabloid account.



Sergeant Shardlow.

In the finals of the Army championships, held at the Officers' Club, Aldershot, on Saturday 21st July, Sergt Shardlow beat S/Sergt Warr (R.E.) in the final of the singles by 8—6, 6—2. In the final of the doubles which followed, Sergeant Shardlow, partnered by S.Q.M.S. Hobbs (R.A.O.C.) won by 7—5, 6—1, 6—0. It may be remembered that Sergeant Shardlow won these two events in 1932 while on leave from India.

Returning to Catterick in time to commence play in the Garrison championships on the Monday, his successes on Saturday 28th July were as follows. He first defeated S.Q.M.S. Hobbs (R.A.O.C.) by 6—4, 6—2, and with Sergt Farmer won the inter-unit doubles by 6—1, 6—2. In the handicap doubles he and Sergt Farmer naturally carried the largest handicap, but in spite of this they won by 6—0, 6—1.

In the 5th Division inter-unit doubles championship Lieutenant Muir and Sergt Shardlow, representing the Depot Battalion, were knocked out by the holders in the semi-final round in three sets —a very close affair.

On the following Saturday (4th August) in the Northern Command championships, Sergeant Shardlow beat S.Q.M.S. Hobbs (R.A.C.C.) in the final of the singles by 6—1, 6—0, and followed this up by winning the inter-unit doubles with Sergt Farmer by 6—0, 6—3.

Special mention must be made of Sergt Farmer, who played an excellent game throughout and was knocked out in the semi-final of both local singles events by Sergt Shardlow.

Apart from his success in 1932, when he won six events during his leave, Sergt Shardlow has never before played at home ; but those readers now alas! in India, and especially those in Karachi, will long remember his run of successes in that country. If one can judge from this season's events, it certainly looks as though we might have a run of success from him equal to that of Sergt Cotterell in another sphere. We hope and wait.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Mackworth Trophy Cricket Final.—After several postponements the " timeless Test " match between F and E Companies in the final of the Mackworth trophy was commenced at 2.30 p.m. on the 19th July.

Our captain, 2/Lieutenant P. C. Williams, did his duty well by winning the toss and gave our opponents first knock. The first wicket did not fall until 42 runs were on the board, but after that a collapse ensued and when the tenth man came in the score was 86 runs for eight wickets. Then, however, a gallant stand made by 2/Lieut. Lyall and L/Corpl Forster put on 48 runs before they were separated. The innings finally closed for 152. Our fielding, except for a few blemishes at the commencement, was excellent, particularly that of Corpl Boy Adcock, who brought off three magnificent catches. Our two most successful bowlers were Sigmn Adcock (four for 37) and Corpl Holden (three for 36). 2/Lieut. Lyall batted extremely well and was unbeaten with 64 runs to his credit.

Facing this useful score, we fared badly at the beginning, two wickets falling for 22 runs. Then a stand was made by 2/Lieut Gordon and Sergt Napper which realised 74 runs. With the score at 96 the former was well caught, having made an invaluable 65 runs. The next two wickets fell quickly, and with five down for only 99 we certainly had our backs to the wall. Boy O'Brien and Adcock came together and put up a strong resistance, and play finished for that day with the score at 120 for five wickets.

Play was resumed next day, and almost immediately Boy Adcock put his leg in front of a straight one from Corpl Collins and was out for 11 runs (122 for six). His brother Sigmn Adcock did not stay long (125 for seven) and then Boy O'Brien was bowled by a yorker (127 for eight). Boy Reedman, a noted hitter, went in and very soon settled down. He scored 14 runs very quickly before being caught, and then our last men were in with ten runs to get. As you can imagine, the position now became very tense and every ball was watched with bated breath. Each run was cheered as another two singles were scored. And then the last wicket fell—L/Corpl Holloway stepped out to a slow ball from Captain Woodbridge, missed it, and was very smartly stumped. E Company won by the narrow margin of eight runs, and thus retain the trophy for another year.

E COMPANY.

Sigmn Harris b Adcock	13
Sigmn Willoughby c Boy Adcock b Adcock	24
Sigmn Gale c and b Holden	2
Corpl Collins c Holloway b Adcock	0
Captain Woodbridge c Napper b Holden	1
Corpl Saunders c Reedman b Williams	12
Sigmn Duncan b Adcock	0
2/Lieut. Lyall not out	64
Lieut. Burridge b Holden	0
L/Corpl Forster c Boy Adcock b Gordon	23
Sergt Lockyer c Boy Adcock b Gordon	0
Extras	13
Total	152

Bowling—Williams one for 30, Gordon two for 21, Adcock four for 37, Holden three for 36.

F COMPANY.

2/Lieut. Gordon c Lyall b Woodbridge	65
Corpl Holden lbw b Collins	5
2/Lieut. Williams b Collins	0
Sergt Napper b Gale	20
Boy Murray c Lyall b Gale	0
Boy O'Brien b Collins	15
Corpl Boy Adcock lbw b Collins	11
Sigmn Adcock c Duncan b Woodbridge	1
Boy Reedman c Willoughby b Woodbridge	14

L/Corpl Holloway st —— b Woodbridge	3
Corpl Tant not out	1
Extras	9
Total	144

Bowling—Collins four for 90, Gale two for 60, Captain Woodbridge four for 51.

Signals Week, Aldershot.

Results of the inter-unit sports held at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, between the 16th and 21st July:—

Three mile team race—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divisional Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
One mile team race—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
High jump—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Young soldiers mile relay race—1st, A Corps Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, 1st Divl Signals
Young soldiers mile team race—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Wheelbarrow race—1st, Signalmen Linton and Holmes ; 2nd, L/Corpl Chapman and Sigmn Edwards ; 3rd, Sergt Pye and L/Corpl Griffin
Throwing the javelin—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divisional Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
440 yards relay race—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divisional Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Two miles relay race—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divisional Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Sack race—1st, L/Sergt Gatford ; 2nd, Sigmn France ; 3rd, Sigmn Smoult
Long jump—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Bicycle relay race—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, A Corps Signals ; 3rd, D Troop
Throwing the hammer—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Open relay race (four per team)—1st, 2nd Battn The Wilts Regiment ; 2nd, Railway Training Centre R.E. ; 3rd, 2nd Coldstream Guards
Putting the shot—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
120 yards hurdles relay race—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, A Corps Signals ; 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals
Pole vault—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, A Corps Signals ; 3rd, 1st Divl Signals
880 yards relay race—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Throwing the discus—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, A Corps Signals ; 3rd, 1st Divl Signals
Officers race—1st, Captain Longley
Ladies' race—1st, Miss Byatt ; 2nd, Mrs. Farlow ; 3rd, Mrs. Gatford
Children's race (under 8 years)—1st, Harry James ; 2nd, Peter Purcell ; 3rd, Freddie Townley
Children's race (over 8 years)—1st, John Ives ; 2nd, Doreen Massey ; 3rd, Ronald Weller
One mile relay race—1st, 1st Divl Signals; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Open steeplechase—1st, L/Corpl Glinty (2nd Coldstream Guards); 2nd, Pte Rolls (2nd Wilts Regiment) ; 3rd, Driver Groom (2nd Divl Signals)
Old comrades race—1st, Mr. Beatty ; 2nd, Mr. Campbell ; 3rd, Mr. Withers
Team jumping—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, A Corps Signals ; 3rd, 1st Divl Signals
Section tent pegging—1st, 2nd Divl Signals ; 2nd, 1st Divisional Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Open jumping—1st, S.S.M. Brown (Queen's Bays) ; 2nd, Corpl Pallandre (Queen's Bays) ; 3rd, Sergt Gregory (R.E.)
V.C. race—1st, Sigmn Smith (2nd Divl Signals) ; 2nd, Driver Westwell (2nd Divl Signals) ; 3rd, Driver Crust (2nd Divl Signals)
Inter-communication race—1st, 1st Divl Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Divl Signals ; 3rd, A Corps Signals
Ball and basket race—1st, R.S.M. and Mrs. Eves
Drivers, pair jumping—1st, Driver Crust (2nd Divl Signals) ; 2nd, Driver Brown (2nd Divl Signals)
Mudge cup relay race—1st, Officers team ; 2nd, W.O.s and Sergeants team
Open Section tent pegging—1st, Queen's Bays, 50 points
Band race—1st, Bandsman Andrews ; 2nd, Bandsman Whitfield

Congratulations to the 2nd Divl Signals on winning the Worlledge horse for the second year with 16 points. We must also congratulate 1st Divl Signals on putting up such a fine show in the Prickett cup. The result was in doubt until the last, when 1st Divl Signals had to win the communication race to draw. After a while, this was done.

The final placings for the Prickett cup were: 1st Divl Signals and 2nd Divl Signals tied with 72 points ; 3rd, A Corps Signals 36. The 1st and 2nd Divl Signals will each hold the trophy for six months.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

On the 23rd July our annual inter-Company sports were held and the athletes, after a gruelling time on the previous Saturday —when they were engaged in the Signals inter-unit athletic championships—did not seem to be any the worse for wear. In fact, those who had performed then seemed to be running much better than they had done.

Exceptional keenness was shown throughout the long programme of events, which took nearly four hours to get through. The times and distances returned by the winners of the various events were quite praiseworthy.

Four teams competed for the inter-Company trophy: the three Companies of the unit and D Troop. The last-mentioned unit must be heartily congratulated on the fine spirit they showed in all the events. Their strength is but weak when compared with any of our Companies, but what was lacking in that direction was certainly more than evenly balanced by their indomitable spirit.

No. 1 Company were the easiest of victors in the championship, scoring a total of 65 points. No. 2 Company were second with 45, No. 3 Company third with 43, and D Troop fourth with 27.

The members of No. 1 Company team practically carried everything before them, scoring no fewer than eight firsts in the twelve events ; and this feat is all the more meritorious because the team comprised only some fifteen men for all the events, even though the Company is by far the strongest in the unit.

The results were as follows:—

High jump—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Deakin and Signalman Harding) 10 ft. 4 in. unfinished.
880 yards relay—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Panton, Sergeant Wheeler, L/Cpl Cole L. and Sigmn Parrish) 1 min. 38⅘ sec.
Putting the shot—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Clarke and Sigmn Parrish) 61 ft. 10 in.
Throwing the discus—1st, No. 3 Company (Lieut. Bell and Sigmn Large) 186 ft. 7 in.
440 yards relay—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Panton, Sergeant Wheeler, L/Corpl Green and Sigmn Parrish) 47⅕ sec.
Hammer—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Clarke and L/Corpl Cole) 185 ft. 11 in.
Two miles relay—1st, No. 3 Company (Signalmen Copestake, Davis and Miller, and Driver Groom) 8 min. 58 sec.
Javelin—1st, No. 2 Company (Signalman Thorpe and Driver Fry) 258 ft. 3 in.
480 yards hurdles relay—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Deakin, Signalmen Horne W. J. and Harding, and L/Corporal Green) 1 min. 21⅖ sec.
One mile team race—1st, No. 3 Company (Sigmn Copestake, Driver Groom, Signalmen Miller and Davis)
Long jump—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Deakin and Signalman Harding) 36 ft. 6 in.
One mile relay—1st, No. 1 Company (Lieut. Panton, Sergeant Wheeler, L/Corpl Hicks and Sigmn Passey) 3 min. 46 sec.

OPEN EVENTS.

One mile relay (220, 220, 440 and 880 yards)—1st, 1st Divisional Signals ; 2nd, 2nd Wiltshire Regiment ; 3rd, 1st South Stafford Regiment

NON-TROPHY EVENTS.

Potato race—1st, Sigmn Robertson ; 2nd, Driver Groom ; 3rd, Sigmn Humby
Boat race—1st, No. 6 Section

Ladies' race—1st, Mrs. Williams ; 2nd, Mrs. Gatford
Sack race—1st, Sergeant Gatford ; 2nd, Sigmn Robinson ; 3rd, Sigmn Matthews
Boys' race—1st, Harry James ; 2nd, Pat Hales ; 3rd, Jack Winkle ; 4th, Charlie Hope
Girls' race—1st, Pat Halls ; 2nd, Meg Winkle ; and 3rd, Betty Donahue
Thread the needle race—1st, Sergeant and Mrs. Gatford ; 2nd, Sigmn and Mrs. Cairns
Veterans' race—1st, Lieut. Clarke ; 2nd, Sergt Wheeler ; 3rd, Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge.
Dismounted V.C. race—1st, No. 6 Section
Band race—1st, Bandsman Gibbons ; 2nd, Bandsman O'Connor.

At the conclusion of the meeting the prizes were graciously presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. Mudge, wife of our commanding officer, who at the end, on the call of R.S.M. Kneebone, was accorded three hearty cheers.

During the afternoon the Band of the Royal Signals discoursed a programme of delightful music which was much appreciated by all.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Cricket.—v. C Company R.A.S.C. Lost. R.A.S.C. 151 for seven, declared ; Command Signal Company 79 (L/Corpl Mohrstadt 32, Sergt Harvey 18).

v. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals (inter-Company tournament). Won. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals 66 (Mohrstadt seven for 26) ; Command Signal Company 123 (Mohrstadt 42, Sergt Bishop 30).

Golf.—Corpls Stanley and Chamberlain successfully defended their pairs title, defeating Signalmen Williams and Summers in the final over eighteen holes by 61—65.

L/Corpl Mohrstadt won the monthly stroke play competition over eighteen holes, defeating Cpl Stanley in the final by 55—80.

Sigmn Summers equalled the course record of 22 over nine holes.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Golf.—The S.T.C. (India) officers golf challenge cup (on handicap) was competed for over twelve holes on the Jubbulpore Gymkhana Club course. The entries were somewhat disappointing, but this was probably due to leave and pressure of work.

FIRST ROUND.

Captain G. P. Pavey (14) walked over, as his opponent, Major C. A. Murray, had unfortunately to scratch on account of a sprained ankle.

Major J. E. F. Paton (10) beat Lieut. D. L. Hyde (13) by 6 and 4.

Captain L. B. Nicholls (14) beat Captain R. Maguire (16) by 3 and 2 after a Marathon encounter. Three matches in all were played, and the first two terminated with both competitors being all square at the final green.

Captain L. C. Boyd (8) drew a bye.

SEMI-FINALS.

Captain G. P. Pavey (14) beat Major J. E. F. Paton by 4 and 3. The former played a brilliant round of 59, being on handicap seven up on bogey. We trust the handicapping committee of the Gymkhana Club will read this account! Major Paton was unfortunate to meet his opponent on such an occasion, when steady golf was of no avail.

Captain L. C. Boyd (8) beat Captain L. B. Nicholls (14) by 2 up. The match was dormy one and both players played steady golf, the winner being one up on bogey and the loser one down.

FINAL.

The final was contested on Friday 13th July. Most golfers would regard this as an inauspicious day. Perhaps it was for Captain Boyd, who was beaten by 2 and 1. Captain Pavey played another of his fine rounds and completed the course in five strokes under bogey on his present handicap. His short approaches were particularly good and his putting most accurate. Captain Boyd, though outdriving his opponent, was weak in his approaches and his putting was below his usual standard. He was unable to concede five strokes to an opponent playing so much above his handicap.

Captain Pavey is to be congratulated on a fine performance throughout in winning this cup for 1934.

In the weekly handicap sweepstake of the Gymkhana Club held on the 8th July, Captain L. B. Nicholls won with the highest aggregate score, being 2 up on bogey.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Rugby.—We opened our fixture list with a game against the Odds and Ends of Jubbulpore Station on Thursday 28th June. Our opponents were an exceptionally heavy side, but despite their weight we emerged from this game the victors by 3—0 points. The ground was very heavy and the result was a keen battle between the forwards, our three-quarters being unable to do much with the greasy ball. Our only score came from a penalty kicked by Sigmn Haigh outside the 25 line.

A return fixture with the Odds and Ends was played on Thursday 5th July. This game was evenly contested and our team showed a decided improvement in all departments. Our score came through Sigmn Hampton, who got over during the second half. Result: a draw of 3—3.

On Thursday 12th July we played B Company 1st Battalion The King's Regiment. Their three-quarters were superior to ours and made the most of opportunities. Result: 11—3 against us.

Undoubtedly the best match of the season so far was played against R Battery R.A. on Thursday 12th July. We made a few changes in our back division, and at last have solved our three-quarter proposition. This had been a source of trouble during the past games, but with a little practice they should acquit themselves very well. Our forwards played a particularly good game both in the loose and in the scrum, and there was nothing to choose between the teams. Our opponents scored the only try of the game during the closing stages to beat us by 3—0.

On Monday 16th July we played H.Q. Wing 1st Battalion The King's Regiment. This was a good hard game throughout, in which both our threes and forwards played well. A marked improvement was shown by all our players, which is very encouraging. Most of the attacking was done by us, and only the keen tackling of our opponents saved the score from being much higher. During the first half Sigmn Haigh scored from a penalty well outside the 25 line—an exceptionally good kick. The same player also scored from a drop during the second half. Result: a win by 8—0.

We have entered our team for the Harwood Little and the Eduljee rugby cups, both of which will be played during the early part of August. In the next edition of THE WIRE we hope to record our success.

Football.—A Company beat F (Boys) Company by 4—1 ; beat F Section by 1—0 and 4—0 and lost by 1—2 and 2—4 ; drew with C.P. Police at 2—2 ; beat B Company by 2—1 and 7—2 ; beat Christchurch XI. by 4—1 and 3—2 ; beat Combined I.O.R.s XI. by 2—1 ; and lost to S Battery R.A. by 2—4. Attached Section lost to F Section by 1—3.

Hockey.—A Company lost to S Battery R.A. by 0—2. Attached Section beat R.A.M.C. by 8—0, 3—1 and 2—0 ; and drew with St. Aloysius at 2—2.

HALF-COMPANY LEAGUE.

A Company drew with D Right Half-Company at 2—2 and beat C Left Half-Company by 6—1. The following is the result of the above League:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Points	★
B Left Half	8	5	2	1	24— 7	11	20
B Right Half	8	4	1	3	13— 8	11	18
A Company	8	4	2	2	22—10	10	16
F Company	8	5	3	0	14—10	10	14
D Left Half	8	4	3	1	13— 9	9	12
D Right Half	8	2	3	3	7—14	7	10
C Right Half	8	3	4	1	6—13	7	8
C Left Half	8	1	5	2	4—18	4	6
E Company	8	1	6	1	2—16	3	4

* Points for Championship.

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

Owing to the heavy rains, outdoor sports have been reduced to a minimum. Our results this month are as follows:—

Football.—v. 93rd Highlanders, lost by 2—3 ; v. 2nd Welch, won by 3—2 ; v. 93rd Highlanders, won by 6—0.

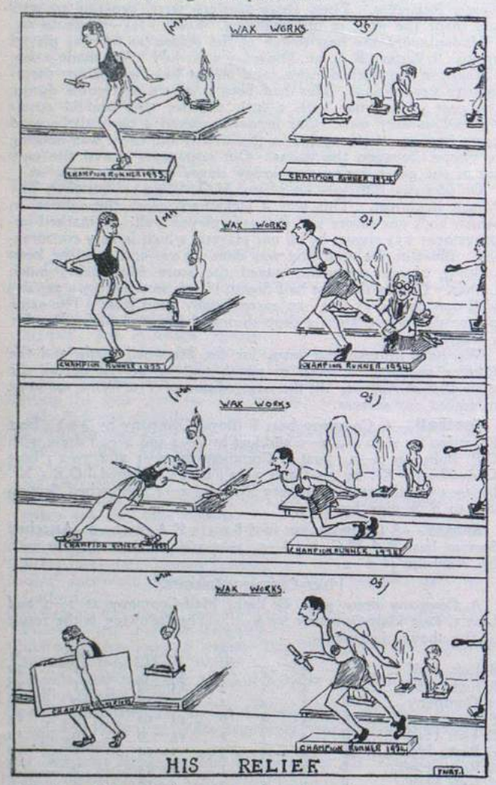
Hockey.—v. Murree Ramblers, won by 9—1 ; v. 93rd Highlanders, won by 7—0.

Tennis.—The final of the open singles handicap was played on the officers' court between Major Newton and L/Corpl Cant. It was a fine game throughout, the placing of Major Newton being extremely good. In the first set Cant seemed unable to settle down and Major Newton won this by 6—0. The second set produced some far better tennis on both sides, and Cant was in proper fighting form, leading at one time by 7—6. He then dropped off again suddenly, to allow Major Newton to take the next two games and win by 6—0, 9—7.

The Upper Topa Tennis Club final had been held over for a few days owing to one of the finalists having a badly sprained arm. It was played between Corpl Brown and Sigmn Cloke, both of Bekore. The play on either side did not come up to their usual standard, Cloke's arm troubling him after about the third game. Corpl Brown won by 6—3, 6—0, after an extremely game fight by Sigmn Cloke.

Congratulations to the winners of both tournaments.

Athletics.—Nothing doing in this line, but our cartoonist has drawn a sketch showing his capabilities.



Rugby.—No games have been played yet, but practice is being held every day under the capable tuition of Sergeant-Instructor Richards, our schoolie. We hope to have some matches to record next month.

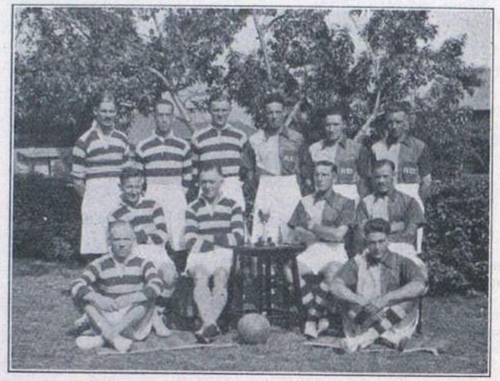
Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Headquarters.

Basket Ball: An All-Signals Final.—The Brigade inter-Platoon basket ball competitions were held during June. In the British competition H.Q. beat Razmak Section in the final—an excellent game played before a distinguished gathering. A photo of the finalists is shown (H.Q. in stripes). The scores in the various rounds were:—

H.Q. v. A Platoon 1st Devons, won by 22—2 ; v. 11th Light Battery R.A. won by 19—0 ; v. Razmak Signal Section, won by 6—2

Razmak Section v. R.T.C. won by 12—8 ; v. Wazirdist Medium Section R.A. won by 10—0



The Basket Ball Finalists.

The Indian other ranks of H.Q. played a poor game against the 5/6th Rajputana Rifles in the first round and lost. The I.O.R.s of Razmak Section played the best team of the 4/15th Punjabis and put up a splendid performance, losing by the margin of one point.

Football.—As was reported in our last notes, a team was despatched to Murree to take part in the Buffalo cup. We understand that our team did well, although knocked out in their first match with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. However, the cup is in good hands, and we heartily congratulate B Corps Signals on their splendid effort.

Among other games played in Razmak, a really enjoyable game—for the spectators, at any rate—was played with the Devons full side on the 23rd June. After many exciting moments we finally drew at 4—4, having led nearly all the time. C.Q.M.S. Clements, making his début as a goalkeeper, put up a remarkable and entertaining display.

COMBINED WAZIRISTAN DISTRICT SIGNALS, RAZMAK.

29/5/34 v. Devons, drew at 0—0
22/6/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. lost by 1—2
23/6/34 v. Devons, drew at 4—4
30/6/34 v. 2/3rd Gurkhas, lost by 1—2

H.Q. SECTION.

3/6/34 v. Tochi Scouts, won by 1—0

Hockey.—The I.O.R.s inter-Company tournament has just begun. In the first round the I.O.R.s are to play the 9th Mountain Battery R.A. The result will be made known in our next issue.

The B.O.R.s tournament is expected to start next week. We hope to send you a photo of the cup!

The results of hockey matches played recently (domestic affairs omitted) are given below.

H.Q. SECTION.

31/5/34 v. D.H.Q. lost by 1—3
1/6/34 v. B Company Devons, won by 4—1
4/6/34 v. C.I.M.H. lost by 0—4
10/6/34 v. R.T.C. drawn at 1—1
13/6/34 v. C Company Rajputana Rifles, drawn at 2—2
15/6/34 v. B Company 4/15th Punjabis, lost by 3—7
19/6/34 v. A Company Devons, won by 4—3
20/6/34 v. C Company 4/15th Punjabis, won by 7—0
21/6/34 v. 1st Devons, lost by 3—4

26/6/34 v. D Company Dogras, won by 4—2
29/6/34 v. B Company 4/15th Punjabis, won by 2—1

WAZIRISTAN DISTRICT SIGNALS, RAZMAK.

21/5/34 v. Combined R.A. won by 4—1
2/6/34 v. 4/15th Punjabis, drawn at 1—1
5/6/34 v. 1st Devons, drawn at 2—2
9/6/34 v. 1st Devons, won by 4—3
12/6/34 v. C.I.M.H. won by 4—1
14/6/34 v. 5/6th Rajputana Rifles, lost by 1—2
24/6/34 v. Signals I.O.R.s won by 3—1
27/6/34 v. H.Q. Dogra Regiment, lost by 0—5
30/6/34 v. 4/15th Punjabis, won by 3—2

Tennis.—The unit accountant has been playing regularly.

Wana Signal Section.

Football.—v. Guides Cavalry Squadron, won by 8—0 (Johns 5, McGratton, Green, Healy) ; v. 1/13th F.F. Regiment, won by 5—2 (Johns 3, McGratton, Healy).

Hockey.—v. 1st Royal (Kohat) Mountain Battery, lost by 1—2 (Bloomfield) and won by 4—0 (Johns 3, Bloomfield) ; v. No. 33 A.T. Company I.A.S.C. won by 5—0 (Johns 3, Healy, Oakley).

As the warm weather has cracked the mutti surface of the tennis court, this does not receive too much patronage, but the swimming bath (and that's flattering it!) does correspondingly better.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket.—We have had rather varied success at cricket. There are very few teams in Kohat, and during the hot weather the hours of play are limited ; but despite adverse conditions, we manage to derive plenty of fun from playing our old opponents, Best's C.C. and the R.A.F. teams.

On 1/7/34 the Officers and N.C.O.s opposed the Signalmen in a two hours match, the result being a win for the latter.

Unknowingly, we have had a very good card up our sleeve in Sigmn Jones, who has done good work with the ball.

Our team is in a rather weakened condition. McMahon, a useful bat and bowler, is away at Topa ; Rose, our opening bat and bowler, is at Thal ; and, greatest knock of all, we have lost our consistently good all-rounder Jimmy West, who has gone to Poona. We can ill afford to lose such stalwarts as these, but it must be said that those who are left have done Spartan work. There is still a little life left. Lieut. (Q.M.) Fegan plays a fine forcing game. Jimmy Ray bowls as well as ever, with the minimum of luck, often missing the furniture by hair's breadths. Jones has definitely struck a good patch, and Greenhalgh, our best bat, has given the team an excellent start in each match by producing a good score.

The fielding, too, must be given mention, especially that of C.S.M. Spracklen, Signalmen Luckhurst and Price J., and L/Cpl West, and also Lieut. Addenbrooke, our regular mid-off.

v. R.A.F. "B" in the Hot Weather League. Lost. R.A.F. "B" 82 (Sigmn Rose seven for 50) ; K.D.S. 39
v. Best's C.C. Lost. Best's C.C. 66 (Sigmn Rose six for 38) ; K.D.S. 50 (L/Corpl West 18, L/Corpl McMahon 18)
v. R.A.F. (Combined). Drawn. R.A.F. 181 for nine declared ; K.D.S. 70 and 50 for five (L/Corpl McMahon 39 not out)
Officers and N.C.O.s v. Signalmen. Officers and N.C.O.s 67 (L/Corpl West 27 ; Sigmn Cooper four for 5) ; Signalmen 120 (Greenhalgh 42, Jones 27 not out)
v. R.A.F. "A." Won. R.A.F. "A" 34 (Sigmn Jones eight for 17) ; K.D.S. 99 for four, declared (Sigmn Greenhalgh 35, L/Corpl West 27)
v. Best's C.C. Won. Best's C.C. 48 (Corpl Ray six for 18, Sigmn Jones four for 21) ; K.D.S. 83 for seven, declared (Sigmn Greenhalgh 39 not out)

We played Kohat Games Club in the Hot Weather League on the 26th July and won by a very wide margin. The Games Club, batting first, declared with seven wickets down, leaving us fifty-five minutes in which to get the runs required. Losing our first wicket at 26, C.S.M. Spracklen and Sigmn Greenhalgh knocked off the remainder of the runs in forty minutes, leaving us winners by nine wickets. Sigmn Greenhalgh reached the boundary eight times. Kohat Games Club 79 for seven, declared (Sigmn Jones four for 21) ; K.D.S. 80 for one (Sigmn Greenhalgh 54 not out, C.S.M. Spracklen 17 not out).

CRICKET AVERAGES FOR APRIL, MAY, JUNE AND JULY.

Batting.

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest	Average
Sigmn Greenhalgh	22	4	585	89	32.5
Lieut. (Q.M.) Fegan	6	1	117	*57	23.4
Sigmn Jones	5	1	80	*27	17.5
L/Corpl West	19	2	288	31	16.9
L/Corpl McMahon	15	2	197	*40	15.1
Sigmn Price J.	12	1	134	43	12.1
Sigmn Rose	13	0	136	29	10.4
C.S.M. Spracklen	13	3	84	*17	8.4
Corpl Ray	19	1	138	32	7.6

* Not out

Bowling.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Sigmn Jones	48	8	109	22	4.9
Corpl Ray	116	28	302	43	7
L/Corpl West	67	12	192	24	8
Sigmn Rose	110	19	389	44	8.8
L/Corpl McMahon	106	16	371	30	12.3

Football.—Matches have been played as shown.
v. 6/13th F.R. Regiment, won by 8—0 (Page, Price G. 3, Shannan, Maxwell 2, Robertson)
v. Shining "A" lost by 1—3 (Page)
v. Sappers and Miners, won by 3—1 (Maxwell 2, Robertson)

For various reasons we have been unable to turn out a team really representative of the unit, though the old hands—Signalmen Price G., Page and Shannan, L/Corpls Gunn and West, our left-winger Sigmn Robertson, and Sigmn Simpson—invariably put up a good show.

Hockey.—This department likewise feels the loss of those who are on leave and training. Both of our regular backs, Corporal Benson and L/Corporal McMahon, are away, and as previously stated, we have lost L/Corporal West, who plays well at outside left. Success has been varied, as shown.

v. 3rd Mountain Battery R.A. won
v. H.Q. 23rd Mountain Brigade R.A. won
v. 4/12th F.F. Regiment, drew
v. 6/13th F.F. Regiment, won
v. C.I.M. Hospital, lost

Zhob Signal Section.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Football.—In spite of the warm weather, football has been very popular in Fort Sandeman during the last few weeks. The matches are played in the evening to eliminate the risk of anyone "catching the tap." We have plenty of talent in the Detachment, as well as a certain amount of raw material of which much is expected in the future.

A match v. the British officers of the station was thoroughly enjoyed by players and spectators on the 22nd July. We held our own largely through the skill of our goalkeeper, L/Corporal Smith J. C. From the kick off up to full time he guarded the goal mouth with untiring persistency, proving himself an almost impregnable barrier: only twice did the ball find its way past him into the net. On these two occasions the shooting was done at close quarters by a skilled player, and the fact that the shots went home reflects no discredit on the goalkeeper. We only wonder how they got past his head! The match was a huge success, the result being a draw of 2—2. Sergt Ward officiated as referee. Shandies served at the termination of the match were sunk with much relish. We hope to arrange further matches in the future.

Hockey has been rather pushed out by football, but we still have a game now and then.

Our irrepressible hockey team—inspired by the presence of the O.C., who shakes a wicked stick at left half—beat up the A.T. Company in fine style on the 26th July. The combination of the team is improving and they can now work together most skilfully. Corpl Bartlett broke loose on one occasion and whipped a nifty one home all on his own. Result: 2—0 in our favour.

Swimming is still very popular, and proves a wonderful inducement for getting crouchers out of bed in the mornings. Crawling is gradually taking the place of crouching, although Jamieson is not so ready to change with the times.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Hockey.—v. St. Aloysius School, won by 4—2 and 4—1 ; v. A Company S.T.C. (India) drew at 1—1 ; v. U Field Battery R.A. lost by 1—3.

Football.—v. S Field Battery, won by 3—1 and lost by 2—3 and 3—4 ; v. A Company S.T.C. (India) won by 2—1 and lost by 0—1 and 0—4 ; v. Attached Section S.T.C. won by 4—1.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Cricket Results.

17/4/34 No. 1 Company 103 (Bosher 41) ; H.Q. B.T.E. 144 (Kilpatrick three for 51, Lieut. Ruck two for 33). Lost by 41 runs.

18/4/34 No. 1 Company 249 for eight (Mawson 79, Mace 50 ; C Company R.T.C. 141. Won by 148 runs. In this match Mawson and Mace put on 122 for the first wicket.

22/4/34 No. 1 Company 216 (Mace 57, Clayton 33, Kilpatrick 33) ; No. 3 Company Grenadier Guards 139 (Kilpatrick five for 36). Won by 79 runs.

24/4/34 No. 1 Company 181 (Captain Thursby-Pelham 39, Kilpatrick 34, Clayton 23) ; R.A.V.C. 97 (Bosher three for 30, Donnahey two for 14). Won by 84 runs.

26/4/34 No. 1 Company 127 for nine (Mace 62) ; No. 31 Company R.A.S.C. 37 and 65. Won by an innings and 25 runs.

7/5/34 No. 1 Company 228 for seven (Captain Mathew 59 not out, Barnes 52) ; R.A.V.C. 196 for seven. Drawn.

10/5/34 No. 1 Company 149 (Captain Mathew 47, Barnes 47) ; Rocket Troop R.H.A. 150 for eight (Lieut. Ruck three for 33). Lost by 2 wickets.

12/5/34 No. 1 Company 237 for seven (Clayton 110) ; No. 25 Company R.A.S.C. 91 (Donnahey five for 12). Won by 146 runs.

14/5/34 No. 1 Company 264 for eight (Lieut. Ruck 148, Captain Thursby-Pelham 57) ; C Company R.T.C. 154 for four. Drawn.

18/5/34 No. 1 Company 198 (Clayton 60, Captain Thursby-Pelham 53) ; Camp Depot R.A.O.C. 86. Won by 112 runs.

21/5/34 No. 1 Company 259 for nine (Clayton 67, Mace 54, Lieut. Ruck 36) ; Camp Depot 158 (Donnahey three for 27). Won by 101 runs.

24/5/34 First Round Small Units Cup. No. 1 Company 134 (Mitcheson 40, Mawson 21, Mace 18, McCulley 18, Clayton 16) ; R.A.O.C. 210 for five. Lost by eight wickets. The R.A.O.C. team is the same which plays in the Command cup.

No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand, Palestine.

Cricket.—Owing to the anticipated visit of the Navy we had left the programme for July pretty open, playing only five matches. Once again we failed to beat the Jerusalem Police, though we were in a very strong position in games with both teams.

Against the Police Depot, in an all day match, we lost the toss and had to field first. Though the fielding was not up to its usual standard, we managed to get the Police out before lunch for 125. After lunch, we started very well and had 86 on the board for the loss of two wickets. Then a rot set in and we were all out for 102.

The game with the Jerusalem District Police told the same tale. The tail failed to wag, not from inability—just lack of confidence. Set to get 116, we made 98 for the loss of six wickets, but the last four wickets fell for only nine runs.

That the tail *can* wag was demonstrated in the game with the A.H.Q. After dismissing them for 72 runs, we lost eight wickets for 49. Then Swann and Billingsley came together and carried the score to 115, when Billingsley was caught on the edge of the boundary. Results:—

1/7/34 Home, lost. No. 2 W/T Company 77 ; Jaffa Police 99 (Pettit five for 34, Whitaker four for 43)

14/7/34 Home, won. No. 2 W/T Company 131 (Fegan 46) ; Jaffa Police 74 (Pettit five for 34, Whitaker four for 32)

22/7/34 Away, lost. No. 2 W/T Company 102 (Pettit 55, Fegan 22) ; Police Depot 125 (Whitaker three for 25, Billingsley four for 48)

25/7/34 Away, won. No. 2 W/T Company 119 (Billingsley 37, Swann 30) ; A.H.Q. 72 (Whitaker six for 37)

28/7/34 Home, lost. No. 2 W/T Company 107 (Page 37, Pettit 28) ; Jerusalem District Police 115 (Pettit five for 30)

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Rowing.—We were again unlucky in the draw for the July oar. After a very stiff race against C Company 2nd Battn Royal Welch Fusiliers, whom we defeated by three-quarters of a length, we were drawn against H.Q. Wing 2nd Battn D.C.L.I., who defeated us by a length and eventually won the oar. We have now the challenge cup, the challenge trophy and the emergency trophy to look forward to, when we hope to be more fortunate.

Cricket.—During the month we have had four matches, as follows:—

v. an R.A.P.C. Eleven, won by five runs (113—108). Q.M.S. Harris 37, Corpl Parry 37 ; Sigmn Taylor six for 28

v. R.A.P.C. lost by 43 runs (66—109). L/Cpl Carr 18 ; Sigmn Goodanew three for 9, Corpl Parry four for 29

v. an R.A.P.C. Eleven, lost by 47 runs (149—196). Signalman Taylor 40, Corpl Parry 29 ; Sigmn Fuller three for 53

v. Signals D.C.L.I. won by 63 runs (145—82). Corporal Parry 101 ; Q.M.S. Harris four for 7, Pendlebury three for 29

Tennis.—The Section has played two matches in the Command Inter-Regimental League:—

v. R.A.S.C. won. Carr and Taylor, 6—1, 6—4 ; Tavender and Blake, 6—1, 6—3

v. R.A.M.C. drawn. Carr and Taylor, 1—6, 6—2, 6—3 ; Blake and Tavender, 6—4, 3—6, 3—6

Plain Tales *(Continued from page 382)*

Marchant, and Sergeant Tich Kilford. All in a respectable car (sensation). All looking well though a trifle weather-beaten, as I so rudely pointed out to them. Always pleased to see old friends. We wish a few more would come along. Sam Weller to note.

* * * *

Odd Quavers.—Sigmn Softly, trumpet of Tom Sayers' Cabaret Band (advt.) plans to return to India during the next trooper. This hits the band in the midriff, so if you know of anyone capable of reading the dots and blowing them through a trumpet, speak quickly. Corpl Dick Barlow, who used to scrape a low-down fiddle with the old S.T.C. (India) Band at Jubbulpore, arrived at Bulford on a short visit in July. He travelled in a peculiar contraption on three wheels which was noteworthy for its limited accommodation, terrific acceleration and deafening exhaust.

The boys were greatly interested in the photograph of A Corps (Karachi) Dance Band. Tom Sayers couldn't take his eyes off that piano accordeon and kept asking why they didn't buy a man-sized instrument ; but, then, Tom is always so outspoken. He even wonders at times what became of the Band fund at Jubbulpore. George Mitchell was nearly in tears when he found that the Band president was not in the picture. We loved that bit about his technical knowledge.

As we drag our weary feet to press, there comes the sensational news that Drummer (what do you really reckon) Hawthorne is to become a sailor at last. He is down to sail for Gibraltar on the 7th September. Now, there's a guy with a well developed sense of rhythm who has waded through many a riotous evening and still been fresh at the wrong end of it. Wakes his wife up at 3 a.m. so that they can start fair. We need a replacement on the drums. Applicants should be between the ages of 20 and 60, energetic, clean shaven, P.M.G. certificate, h. and c., five mins. sea, station and shops. Apply in writing, stating why.

BARLEUX.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY AND EDITOR:
Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1.
to whom all Correspondence and Notes for THE WIRE should be submitted.
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VOL. XV.—No. 176 OCTOBER, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Will Hon. Branch Secretaries and Unit Representatives kindly note the various instructions published under Signals Association Notes and Benevolent Fund Notes on the next page of this issue?

❀ ❀ ❀

We have frequently called the attention of our readers to the many and varied advertisements which are published in the Corps Magazine, asking that support should be given to those Firms who, by advertising in THE WIRE, assist us in no small measure in meeting the heavy overhead charges which are unavoidable with a publication of this description.

No magazine, however popular, could possibly prove financially successful without its advertising revenue, and the proprietors of this Journal have every reason to congratulate themselves on the high status of the Firms with whom they are fortunate enough to have business dealings.

As an example of business enterprise, we invite our readers' attention—particularly those serving in India—to the space occupied by G. M. FEROZE, Army Contractor to Royal Signals at Rawalpindi, Trimulgherry, Sialkot and Quetta on page 441 of this issue.

This is the first occasion on which we have been privileged to supply advertising space to Indian Army Contractors, and we take this opportunity of asking all who are in a position to do so, to support a Firm of such long standing whose reputation for service and reliability can be vouched for, and who reciprocate with advertising business in the Corps Magazine.

❀ ❀ ❀

In this connection, also, we invite attention to the advertisement announcements of THE BRITISH RADIO ENGINEERING COLLEGE and BRITISH SCHOOL OF TELEGRAPHY, LTD., overleaf and also on page 437.

It will interest our readers to know that this organisation has obtained ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SITUATIONS for students in Radio Engineering since June of last year. There has been a distinct shortage of trained men in the Industry, and there is ample scope for those who have a thorough knowledge of the subject. The Radio Industry is developing each year, and Broadcast Receivers have now become so complicated and so exacting in selectivity that, with the exception of a very few amateurs, they are now beyond the scope of the ordinary individual to make. Moreover, it is confidently anticipated that Television will become a commercial proposition in a comparatively short time. The Television Receiver will form part of the Broadcast Receiver, and consequently those who have a knowledge of Wireless Telegraphy and Radio Engineering will be in a position to avail themselves of the opportunities which this new invention will afford.

❀ ❀ ❀

Golf.—The Army Golf Meeting for 1935 will be held at Porthcawl during the week ending 20th April.

❀ ❀ ❀

Rugby.—COBB-NICHOLLS CUP. The final of this competition will be played at Aldershot on the 7th November next.

CORPS MATCHES—
versus the R.M.A. at Woolwich 14/11/34
versus the R.M.C. "A" at Sandhurst 16/11/34
versus the R.E. at Aldershot 19/11/34
versus the R.A. at Aldershot 23/11/34

❀ ❀ ❀

Sic Transit.—The following cutting from *The Daily Telegraph* dated 13/9/34 is considered of sufficient interest to our readers to warrant its publication in the Corps Magazine.

LONDON POSTAL CHANGE.

The last telegram in the old Morse system of " dot-and-dash " from the Central Telegraph Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, was sent yesterday. From now, all messages from this office will be sent by teleprinter.

WHY NOT

OBTAIN THE

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1st Class Certificate of Proficiency in Wireless Telegraphy?

We have prepared a

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on the Theory of the Subject, which is most suitable for Men in the Royal Corps of Signals.

The Fees are moderate, and the Instruction complies with the P.M.G. Syllabus in every detail.

School established in 1906, since when we have trained hundreds of Students in Wireless Telegraphy for P.M.G. Examination.

APPLY—

BRITISH SCHOOL OF TELEGRAPHY LTD.

179 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9

The last telegram was a domestic message to Sidcup, Kent.

The change-over completed yesterday has occupied about five years. Yesterday " Old Bob " (Mr. Stiles), the oldest " tapper " in the Post Office, retired after forty-two years service as a Morse operator.

The change has meant not only the instalment of hundreds of new instruments, but completely new training for the telegraph staff, which numbers something like 2000 employees of both sexes.

By the Morse system the normal output was 34 to 36 " average" telegrams per hour. The teleprinter can send 100 telegrams an hour. The new operators are being trained to transmit 80 messages an hour without an error, and have to pass a test at that speed. They work on a keyboard resembling a typewriter. The message is instantly reproduced—printed on a tape—in Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, or other big towns in the British Isles. There is a telephone service for telegrams linking up all the District Post Offices.

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of " The Wire " for 1934.—All Readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring Bound Volumes of THE WIRE for 1934. are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. NO ROYAL SIGNALS MESS LIBRARY IS COMPLETE WITHOUT IT. Price 8/- per copy, post free (at home or abroad).

❀ ❀ ❀

Warm Clothing.—With the approach of winter, there are many appeals for warm clothing ; and the General Secretary would gratefully acknowledge and pass on to the Association Benevolent Fund any such contributions.

❀ ❀ ❀

We much regret that, owing to pressure on space, we have been compelled to hold over until next month an Egypt Signals cartoon " Winter in Egypt." " The History and Traditions of Catterick and District " by B.W., part of Corps Promotion Roster amendments, and another Cross-Word Puzzle. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Will Hon. Branch Secretaries kindly take the necessary steps to ensure that all their Association members are in possession of appropriate Membership Cards, duly initialled and receipted to date.

It is also vitally essential that, when members are transferred to other units, full particulars of their participation in Association activities should be communicated to the Association Representative of the new unit, as failure to do so causes much unnecessary correspondence.

Hon. Branch Secretaries and Unit Representatives are also asked to ensure that all letters addressed to this office are sufficiently stamped before despatch. We are frequently called upon to pay heavy surcharges on letters which have been underpaid ; and on a recent occasion two communications received from India by Air Mail were taxed 2/8 and 2/4 respectively. These observations particularly apply to Air Mail letters.

The co-operation of all concerned in the above matters would be greatly appreciated.

❀ ❀ ❀

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen :—

1	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Porter
2	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lorry Driver
3	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lorry Driver
4	Ex-Signalman, Northumberland	Jointer's Mate
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lorry Driver
6	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Lift Attendant
7	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Porter
8	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Factory Hand
10	Ex-Signalman, Hove	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Caretaker
13	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Sanitary Man
16	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Salesman
17	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Porter
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
20	Ex-N.C.O. London	Educational Instructor
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Night Porter
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Extra
23	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Barber
24	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Petrol Pump Attendant
25	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Mechanic
26	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
27	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
28	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
29	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
30	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
31	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
32	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Petrol Loco. Driver
33	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
34	Ex-Signalman, Hebburn	Jointer's Mate
35	Ex-Signalman, Darlington	Jointer's Mate
36	Ex-Signalman, York	Jointer's Mate
37	Ex-Signalman, Wallsend	Jointer's Mate

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

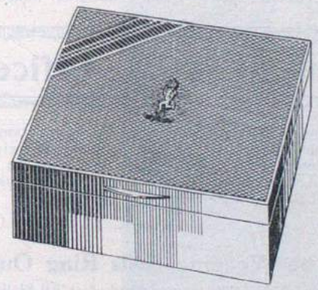
Benevolent Fund Notes.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

It has again become necessary to call the attention of all Hon. Branch Secretaries to the Rules governing the administration of Branch Funds, and the relationship of such funds to the Benevolent Fund side of Signals Association activities.



Sterling Silver Cigarette Case with Corps Colours in enamel and mounted with Badge in Sterling Silver **£3.5.0**
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All monies accumulating at our various Branches constitute proportionate subscriptions to the Old Comrades account and belong to the General Fund of the Association. Such monies are quite distinct and apart from the Benevolent Fund, and must not be used for charitable purposes without the authority of Headquarters Office.

Should an application for financial assistance be made to any Branch, the Branch Committee should in normal circumstances refer the matter to Headquarters Office immediately, and notify the applicant of the action taken. If, however, in the opinion of the Branch Committee the matter is of such urgency as to warrant an "immediate" grant being made to alleviate actual distress, a sum of money may be temporarily borrowed from Branch Funds for that purpose, and it is suggested that Three Pounds be considered as a maximum. The whole correspondence should then be submitted to Headquarters Office for further consideration, accompanied by a request for a refund of the amount borrowed to reimburse Branch Funds.

It is imperative that all applications for financial assistance should be referred to Headquarters Office for necessary action, and, except in emergencies as illustrated above, Branch Funds must not be utilized for that purpose without authority from the Committee elected to deal with such matters.

In all cases that Committee will refund any sum not exceeding £3 which it has been considered expedient to advance to urgent necessitous cases, but the Committee will not hold themselves responsible for defraying the expenses of any case which has not been submitted to them for consideration.

❀ ❀ ❀

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Royal Signals Officers Mess, Catterick.
Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, S.T.C.

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

2/Lieutenant A. J. Leahy.
2/Lieutenant A. F. McGill.
2/Lieutenant D. R. Yearsley.
2/Lieutenant G. G. M. Bradley.
2/Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde.
2/Lieutenant A. M. Way.
2/Lieutenant M. G. Ridley-Martin.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Captain J. C. McDonald.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Manchester.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
2	Ex-Sigmn Southampton.	Temp. difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
3	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
4	Ex-Sigmn Liverpool.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £4/ 0/0
5	Ex-Sigmn Surrey.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan £5/ 0/0
6	Ex-Signalman, York.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £5/ 0/0
7	Ex-Sigmn Newcastle.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £3/ 0/0
8	Ex-Sigmn Cheshire.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
9	Ex-Sigmn Jarrow-on-Tyne.	Temp. difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
10	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £1/10/0
11	Ex-N.C.O. West Bromwich.	Temp. difficulties.	Grant £2/ 0/0
12	Ex-Sigmn Surrey.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant £1/ 0/0
13	Ex-Sigmn Leeds.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant £1/ 0/0

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers

We much regret the absence of the information usually given under this heading, the compiler of such details being unfortunately indisposed. We hope he will be restored to his usual health in time to bring the news up to date for the next issue.—THE EDITOR.

The Wedding Bells Ring Out!

A very pretty wedding was solemnised at All Hallows Church, Tottenham, on Saturday 8th September, which will be of interest to the bridegroom's many friends throughout the Corps at home and in India. The contracting parties were Sergt W. F. Mills (1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi) and Miss Dorothy Graves of 29 Broadwater Road, Tottenham.

The bride, who was given away by her brother Mr. F. W. Graves, was tastefully dressed in a white satin full-length dress, with Russian head-dress and veil, and carried a bouquet of carnations. She was attended by four bridesmaids who were prettily dressed in ninon pastel shade dresses and carried bouquets to match.

The bridegroom was attended by Sergt T. A. Howard (Kohat District Signals) as groomsman.

The service was fully choral, and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played as the newly married couple left the church.

The reception was held at 119 Lordship Lane, about thirty-five guests being present, amongst whom were Miss Swatridge, Miss Neil, Mrs. A. Howard, Sergt Marcham and Miss P. Russell. The toast "The Bride and Bridegroom" was proposed by Mr. W. L. Graves, and "The Bridesmaids" by Mr. F. W. Graves.

At 3.30 p.m. the happy pair left for Torquay, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride's going-away dress was of white and navy blue elephant crêpe with navy blue hat and coat.

The sergeant and his wife were the recipients of many useful presents.

T.A.H.

A ROYAL SIGNALS WEDDING.



Lieutenant and Mrs. W. R. Smijth-Windham
leaving the Church after their Wedding on Wednesday 5th September 1934
[Photo by L. Blandford, Newbury]

A wedding of considerable interest to many members of the Corps took place on the 5th September at St. Michael's Church, Inkpen, Newbury, when Miss Helen Clementi Smith, second daughter of Brigadier and Mrs. H. Clementi Smith, was married to Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham, R.Signals, only son of Mrs. Smijth-Windham and the late Mr. A. R. Smijth-Windham, Sudan Civil Service.

The bride was given away by her father. She wore a simply cut Princess gown of heavy white crêpe woven with a silver thread and with a circular train cut in one with the skirt. Her veil of old Brussels lace was held in place with a wreath of orange and myrtle blossom, and worn over a tulle veil reaching to the hem of her train. She carried a sheaf of lilies tied with a silver ribbon.

The bridesmaids were Miss Anne and Miss Rosamond Clementi Smith, sisters of the bride, and Miss Diana Smijth-Windham, sister of the bridegroom. They wore dresses of maize coloured fine stiffened lace and wreaths of small green leaves. Their bouquets were of shaded flame and yellow pompom dahlias to tone with their dresses, tied with green ribbon matching their wreaths. Major D. H. Cunynghame, R.Signals, was best man.

After the ceremony a reception was held at Kirby House, Inkpen, and among the guests present were Colonel and Mrs. A. H. French, Major and Mrs B. G. Rowley, Mrs. W. A. Scott, and Captain and Mrs. Charlesworth. Unfortunately, many Corps friends were prevented from attending owing to the date coinciding with the period of Army manœuvres.

The bride and bridegroom received many useful and beautiful presents, notable among which were a pearl and diamond brooch from the bride's parents, a pearl and emerald brooch from Mrs. Smijth-Windham, a silver rose bowl from the officers, Royal Signals, Jubbulpore, and many others too numerous to mention.

A telegram of congratulation was received from the S.T.C. India, as well as many others both from home and abroad.

The bride's going away dress was of blue chequed taffeta over which she wore a dark blue marocain coat, with a small dark blue straw hat trimmed to match her dress. The honeymoon was spent in motoring through Germany.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
14th September 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following are the names and dates of the top individuals registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

Home and Abroad—Sergeants. 50%. Class 14.

2306824	Sergeant Lemon J. H.	25/ 7/29
2310549	Sergeant Hayles B. E.	14/11/29
*2306476	Sergeant Fawl F.	27/ 1/30
*2308470	Sergeant Brundell A.	27/ 1/30
*4178303	Sergeant Kelly J.	6/ 2/30
1856991	Sergeant Seabrook G. R.	20/ 3/30

* To be absorbed into 50% establishment from 5% on promotion.

Home and Abroad 5%. India 4%. Class 15.

2318412	Signalman Sayer C. C.	12/8/29
4335911	Corporal Simpson S.	17/8/29
2313525	Corporal Smith E. A.	21/8/29
2315119	F/Corporal Archer F.	24/8/29
2309784	L/Sergeant Arnell W. G.	26/8/29
2314352	Signalman Hughes J. P.	4/9/29

Yours faithfully,
C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Honour for a Former Signalman.

B Corps Signals,
Upper Topa, Murree Hills, India,
24th August, 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Sir.—Your readers may have noticed the following award in the Birthday Honours List:—

BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL: CIVIL DIVISION.—For Meritorious Service. Reginald Cyril Victor Mott, Constable, Palestine Police (for services during the disturbances in October and November 1933).

They will be proud to learn that the recipient is Signalman Mott who left this unit for the Army Reserve in 1932 and was appointed to the Palestine Police on my recommendation.

In the spring I received a letter from him which gave a graphic account of his share in putting down the riots in Jerusalem last autumn. I feel that his account must remain confidential, as the authorities will have published an official version. I may say, however, that he carried out, with cool judgment and disregard of his personal safety, the most difficult task that an armed soldier or police officer may be called upon to perform, namely the use of force in quelling a civil disturbance.

I am certain that the whole Corps will join with us in congratulating him, both on the achievement and his reward.

I am, sir, yours, etc.,
J. S. YULE, Lieut.-Colonel.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Passengers in the Night.—There are few things that raise the spirits more naturally, or more harmlessly, than when means of extrication from any of the lesser embarrassments of life are presented to us.

Such was the case when, relieved from the apprehensions of spending the remainder of the summer on the Plains, I made my way to the little North-West Frontier railway station en route for Rawalpindi and the hills.

It was a sticky, clammy night towards the latter part of the hot season when my friends said goodbye to me with many jocular remarks anent "the fair young maidens," the distressing weather and the monotony, that they assured me I should meet with in the hills. Having a very high opinion of me, they were positive that if I were not caught in the toils of the former, the latter would soon drive me back to their loving embrace and a weekly visit to the one and only cinema to make my bow to Mae West. Their "chaff" did not in any way lower my spirits, which had been somewhat heightened by the extermination of two scorpions which I found under a suit case when vacating my rooms—for which deed the jolly old Frontier ought to be thankful.

My bearer had already fixed my sleeping berth, and as the train was moving out I stepped into the compartment, and was immediately transfixed to the spot by the sight of a most ferocious looking bull-dog who with bared fangs appeared to take a decided fancy to my beautiful bronzed knees.

I am a lover of dogs—that is, dogs that are friendly and have no inclination to take chunks out of one's nether person; but to meet an unfriendly bull-dog, one step inside a compartment of a moving train with the door open on a dark night, is anything but a joke.

However, with a lump rising in my throat, I managed at last to blurt out "Do you mind calling your blankety dog off?" A voice from around the door then said "Sorry! Come here, Bonzo"—and Bonzo, with a look at me which implied "Righto, old bean! we'll have a little chat later on," slunk away out of sight.

I then took a cautious step forward and peered around the door, to behold an apparition in green pyjamas just getting into his berth and to whom I said "Do you think I shall be quite safe from your dog if I come in and close the door?" With "Yes, Bonzo's all right as long as I'm here," he turned his back to me and composed himself for slumber. With one eye on Bonzo, who was looking at me from under the berth, and the other on the unfriendly back of my fellow passenger in green, I managed with great relief to reach my berth and sit down.

Should I take off my clothes and attire myself in my startling py's? Would Bonzo fancy portions of my manly form other than my knees? I couldn't travel for eight hours through rocky and desert country, with the temperature at 110, without ridding myself of some of my garments. I decided to undergo a course of gymnastics by exchanging my clothes on the berth, with the fond hope that Bonzo would not obtain a glimpse of my anatomy.

Whilst I was in Cornwall last year, I was deeply interested in the way that the fair sex exchanged their garments for bathing costumes on the beaches without being "impolite"—it seemed so simple. But with both my eyes on the bull-dog, whose curiosity was accentuated with delightful slobbering sniffs over the edge of my berth, a quick change of apparel was by means an easy task, and I finally finished in a cold sweat with my pyjama trousers back to front.

With a gentle movement I lowered myself on to the berth and commenced to read, but before I had completed the first page my fellow passenger turned over with a grunt and said "Do you mind if I switch off the lights? I cannot sleep with them on."

"Certainly not," said I, "as long as I can have the pilot light to read with."

At 11.30 p.m. his voice startled me when he asked if he could turn the fans towards the back of the compartment, as he was so susceptible to colds and couldn't sleep in a draught. I again assented, although perspiring freely.

At about midnight, with many grunts and snorts from Bonzo, the person in green remarked that Bonzo was thirsty and asked if I would let him have some water from my flask.

The spirit in which I had entered the train was now sinking somewhere below zero, and I wondered if I should reach Pindi in a sound mental, if not physical, condition. However, I must have dropped off into a troubled sleep after that, because it was while being chased by a pack of hounds (presumably bull-dogs), whipped on by a person in green with horns protruding from his head, that I awoke with a start to find the pilot light had been turned off and that dear little Bonzo was licking the sole of my left foot which was hanging over the edge of the berth. Sleep after this was not for me, and my relief was beyond comprehension when the dawn came and the train reached Rawalpindi at 5.30 a.m.

My fellow passenger dressed first and, together with Bonzo, departed I know not where; and as he stepped on the platform he remarked with a smile "Cheerio!"—to which I replied "... you."

I have just read to-day's paper. There were 551 murders in the N.W.F. Province last year. Is it to be wondered at!

TIM.

- Plain Tales -

Radio Reflection.—Just let me ge: this off my mind before we go away to camp. I expect you have heard those excellent gentlemen who broadcast services from somewhere or other at 10.15 a.m. daily. Normally, I am so frightfully busy in the mornings (interval for quiet laughter by rude people) that I have no chance to listen to those services. During the August "break," however, I had time and to spare to listen to the radio, and was struck by the great variety of people for whom the padre asked prayers. I did not notice that soldiers were included. Surely they are not past praying for! We in England may not be risking our lives, but what of those brave lads away up on the North-West Frontier of India? Slight pause while fourteen retired colonels stagger to their feet and stand to attention. The large number that I happen to know up there want all the prayers they can get.

* * * *

Next Liar, Please.—A signalman, acting as telephone operator, sat on the fringe of the arena at the Tidworth Tattoo. Round his neck was one of those breast collar telephone gadgets that are so convenient so long as one remembers that a pressel switch is not a vital necessity. The Artillery began to perform some intricate movements with lighted torches. Our operator, having a rather foreshortened view, was puzzled. Turning to his companion, he asked "What the . . . . . are those . . . doing?"

The reply came from the officer in the control tower: "They are forming a grenade."

"Sorry, sir!" said the confused operator. "I wasn't asking you."

"I should . . . . well hope you weren't."

* * * *

Driven from Home.—"Our hard-bitten soldiers roughing it in the wilds of Wiltshire." "Appalling hardships suffered with amazing fortitude." Well, folks, I haven't seen these sensational headlines in the Press so far, but here we are at Charlton Park under canvas, almost like real he-men. (Heaven knows what will happen if there is another war in our time.)

Charlton Park belongs to the Earl of Suffolk. I know this because two of his big girt farm wains pulled up by our petrol pit and one of the waggoners asked "Be yon a doo-pond, maister?" Before I could stop myself, I replied "Naw. It baint." Which just shows.

The nearest town is Malmesbury. I went to a lot of trouble and expense to gather information about Malmesbury, so (whether you like it or not) in it goes. Malmesbury is about one and a half miles from Charlton Park unless you are walking home at 10.15 p.m., and then it is a little over five miles.

The first thing to see is the Abbey. This ancient and imposing building, or let me say edifice, dates back to some time in the sixth century. A large part of the Abbey is in ruins. One portion of it collapsed when the soldiers got excited and made whoopee with pieces of ordnance during the time of King Charles the Second. The accompanying photograph shows some of King Charlie's soldiers running for their lives as huge pieces of masonry hurtled to the ground. (Sorry! I find this photo is B Cable Section gathering round to look at a dead horse, so I have withdrawn it.) Another part, unsound in construction, folded itself up at some date not recorded.

I have about seven pages of further facts and lies about this little town, but being in a generous mood this evening I will pass on to the hotels, inns, taverns and the like. Chacun à son gout.

"The Bear," in the main street, is to be noted for a good glass of beer. Cela ne fait rein (more French). "The Bell" adjoins the Abbey and was, many years ago, the Abbey guest house. No marks for the beer. "The Borough Arms" boasts a blonde barmaid who is also the chucker-out. Beer full marks. The Picturedrome holds 150 people and shows four times a week. Dances are held in the Y.M.C.A., but not many people bother to dance: they are more interested in the fights on the stairs.

I was going to tell you about the boys in camp, but I'm afraid it is too late now. Never mind, they are all having a simply marvellous time. You ask 'em.

* * * *

Secret Service.—With devilish cunning we plant our spies everywhere, so it is no occasion for surprise that we should be in a position to inform our readers that C.Q.M.S. Banger King, from Jubbulpore, is terrorising the countryside with a—with a—well, let us say car. This well known gangster sped recklessly down the road from London to Exeter, stopping only to purchase a spanner, and reached his destination in the record time of 48 hours. Our spy informs us that Banger set off to conquer Porlock, since when no further news has trickled through.

* * * *

Famous Detective Droops.—Ukann Larfe turned his head wearily to see if the author of "Plain Tales" happened to be about. His arm was beginning to ache and the pistol wavered more and more: in fact, it wavered so much that he kept hitting himself on the chin with the muzzle. Hermione Larfe and Inspector Faceache had long since fainted for want of food and drink, but Ukann Larfe, with dogged determination (whatever that may be) continued to cover them with his pistol. So we must leave them for another month, because we have just been offered a lift into Swindon. Another even more sensational instalment when we come back. Shop early and avoid the Christmas rush.

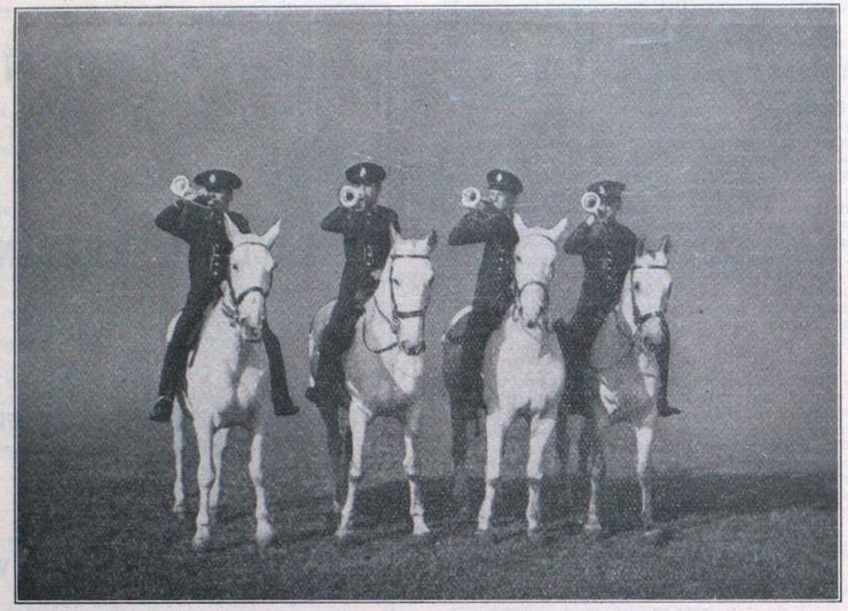
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Royal Signals
Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display.

Last month's WIRE notes concluded with a description of our very wet day at Durham County Show on the 6th August.

We were more fortunate in the weather on the following Thursday, when we entrained for Bakewell (near Sheffield). Bakewell Show is one of the largest one-day shows in England, and we were all amazed at the huge crowd present at this Show in so small a town. Everybody was very kind to us, and we



Trumpeters of F Company, Training Battalion, sounding a Fanfare at the opening of the Display at the S.T.C. Gymkhana.
Sergt Sullivan, Corpl Boy Adcock, Boy Morey, L/Corpl Boy Willis

put on two short performances in the biggest and smoothest ring we have ever seen. We spent one night at Bakewell and returned to Catterick the following day.

Our next outing was to Bingley (near Bradford) on Wednesday 13th August. We have always supported this Show right back to the time when the Mounted Wing ran a little trick ride of its own. This time we only took over part of the combined Display. The whole party went by road, the horses being accommodated in road horse boxes—a very convenient form of door-to-door travel. Sergt Bennett was unfortunately lame, so we only entered one horse in the jumping class—Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot-Pot, who gained third prize. Bingley Show is always well crowded, and on this occasion the Display was watched by a crowd of well over 25,000.

The S.T.C. Mounted Sports and Gymkhana next took our attention. At the Mounted Sports we put on a complete display of practically all our turns, lasting about three-quarters of an hour. At the Gymkhana we put on our Edinburgh Pageant programme, which we performed at break-neck speed.

One of the great features of the performances at both the Mounted Sports and the Gymkhana was the introduction of a fanfare of trumpets by F Company to herald the Display into the ring. At the Gymkhana these trumpeters, dressed in scarlet and mounted on white horses, made a very striking start to the performance. Great credit is due to Sergt Sullivan and the boys concerned.

On Wednesday 5th September the Display party, accompanied by a very large contingent from the Mounted Wing, trekked the twelve miles to Reeth—an outing which has now become an annual fixture. We were very pleased to have with us Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., and Lieut.-Colonel F. O. St. John, D.S.O., M.C. Lieut.-Colonel Tillard replied to the toast of "The Visitors" at the public luncheon, and Lieut.-Colonel St. John took command of "The Leaping Class."

The mounted party arrived back in camp at about 9 p.m., tired but having had a good day in the country. We took back with us the first three prizes in the jumping—1st, Lieut. H. N. Crawford on Hot-Pot; 2nd, Corpl Bull on Bertha; equal 3rd, Captain Gray on Tired and Lieut. Moore on Dolly. We also got second, third and fourth places in the hack class, Driver Ling being second on Dolly, Sergt Hill third on Gay Lady, and L/Corpl Jones fourth on Rina.

Great excitement was caused during the day by Jack pulling down the fence to which he was tied and galloping off down the road (with fence attached). He eventually crashed into a bus and was caught. Mercifully, no serious damage was done.

The despatch riders are now away at South Shields, where we hear they are putting up a first class turn on their own at a miniature Tattoo run by the Cadet Battalion Durham Light Infantry.

Our final appearance this season will be at Altrincham Show (ten miles from Manchester) on the 19th September. We are looking forward to meeting an old friend in Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., from Chester. We hear that C. B. Cochrane's latest revue "Streamline" is in Manchester on the night we are to be there—so here's to a good wind-up in Cheshire!

Remote Control for "C" Mk.1 Sets in use in Malaya Command.

BY LIEUT. E. J. H. MOPPETT, R.SIGNALS, AND L/CORPORAL D. LINDSAY.

A system of remote control for "C" Mk.1 Sets has been devised in this Command to meet special circumstances. It is here described, as it may be of use to other Command Signal Companies who have similar work to do. The system can be used for "C" Mk.2 Sets as well, as it is more suitable than the remote control system normally used with them for this particular work. Actually, the system is applicable to any W/T Set, including short wave sets.

As a matter of regular routine, it is necessary to provide communication between target-towing vessels or searchlight target vessels and the O.P.s controlling them from the shore. In this Command there are numerous O.P.s situated in different parts of the fortress, and according to the guns or lights in use a different O.P. is used. This means that sets have to be moved about a great deal, often to places difficult of access, which entails considerable labour and waste of time, besides causing faults by the continual man-handling of the sets.

It is often difficult to erect an aerial near the O.P., and the making of a good earth connection frequently presents considerable difficulty. Hence the radiation is often poor, and with a high static level communication with the boat becomes difficult. The complete set takes up too much room in the O.P., and so it is usually relegated to an adjoining room which is inconvenient for the Officer i/c Practice.

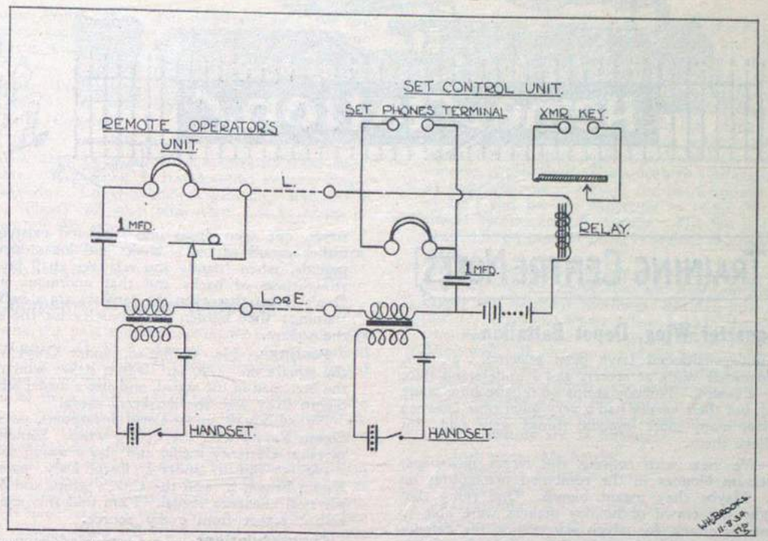
The ideal solution appeared to be a central W/T Station with remote control by land line from the O.P. in use, and a system was developed to permit of this being done. At the central W/T Station, it is possible to have a good aerial-earth system ensuring good W/T communication to the boat under all conditions. Land lines over which to operate the system can be obtained in a fortress by using spares (if they exist), by using Command lines not in use for the particular practice, by making temporary use of an administrative line, or by superimposing on some Command or administrative line actually in use.

To use the "C" Mk.2 system of remote control would necessitate a receiver and aerial at the O.P., and so it was decided that such a system was not suitable in this instance owing to the limited space in the O.P.s. In the system used there is an operator actually in the C.P. (with the Officer i/c Practice) who only has a pair of head-phones, a key and a hand set, joined to a small connecting box containing a cell. Another operator is necessary at the set for tuning and switching over. The advantages of the system for this particular work outweigh the disadvantage of requiring another operator. Even if Mark 2 Sets were available, it is considered that this system would be better for fortress work than that which is usually used for the Mark 2.

The operation of the system is made clear in the accompanying diagram. Any type of relay can be used, provided that it is not sensitive enough to operate on the current caused by exchange indicators which may be shunted across the line. In the instrument in use here, an electric bell is used with its contacts reversed and the coils rewound with 40 S.W.G. enamelled wire. A back stop had to be fitted to the armature to prevent chatter.

A Hand Set No. 28, less receiver, with an induction coil and cell, is fitted at each end to allow the operators to converse for requesting "switch-over," etc. The No. 1 mfd. condenser prevents operation of the relay by current through the head-phones. As the head-phones are of low resistance type, the impedance of the relay windings is too high to form a serious shunt to them and has no appreciable effect on signal strength. The loss of W/T signal strength in the line is negligible and speech between operators, using the microphones, is very much better than on most telephones.

The system works smoothly in practice. The remote operator requests the set operator to switch over when he wants to send. The set operator hears side tone from the sender on his phones and switches back to "receive" on hearing AR. Actually, in this Command two central W/T Stations are in use, conveniently placed for the O.P.s in their localities. It is interesting to note that the system is operated partly over a submarine cable in one case.



CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O.i. (Superintending Clerk).

2306193	R.S.M. McIntosh R.	1/4/34	3
2307980	C.Q.M.S. Patrick C. (War Office appointment)	25/7/34	15

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2307346	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Hope C.	4/7/34	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2307821	C.Q.M.S. Fleming A.	24/5/34	14
2307041	C.Q.M.S. Hartley A.	4/7/34	15
2311590	C.Q.M.S. Donaghy M.	8/7/34	15
1853012	C.Q.M.S. Hobby W.	19/7/34	15

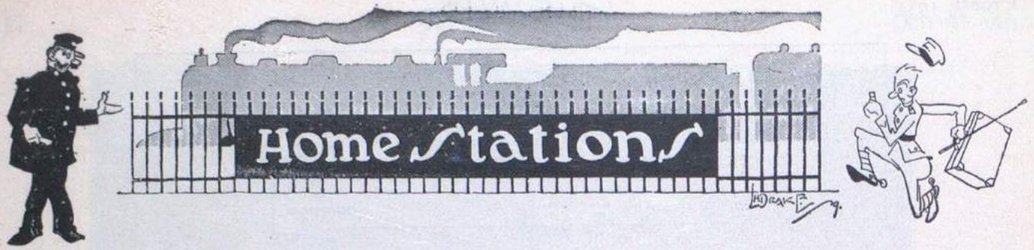
To be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals)

2316734	Corporal Gerrish A.	24/2/34	39
2314220	L/Corporal Jarvis W.	28/7/34	52

To be C.Q.M.S.

1857356	Sergeant Brandon J.	4/7/34	15
2307491	Sergeant Pennicott A.	8/7/34	16
2306706	Sergeant Hall P.	14/7/34	16

[Remainder unavoidably held over until next issue.]



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Sport.—The undermentioned have been selected. . . . Yes, we played the Mounted Wing at soccer, and I understand (nice word) that they—er—won. Nobody seems quite sure how many goals were scored, but their keeper had a very quiet time between drinks. Of course, many more impolite things were said, but we refuse to believe them.

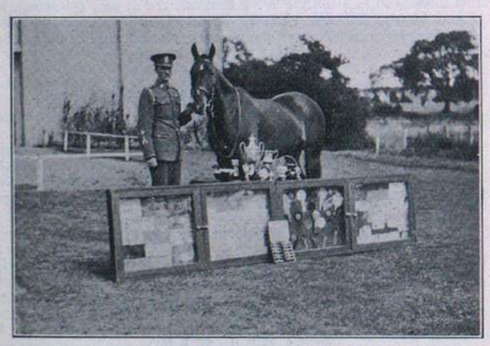
Manœuvres.—We view with concern the recent newspaper reference to platinum blondes in the combined manœuvres on the East Coast. Maybe they meant blonds. One thing that puzzles me is how the crowd of holiday makers were able to forecast the points of attack, for which information the defending commander might possibly have been grateful. People do leave their sense of citizenship at home at holiday time.

Interlude.—" Yeah, you may be a first class driver, but to me you're just a great big pain in the neck."

How many years in the Battalion soccer team, Pearce? One or two recruits still don't know.

Miscellaneous.—We've had many new faces in the Wing. Heaps of 'em. One of them is Lofty's, transformed above a chevron attached proper. Usual gratters, Lofty.

From some office: " . .. please debit with the unexpired value of one knife, clasp, and one lanyard ditto. . . ."



Baby and her Jumping Trophies.

Even now there cometh to me one bearing masses of stuff. From it I am left with a snapshot of Baby, the finest horse in Signals, to say the least of it. BAXTER.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Recruits.—We are receiving a steady flow of recruits in the Wing, amongst whom are a number of games enthusiasts who should make their presence felt on the Wing sports fields. We are expecting some really hard rugger and soccer games this season. In spite of the complete change of life from civvy street, one soon drops into regulated existence. One becomes rather proud of one's khaki and looks forward to the leave periods, when friends and relatives shall be astonished by the straightness of backs and that enormous increase in weight. Don't forget that even the fatigues are a necessary part of your training: they harden your muscles for the sterner business on the square.

Postings.—No. 55 Squad, under Corpl Wilkins, passed off the square on 25/8/34. Sigmn Baker won the C.O.'s whip as the best man in the squad, and also a medal for physical efficiency. Sigmn Erby won the musketry medal.

No. 56 Squad, under Corpl Spearpoint, passed off on 25/8/34. Sigmn Round won the C.O.'s whip. Signalman Bard won the physical efficiency medal and also a spoon for musketry.

No. 57 Squad, under L/Corpl Daly, passed off on 8/9/34. Sigmn Brown E. won the C.O.'s whip, and Signalman Cook the physical efficiency medal. I am told this squad obtained an excellent report from every source.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Myddleton on obtaining a Q.1 certificate during the 44th assistant instructors course at the A.S.P.T. Aldershot.

Departures.—Captain C. V. L. Lycett, O.B.E., to the Training Battalion w.e.f. 27/8/34. Corpl Nichols, L/Corpl Evans and U/L/Corpls Lord and Maughan to the Headquarter Wing w.e.f. 1/9/34.

Messing.—Sigmn Partridge and Driver Pearce have been detailed as Dismounted Wing representatives on the Depot Battalion messing committee. Whether this will make any material difference to our messing remains to be seen.

This Week's Best.—Drill instructor (suspiciously): " Did you wash yourself this morning?" Recruit: " Yes, corporal." Drill instructor: "Then all I can say is you've dried a blasted funny colour."

Tabloid Sports.—The winners of the shield for the month of August were No. 61 Squad with 33¼ points. No. 60 Squad obtained second place with 21 points, and Nos. 59 and 63 Squads tied for third place with 17½.

Notice.—I am asked to put this item of news under a special heading. Sergt Hamlin wishes his many friends in the Corps to note that he is proceeding to 1st Divl Signals on the 13th September. Not for much longer shall we hear that familiar war cry " Have not long to do." EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Introduction.—We apologise for the absence of our notes last month. This was caused by our scribe being on duty other than his own, owing to the upheaval in the Company office caused by our " crack shot " being at Bisley. We do not know whether he won anything or not, but one thing we do know: that Yorkshire lost the cricket championship. Nuff said.

Things are turned upside down here owing to the fact that all the spare ground around the barrack rooms is being turned into lawns. However, we shall be able to lie about and lounge a little next summer, when the grass has grown and the sun shines.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergt Storr P. from E Company, who has taken up his working quarters in Q.M.T.B., and also Corpl Rees T. from the 1st Div. The recruits are too numerous to list, but we hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Again too numerous to list, but there are two about whom we must say something. Sergt Malcolm A. has now left us, having taken his discharge, but he does not seem able to leave the Army alone, as the latest report is that he is working with some Army Stores. Nil desperandum! We are also sorry to lose our coal lorry driver, one Tug Wilson (C.) who has left us to start in a business of his own. Good luck to both of them!

Congratulations.—To L/Corpls Allen and Armstrong on receiving their " paid." To Signalmen Rhead and Dick J. on being appointed U/L/Corporals. To Bill "D." on attaining his Group E. To Benny . . . . three tough years.

Marriage.—This seems to be a regular occurrence these days. We have two more. Sergt Cook T. has deserted Poverty Street for some home luxuries. Congratulations, sergeant! and also to Sigmn Trusselle. Please tell your wife what C.R.A. really is, and don't ask her for the money.

Personal.—Nobby, Quetta: Please send the stamps. Lorenzo.

Agony.—Lorenzo's black eye. DON.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—During the past month Captain R. C. Woodbridge has left us, and Captain C. V. L. Lycett, O.B.E., has assumed command of the Company. Lieut. H. Winterbotham has joined us from Cambridge University.

For the benefit of those who have to fire their annual course this year, musketry has been introduced in the early mornings. At present we are only half-way through the instruction, and one hears of large wagers being placed and pools being organised. These will be decided next week, when the big shoot takes place. While the musketry instruction is in progress, the remainder of the Company enjoy a little P.T. mixed with a brisk walk or run.

The Corps Band have returned from their tour to the various Divs. and seaside resorts. They tell me they had a very enjoyable time and hope, next year, to travel up to Scotland. To-morrow their musketry instruction commences, and from their attitude it should prove fruitful.

Congratulations.—The Company congratulates Sgt Gresham on his appointment to that rank. L/Corpl Cummings G., after a long sweat, is now a paid n.c.o. We congratulate him and hope that he continues with the good work. You understand, first step to Field-Marshal and all that.

Departures.—Sergt Storr P. left us last month for D Company, and three squads for Divs. The names are too numerous to tabulate, so we just wish them all the very best.

Marriage.—L/Sergt Brewster P., the " American " in the signal office, was married to Miss Annie Parker on the 18th August. The above cognomen comes from a recruit in the Depot who, not knowing his name, described him as " the Yankee in the signal office." Anyway, we wish him all the very best for the future.

Births.—The Cadre " grocers," Sugar and Butter (i.e. Signalmen Cheney and Butterworth) are now proud fathers: Sigmn Cheney of a son, and Sigmn Butterworth of a daughter. We congratulate them; and the " pram " advice from all is " Up hill, *her* turn; down hill, *you* hold it back."

In the Corps Band, Sigmn Green A. is the father of a daughter. We congratulate him also. I have heard that he ordered his pram from Tindall, our local auctioneer, some time before he went on tour.

Finis.—The standing joke regarding the reinforcements and a dance is now amended to read " Gas masks will be on Thursday." This should have been " Guest night on Thursday "—referring to the Officers Mess guest night. Never mind, Paddy, a trained ear is an operator's ear.

The Company wish to congratulate the Boys Company on winning the Colquhoun cricket cup in the Garrison enlisted boys competition.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company have properly dug themselves into their routine—and also into the face of the earth, as one might observe by taking a tour around the Company lines. The well known rockery has been extended, and it now reaches the whole length of the lines. Besides this, ground is being prepared for grass seed on both sides of the new road. Visions of "happy hours " with the garden rollers are appearing to many people. The huts have a civilian touch about them now, as curtains of different hues have been hung over the new windows recently put in. The floors are being stained and polished, which is a decided improvement. Our old enemies the civilian R.E.s did not seem to like our efforts, because they came along and took up portions of one floor and put new boards down, which rather spoilt the effect and also the temper of some people.

The winter games are now in full swing, and also the inter-Section competitions. We have started training our football teams who are entering for the Army cup, and we have hopes of winning it this year. Cross-country running—everyone's favourite sport—is now in season, and the Company have had two runs so far; and we are expecting to retain the shield which has almost become an R.E. fixture. The fact is that it has only left us for the purpose of being engraved annually for the past seven years.

A drill course for the boy n.c.o.s commenced three weeks ago, and they are now to be seen and heard on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings, learning how to make soldiers of raw (?) recruits. From what I hear through the mysterious channels of information creeping about the Company, they are doing well. If you are one of the persons who are in their confidence, you will be told exactly what the Brigadier and the Colonel have to say about them—and as you can guess, it must be in their favour or they would not repeat it.

The inter-Section shooting took place on the 12th September, and the results are as follows:—

Instrument Mechanics	158
Electrician Fitters	147
Operators "B"	134
Operators "A"	126

We were very pleased to see our old Company commander, Captain H. E. Rance, when he visited us during the month.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Boy Smith E. from Chepstow. Being the twin brother of L/Corpl Boy Smith J., he was an object of interest for the first few days after his arrival. The Company have now become used to getting mixed up.

We also welcome 2/Lieut. McGill, who joined us from the Royal Military Academy. More strength on the sports field.

Departures.—During the month we said farewell to Signalmen Craig, Soppet, Fraser and Edwards, and we wish them all the best in their new stations.

Congratulations.—We congratulate Operators "B" team on winning the Garrison cricket cup: the Colquhoun challenge cup. We also congratulate L/Cpl Boy Shergold on attaining that rank.

Agony.—Will Fifi please return borrowed books, as owner is lost without them.

Joe would like a few lines from Ken of 4th Divl. Signals.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—All are cool, calm and on short pay after having enjoyed fourteen days of the best.

Schemes have finished after a very satisfactory training season. Our last big stunt was to Weymouth over a period of five days. Judging from the tittle-tattle one hears, I imagine this was the best scheme of the year. The C sets, ably assisted by No. 6 Heavy, again did the necessary, and communication was good throughout. What was the " base " trick that was played on the heavies somewhere around Winchester? We did get a message to say a driver was towing his own lorry home, but that was a printer's error.

Nos. 7 and 8 Light Sections left this morning for Salisbury to maintain the reputation of No. 2 Company. They have gone to assist the Div. who are short-handed.

The unemployed have signed on for a refresher course, and we hope this unexpected work will not be detrimental to their health or reputation.

Last, but not least, is the drill course for junior n.c.o.s. This appears to be a good thing, but there is no reason to get so

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enthusiastic as to take Allenbury's pastilles or go over Cove Common for practice.

M.T. Affairs: Alapecia! maybe!—All is well, although the coming C.I.A.'s inspection is drawing very near. Our time allotted is very little, as courses and what not are taking primary claim on the personnel. The painting of our own vehicles is turning out a success and giving the drivers a chance to clean the inaccessible parts. Even the most minute things are receiving the attention which would, if he were here, make an individual in Kohat blush.

Departures.—Sigmn Long M. to China. Sigmn Anderson to School of Signals, Catterick.

Births, Marriages, Deaths.—In the "Pending" tray.

Enquiry.—Alf: What about a line? H.G. DIXIE.

No. 3 Company.

Please do not turn out the guard, run out any bunting, or declare a public holiday. This is just another proof that the age of miracles has not yet passed. So if you can be persuaded to believe your own eyes, just sit back and watch your blood pressure.

Drafts.—Signalmen Smith J. H. and Moran L. P. left us on the 7th September for Palestine (I refuse to even mention jew's course).

Arrivals.—Drivers Smith J., Shipley H. and Wagg W., and Signalmen Soppet E., Bonner S., Evans A., Gleeson J. and Kirk W. May they soon find out what a good Company they have come to. The last named four have already been warned for India.

Departures.—Signalmen Curtis and Ross to civil life (and to good employment, we hope). C.Q.M.S. Hall to the 1st Div. Sigmn Smoult to the Depot Battalion.

Promotions.—C.S.M. Hope to R.Q.M.S. C.Q.M.S. Hartley to C.S.M. Sergt Hall to C.Q.M.S. Congratulations to all from all of us.

General.—Unfortunately—or fortunately: it depends on the view taken—there is not a great deal to write about. Daily orders are still being pounced on at the earliest opportunity, because at this time of the year there are always plenty of vacancies for courses. Some are lucky enough to get G.P.O. courses, whilst others "volunteer" for P.T. or drill courses.

We Would Like to Know.—Why a certain person dived off a raft at Portsmouth? Who was the subject of the wisecrack, "Read Morse? He couldn't read *The People*"? What is a spin bell?—and why?

Economy.—Dick Honor: Have you broken that record of 76 yet? Why not write? Bertrand VI.
Egerton: Still in Catterick? Borrow three halfpence. Smith 2322061.

Epilogue.—Or reservoir. DIP.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

There are no notes from any of the Companies this month—all ranks are fully occupied "on manœuvres" on Salisbury Plain. Those of us who have had this pleasure will understand. Those who haven't will probably have read our Press notices.

In the Sports Notes at the end of this issue will be found a report of the competition for the 1st Australian Divisional Signals trophy, together with the results. Everyone will congratulate Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley on his close victory over L/Corporal Chapman W. D. M., who was only one point behind him.

WONDER.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Unfortunately, there will be very few notes this month. We cannot even find any evidence of trunk murders or such everyday occurrences.

At present we are indulging in drill parades in readiness for the G.O.C.'s annual inspection, and inoculations and dental inspections of draft personnel.

Talking of drafts, we said goodbye to our Palestine draft on the 7th September and then looked very searchingly in the following morning's newspapers for evidence of their embarking, but we only succeeded in seeing their boat mentioned.

The first Indian draft have at last been notified where they are going on arrival in Punkhi, and the old sweats and time-ex wallahs are having a busy time in answering thousands of questions. Actually, I think the majority delight in it, as they always put on their best tunic with the new ribbon in prominence.

Arrivals.—We extend the usual greetings to Signalmen Bailey and Sharkey from the Training Battalion. Probably they will miss the troopers this year, so that they can find out what it is like to be in a field unit in England.

Departures.—Corpl Butler to Ireland—only on leave, though, as the unit has still to be fed and we cannot fast too long.

Signalmen Vine F. and Brooks, both A.V.T.C. clients, quite fresh from abroad. It has been noticed that the fish in the canal are again becoming brave and venturing into midstream now that Aub. has gone. They still get a bit of a scare when a certain coloured frock passes by (on its own).

Signalmen Andy Cunningham (complete with orange box) and Sinclair (his first name was Bobber) will both have left us by the time these notes appear. All the best from 38.E alias 40.E.

Births.—To Corporal and Mrs. Strugnell, on 3/9/34, a son—Barry Lewis. He's bound to be lucky, as another great man (A.E.J.) was born on the same date some years ago.

Lost.—Valuable horses, complete with riders, grooms, harness, wagons, etc. Last seen disappearing in the direction of No. 2 Company. Answer to the name of B Cable.

As can be gathered, we have at last parted with the Ghurks, who left us on the 1st September for No. 2 Company. We are now horseless, and consequently we shall not see those jolly old school ties dangling in the dirt at six o'clock in the morning to the tune of "This bally muck is simply disgusting."

EASY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Yes! K Section *did* get their week's leave that was promised them. The writer is eagerly awaiting his now.

J Section are away in camp at Colchester at present, and apart from having to wait for their pay, are really enjoying themselves.

Drafts.—We have lost L/Corporal Cole E., who has gone to Palestine—the land of hooked noses.

Marriages.—Nil, but always hopeful.

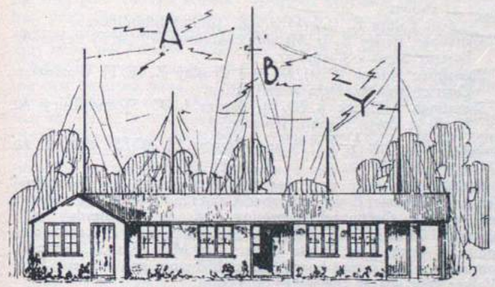
Births.—The stork *is* on his way.

Leave.—Several. We all hope that Sergeant Hay is enjoying his tour of the East Coast health resorts.

Baby Show.—We all congratulate Corpl and Mrs. Brunton on having won the first prize with their one and only at the Farnborough Baby Show—for babies up to nine months. Several of the lads have asked me why Billy's tunic seems to have tightened lately. That night (the night of the show) Billy sang his small son to sleep to the tune of "Little man, you've had a busy day."

Departures.—Sigmn Mitchell S. A. to S.T.C. Catterick. Sigmn Moody S. to No. 1 Company *after* he has finished his "easy time" at his holiday resort: I hear that No. 1 Company are quite proud.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. Threeco. R.T.W.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Chord On!—I believe it is usual to assume an apologetic attitude when one writes unit notes for the first time. I'm not usual! In fact, I am strongly tempted to append the usual signature to these notes and let our usual scribe (who is on leave) collect the bouquets. But it is criminal to be over-generous, and the said usual scribe receives quite enough bouquets, one way and another, for conspicuous gallantry shown in supporting a struggling (?)—but, there, football is an uncertain game and Portsmouth do try hard.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Signalmen Sinclair, Bates and Booth, who joined our little band during August. We hope they like us and are settling down to our routine.

General.—The rewiring of the station is now complete. Workmen have disappeared, operators can now be seen walking about with a purpose, and the whirr of the generators is like music to the superintendent. Headphones are once again adjusted and keys pressed, but with what results? We are indebted to a member of the Company for the following lines. Whether they are intended to sum up the present situation in the station, I don't profess to know, as I am not directly connected with its (the station's) mysterious workings. But I do know that traffic comes and traffic goes, and therefore assume that "An Operator's Lament" is general and that mind eventually triumphs over matter.

AN OPERATOR'S LAMENT.

What are the wild waves saying
As at two ack emma I strive
To hear some small indication
That out-stations are still alive?

I sit and I hopefully twiddle
Tank condenser and volume control,
While theories for such poor reception
Pass through my head by the shoal.

The wind in the mast stays is humming;
Rain, like shot, on our iron roof descends;
There must surely be here much absorption,
Yet the leagues with our juice we do rend.

Though arrays are all cut to their wavelengths
And aligned with scrupulous care,
To ask our bare thousand of wattage
To compete with those miles is not fair.

Transmission line losses are non est—
Auxiliary lines put that right;
Our wavelengths, with ease, should contend with
Ionising by day and by night.

We lack not of incoming signals—
At R nine I can count quite a score;
But ne'er a sign of that bubbly note
With the call sign I'm searching for.

My stool, it gets harder and harder,
And my back is all aching and bent,
Till a glance at the clock reminds me
It is time X three hundred is sent.

I enter two words in a diary—
They are cryptic and terse: "Traffic Nil."
Soft words from my sergeant next morning
Fail to cheer me or give me a thrill. —H.H.A.

Personal.—To Snowy Gillott: Well I never! fancy you being married! Congratulations. Bill Williams. R.H.S.

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Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

There is an old rhyme that tells us this is brown October. I think this must also apply to our delightful crowd. It is sur-

prising how easily people get browned. Our fellows have been that way for some time. I have always liked October. It has a romantic appeal. Not only does it illustrate so clearly and beautifully the changing of the seasons, but I happened to be born in that month. And what could be more romantic than that? It is perhaps appropriate that I make my farewell from these pages, after four years of continuous reporting, during this pleasant month. It gives a special bouquet which will always leave a lingering sweetness on my own palate which I could not expect others to share. And if you chaps consider you have read sufficient on this theme, I would remind you I am but claiming my share of years of toil and sweat. Anyway, is not furlough in the immediate offing? It is on this I base my hope of your patience.

But even the most romantic must feed the hungry multitude when engaged on a job like mine. Incidentally, those who are waiting for something at which to laugh will be sadly disappointed. The strong man can laugh when his stomach is empty ; but fill his heart and he becomes silent! Ask George.

George reminds me that the Watchet party have returned. Our effusive welcome, dear laddies. And what a welcome! Our George but returns to leave us again on a G.P.O. course at Peterborough, while three other members of this hardy band are due to go abroad this trooping season.

Our congratulations to L/Corporal (Sandy) Powell and Miss "Bobbles" Skerrett on their marriage in Dublin on the 14th August. Another excuse is thus provided for those dear Meerut readers to indulge in a particular bright and wet rhamsami. Incidentally, if anyone should query my spelling of the Indian beano, may I add that it is the best I could get after personally calling on all our Indian wallahs.

Further wishes and what not to L/Corpl Aldridge M. on being paid for his appointment, and to Signalman Wiseman H. on his appointment to Lance-Corporal. Will Stumpy Holmes, now in Malaya, kindly note the latter announcement.

Dusty warriors returned to the kraals on completing the Air Defence Brigade exercise. They came not with the spoils of war. Rather did they return with great gusto, singing snatches of songs and recounting confused tales of beautiful cable and difficult women! What they had to sing about, I know not. Neither did they when a dinky sheet of Orders was read. And for why? Musketry loomed large and definite. Laying the guns aside for the moment, we place on record that over a hundred miles of cable was laid by G Section in the Chichester and Bognor area where the operations took place. This meant hard going, but all communications from control to gun positions and V.P. stations were through in time and no breakdowns occurred. Judging from the tales, everyone enjoyed themselves. But then, we know, Sussex girls are pretty!

The Cycle Corps of the unit are still very much in the news. The two Jocks continue to put up fresh records on the Blackdown to "Kimberley" run, although the Mad Mullah of the combination was more than peeved when someone else announced his time for the run as being faster! Is it the thought of rations that helps the Jocks to return so quickly?

And now, before we think of leaving you, there are many subjects upon which members of the unit are seeking enlightenment. Whilst they are feverishly jotting these items down before I close to go to press, there are ways of filling the idle moment.

Sayings of the Great.—

B.O.M.: "I am thinking."
G.D.: "Ah-ha-ha."
L.C.M.: "Plus two—minus one."
H.F.: "Please, I've had an h'accident."
E.F.M.: "Henry! Grrrh!"
L.F.: "Anyone going down 'Freds'?"

Ah, well! if it were not for humorists and others like the above, life would indeed lose much of its appeal. We owe them a great debt, and provided they do not try to collect it, we hope always to owe them for the shafts of sunlight they bring to a grey world. And that reminds me. I am still waiting for my cigarettes. I seem to remember a bet or two 'way back at the start of the cricket season. But that is life. It appears long ago now, but faint scenes flicker of a flashing bat. . . crisp drives through the cover. . . huge pulls to the on boundary. . . potential sixers. . . the plaudits of the crowd. . . a bet hastily made. . . . success and joy, failure and humiliation. . . . it affected us all. Anyway, I can *easily* remember "Players, please."

And now, vale! I have used my licence to the full. It is for the last time, remember. Speech would be superfluous at this time. I join with the lady who remarked that silence would be the most eloquent answer. Cheeri-bung! B.A.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—I am so sorry about last month, but—believe it or not—I was too busy, and I hope you will kindly take my word for it!

Well, folks, it seems that this war I have heard so many people talk about is nearly over—and *will* be over, I hope, by the time these notes appear in print. Mind you, I have not seen a war at all myself ; I'm only going by hearsay.

Anyway, according to the reports of the Sections we seem to have done quite well, and as a reward there will be a nice inspection by the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, on the 5th October.

The Q.M. is doing quite a roaring trade already and considers it as good as a voc. course in salesmanship. Gee! What a time the average salesman would have in the Army of to-day, selling kit to willing (?) troops.

Drafts Overseas.—(Official). For the information of our chums overseas, and not for the ulterior motive of rubbing it in, the appended information is given.

The following sail for India on 13/12/34 for various destinations as shown.

L/Corpl Paling R. (Clerk) S.T.C. (India) Jubbulpore.
Signalmen Bailey E. (I/M) and Houghton T. (E/F) Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.
Signalmen Adams W. (I/M) and Crosley E. (E/F) Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.
Signalmen Addlesee J. (O/S), Barnes J. (O/S) and Liley A. (O/S) A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Signalmen Yule J. (O/S) and Perrins H. (O/S) embark on 15/11/34 for Egypt.

Swimming.—The unit was well represented in the annual Southern Command v. Aldershot Command swimming contest, held at the Command swimming bath on Wednesday 15th August. Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., captained the team and competed in the back stroke event. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Taplin R. competed in the spring board and high diving, and 2/Lieut. B. J. Walker kept goal in the water polo team.

Departures.—Sergt Sharp D. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, for a spell.

Sigmn Woolley R. has transferred to the R.A.P.C. (after successfully completing his probationary period) w.e.f. 20/10/33. All ranks wish him the best of luck and success in his new Corps.

L/Sergt Cotton A. W. and Signalmen Edgell T., Boardman W. and Lovegrove C. to civilian life. The best wishes of the unit go with them. May success come their way at all times.

L/Corpl Reed rejoined this unit from F Troop and has now left us for a vocational course at Chisledon. The best of luck, Busty. May your chickens never lay china eggs.

Signalmen Rankin and Callan to Bulford after their short stay with us.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following, and hope their stay with us will be to their liking. Corpl Blight G. and Signalmen Fraser J. and Paterson T. from the Training Battalion.

We welcome back to the fold Signalmen Carter A. and Farley J. Not for long shall we see you, eh, John?

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Newman on passing his trade test for electrician fitter class ii. To L/Corpl Paling R. and Signalmen Hodgson R. and Ingram C. on their mustering as clerks C.iii.b, C.ii. and C.iii.b respectively.

To L/Corpl Dale M. on his two-fold achievement (another fellow combining business with pleasure, Panjang). Firstly, I think, on his marriage to Miss Nellie May Dry at Salford on 4/8/34, and secondly on being appointed U/L/Corporal.

To L/Corpl Lafford on getting his dog's leg, and to L/Corpl Legg J. on getting the much-needed few extra pence per diem (no wonder he has a new tunic).

To Sigmn Guile S. T. on being presented with a son and heir at Whitstable on 15/8/34.

Congratulations are also extended to Lieut. G. C. Nelson on his promotion to that rank. The best wishes from all ranks, sir.

Our Pay Bloke Breaks the Silence.—In compiling a series of notes in connection with pay duties, our strong silent pay bloke was asked for a list of regulations, etc., that referred to pay duties. The following are some that he would like to have included, complete with his remarks.

1. Defence against Gas—When certain individuals argue that £2 pay days are met by a 10/- income.
2. Animal Management—Also refers to the above species, and is also the best book on psychology I know.
3. Games and Sports in the Army—Making up the pay list at the end of the month.
4. Dress Regulations—You should see my "working tunic."
5. Educational Training—Some day, some one will remember his rate of pay and date of enlistment and stop asking me.
6. Engineer Training—Adjusting accounts, with spanners, adjustable, 12 inch, pay blokes for the use of.
7. Intelligence in the Field—Not in barracks, presumably.

And his motto in future will be "If tha does owt for nowt, do it for theesen."

The San Man's Mite.—Oh yez! oh yez! heil—and all that sort of thing—I do declare that A.F.V. is really waking up. Listen, folks! Only recently two men (?) set out to conquer the vast unknown, armed only with a Rex-Acme and fourpence. Whither did they go? No one knows. Fourteen days later (after all hope had died) there came news—good news. Our heroes had been sighted tearing down Baroda Road at the phenomenal speed of .005 miles per annum. Loud applause from the locals.

Believe it or not, our heroes had travelled far, if not fast, covering two hundred miles on their iron (and fourpence) in the short space of fourteen days. An extract from *The Weekly Wail* proves that their feet (sorry, I mean feat) was stupendous. The special co-respondent (?) devotes half a front page column to the tale. They were pinched 1991 times in two days for loitering. Unfortunately, the total number of pinches is not yet available, but it is confidently expected in well informed circles to break all records.

Moral: A.F.V. is still capable of snatching a spot of publicity from the rest of this grand standing Army. Still, folks, we are modest and will put it down to the wonderful stimulant known as bullyandbiscuits.

And now, "Carry on, London." RUSTY.

1st Tank Brigade Headquarter Signal Section.

Tilshead Camp.

General.—Once more unto the breach, dear friends ; the war is over for to-night, and the battle is ours. Now, at last, we can settle down to a quiet snooze beside the old Primus and wait for the tea to brew. It is a splendid sight to watch the operators smell out the char wagon, even though it does its best to hide once the Tanks harbour. While we quench our thirst, the yarns of the day's work are spun, but they must perforce wait another day.

Just to show that we are still in the news, the Brigadier commanding No. 1 Tank Brigade R.T.C. (Brigadier P. C. S. Hobart, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.) summoned a full strength parade of the Section and personally thanked the Signals for the efficiency of their wireless communications.

The Big Boat.—Two of our select band, Signalmen Bailey and Addlesee, have decided to try their luck in India and they are to sail on the 13th December. We wish them the best of luck.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., on being attached to Tank Brigade Headquarters ; also Sigmn Carter, complete with Austin.

Inspections.—The G.O.C. inspected the Tank Brigade on Thursday 6th September, and all went well, including communications.

Congratulations.—To Lieut. R. N. Seddon on being selected to attend a course in the study of Japanese. We hope he succeeds. We may hear of his arrival at Tokio in due course.

Visitors.—We have been pleased to see so many of the S.E.E. staff with us during the various exercises. This first-hand knowledge of Tank Brigade communications, so entirely different from other forms of Signal work, will ensure the production of a set in the future which will help operator and Tank commander alike.

Nominal Roll.—I have been asked to include the roll of the Section—another addition to the Army List. Here it is. Officer commanding, Lieut. R. N. Seddon ; L/Sergt Hamilton C. ; Corpl Button R. ; L/Corpl Potts ; Signalmen Addlesee, Alltoft, Bailey, Carrison, Carter, Craig, Holberton, Mullen, O'Hehir, Richards, Reeves, Scrivens, Songhurst and Wild.

Things I am Asked.—Do mushrooms cause sore throats? Who lifted a No. 7 set one dark and stormy night? Where Richy slept on the night of the great flood? When a certain chap is going to change to a decent smoke?

Thanks.—Since this month sees the end of the manœuvres, I think that the R.A.O.C. Section have earned our heartiest thanks for all the assistance they have given us during our stay at Tilshead.

Wireless News.—Hello, Tiger! Receiving you o.k. Send I.M. My receiver is dis.

Section Theme Songs.—"O come, all ye little ones," by Squirge the Magnificent. "The Call of the Jungle," by Tiger and Its Young. "Aircraft Lament," by Tank 129. "The Tradesmen's Circus," by Camel and Its Links.

Sporting Activities.—We have had no fixtures, owing to pressure of work, but we hope in the near future to give a good account of ourselves.

Agonies.—From Busty to Sialkot: Many thanks. All going well. From Nutty of Pork Pie fame to Mac: Thanks. Will try and come.

Departures.—Our Section departs for Farnborough on the 23rd September. Fans, please address mail to new address.

Taking the Can Back.—Mullen and the man to return the Avro Minor to Ordnance. BRIGADE TANK SIGNALS.

No. 1 Tank Signal Section.

Attached 2nd Battalion R.T.C., West Down Camp, Tilshead.

General.—The state of war on the vast rolling plains of Salisbury is increasing in intensity, and all around, both by day and night, the incessant boom of guns and the rat-tat of machine guns and rifles almost make one believe that the enemy are at last being held at bay. Of course, wars do not usually end according to a schedule, but I have been definitely informed that this ruddy war will be over—and no doubt won—by the 22nd September.

Then, of course, the Section will return, after their strenuous labours in the wilderness, to the land flowing with milk and honey. How long we will linger in that glorious land, we know not ; 'tis in the lap of the gods.

We are informed that a great display awaits our arrival at Tidworth on Friday 5th October. The display, we understand, is to celebrate the return of the Sections to their parent unit. However, the quartermaster is going to have a very busy time, and the poor old pay bloke is going to say "I'm sorry, but you have had so and so out of store, etc."

Kohat.—Sergt Shreeves returns thanks for the congratulations in your last notes.

Queer.—Who is the fellow in the Section who has worked so hard that he has worn out three straw mattresses? I wonder how that happened?

Jerks.—For the folks who attempt to dismount hurriedly from a tank before removing their headphones. Several have had it in the neck.

Event.—'Twas a dark but not stormy night on the 6th September, when two certain fellows were returning from Warminster way in a Baby Austin. All went well until a turning was turned that shouldn't have been. Suddenly realisation came to the driver. To turn was the work of a split second—but too late! the road was not wide enough. Crash went the glass, and Baby headed for a drink in a nearby ditch. Poor Baby! its wondrous lines gone for ever—but no! hammers and paint have worked wonders for those elegant lines of Baby's. So once more she travels the road, but she is a spoiled Baby now.

Finis.—By the time these notes appear in print, the Section personnel will all be tucked away in nice soft jobs at Tidworth—we hope! So till the next time, au revoir. PANJANG.

Light Tank Signal Section.

Tilshead Camp.

Sitting on the Fence.—There will be many who will be surprised by seeing notes from this Section, and to them I will say that work has prevented our writing before. There are others who will say "Work! huh!" and to them I will say "Nerts." Anyway, we are here at last, and here we mean to stay.

By the time these notes appear, Sections will have returned to the fold and everyone will be busy shaking the mud of Tilshead from their feet. Our blonde Don Juan is keeping his: he likes it so much. Rumour hath it that he is putting it in his collection by the side of his Bristol dust.

Mad Mervyn joined the League of the Bloodstained Pillow Case whilst on August leave, and likes it, too. We have heard a whisper that Bill (d'ye know who I mean?) is also on the verge. It depends on the Dublin nurses, though. And lastly, our one and only Clara goes to Calne most nights. I wonder—?

Drafts.—Sigmn Liley sails for India on or about the 13th December. Christmas in the Red Sea for you, Ginger.

Marriage.—Sigmn Dale M. to Miss Nellie Dry at Salford on 4/8/34. May your troubles be rendered in triplicate. *Manchester Herald*, please copy.

Appointments.—Sigmn Dale M. to be U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 31/8/34. One size ten on that long ladder.

We Want to Know.—If a certain Company still do the short sharp pace? If Thommo still carries his "fader's lonch"?

In Conclusion.—I thank you for bearing with me so long.

JEHADI.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

The major events of the month of September, though they represent news with a capital N whilst these notes are being written, will have faded into the past before publication comes round again.

Except for the manœuvres, there is little that I can write about. The whole Troop, less Corpl Riando (convalescent) and Sigmn Brooks (in hospital), proceeded to camp at Blackland Park, Calne, on the 1st September. This part of the country, as I expect was intended, was strange ground to us, but with the natural ability of Cavalry Troops, plus one inch maps, we soon found out the highways and byways and that part of the country where contour lines run close together.

At the time of writing we are on the eve of the last and longest exercise, and up to date all ranks have been tried and tested and proved sound. Even the horses are enjoying their new surroundings and are inclined to look down on the pampered darlings of the well known racing stable at Beckhampton.

One remark which I overheard might bear fruit if passed along to the higher quarters. The night was dark and the ground was hardly the best for light cars without lights. During one short halt, one thin squeaky voice was heard: "If *we* have to imagine this and imagine that, why can't *they* imagine it is dark and let us wait till daylight?"

Cricket.—The season's averages will be found in the Sports section. I have been asked to draw attention to the bowling average of Sergt Honnor: truly a great feat for an old man.

E.T.P.

4th Divisional Signals, Colchester.

No. 1 Company.

General.—During the month most of the personnel have been loaned to Nos. 2 and 3 Companies to make up the Infantry and Artillery Brigade Sections. B Cable Section provided a detachment to act as a Signal Section for No. 3 Light Brigade R.A. However, out of the people remaining we were able to meet the requirements of Divisional Headquarters and umpires' signals for the inter-Brigade exercises at Bures.

We have now despatched an advance party to Canterbury to cope with the general cleaning up of the barracks and polishing of floors, etc., ready for occupation by the unit on the 15th October. The general cry seems to be "Roll on, Canterbury!" as a change is as good as a rest. In the meantime, we are occupying our time with drill and the making of budding D.I.s.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Sigmn Parker, who has joined us from the S.T.C.

Departures.—Several well known folks have left us during the past month, among whom are L/Sergt Newton to the T.A. and L/Corpl Price (Rex) to civilian life. It is rumoured that the latter will be broadcasting with the Western Brothers in the near future, complete with old school tie and "Play the game, you cads!"

Courses.—Driver Ovenden has rejoined us after a six months farriers course, and has emerged as a signalman farrier C.iii. Sigmn Roake attended a teleprinter course with the G.P.O. and obtained a satisfactory report.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Nicholson, L/Corpl Walton and U/L/Corpl Bridgeman on their respective advancements.

Births.—Congratulations to L/Corpl and Mrs. Evans on the arrival of a little Josie.

MASKEE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The personnel of No. 3 Company have been very scarce at Reed Hall during the last fortnight, owing to the fact that the Infantry Brigade Sections have been with their respective Brigades. J and L Sections have just returned to the fold after being away a month on collective training. We trust they enjoyed their stay at Shorncliffe and Dover respectively. Each Section sent one lance-corporal and five men direct to Canterbury to join the unit advance party there.

K Section are still in camp at Bures with the 11th Infantry Brigade, and according to reports they are having a busy time with schemes. This year there have been a few cries of "Oh, my poor feet!" What a change from last year.

Departures.—Sigmn Booth W. left us for Palestine on the 6th September, and we wish him a very pleasant stay in his new unit. He has picked on a good place to do his overseas soldiering. Driver Hinchcliffe H. proceeded on fourteen days leave pending transfer to the Army Reserve. We wish him the best of luck. May he soon get a job.

Moves.—Everybody is looking forward with interest to the move to Canterbury. We have heard that the barracks are very comfortable, and it will be quite a change to live in brick buildings again.

THREECOY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Owing to the combined operations taking place away from Scarborough, it is not possible for me to give full information concerning them until the return of the unit. However, particulars of these secret activities have been widely discussed in the daily Press, so everyone should be as well informed as the participants, if not more so.

During the stay of the unit at Catterick Camp several schemes were undertaken, at which strawberries were gathered, I understand, in profusion. On none of these schemes did the unit present such a spectacle as the last round up prior to leaving for the invasion. With the arrival of the Aldershot Morris Fleet came more odds and ends of the "brains of the Army," and barrack rooms and mess rooms were filled to overflowing with strange faces.

The details left behind in Scarborough proceeded to spring clean ready for the G.O.C.'s inspection which is to take place on the 20th September. Corporal Browne's Distempered Band compares favourably with the Peasholm Crooners who performed at the troops' concert at Catterick. Whitewash versus eyewash; continuous performance; now showing. However, the place looks clean and smells clean, and never have I seen such a tidy office. The unit gardener has also been hard at work and has, he informs me, set about 30,000 wallflower plants. A spring clean with an autumn setting. What more could one wish?

Social Events.—Many scribes bemoan the lack of material for notes, but I always find sufficient for this chapter.

BIRTHS.—Congratulations to Corpl Gordon on a son, Michael; also to Sigmn Cooper on a daughter, Sylvia Ruth; and two helpings to Sigmn Potts (on detachment at Catterick) on the birth of two daughters, Evelyn Mary and Joan Elizabeth.

[*Continued at the foot of page 456*]



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company.

August.

Arrivals.—Signalman Thomas from A.H.Q. Simla, pending transfer to the home establishment. Sigmn Ward from A Corps Signals to A.H.Q. Simla.

Departures.—Sigmn Smith F. H. to A Corps Signals, Karachi. Bandsman Mather E. (Duke of Wellington's Regiment) to rejoin his unit at Nowshera. You can blow your own trumpet now, Bill.

Marriages.—Sergt Prebble E. to Mabel Ann Putley at the parish church, Charlton-in-Dover.

Agony.—F Company note. What about a line? Congratulations, Tommy. Pontoons only. H.P.

Will Corpl Watson C., last heard of at 4th Divl Signals, Colchester, please communicate with Corpl Meldrum of this unit?

General.—There is really nothing much to report this month except that our fortnightly dances continue to be a great success. Much credit is due to the enthusiastic committee, and also to L/Sergt Goodison and his band.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

27th August.

Arrivals.—An earthquake on 22/7/34 at about 1.30 a.m. This was not too severe, but the vibrations of the bungalows awoke some of the Corps "sleeping beauties." Also a great deal more rain, but this we do not mind so much now that we have more or less settled down to it.

Departures.—C.S.M. Gradden E., M.M., to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. We wish you all the best of luck, sir.



Members of the Sergeants Mess and Band of the 2nd Battn Welch Regiment after the Medal Presentation and Band Concert.

Promotions.—Only one this month, so far: C.Q.M.S. Fleming to be Company Sergeant-Major. Congratulations, sir. Judging by what we have heard, the bar profits of the Sergeants Mess certainly made an upward bound on the day his promotion was promulgated. The training he received in Scotland has apparently been forgotten.

Births.—Again we have only one to record: to Corporal and Mrs. Walsh a son at Murree on 26/7/34.

Ceremonial.—On Sunday 5th August a church parade was held, which all ranks attended. This was in the nature of a memorial service commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War.

After the service the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., presented Sergeant Murphy, Sergt Oakes (1st Divl Signals) and Corpl Robertson with their rooti gongs.

This was a most auspicious occasion, being the first parade that Sergt Murphy (Spud) has attended since he came on the strength of Bekore; but I think our O.R.S. must have been giving him some tuition, as he marches and salutes like real soldiers do!

—HE WHO HESITATES IS LOST!!

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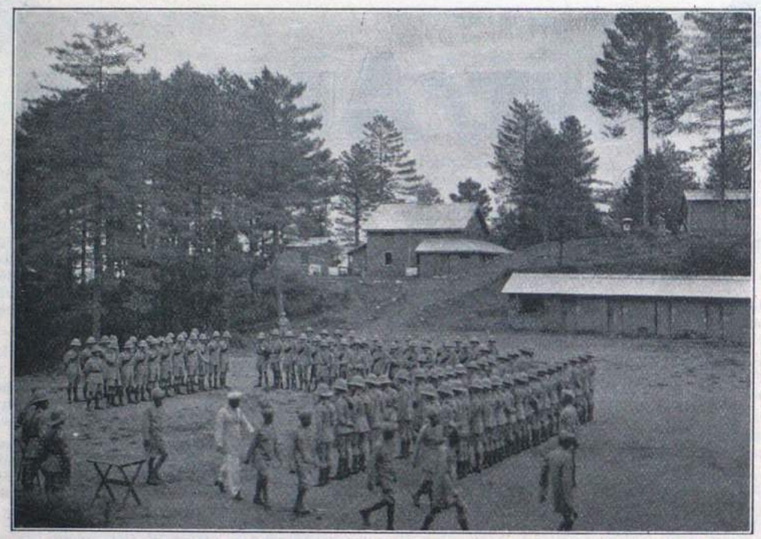
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Followers marching off the parade ground at Upper Topa after receiving their I.G.S. Medals.

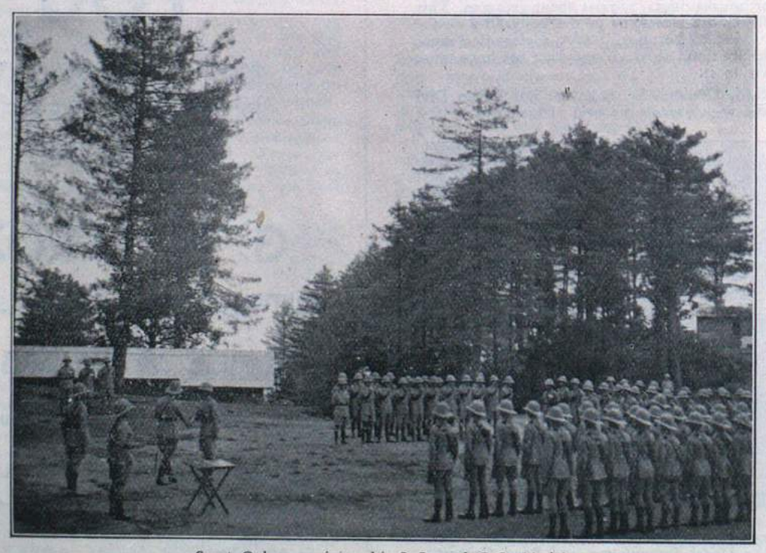
After the presentation the Welch Regiment's band gave us a delightful hour with selected music. Our thanks are due to the commanding officer and officers of the 2nd Battn Welch Regiment for allowing the band to come, not only on this occasion, but on others both in church for the services and afterwards in the unit lines. The bandmaster and the band in general also deserve our thanks.

Entertainments.—Dances have been going with a great swing recently, the attendances being quite good in spite of the awful state of the roads in Topa and the excessive rainfall. A short while ago a cabaret dance proved very successful. The hall was rather crowded, but everybody entered into the spirit of the evening. Various turns were given, and prizes were presented by Mrs. Treseder. The winners were Sigmn Glynn, who gave us a fine exhibition of step dancing, and Sigmn Percival, who is generally known as the Byng Crosby of B Corps Signals.

A dance band formed recently under the direction of L/Sergt Frampton is making excellent progress, not only playing delightful music but keeping very fine time for the dancers. This band is made up by L/Sergt Frampton, L/Corporals Gill, Martin and Haslam, and Signalmen Young W., Hayes and McCann.

While on the subject of entertaining, our soccer team have been giving everybody a fine treat. They have had a stiff time training for the Murree Brewery football tournament, which starts this week. They have certainly improved a great deal, being at the moment very fit. We are expecting great things of them in the coming tourney.

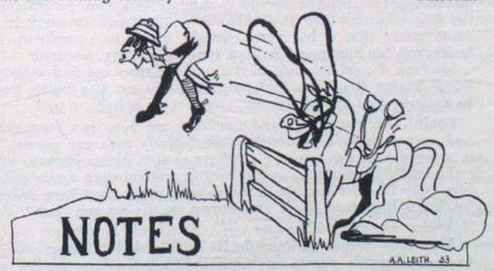
BEKORE.



Sergt Oakes receiving his L.S. and G.C. Medal.



Sergt (Spud) Murphy, after receiving his L.S. and G.C. Medal, needs a little light refreshment.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

July.

Many will be wondering by now what has become of us. Don't worry! Like Johnny Walker, we are still going strong. Although our notes have been conspicuous by their absence recently, nevertheless quite a lot of information has been stored up in readiness for this month's publication.

Dealing with sport, and taking polo first, we offer our congratulations to the Signals team who won the polo tournament at Abbottabad. Maybe we are a little behind in this matter, but better late than never. One member of the winning team, Lieut. G. S. Knox, was provided by the Troop.

Quite recently the unit has been "mixing it" in a snooker and billiards competition. Opposing pairs of names were drawn from a hat. Some of these pairs looked "certs" but, like Colombo, they finished a little way down the course. The matches were keenly fought out and we saw many fine games played, even though flukers came into their own at intervals. Very often a fluker is the "slip 'twixt cup and lip." The tournament concluded with a distribution of cups and monetary prizes to the successful entrants; and everybody agreed that the whole show had been a great success, was finely organised, and contributed in no small manner to the social welfare of the unit. All thanks are due to those who helped to carry it through so successfully. The following are the results of the competition.

Snooker (proper)—Winners, Sergeant Peters and Sigmn Jelly. Runners-up, Corpl Weeks and Sigmn Drew. Highest break, Corporal Weeks, 20.

Snooker (subsidiary)—Winners, Sergeant Longhurst and Sigmn Featherstone. Highest break, Sigmn Wilding, 14.

Billiards (proper)—Winners, L/Corporal Sutherland and Sigmn Jelly. Runners-up, Sergeant Longhurst and Sigmn Howard. Highest break, Sigmn Jelly (Snowball), 18.

Billiards (subsidiary)—Winners, Signalmen Bryan and Few; also highest break, 10.

Writing of hockey, so many games have been played that it is not possible to spare the time to deal with each in detail. Considering the small number of men we have to choose from, it is quite pleasing to know that the unit can hold its own with any team in the Garrison. Team work is greatly improving, and when this reaches a very high standard we shall have much better chances of winning some of the Garrison competitions. Umpiring plays an important part in this branch of sport, and L/Corpl Bale is to be congratulated on passing his recent test as an umpire.

Most people like a change of environment, and for this reason several outings have been held. The one to Landi Kotal and the Afghan border was perhaps the most interesting, even if only for the ride through the Khyber Pass. Other trips have been made to Peshawar and Jalala, the latter place being a favourite swimming haunt. Those entrants who passed the Brigade 100 yards swimming test should find no difficulty in swimming the Channel, even though it is not possible to touch the bottom with one's knees. At an early date it is proposed to run trips to Cherat and Kohat if circumstances are favourable.

In the desperate race for cup collecting, Sigmn Jelly leads with nearly a shelf full of them. He has so many, indeed, that he decided to have his photograph taken with them, but as is usual with such photographs (so far as the winner is concerned) something always seems to go wrong with the camera. The best remedy for this defect is to have the photo taken with the cups piled on top of one's head.

Promotion being so rare in the Signals at present, we should consider it a grave neglect not to mention the appointments to U/L/Corporal of Signalmen Hargreaves, Sutherland and Ferguson. May they soon be paid.

The normal training routine is being carried out, and an educational class of volunteers for the special and first class certificates of education is in full swing. Training for higher trade ratings has also been carried out. Signalmen Strong, Clark and James obtained higher ratings: the first mentioned as B.i. and the latter two as B.ii. in the capacity of operator signals. A further eight men are on an upgrading course at Upper Topa, and everybody wishes them success in their endeavours.

Communications by request are welcome at all times, and the following must terminate our contribution of notes for the present.

To Chi (Catterick): What about those cups from Olympia?
To 4th Divites: All good wishes from Sigmn Jelly. RISI.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

August.

The scribe has just returned from a wonderful spell of leave, and in order to keep us in the picture he has scraped around among the débris of the month (somewhat like a spare archæologist in the tomb of some very dead worthy—or maybe like an old hen scratching around a very dry mound for grain) in order to get some scraps for publication.

Somewhat cooler than last month, the weather has nevertheless been dry and uninteresting. Several, of course, were away dodging it on leave. The remainder stayed at home to bravely face the music—the love lyrics of the Frontier. These have been engaged in upgrading and trade tests, and congratulations should be meted out to L/Corpls Ditchfield, Talbot (who now has an E/F rating) and Signalmen Luckhurst, Moore, Robertson and Faulder. Pay up, Accounts! they deserve it.

Another pastime has been education. Our schoolie, Sergeant-Instructor Chinnery, with the patience of Job and the abundant knowledge of a wise old sage, has been rearing some doubtful candidates out of the mire of thirds. Consequently, there are now *no* thirds in the unit.

Yet another pastime has resulted in the wee paths which led from place to place being transformed into great white ways. This is a concrete fact, as many untimely blisters would prove.

Lieut. C. H. Barker has returned from a very brief spell in U.K., and Lieut. A. S. Milner from leave at Simla. Our C.O., Major B. G. Rowley, has proceeded home for a jaldee spot.

The tubby charger—almost a unit cenotaph—which once belonged to Lieut. C. H. Barker has gone to the Valhalla of aged warriors. Broad in the beam and wise in the head, this mount could do anything on manœuvres and win hop scotch competitions in barracks. His passing is mourned.

The wonderful variety (?) of vegetables, etc., issued with rations has been enough to make our blood boil, and Molly (who dishes 'em out) was covered with them—boils, I mean—in sympathy. He has in consequence taken his first spell of leave since 1929.

The unit offers congratulations to Lieut. W. B. Rowett as he takes a "lead" into double harness. Happy days, sir!

Sigmn Barden has decided to take his discharge and, together with the others on the boat list, is sweating on the top line—for the glorious 12th!

The usual hot weather pleasures in the shape of hockey, cricket and football have been going on. Football has shown some good scores for the unit. Seven outside fixtures were held and only two of those were lost. The other five were won with big scores. Considering the heat, that's grand.

L/Sergt Bryant, alias Kong, has taken a team of his students down to Rawalpindi to enter a competition. More about their prowess next month. The music of "Bryant and his bright Water Babies," to the tune of pleasant splashings and gurgles, is the copyright of this unit.

Until next month—and also to the many old soldiers who have recently tied the nuptial knot at home: Keep your face to the sun, and may your shadow never grow less.

WESTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

September.

Once again a boxing meeting at the Signals Stadium proved to be one of Karachi's most popular attractions. All the best of the Services and civilian boxers were engaged, but except between the actual contestants no issue was involved. The most astute of promoters could not have arranged better attractions than the fight between Corpl Mowbray (Royal Sussex Regiment) and L.A.C. Fairclough (R.A.F.) or that between Sergeant Stringer (Sind Police) and Private Wells (Royal Sussex Regiment). The Mowbray—Fairclough affair was worth going a long way to see.

R.S.M. Bayliss, in conjunction with the two experts Corporals Mills and Hutchison, gave a "black and white" demonstration, but I think the most appreciated event of the whole evening was the burlesque. Corporal Mills, as the fond though subsequently pugilistically-minded mother, was really funny. In this he was ably assisted by Corpl Hutchison and Sigmn Taylor. It may be mentioned that the R.S.M. and R.Q.M.S. Trapmore also gracefully accepted a right swing apiece in this show. Anyway, it was an evening well spent, and we are looking forward to another show which is being staged by the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Recent Humour.—First regular correspondent: "Now, look here. If I miss the English air mail, can I post by the French?"

Second R.C.: "I suppose so."

First R.C.: "Good! But I should want different stamps, shouldn't I? I suppose I should have to ask for 'Orient,' as that's the name of the French line. Anyway, I know the name of the English is 'Par Avion.'"

* * * *

At the Lido a member of one of the parties, who had taken a stroll, returned at speed. The rest then went off to have a look at the octopus, reputed to be equipped with fifteen "technicals."

* * * *

Speaking of the Lido reminds me that the matter of hush-hush parties has now been investigated. Principally owing to the fact that the course of true love never did run smoothly, these parties have ceased. Our special investigator also reports that he thinks the instigators only started them so that they might ride backwards and forwards as bus conductors.

Discoveries.—Section sports continue. It's something new to be able to complain about too much sport. In these games, of course, one of the objects is to discover talent. Although some has been found, our cricket hasn't exactly produced a potential Bradman. It has been responsible, however, for the discovery of a cricketer who, if he lacks Bradman's execution, loses nothing by comparison in the unorthodox.

Fielding near the boundary, he had to retrieve several balls that were hit a good distance beyond that mark, and eventually his captain told him to stay right out. Imagine the general surprise a little later when another ball hit in his direction was smartly stopped by him—fifty yards beyond the boundary! On another occasion, with an effort that acrobats would give pounds to emulate, he dismissed the opposition's star batsman.

It was in his side's darkest hour that he came closest to causing a verdict of justifiable homicide being passed on his long-suffering captain. He was batting, and he actually managed to hit the ball. True, it was a simple catch, but it encouraged him to follow up with his bat. This rather disconcerted the fieldsman waiting for the catch, and he dropped it. The ball had travelled perhaps two yards from the wicket; the bat went eight yards; but, to the unorthodox one, two feet in the crease was negligible without a bat, so he went to retrieve it. He just failed to get back—after three fumbles by the wicket-keeper. S.W.B.

Sergeants Mess.

Sport.—In the world of cricket we go from success to success. After thrashing the I.A.S.C. we aspired to tackle the Royal Sussex Mess. No one thought we had a chance, but again we brought the bacon home.

Of course, our high standard was not obtained without some measure of discipline—dropped catches qualified for carrying the bag. In this respect Goolie Brown has had to carry it so many times that it has been thought better to consolidate his faults and let him carry it from here to Blighty.

Mention should be made of the return fixture we had with the Royal Sussex Regiment. The result was a tie, the finish being so exciting that the caterer bit a tent rope in half.

Social.—Whist drives and tombolas are now run fortnightly and are proving a great success, particularly with our guests. It is strange how the cry of "Clickety-click" comes back to one.

The mah-jhong school is also very fit and showing a nice touch. Honorary Chinese degrees in this ancient game have been refused by Sergts Bradbury, Clark and Brown on the ground that "East is East" or something. . . .

Awards.—Sergeants Ratcliffe R. and Bartlett C. most unfairly caused a Brigade parade in being awarded the long service and good conduct medal. The Order promulgating the award read "with gratuity," but the whole of that has since been mortgaged.

W.H.C.

Corporals Mess.

The shadow has been lifted. Fear of one day entering the mess and finding it unfurnished no longer keeps the members awake at night. To mark the occasion of the final payment on the Chippendale, it was suggested that the president and secretary should be presented with a suitably inscribed teapoy apiece, but pride of holding office at such an historic moment was reward enough for them. All we have to do now is to realise on it and get something comfortable to sit on.

In the matter of entertainment we are very quiet—and rightly so, after the above achievement.

Gossip.—Pat Mills weighs 10 st. 2 lb., but he reckons that at a push he could get down to bantam.

Jock Hutchison celebrated the third month of possession of his present set of false teeth.

Corpl Hodge and L/Corpl Lister are making good progress in their Marathon billiards match. This started three months ago. Corpl Hodge is due for home establishment during 1935/36, and it's touch and go whether Lister will be able to make up his present deficit of twenty-three. In the event of a dead heat or an unfinished break, it is anticipated that Corpl Hodge will apply for another year out in India—rather sporting, don't you think? Throughout the sessions Lister has been exhibiting pretty cue-manship, but Hodge is uncanny in his efforts. He may not nominate an apparent losing hazard, but he doesn't surprise even himself by the unerring accuracy of his double off the red into the bottom sack. S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

No. 1 Company.

General.—It having been noticed by superior authority that the barrack rooms could easily be fitted as club rooms, a limit was decided upon and also that there should be a standardised pattern adopted. In consequence each of No. 1 Company barrack rooms is now equipped with a writing table, electric light stand, chair, and one table per two men. Room can even be found to sit during a kit inspection.

The Company has just completed that interesting period known as individual training. Success has crowned the efforts of the following, who hereinafter will be known (we hope, when confirmed) as operators signals B.ii.: Signalmen Bennett, Crookes, Cooks, Leyland, Ford, Yaxley, Coombes, Lapsley, Holland and Lambert. The last named is employed in the workshops trades.

Never own a dog! L/Corpl Malvern knows this maxim to his regret. His quadruped Pansy (or was it Cissie?) contracted a disease contrary to regulations and was promptly destroyed, and poor Bert is now undergoing a course of twenty needles.

Departures.—Sigmn Kidd is just shaking hands prior to his departure for Cherat. On a kit inspection day, too! Corporal Edwards is still here awaiting a boat in October (strong rumours of cancellation).

Arrivals.—Sigmn Sinclair has just put his kit on the office verandah in relief of Sigmn Kidd. Howdy!

Casualties.—Corpl Hatton is still in hospital suffering from enteric, and he looks like being "boarded." Corpl Dendy and family, we think, will also shortly depart for the U.K. on medical grounds.

Weapon Training.—Just come back from the ranges. I saw no "lancers" (liar!)

In passing, we have seen the winter programme (gosh!)

That's all, thanks. Curtailed notes regretted. Salaams.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

General.—During the month of August the Sergeants Mess families were very kindly invited by Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Phillips to tea and tennis at their home.

The families were divided into three parties—the first attending on the 1st of the month, the second on the 3rd, and the last party on the 28th. They were met on the lawn by Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Phillips and our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe.

The officers and the married families indulged in several games of good hard tennis, and during the intervals partook of refreshments in which ice cream played an important part. Several members of the Mess were heard to remark that prior to the conclusion of their Army life it would be a good idea to ask for a vocational course with a view to enlisting in Walls' Army: "Stop me and buy one." At any rate, there were several helpings of ice cream and no refusals, and with assorted cakes and assorted drinks in addition, the afternoon and evening were very much appreciated. Prior to leaving, the C.S.O.'s wife handed each married lady a bunch of grapes, and then we all rolled home in the unit bus.

All the married families take this opportunity of thanking Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Phillips for their kindness, and our commanding officer for supplying music on his wireless set, and altogether to indicate their appreciation of a very great afternoon.

Tennis.—The Mess team did very badly during the second half of the Harington cup tournament. It was rather disappointing, especially after doing so well in the first half. The West Yorks Regiment were the winners, the 1st Field Brigade R.A. second, and ourselves trailing third.

During the month we had return matches with the officers as well as the B.O.R.s of the unit, the result being a draw in each case (on sets).

More General.—Invitations to the dinner following the monthly Mess meeting were for the first time extended to the members' memsahibs. This resulted in a very enjoyable dinner and social evening, including that death-defying game in which remarks such as "Eyes down," "Look in" and "A jaldi five" seemed to be very much in evidence.

I must add this one. Heard at a unit dance (rupees and annas involved). Customer: "Four large tops and three lemons, please." Caterer: "That's—four sixes are twenty-four and three are twenty-seven—that's two-seven, please." Customer: "Get away! You can't catch me. It's only two-three."

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Saturday 8th September.

General.—Things have not been up to the normal standard of late. The mossies, which usually are very inoffensive here, have been putting in a little overtime, with the result that several of the Section have been in dock. The O.C., too, has had a nasty spell but is now recuperating at our summer camp at Chautair, and we all hope that the rest and change will put him on his feet again. Several other mysterious complaints have also drifted into the Section.

Entertainments.—Very little of late, owing to the Section being depleted and all the ladies of the cantonment being still away on holiday. Shortly, however, we hope to have them back with us again, and we anticipate signalling their return by having a bumper dance; and I can assure you that the lads intend to give it "rocko." During this lean period we have been cheerfully entertained with the reminiscences of our worthy sergeant, who wins the canteen cup hourly with such things as "When I was in Egypt" or (better still) "When I was in Crowborough," and so on. Despite this, he has had some stout talent to compete against, one story about a pig gaining a very high percentage of marks.

Sports.—No cricket matches have been played lately. We have been hanging on for a few tips from the Australians.

Several games of hockey have been played and won against the one and only other team in Loralai. The lads have got "cheesed," however, so we have decided to give it a rest.

Tennis seems to be the order of the day. Everyone is frightfully keen, and thanks to the kindness of the sergeants in permitting us to use their courts, some very enjoyable evenings are being spent. It beats me, though, where all those nice white slacks are coming from.

Departures.—The Wee McAra to Fort Sandeman. We understand that he had a "beery" good reception there.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Johnson from Fort Sandeman, via Chautair, after an attack of malaria.

Congratulations.—To Oozey Taylor on passing his B.ii. at Quetta.

Hair Raising.—With only a few weeks to go for October, the Irish element here is fervently applying all the renowned patents to promote the growth on a quickly thinning pate. Nothing is left to chance, and even the shears have been pressed into use. Cotton of Hindubagh fame will be interested to know that he doesn't stand alone in his nakedness—sorry! baldness. It is plain to see that there is going to be a bit of lady killing in ould Oireland shortly, if this particular "block" yields to treatment. After all, Paddy, why worry? the great Tatcho didn't go bald in a day.

Overheard.—Very thin sergeant: "Now then, my lad, use

your rifle with determination and effort ; so ; and after loading, always pull the safety catch back with the disengaged eye."

We Want to Know.—Who crept out of bed at 3 a.m. to open the canteen? Where does Geordie get those nasty canvas slacks from? Why did Dick Turpin come to the Zhob? R.J.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Thursday 30th August.

General.—Fort Sandeman is quiet—very quiet. An ominous stillness reigns over the W/T Detachment ; and I don't mean just between 14.00 hrs. and 16.00 hrs. daily, although it happens to be 15.30 just now and most of the lads are under the influence of Bister, the god of slumber who waves his magic wand over India after tiffin roz roz. No, this calm is permanent—at least, while it lasts (touch wood). I wonder what is the reason? Perhaps the absence of our malarial friend Fortes has something to do with it. Mr. Fortes, the most eloquent member of our club, on account of a slight attack of fever has recently taken up a temporary seat at Chautair. I wonder who he is cornering now? We hope the Chaut air suits him.

We are now in the middle of the malaria season, and everyone goes about dodging mosquitoes. Elaborate precautions are taken by all to avoid the dreaded scourge, and up to now the average of victims is not too high.

The weather has been somewhat unruly of late, and apart from spoiling a lot of evenings and washing away the roads and railway, it has thrown our swimming bath out of commission, the water being unfit to use. J.C.'s training has been interrupted and his waist line is again beginning to worry him. It doesn't worry him as much as his passage money, though: he will have to bring all his native instincts into play to raise that. At least, so it seems to all outward appearances, although Conductor Cook says he is rolling in money and is going home because he daren't bank it here in case he is found out.

Sport.—I would rather not mention sport this month, but I haven't much else to talk about. Our hockey team had one of their off days on the 12th and were severely beaten up by the British officers of the station. J.C. let four shots pass him into the net, but we don't blame him for that ; after all, there was rather a lot for just one goalkeeper to do. Our forwards were not shooting well. Perhaps, as it was the 12th August, they thought they were shooting grouse and not goals. The lads were much revived by shandies provided by the officers after the match. We have not been able to indulge in much sport this month, partly owing to the weather and partly through some of our men being laid up. I hope to have something better to report next time.

Casualties.—We were all sorry to hear that our O.C. had gone into hospital suffering from heat stroke. Every member of the Detachment wishes him a speedy recovery and hopes that he will soon be continuing the good work. Sergt Ward, our Detachment commander, has also had a spell in hospital with fever, but we expect him to be in action again at any minute.

Special.—Our special representative interviewed L/Cpl Smith J. C. in the wireless station the other day, and these are a few of the things he said. " Roll on, March ; let me get on that boat. I'm all of a shake, though, in case the O.C. asks me for my passage money this month. I can raise it all right by next month-end." " Won't it be grand? I'll get rid of this waist line." " I know I've got to come back, but that is looking too far ahead. I wonder if I will come back to the Zhob?" " I can do it, mate. You watch me."

Our S.C. also heard Jamieson nattering to himself: " I believe I've dodged it this year ; it will have to be slick to catch me now. I wonder why I'm shivering? I think I will just nip through and have a quick one. I'll bet the lads are wondering where that twelve gallons went to. I feel sure I'm getting thinner."

Obituary.—The parrot died from dental cruelty inflicted on it by Lugs.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Signalmen McAra and Scantlebury, who voluntarily left a nice comfortable station to come and rough it with us.

Departures.—We have lost Signalmen Johnson, Franks and Fortes. Gone to Chautair for a spell. It must be all about up there.

Greetings.—To George Gibson: Whoopee. BUXMITH.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Saturday 1st September.

I very much regret commencing these notes with the familiar excuses, regrets, etc., for the continuous absence of notes, but it is extremely difficult to compile anything of interest, especially when the entire Detachment is only four in number and the outlook on life consists of barbed wire and mountains.

However, to enable old Hindubaghites to survive the shock of my epistle to THE WIRE, I have decided to exclude the activities of the bold bad lads from Afghanistan and report " All's well on the barbed wire spaces of Hindubagh."

Inspections.—The Detachment was inspected last month by the officiating Area commander, Lieut.-Colonel Howard. It was rather a surprise inspection, but once again it was proved that Signals are ready for any emergency and glowing tributes were paid to the W/T Detachment.

Later in the month our O.C. visited us on inspection duty, but considering that we had spent a busy week in chasing elusive cobwebs, it was natural that everything should go off o.k.

Up to the time of writing, any further inspections have been out of the question. Heavy rainstorms and floods have continually washed away the roads and railway lines, and once more we are living in confinement.

Arrivals.—One wireless set, with the maker's guarantee that any child could tune it. After exhausting the Post Office stock of stamps and studying countless catalogues, our renowned fitter decided to spend three hundred rupees of his hard-earned pice on a wireless set. The set arrived six weeks ago, and I have the honour to report that it has proved a howling success—loud screeches, wails and groans can be heard issuing from the bungalow, but no music so far. However, patience is a virtue and I am getting down to strict training in the art of turning the gramophone handle. (The presence of such renowned wireless fiends as Paddy Byrne or Geordy Shields would be appreciated by tortured listeners.)

Sports.—A trial match was played on Wednesday between the Rajputs team and a scratch eleven, the idea being to test out the abilities of the first mentioned—rumours stating that they are certain of annexing the Baluchistan cup this year.

The Rajputs were at full strength, while the Undesirables had the services of three locals from the W/T Detachment—Corporal (Thelma) Todd and Sigmn Taylor making a hefty defence, while Sigmn Donnelly looked perfectly charming in a new pair of shorts complete with Corps colours. A party of Afghans camping outside the barbed wire turned up in full force, and a huge crowd was present at the bully off.

In exactly five seconds the Rajputs were one up, Corpl Todd lodging a complaint that he was not ready (objection overruled). A few seconds later the same fellow relieved a dangerous situation with a glorious drive (Abe Mitchell style) and in a mix-up of arms, legs and sweating bodies Taylor bundled ball and goalie into the net. Half time: Rajputs 1, Undesirables 1.

A keen battle was anticipated in the second half, but the Rajputs had not taken into consideration the Corps battle cry of " Certa Cito," nor the fact that the opposing centre forward was feeling annoyed at having his new shorts soiled. With a glorious dribble Taylor put across a grand centre and Donnelly, running so fast that no mother-in-law could possibly overtake him, avenged his soiled garments by putting the ball into the net at a terrific pace. Final score: Rajputs 1, Undesirables 2.

Such names as Dhyan Chand, Rup Singh and McCan have faded into nothing in comparison with those of the Todd, Taylor and Donnelly Sahibs which are discussed among the Rajputs, and the O.C. H.D.B. is quite jealous of the pukka salaams now being bestowed on the latter.

A game of push-halfpenny has been arranged with the local tribesmen. We are weakened by the absence of Fortes of Camberley fame, but will publish results in the next issue.

The operators have reached such a high standard of efficiency (ahem!) that our celebrated superintendent, Corpl (Thelma) Todd has discarded our famous motto, " Quiet efficiency? Operators, better be careful than sorry afterwards."

Agony.—To Meese and Lumber of Sariab fame: Whyfor to me you not write? You maketh me plenty weep. Sariabite.

To the Beasley and Beriff Sahibs: Salaams from Dharim Singh. What about the 400 empty beer bottles?

We would be grateful if our O.C. would return our tame snake which he borrowed on his last visit.

Departures.—Sigmn Taylor to Quetta in search of his B.ii., heavy storms preventing its being sent up here. It is now common knowledge that the Quetta instructors are walking around in a daze, and Marconi is swotting up in an effort to regain his lost laurels. Sixpence a day for four years will buy a Martin Henry, Busty.

More Departures.—In the near future (we hope). GEORDY.

W/T Section, Chautair.

Life still continues peacefully and the Section and married families are steadily improving their health, while the work (?) of Camp Commandant is being ably carried out by Corpl Cooper.

For a whole fortnight I devoted my valuable time to following him around and doing my poor best in an endeavour to find out the meaning of those ledgers, vouchers, etc., and the mutterings of " If one is entitled to ten ounces, therefore three will be entitled to . . . ." But we haven't enough fingers to check up so much, Frosty.

Another bright young person was busy trying to find out why Rodney Stone visited Chip Inge. Was it to get his name on the roll call of honour, Frankie? Well, that's not quite so exhausting as khud climbing. The Doctor Sahib now claims that he has conquered every khud around Chautair. Not being energetic enough to accompany him, I do not propose to dispute his word.

I do not intend to describe my own activities, as they were mainly " biscuit pressing "; but then, an invalid cannot be expected to do too much, can he?

Arrivals.—Sigmn Fortes to recuperate after contracting the old malaria bug. Our O.C. also decided to spend the last few days with us. He arrived looking rather green after his recent illness, but Chautair will soon alter that.

Departures.—Sigmn Johnson, back to duty in Loralai, after gaining ten pounds. He now looks as fit as the proverbial fiddle.

Sport.—Khud climbing for the energetic (sleeping for myself), making bows and arrows for the kids, and turning the rope for Joyce to skip. What a life!

George may perhaps explain how he was done for five chips at nap. But he says that was not sport. As I only got two out of that five, I agree that it was not fair play. Someone else got three. Perhaps Goodhand knows more about that than I do.

We were all sorry when the 31st August arrived and we had to strike camp, with the aid of a fatigue party from the Police, and return to Loralai. However, there was the consolation of a drop of Steel and Coulson's at the other end, and that was something to look forward to. By the way, George did manage to finish his barrel of Murree, but I think he was glad when the last drop was squeezed out of it.

On returning, I find that our old friend Paddy still says " Roll on!" but I leave that to the Loralai scribe—it is no affair of mine. So, until next year, these must be the last of the Chautair notes —thank goodness! VAT 69.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Saturday 1st September.

General.—Now that the monsoon period is drawing to a close, our thoughts are turning to Section schemes and training.

Since our return from Chakrata, our activities have been turned to the wholesale slaughter of the mosquito. Before the sun has chased away the early morning mist, parties armed with picks and shovels may be seen approaching the breeding grounds of the mosquito before that hated insect begins its daily round of wreaking vengeance on the British soldier in India.

A very strange story has been brought to light by the mosquito exterminators. One morning, very early, they were surprised to see approaching them out of the mist the ghostly forms of men and horses. Very strange did they appear with the mist wreathing phantastic shapes about them. As silently as they appeared did they vanish, and now every one wonders that No. 2 Company exercise party should rejoice in the nom-de-plume of the Dawn Patrol.

As our Indian ranks are at present on leave, stables form a large part of our daily routine ; but in spite of the horses and their daily wants, a lineman's course is in progress and a number of operators are hoping to be the possessors of L/M class iii. as an extra qualification.

As I mentioned at the beginning of these notes, we are now looking forward to collective training which this year is to be held in the vicinity of Delhi. Some of our Sections will be away with their Brigades before Christmas, but we will all join up at Delhi. The Delhi manœuvres are to be concluded with a ceremonial parade on a large scale, and our feelings at the present time regarding this parade are a trifle mixed. Like everything else, when it is over it will no doubt provide us with a subject for many humorous anecdotes.

Just Digging.—Noticing a party of men furiously digging holes, the n.c.o. i/c the malaria squad—which was suffering from a lack of members for digging—approached them. " What the devil are you doing?" he demanded. Came the cool reply: "Oh, this is the lineman's squad on digging practice." The i/c malaria squad is now in hospital!

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

Monday 10th September.

General.—All WIRE notes seem to start off with this heading, which is optimistically jotted down on scrap paper by aspiring scribes when their minds register an absolute blank. But it gives one a little confidence, as it convinces one that he has really started the monthly task in the approved manner.

Sectionites are still grinning in spite of the rather monotonous hot weather routine common to all Plain stations. The only change of any description is marked by the appearance of hedge shoots which have been planted round the Section bungalow area, and if the bullocks don't eat them Sergeant Lynham will soon be wanting hedge clippers besides a watering can—already wangled.

Scraps from Conversations.—All certified as Gospel truth.

(1) " You don't mastify your food properly."
(2) " The hero rescued the heroess."
(3) " Don't say ' On the jew '; say ' Ecommonize.' "
(4) " Poor fellow! he has ulsters in his stomach."
(5) " They arrive simultatiously."
(6) " He said ' I passed my diplocy whilst at school.' "

Mass Slaughter.—The annual wild pigeon shoot in barracks was held early in the month. Pigeons are still plentiful, needless to say, partly—or possibly—because Banger (Corpl King, the wild bird protectionist) only shot one with 25 rounds of fours. Even this solitary bird was never seen by any reliable witness, but Banger swears it stuck on the Schoolie's roof after he had hit it. Never mind, Banger. The O.C.'s pie was just as good without it, so bear up.

Wanted.—No. 23188?? Sigmn Bennett W. (Bournemouth) to write to Ginger Bentley, who will be here till his boat goes.

HEAP.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Wednesday 22nd August.

General.—In a paper which I picked up a few days ago, some statistician—basing his calculations on the estimated number of words in the language and their permutations and combinations —stated that the number of sentences it is possible to write in English is definitely limited. He said also that to write down this number in ordinary numerals, a sheet of paper several miles long would be required. Judging by the lack of WIRE notes in this unit, we are (metaphorically speaking) perilously near to the end of that strip of paper. One could, of course, start all over again ; but think of all those miles to be travelled before one returned to the first sentence—only to find, I presume: " Do you fancy a piece of apple?" By the way, in spite of its antiquity, this seems to be far more original than the last sentence I heard: " Reprimanded." But enough of this sense. Let's have some nonsense.

During the last month the Army commander, Eastern Command, expressed a desire to see our remounts. Why he should want to see *them* when Mae West was appearing at the local

cinema. I can't for the life of me say. Anyhow, he did, and he appeared to be quite satisfied with their training and appearance.

With the approach of the October examination and the prophecy of a drainage of n.c.o.s in 1940, there is feverish activity in the world of education. When men are to be seen in their own time, with exercise books open in front of them and ravenously chewing the ends of pencils, it is a fairly sure sign that the old grey matter is being disturbed—for one can't blame the messing n.c.o. for everything. Still, here is a suggestion for him. It would stimulate the appetite, and be original, if he could turn out a pencil rissole. Then, in the event of a complaint, the complainant could march in with exhibit "A" over his ear, and not (as recently occurred in this unit) with extended hand like an apprentice Nippy girl.

Rungs.—Congratulations to Corporal Hunt J. and L/Corporal Wilson G. on attaining those ranks. What about a new edition of the blue book?—that's nearly ten amendments this year, and it is only August.

Courses.—Signalmen Tift H. and Griffiths A. R. have passed upgrading courses to O/S ii. and D.R.ii. respectively.

Curtain.—As Omar would say:

" Some little talk awhile of thou and me,
And then no more of thou and me."

NON NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Friday 17th August.

General.—Having returned from my tour in the North, I again take over the mantle of office and endeavour to place on record something of interest to all.

Life is very much the same. Days and nights pass, as is usual. Men may come and men may go, but duties go on for ever.

The only outstanding event this month was the visit to the Garrison of His Excellency Field-Marshal Sir Philip W. Chetwode, Bart., G.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief in India. An account of his visit to this unit has been taken from the local paper—a flattering one, it may seem, and further comments are not needed.

Training continues steadily, and as is usual to say when writing about trade tests, we hope all candidates will be successful. Unfortunately, many go in dock these days. Cholera being very prevalent, many precautions are being taken to prevent it spreading. However, by the time these notes are in print, all invalids will be up to scratch once more.

EXTRACT FROM " THE HYDERABAD BULLETIN."—" Today's programme of H.E. Sir Philip Chetwode's visit to 4th Indian Divisional Signals. This morning, in rather muggy weather, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief inspected the 4th Indian Divisional Signals and the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop under the command of Captain S. J. Fielder. Though only a few in number, these men are indispensable to the Army, providing the vital means of communication within the 4th Indian Division and the 4th Cavalry Brigade.

" The signallers marched on the ground and took up their positions like soldiers born. They had no band to herald their arrival, but the mellow notes of a trumpet which broke through the stillness of the morning lent quite a distinctive grandeur to the proceedings. It was an inspection which will be remembered for a long while, and the harmony displayed by both Indian and European men in the ranks was all that could be desired.

" His Excellency arrived as usual in the staff car, and on his arrival at the saluting base he received the General Salute amidst impressive silence. He then inspected the signallers and was more than pleased with their smartness and general get-up.

" His Excellency presented a long service and good conduct medal to Sergt W. Peerless, R.Signals. Then the units marched past the saluting base, where the Commander-in-Chief acknowledged the men as they gave him all due respects.

" After this, the Commander-in-Chief inspected all officers and spoke a few words to each of them, congratulating them on the efficiency of the unit."

Undetected Crime.—We congratulate Sergts Peerless W. and Penfold A. and Corpl Eisele S. P., M.M., on getting the L.S. and G.C. medal with more pice to swell the exchequer.

In Much Lighter Vein.—KOOKERY KOLUM. By the kurtesy of the Beeton Broadkasting Kompany we have sekured this exklusive interview with Lady Bakem-Hardasbriks, who below will place her kulinary skill at our disposal and tell us how to prepare one of our olde fashioned Englishe dishes.

PATTY DE FOY GRASS.—This, as all you ex-publik skoolboys know, is the aristokrat of aristokratic dishes. The kook-orderly should warn everyone beforehand when he intends to serve this dish, so that one and all may arrange to be detained weeding a kricket pitch—or something. The first thing to get hold of is the grass. The foy is entirely negligible, especially for humanitarians. As for the patty (English paste), this kan be obtained from the Q.M. once per annum when the lokal shoot is being held (applikations to be submitted before p.m. Easter). Anything green may be used as stuffing. If a billiard table is used, kare should be taken to remove the balls and pyramid spot, as these are liable to kause inflammation of the tum. Patty de foy grass should be ready to serve a quarter of an hour before the first gong for dinner. This gives plenty of time for the stuff to be chucked into the dustbin and bread and cheese served in lieu.

In konkluding this first recipe, may I, in a personal message to young kook-orderlies, express my sympathy with the poor boys who have to eat their grub. As regards meals, a little knowledge of psykology will greatly facilitate in what Einstein calls the " accumulative quantum reciprokal." For instance, it is a well known fact, as my friend Kenneth Gee Gee would say, that kaviar should never be served when there is a " Q" in the month or when it is twilight on Missouri ; and never, never, never lob up spotted dog when it is spring time in the Rockies or night time in old Buenos de Janeiro. Heaven help you, one and all!

ERMINTRUDE BAKEM-HARDASBRICKS.—Jock (o' the Signals) has gone into partnership with several of the clan MacSwitzelheimer, and here are a few of their attractive offers to the general public.

We press suits—after removing all soup stains. This, by the way, is a free service to all females with beards over three feet long.

We fill fountain pens free of charge, but draw the line at authors and persons who write to the papers—and Hannen Swaffer and Uncle Nat.

We fill lighters.—Another free service that brings us hordes of MacSassenachs.

Hairdressing—Twelve snappy little cubicles and ditto assistants.

We repair stockings—A service that covers a multitude of shins.

We store furniture for ten days or ten years—it depends which term you are doing.

We do sports repairs from broken G. clubs to knackered ludo sets.

We book seats for concerts.—May we sew you to a sheet? (sorry!)

We attend to weddings and funerals, and weep with you in either case.

We would also like to start a fund for supplying farriers (one of 'em) with cigarettes, but the question is " Is it done?" and the answer is " No!"

Answers to Correspondents.—King's Bounty: Keep the one the least like father ; it's safer. Yes, drowning is still the best method for the others.

Mother of Nine: Yes, it's the little things that are apt to wreck marriages, especially if the little (use your imagination) won't go to sleep.

Lovesick Farrier (the eighth wonder of the world): No! there is a big difference between the licences—the dog's has to be renewed.

Toast.—Here's to the girl who is young but not too young, for the good die young—and who wants a dead one? Here's to the girl who is old but not too old, for the old dye too—and who wants a dyed one?

Famous Last Words (inspired by one K.G.)—" That's okay, *I'll* take the can back." " Are *you* on church to-morrow?" " I've got to get up—you've got to get up." " Well, what of it?" " Hullo! are you out of dock? I was coming to see you." " I'm deaf ; I can't hear you." " I don't know. You had better

ask so-and-so " (who in turn asks so-and-so—this is alleged to be the usual channels).

To-day's Great Thought.—Many a true word is spoken through false teeth.

Conclusion.—And about time, too! Be with you again next month. S.V.M.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Saturday 11th August.

Introductory.—As our regular scribe, Sigmn Hennell, is at present unfortunately in hospital, somebody else has to do the necessary this month ; and as I seem to be pretty well up in the J.S. class of our little Army, it has fallen to me to be that somebody—so here goes.

General.—To begin with, we all wish Hank a speedy recovery and discharge from hospital. Razor Blade, we know, will also be glad to have his jockey back again.

Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy has returned from what we sincerely hope was an enjoyable leave, and we are very pleased to have him with us again.

The weather continues to be wet. The general opinion is that this is caused by the monsoons, so I suppose it must be so. I am, however, open to contradiction on this point if anyone cares to put forward other suggestions.

The two handy hunter competitions—one for junior n.c.o.s and the other for gunners and signalmen—mentioned by our correspondent in last month's WIRE, took place on the 14th and 21st July respectively, in spite of the aforementioned wetness, and we are quite satisfied with the results.

In the junior n.c.o.s event, Corpl Peake entered Franky (39) and L/Corpl Howard put in Fanny (16) and the famous Bess (33). These three horses finished in the first six, the total number of competitors being about sixty. L/Corpl Howard took second place on Fanny (after a run off with a member of Headquarters) and fifth place on Bess. Corpl Peake on Franky was sixth with a splendid round, considering that this horse has the proverbial iron mouth and a race horse's instinct to get going which has to be well controlled in a race of this description.

In the gunners and signalmen's event we had four competitors, and here again we did very well. Sigmn Packham took first place on Fanny (16) and Sigmn Hennell with his notorious Razor Blade (30) filled the fourth place.

On the following Saturday the Brigade held an open competition, and Sigmn Packham on Fanny (who once more showed her paces) was second after an exciting run off for first place with Lieut. Irvine, R.A.

And so, gentle reader, our hopes expressed last month were fully realised. Gripper to note this.

Extension of Service.—No. 2318421 L/Corporal Howard has once more signed on the dotted line—this time to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Conclusion.—With the exception of the sports results, I can think of no more news of interest at present, and so with a thankful sigh of relief I will close down until next month, by which time I hope our usual reporter will be fit again.

THE DEPUTY.

Egypt Signals, Cairo

Sergeants Mess.

Have you ever seen a "perfect lady" walk up to the bar in a Sergeants Mess and order a pint of beer? It happened in our Mess, and any normal member would ask himself the question " Am I all right?" On this occasion the answer would be in the affirmative, because it was a ἄσδοι λαμπ night, when members dressed themselves in the attire of the opposite sex and members' wives vice versa. Sergt Norcross won first prize with his costume of " the Blushing Bride," Mrs. Kendall was second as the " Bisto Kid," and C.Q.M.S. Kendall was awarded a special as " Spring." A feature of this very successful evening was the rendering by " Fatma " Stevenson of " The Green Eye," which trickled copiously—the tears ; not the eye.

The Corporals have again been at it, the indoor games tourney this time being won by two pints (points, surely!) and a marker. An impromptu concert followed, and " Dublin's Fair City " as rendered by the R.S.M. must have many attractions even if we travel on " The Wagon Wheels " of L/Corporal Barron, whose singing was much appreciated. The hidden capabilities of Sergt McLoughlin were disclosed on this occasion, and his drums and piano will, we hope, delight us at many future concerts.

A miniature golf course is about to be commenced, and handicaps on this will be announced later.

" There is nothing further to report "—an old phrase, that, of years ago—except to say that R.Q.M.S. Smart and Sergeant Crockford were presented with the L.S. and G.C. medal at a Garrison church parade recently.

Junior N.C.O.s Mess.

Thursday 6th September.

Introduction.—Having been the Mess WIRE correspondent for about three months, the law of averages comes into play—hence these notes.

First and foremost, I must write a few lines on the main topic of interest at the time of going to press: repatriation. Judging from the conversation of some of the lucky ones, there still seems to be plenty of " fiver-a-week " jobs waiting for people with Signal experience (Tubby Chadwick now insists upon being called Mr.—not that he is standoffish ; just getting in a little practice). It is also surprising, the number of time-ex people who have taken up hockey (I didn't think references were so essential).

Society Notes.—An extract from " The Sphere ": " We have pleasure in announcing the forthcoming marriage of a lance-corporal farrier in the Royal Corps of Signals." The happy event is being keenly looked forward to by his brother members. Shoey informs me that his open invitation to " pop up and see me some time " still holds good.

Courses.—L/Corpl Harris has returned from Alexandria after having a fortnight's holiday on a gas course. He can now be seen sniffing the air with a look of disapproval, shaking his head, and saying " Bad!"

L/Corpls Trout and Brelsford are now back in the fold after a P.T. course at Alex. They both go around telling everybody what a good course it is, but fortunately nobody has fallen yet. Although L/Corpl Hillar is now at Alex. on the same course, we must in fairness to him state that he was detailed.

Comings, Goings and Doings.—Corpl Gibbs and L/Corporal Kenneally came in from out-stations for the Command swimming, and although we didn't win, I am sure that Daphne took back happy memories of the fair sex.

Who was the cad who, when told he was receiving reversed signals, turned his sounder upside down? Cum, cum, behave!

Scotsman's Corner.—To Kipper and Bot, Aldershot: What about a line? Those snaps were very good. Dick. (Thank Mac for his letter.)

Tailpiece.—My share of Andy's duck. HON.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Wellington Front, 7th September.

During the month we have said goodbye to Sigmn Gunner, who returned to the U.K. upon the recommendation of a Medical Board for a change to U.K. We hope that he will soon be fit again and back to duty. Judging by his figure, the rest he had in hospital here was beneficial.

We are looking forward to the arrival of two linemen in the near future. This will bring our establishment back to normal again, and then we can settle down to the normal trooping season reliefs.

The " Levant " has been a frequent visitor to the Rock during the past month, and we have come to the conclusion that August is not one of the best months to stay in Gibraltar. Several of the men have paid visits to Ceuta, Malaga and Tangier, but unfortunately, as these were only day trips, the beneficial results from a change of air were hardly felt.



Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1

Annual Training.—Once again we have been privileged to carry out our annual training at Manston Aerodrome. We are very grateful to those who are responsib.e for securing this excellent training centre for us, and we appreciate the many facilities which are available. Group Captain E. R. Manning, D.S.O., M.C. (Royal Air Force) who is in charge of the station, made us very welcome, and we thank him for all his help and hospitality.

We arrived in a rainstorm about 3.30 p.m. on Sunday 12th August, and in a very short time lorries and coaches were unloaded, cars garaged, and officers and men comfortably installed in their quarters.

Our camp at Manston gives an opportunity for outdoor training in normal signal work, as distinct from our specialised work which is associated with the Air Defence Brigades. This year the signal scheme was based on Divisional signal training as far as our personnel and equipment would permit. Our commanding officer explained the narrative to us in some detail, in order that we should be familiar with the object of the scheme. Instruction in general airline construction and lectures on signal office procedure were followed with much appreciation and interest, and understanding came to many when the theory was put into practice. Our n.c.o.s and men were given practice in all branches of the scheme, and the work was attacked with enthusiasm by all ranks. Our recruits, many of whom were swinging hammers and straining wires for the first time, revealed themselves as willing and adaptable workers.

We manned a Divisional Headquarters signal office, two Brigade and four Battalion offices, two of the latter having visual links with the Brigades. With commendable foresight, the designer of the scheme arranged for us to advance on the village of Acol, where there is quite an excellent lunch time rendezvous. The Brigade offices moved according to a pre-arranged plan of "advanced centres," and corresponding changes were made in the location of the Battalion offices. A considerable volume of traffic was dealt with throughout the scheme.

A special feature was introduced in the form of co-operation with the Royal Air Force, a wireless tender being in position at the Divisional signal office, while dropping and picking up stations were established on the aerodrome.

We were honoured with visits by a number of distinguished officers. Major-General H. F. Salt, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., came on a visit of inspection with Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., and gave us much encouragement. We were also inspected by our two Brigade commanders, Colonel A. A. S. Younger, D.S.O., and Colonel C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O. Our late commanding officer, Colonel H. Carter, T.D., came to see us in the second week. Major H. C. Carey Thomas, Chief Signal Officer at Uxbridge, gave us an interesting lecture on the Air Defence organisation and was good enough to judge our airline competition.

As regards competitions and sports, the 27th Company were victors in the airline competition and the 26th Company won the cricket match, while Nos. 1 and 5 Sections shared the honours in the tabloid sports. The drill competition was won by No. 3 Section. The annual sports were held on Friday 24th August, and were much enlivened by excellent music provided by the band of the station. The unit sports cup was won by the 27th Company. At the conclusion, the prizes were distributed by Mrs. G. C. Wickins.

As in past years, Margate and Ramsgate proved happy pleasure grounds, and the weather being fine practically every day, the fortnight passed all too quickly.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—After a suitable interval following the return from annual training, the various drill halls are being again populated. The month of August is usually a stand-off time, but even so, there always seems to be a fair number of members who do not want to stand off. This is a good sign and is worth encouraging.

The period between annual training and the 1st November is normally quiet, and gives an opportunity to those who were unable to complete their musketry course prior to camp. The various Company stores are also hives of industry at this time of the year.

Details of the unit's sports and trophy winners, which were unavoidably held over, appear in the Sports section of this issue.

MERCURY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company and No. 224 F.A.S. Section

We apologise for our brief paragraph of last month and endeavour to make amends this time. Our unit editor nobly stepped into the breach last month and gave all the necessary information.

Camp is past, and from this Company's point of view I think it was successful. It is pleasing to note the steady improvement year by year, and it is hoped that we shall go from strength to strength as time goes on.

This time of the year is always a dull period, and I must make this my excuse if my notes are not quite up to standard.

We were pleased to be able to pull off the football shield for the second year, but we must not forget to congratulate the other Companies who made us fight all the way for it—it being only goal average that decided the issue.

The training at camp was run on excellent lines, and the night march was the spotlight of the whole camp. The Sections all reached their objectives, although it was the first time that the unit had attempted a mechanised night march. Anyhow, we all arrived safely back in camp.

As these will be the last notes compiled by the present scribe, who is leaving the unit, he takes this opportunity of wishing the unit and the Company every success in the future. He hopes to have future meetings, whenever possible, with the many friends he has made during his five years with the unit.

Au revoir.

PIP.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

We are sorry we missed sending in notes last month, but experience has proved the writer to be in a state of coma for at least a week following annual camp, and this year has not been an exception—but for different reasons than usual! However, camp always seems somewhat different in retrospect, and perhaps these notes will be the better for the delay.

From the point of view of training, we worked very hard and reached a high standard of efficiency. This Company retained the Moore efficiency cup—but, we imagine, by a very small margin indeed.

We lost the football shield by goal average only. Rather tough luck, that! Sergt Grey, Corpl Marshal and L/Corpl Ford are worthy of special mention in a team of real triers. Better shooting next year, please.

We share the sports trophy with Nos. 1 and 2 Companies—an extraordinary result. For this we are chiefly indebted to the enthusiasm of Corpl Youlden, and the magnificent pulling of the tug-of-war team, who defeated the hitherto unbeaten No. 1 after

a tremendous struggle. Sergt Stone, the anchor man, was the inspiration of our side.

The first boxing trophy (the Varwell cup) was easily won by this Company. We had more entries, however, than the rest of the unit put together. Boxing is becoming increasingly popular, and we hope that, as a result of this competition, we shall be able to put a stronger unit team in the next Divisional championships.

Rifle shooting, like shooting at goal, does not seem to be our strong point. Better lighting and increased opportunities should provide better results during the winter. The C.S.M. will, no doubt, see to that.

The social side of camp life was, as usual, well developed but somewhat saddened by the thought of departures. We missed the officers v. sergeants cricket match this year. It should not be omitted next time.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals and Attached Sections.

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

Here we are again, full of regrets that annual training at camp is over until 1935. The camp, which was the most comprehensive in the history of the unit—embracing, as it did, No. 2 Company and all the attached Artillery Signal Sections and Nos. 11 and 15 Air Squadron Signal Sections—was without doubt the best yet. We were in camp with the 131st Brigade at Arundel Park from the 29th July to the 12th August.

The park is an ideal camping ground, the rolling and wooded country providing an ideal background for Arundel Castle. It was a delight to rise at reveille and enjoy the view. The weather was kind to a point, despite the drought. Several heavy downpours were experienced, but owing to the nature of the ground, whereby the rain soaked away as quickly as it fell, no inconvenience was experienced.

The percentage of attendance was unusually high, and everyone worked with a will to carry out the prearranged programme issued in book form to the last dot. The programme is a fine idea. Here's luck to the instigator, for never was there a camp with so much work done with so little fuss and bother.

As usual, a school for junior operators and recruits was formed, and much progress was made under the watchful eye of the schoolmaster, Captain Hoare.

The first few days were spent in settling down and preparing for No. 1 scheme, which was carried out on Thursday and Friday of the first week. The unit was inspected by the C.S.O. (Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.) and the D.C.S.O. (Colonel A. S. Angwin, D.S.O, M.C., T.D.) during the scheme, and we are pleased to record that they both commented on the all round improvement they had observed since Crowlink Camp.

The unit marched to the Brigade church parade on the Sunday morning. This was held on the Brigade parade ground. The unit band was a great success, and we would inform all old friends that it is now of the drum and fife vintage.

Bank Holiday Monday was given over to sports and to the old comrades reunion. The weather was excellent in the afternoon, the attendance of old friends was high—ask the Sergeants Mess caterer—and the sports went with a zip. Altogether a wonderful day, and it was a real pleasure to chat over old times with the past members of the unit.

The inter-Company sports trophy was won by No. 2 Company, who beat No. 1 by the narrow margin of one point, the scores being No. 2 Company 19 points, No. 1 Company 18, and No. 3 Company 9. It was not possible to carry out the cable competition on sports day, but the cup was subsequently won by No. 2 Detachment. The sergeants' trophy was captured by No. 1 Company with the assistance of the Supplementary Reserve Section. The efficiency trophy, awarded this year for the best attendance at camp, was won by A Section with a percentage of 99. This was an excellent performance, and we offer our congratulations to all members of the Section.

The absence of the unit clown was fully compensated for by the personal appearance of Gandhi, complete with goat and disciple, and by the breaking of the tug-of-war rope in the first pull between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies.

Tuesday saw a return to hard work and preparation for No. 2 scheme, held on the Thursday and Friday of the second week. The scheme was very successful—a natural outcome, of course, of the work carried out by all ranks during the 1933-34 training season at Stamford Brook.

During the second week the unit was honoured by the visit of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Sir Archibald A. Montgomery-Massingberd, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C.

On Saturday all hands got down to the job of packing up the equipment. This work was completed early, and all ranks were thus able to proceed to the town to purchase rock and other peace offerings to take home. Sunday morning saw the unit entrain at Arundel, and another camp had come and gone.

During camp, bathing parades were very popular—trips being organised to the nearby seaside resorts. The unit cricket team played several matches against other units in the Brigade and won all of them, largely through the efforts of Brevet-Major Read and Captain Lewis-Barclay. Unfortunately, space does not permit of our recording the scores.

A word on mechanisation. The new mechanised wagons were tested thoroughly and proved a great success. B Section, however, still congregate in lonely places—for preference, a churchyard—to mourn for their old friends the long-faced chums, and to curse with a threefold curse the man who invented the internal combustion engine. The performance of the A and C sets, which were mounted in cars and lorries respectively, was all that could be desired.

All members of the unit were pleased to welcome to camp their old Regular friends Captain Darling and Sergeants Lewis, Honey, Nother, Walton and Tanner; and we offer them our hearty thanks for the unstinting help which they gave to all and sundry. We hope that they enjoyed their stay with us as much as we did their company.

Things We Must Know.—As the size of a very necessary article of domestic stationery has already been reduced to the minimum of practical limit, owing to the economy cut, was it necessary to attach the said stationery to a certain upright post with a six inch nail plumb through the centre?

Did the C.S.M. get a drink from the paying officer for the second week?

How many "dears" could a deer-tick stick if a deer-tick *could* stick "dears"?

Whether the old soldier really believed they were deer-ticks and spoke darkly of dirty work with a lighted candle?

Did the Company commander enjoy the ride in the Ford?

Who sings hymns to the schoolmaster nowadays?

Whether the overhead route has been repaired?

Was it necessary to hide the Band during the service?

Administration.—Was it a pity that the keeper interfered before the swill contract was completed?

Is it true that a certain officer lost his dress spurs, and that one was found in Brighton and the other in the sergeants mess?

Did the boys enjoy their Sherries?

Agony.—If the comedians who disconnected the cable in the early hours of Friday 10th August will apply to the O.C. B Section at these headquarters, they will hear something to their (dis)advantage.

NOTBYWIT.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6

General.—We did not have sufficient time after the termination of our annual training at Cockwatch Camp, Colchester, to forward WIRE notes for last month's issue.

Camp appears to be the chief topic on which we can write, as our headquarters are closed until the first Monday in October. Apropos the 1933 camp, we remarked that it was one of the best we had had since the war; but we think everyone will agree with us when we go further this time and say that not only was this year's camp better than the last, but that it was a happier one as well. We do not mean to infer that last year's was a miserable one, but a far happier spirit seemed to prevail throughout the whole camp both on and off duty this time.

We had a larger advance party than usual, and they were certainly needed! The ground was just about one degree softer than set concrete, and even mauls and sledge hammers seemed quite puny against the resistance of the rock-like surface of the field. However, when the main body marched in on Sunday 29th July, the whole camp was standing complete and definitely ready for immediate occupation.

We were very pleased to have attached to us from the 1st Divl Signals Sergt Jessop T., L/Sergts Chalmers R. and Freeman R., Corpls Eldred F., Martin W. and Couperthwaite W., L/Corpls Reed G., Steele J., Hamilton A. and Sweet B., and Signalmen Webb T. S. and McManus F. We believe they enjoyed themselves among their Terrier comrades, and we take this opportunity of thanking them for all the hard work put in by them on our behalf. It is certain that our unit benefited considerably by their help. We were sorry that L/Corpl Emblem was prevented from coming with them.

The first week was spent chiefly in Sectional training under Company arrangements. There was some ideal training ground not far from our camp, and almost every day during the whole training period saw every Section out there doing their stuff.

During the second week some very instructive and interesting—not to mention enjoyable—inter-Company schemes were carried out, and when one considers that each Section had a number of partly trained recruits posted to it just before camp, the work done was excellent.

On the 6th August we carried out a very instructive (and, we believe, novel) scheme devised by Captain W. H. Lloyd, M.C. (second-in-command in the absence of Major C. L. H. Humphreys, who is temporarily " somewhere in Africa "). Not far from camp was a very large flat field, about 700 yards square, and in this a complete Divisional signal scheme from Div. H.Q. to Battery and Battalion was laid out in miniature and normal work carried on. It was possible to stand at Div. H.Q. and see the whole system spread out before one, like a huge sand table. The system was explained to all ranks, and especially the recently joined members, who were conducted from station to station.

The next day—the 7th—a similar scheme was carried out under normal conditions in wooded country, with the stations a fair distance away from each other. Owing to the previous day's scheme, however, those who previously were not sure of a general Divisional signal lay-out were able to tell nearly enough where certain stations were located. During the day the Chief of the Imperial General Staff (General Sir Archibald A. Montgomery-Massingberd, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C.) visited the unit and with his staff officer and the G.O.C. 47th Division (Major-General R. D. F. Oldman, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) saw various Sections at work in the field. It is understood that he was well pleased with what he saw.



(Left to right)
Lieut.-Colonel H. Ll. Howard, M.C., commanding 47th Divisional Signals T.A.
General Sir Archibald A. Montgomery-Massingberd, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C., Chief of the Imperial General Staff.
Captain W. H. Lloyd, M.C., O.C. No. 2 Company.
The Staff Officer accompanying the C.I.G.S.
Major-General R. D. F. Oldman, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 47th Division.

On the 8th we were inspected by Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (Deputy Chief Signal Officer) and Major R. H. R. Neale (Chief Signal Officer, London District). We had a real field day, and a rather elaborate signal scheme was in progress when they visited us. They expressed much satisfaction with the work done, and we were afterwards congratulated by our commanding officer on our performance. You must excuse us for this back patting and trumpet blowing, but—well, why not? It is said that a little sympathy goes a long way, and, believe us, so does a little praise.

On Sunday 5th August we attended the Brigade church parade and enjoyed a very interesting and outspoken sermon. Strange to say, the hymns chosen were for once in a way known by most of us. The collection, which was in aid of the Children's Country Fresh Air Fund, amounted to £12/3/6. We sincerely hope that several kiddies benefited from our donation and had a good time.

Monday the 6th was considered a holiday after 12.00 hours. A cricket match between members of the unit and a team from Messrs. Moss Bros., military tailors, was played on the ground of the 4th Divl Signals. Moss Bros. won by a small margin, the scores being 137—128. It was a very enjoyable and at times an excitable game. Our W.O.s and Sergeants Mess afterwards entertained both teams and Moss Bros.' large party of friends to tea, and a very jolly evening was spent. We thank the 4th Divl Signals for so kindly letting us play on their excellent ground.

Instead of holding our annual cable competition on Wimbledon Common in the winter, as has been our practice in the past, we held it on Friday the 10th in a large field close to our camp. There were six teams competing: B.1 and B.2 Cable and E, F, G and M.A.B. Telephone Sections. The course was about 300 yards shorter than we have been used to, but the 600 odd yards this time was quite far enough, and those looking on were able to see the whole show from start to finish. Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., commanding the 4th Divl Signals, kindly consented to act as judge.

F Section were the winners, with M.A.B. and B.2 second and third respectively. We congratulate F Section on winning for the first time. M.A.B. had some very hard luck at the start. Their driver was so keen to help his Section that he started off before they had completed their commencing terminal. Consequently, the unattended drum unwound at a terrific rate. Before the lorry was eventually stopped, the wagon was partly shrouded in a veil of D.iii. cable, which necessitated cutting the whole bundle away and starting on another drum. Even so, they did remarkably well in getting second place.

We cannot let this occasion pass without special reference to B.2. This Section is comprised of recruits who had received only one week's training on a cable wagon. When we say that Corpl Martin of the 1st Divl Signals was their instructor, we have without doubt said enough; and we congratulate both the instructor and the Section—the instructor on the hard and enthusiastic work put in by him in training these youngsters so thoroughly and efficiently, and the Section on the way in which they responded to his instruction. Many thanks, Corporal Martin, and good luck to B.2.

M.A.B. Section won the prize for the best turn out, and F Section secured second place.

On most mornings during camp a large party was transported to the 4th Divl Signals for equitation. Judging from the keenness of the budding Gordon Richards and the time of the parade (6.15, drill order) we imagine they had some enjoyable times with the long faced. . . .

We had good weather throughout the whole fortnight, but when Sunday 12th August arrived, rain came with it—and it did rain, too! We ploughed our way through it almost the whole way to London. At last Fulham House was reached, and after unloading and packing away our stores, the unit faded away until Monday 1st October, when the indoor training recommences.

Obituary.—It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Captain W. A. Rhind, 46th (N.M.) Divisional Royal Engineers, T.A., who was formerly an officer of this unit. A wreath was sent for the funeral on behalf of all ranks of this unit and affiliated Supplementary Reserve Sections.

Social.—The unit dances will commence on the 20th October, and it is hoped that we shall see a good gathering of our own members as well as friends. EFFEMMA.

No. 1 Company.

In congratulating B.2 Cable Section on being third in the cable competition, we suggest that B.1 (the old sweats Cable Section) went too fast to be good. A Section put up a good show during the whole training and were " through " every time. We were specially pleased with the general bearing and military appearance of our D.R. Section this year. It was, indeed, a pleasure to see them moving in formation at an orderly speed and not ripsnorting all over the country as is their apparent natural bent. Sergt Tickell leading the column in his Austin Seven, with his D.R.s in formation behind, made one think of a hen with her brood of chicks. However, great credit is due to Sergt Tickell for the way in which he has trained (we nearly said tamed) his Greasy Hussars. Don Section did very well, as usual.

We hope the mess tin of a certain sergeant is now up to the standard of his tent pals. It should be, after all the energy that has been expended on it. Is another certain sergeant training for a fairy's job in the coming pantomime season? He should go far, judging from the manner in which he tripped along to have his photograph taken with the unit group. We hope he has found his man—we don't like holding his half dollar like this! If Sergeant (Scoff) Offord should read these notes, we hope he is still keeping o.k. SETAG.

No. 2 Company.

All Sections were excellent, and from the point of view of general turn out and work, there was precious little to choose between them. It was, indeed, good to see the healthy rivalry and the amount of overtime spent in poshing up their wagons and stores.

We are very bucked at having captured the cable competition cup and the runner-up medals. We shall certainly try hard to keep the cup in the Company.

No doubt, a lot of the Company's wellbeing is due to the influence of our new O.C., Captain W. H. Lloyd, M.C., who took us under his wing this year. He certainly " has a way with him " and knows just what to say to us and the best time to say it.



No. 2 Company's Lines at Cockwatch Camp.

Each morning saw the Company doing a spot of P.T. under the able and lively direction of Sergt Pat Allardyce, and a turn at foot drill under various Section sergeants—good training for all concerned. It was good to see how the " rookies " pulled their weight with the trained men. In fact, some time before the end of the camp they were almost as good as those who have been in the Company for years. We sincerely hope they will all stick to us and show the same keenness throughout the H.Q. training months.

We cannot resist the temptation of showing you a photograph of our lines. We do not do so with any feeling of conceit, but modestly suggest that it's not so bad for Terriers! L.F.M.

No. 3 Company.

The officers, n.c.o.s and men enjoyed a most interesting training this year, and in spite of small numbers the Sections got through quite a lot of work. The O.C., Section officers and C.S.M. were all posted to the Company during the past year, and no doubt the change of work was appreciated by all. The general opinion was that the peaceful life of Infantry Brigade Sections is cushy compared with the hectic and never finished rush of the Cable and Telephone Sections.

A new competition inaugurated in the Company this year by Captain S. A. W. Philcox, O.C. Company, proved to be a great success. The struggle for the trophy was very keen, and the winners—L. Section—will find it much more difficult next year to hold it. This competition is very comprehensive as it takes in line laying, an A set station and V/T station work—a message being handed in at a line terminal for transmission through W/T and V/T stations. When the message is handed to the directing officer, another is given for transmission in the reverse order. Points are lost through delays, errors in transmission and procedure, and poor condition of stores. The Sections have made up their minds to get going during the H.Q. training period, and keen competition is expected. T.S.D.

Sergeants Mess.

On Sunday 5th August we entertained a large gathering of visitors from London: about 120 members and friends sat down to lunch and tea. As usual, a really wonderful spread was provided, and we feel sure it was greatly appreciated by all. As usual, too, C.Q.M.S. Elms did his decorative work, fixing up greenery about the tent poles and multi-coloured flowers among the greenery. You would be surprised to see what a delicate looking rose can be made from a "C" Form (used, of course). There were crêpe paper table runners of the Corps colours down the centre of each table, as well as floral decorations placed here and there. We must not forget to heartily congratulate our excellent staff on the manner in which they laid the tables, and cooked and served the various "eats." We should perhaps make special reference to some very old friends of the Mess—Jimmy Gander, Bill Dormon, Bricky Bolton and Jerry Hawkes—who spent the week-end with us and helped the staff on this particular occasion. Everyone spent a jolly time and, during the interval between lunch and tea, roamed the countryside or stayed around the mess enjoying various brews—including after-lunch tea for the ladies. A spot of singing after tea and a game of rounders, etc., wound up a most happy and enjoyable afternoon. We were especially pleased to see Captain L. M. Joseph, T.D., and wished he could have stayed longer.

On Thursday 9th August we visited the 4th Divl Signals and had a most enjoyable time with them. A games tournament was soon arranged, and play went merrily on until a short musical interlude just before we had to leave. Our very good friends Snatters and Snozzle—the London Scottish members of the Brigade staff—went with us, and we understand they really enjoyed their evening out.

On Friday the 10th we held our usual guest night. We are pleased to record that our officers turned up in force, as well as representatives from the 4th Divl Signals and the various battalions of the 140th Brigade with whom we were in training. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all. There was no set programme of entertainment—just a song or a yarn now and then from anyone who would oblige. During the evening the commanding officer expressed a wish to drink with all who were present at Cockwatch Camp (it was Middlewick then) seven years ago, but those who responded were very few in number. There was also a spot of broadcasting on topical events.

We are holding our first dance of the season on the 6th October. All Mess members will be very welcome.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds.

General.—Last month's notes were " absent from parade " owing to the fact that they were crowded out by work in annual camp. Anyhow, this month's will be extended to make up for it.

The unit was in camp on Scarborough racecourse from the 5th to the 19th August, and had as neighbours during the first week the whole of the 148th Infantry Brigade, with whom we carried out a number of schemes over the surrounding country.

The weather was not very kind and was responsible for the cancellation of the much-looked-forward-to day and night operations on the North Yorkshire coast on the 13th and 14th.

In place of these an unusual scheme was arranged later in the week, wherein the unit took over the rôle of a miniature Scotland Yard in " Trunk crime No. 3." All the personnel and technical stores were placed at the disposal of the Chief Constable of the East Riding to assist him in bringing to justice two foul murderers —parts admirably acted by Captain J. N. Armstrong and Lieut. W. L. Hey, who were desirous of getting hold of the " body " and secretly disposing of it. A network of telephone cables was laid over a wide area, with W/T outposts reporting direct to H.Q. at Hunmanby, and though the murderers succeeded in getting through the cordon in the morning, short work was made of them in the afternoon and they were handed over to the proper authorities for punishment.

Other exercises during the fortnight included one set by the O.C. 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough, another in which the unit co-operated with the 5th Divl Signals and the R.A.F., and several on the usual lines.

The camp, on the whole, was quite a success from the training point of view, while from the recreational standpoint it was well up to par. The 49th Divl Signals are rather proud that, after three successive camps in the district, the residents are not yet sick of us.

Training.—Some hundred and fifty officers and other ranks of the S.R. went into annual training at Hornsea on the 2nd September, and during the following fortnight they took part in the much-discussed combined operations with the Navy, Army and Air Force. Two detachments of sixteen cable and twelve wireless members of the T.A. were also engaged, and apart from an Armoured Car Company, we were the only Territorials to share in the operations. From all accounts, the affair was not only interesting but extremely instructive, and our people were not on the losing side, as their job was to provide communication in a neutral capacity for the umpires. After the return of the S.R., training will be at a standstill until November.

Sergeants Mess Trip.—Our careworn sergeants did themselves well on the 2nd September, when they went to Morecambe for their annual outing. The whole affair went off splendidly, and the lucky fellows enjoyed themselves as only sergeants can. Nuff said.

People We Dislike.—The man who put the " rain " in annual t-rain-ing!

Promotions and Appointments.—Our congratulations, though a bit late, go to the following, who (w.e.f. 23/7/34) rose in rank as shown. Promoted to Sergeant: L/Sergt Blackwell J. Appointed Lance-Sergeants: Corporals Armitage A. E. and Bell C. W. Promoted Corporals: L/Corpls Edson R., Gartland J., Landy J. T., and Hall I. W. Appointed Lance-Corporals (paid): Signalmen Crossley H., Birch W., Robinson H. and Hyman A.

We Would Like to Know.—Who " mended " the R.S.M.'s combination in camp? What happened to the proposed Frontier Club? And who were the Stink Bombardiers on the last night? (we have our suspicions, but. . . .)

Warning.—Watch your pockets, lads. The Sergeants Mess football sweep has again come into operation.

The Future—Once again the order is "Eyes front!" A jolly social time awaits you all—after which individual training will again fill the bill, as last year.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of our notes during recent months. Our scribe went away on holiday and, owing to the loss of a 108 book, could not hand over. Nothing very exciting has occurred, however, except that we hear that Mick Walsh got fed up with " pub crawling " and bought one.

We are sorry and glad about R.S.M. Williams, who has left us for civil life. Sorry that we will not hear " She was poor but she was honest " in quite the same surroundings. Glad that he has fallen on his feet to mix with such ethereal beings as fairies.

We extend a hearty greeting to his successor, R.S.M. Bevan, and hope his stay will be as happy if not quite so long.

Mention must be made, too, of C.S.M. Battersby, who is also leaving for civvy life to take up a secret appointment at Woking. We did hear that a schoolmaster's job had fallen vacant in that district. Failing that, you are quite near Orpington, Bill.

We take this opportunity of welcoming his successor, C.Q.M.S. Millross, into the fold of the 50th.

Our annual recruits musketry course was fired on the Neasham ranges in excellent weather, the results being quite satisfactory and an improvement on last year. The marking was quite good, too—the n.c.o. i/c producing two rabbits for the C.O.'s inspection after the course. (No, I'm sorry! he was going to!)

We are in possession of a brand new motor car (30 cwt. type) for the purpose of training i.c. drivers. Results are amazing; even our P.S.I. is making good progress.

Congratulations are extended to 2/Lieut. C. W. S. Belas on his appointment to a Regular commission in the East Yorkshire Regiment. We hope that he wins as many honours for them as he did for us.

N.C.S.s Mess.—The Mess is doing extremely well. I don't mean the capital account; rather, the social atmosphere. Many more members are turning up and using the mess as a club, as it was intended to be.

ONECO.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—With the S.R. Section now on annual training at Catterick Camp, the summer season for drills is nearing an end. It has been thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks, who have improved considerably by training. The winter programme has not yet been forwarded, but it is being eagerly looked forward to, as this training is enjoyed by all who take part.

Swimming.—It is proposed to form a Swimming Club for the Company, to be run by 2/Lieut. G. Hammonds. Judging by the names already submitted, it is going to be a popular innovation. There are two or three Channel aspirants already enrolled, besides the one mile champion of Middlesbrough. The first swim is being looked forward to with much keenness.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we report the death of the two young boys (aged six and eight years respectively) of Sergt J. E. Newton, who is in charge of the S.R. Section attached to this Company. This sad double bereavement came with astonishing suddenness and was deeply felt by all of us.

Departures.—On Friday 14th September we are holding a farewell smoker to A/C.S.M. Battersby, who is leaving the Service to take up an appointment with the Post Office at his home town of Woking. We wish him the best of luck in his new venture, and hope that he will not forget No. 2 Company, with whom he spent a very good time.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to C.Q.M.S. F. Millross, from the 5th Division at Scarborough, on his taking up the appointment vacated by A/C.S.M. Battersby. We hope that his stay with us will be a very pleasant one.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—Apologies for the absence of notes for the last two months, but we have been more or less on holiday since camp. The drill hall, however, is now showing signs of activity, and a goodly crowd can be seen there on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Miniature Range.—This is open for practice on Mondays and Wednesdays, and as the P.S.I. has kindly presented a shield for the best Section on the range, we anticipate its being very popular for the next month or so.

Football.—The Company have formed a club—Gateshead Signals—and we play our first match on Saturday 15th September against Islington. Our second fixture is on Tuesday 18th September against Chopwell. The progress of the team will be reported in THE WIRE. We have at present about twenty members, including such personalities as the P.S.I. (chairman), Corpl F. Atkinson (secretary and manager), and a full committee.

Badminton.—A Badminton Club has been formed, and the strength at present is about eighteen members. The two courts which we have are being used to the full. We play our first fixture some time next week against St. Mary's Church.

At present the members of the club are battling amongst themselves for the P.S.I.'s prize, and in the first round L/Corporal Dixon H. beat Corpl Watson F. by 2—0; L/Corpl Stephenson T. beat Sigmn Bradford J. by 3—2 after a hard-fought game; L/Corpl Nicholson beat L/Corpl Atkinson by 2—0; Signalman McCaughey J. beat Sigmn Watson N.; Corporal Talbot J. beat Sigmn Gibson by 2—1; Sigmn Atkinson beat Sigmn Proudlock W.; Sigmn McCaughey C. beat Sapper Neale.

One word of warning to the officers of the Company: *Look out* when you come to the drill hall to play the men. I'm talking from experience. We n.c.o.s are afraid to play them again.

Quoits.—More champions in the making in Sergeants Watts (Jim) and Murdock. " Cling! clang!" can be heard in the drill hall field every evening. Though this game came into being here only a month ago, it has become very popular—but not with the officers. Oh no! they always come along with the yarn that " Little men, we've had a busy day."

Golf.—Nothing doing yet. Our greens are still out of bounds. Next year, perhaps.

Congratulations.—To the Signals combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display team, who gave such a wonderful performance at the Northern Command Tattoo. As one of the crowd, I can say that everyone was full of praise for them. One remark I overheard was: " Signals? Yes, top of the bill—the only real thrill in the show!"

Lost, Stolen or Strayed.—Between High Heaton and Blaydon, since annual training, two or three sergeants. Will anyone seeing these n.c.o.s kindly put them on a Low Fell tramcar and ask the conductor to put them off at Whithall Road or thereabouts, and at the same time ring up 72370 Gateshead and inform the caterer of the Sergeants Mess.

Grants, Efficiency.—These are due to be paid out during November.

Departures.—We have lost Mr. Belas, who has left us to join the Regular Army. We heartily congratulate him on having passed so well up in the entrance examination—fourth out of ninety—and wish him all the very best in his new career. The Terriers are to lose their feather-weight champion. We look forward, however, to seeing his name again as holder of the title in the Imperial Services championships next year, even though it will not be for us.

Another well-known personality has left us to take up the management of a pub in Gateshead, and by all accounts he is doing very well indeed. About twenty-three years' Regular service, including five years as P.S.I. to No. 2 Company at Middlesbrough; six years as Territorial C.Q.M.S. to this Company; married last July; told nobody (though he sent a bit of wedding cake to a selected few). Anyway, Mick, all the boys of the Company wish you the very best of luck in your new sphere and will give you their support. Don't forget that when you need a barman during pressure of business, we can supply one! For the benefit of our readers, our late C.Q.M.S. can be seen—and heard (at 10 p.m.)—at the "Little Alfred," Prince Consort Road, Gateshead. In case of doubt, it is Mr. M. W. Walsh. " Little man, you had a busy time." We shall never forget you.

Annual Training.—No. 3 Air Squadron Signal Section S.R. were attached to the 5th Divl Signals at Catterick from the 19th August to the 2nd September, and from reports received, they enjoyed their stay. We were all very sorry to hear that Sergeant Rogers had to leave owing to sickness, and hope that he is well again.

No. 14 Air Squadron Signal Section are at present there, having joined the 5th Divl Signals on the 2nd September for two weeks, being due back on the 16th. I hope all took a bathing costume with them, as I hear they go aboard ship to take part in the Northern Command manœuvres.

We Want to Know.—When No. 2 Company's badminton team are coming to Gateshead?

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

By the time this reaches print our furlough fiends of the permanent staff will be back to their typewriters and most likely tapping out WIRE notes for next month's issue. But perhaps they won't be! One of them ought to be able to oblige us with a story of how the fishes feed in the Irish Sea, whilst the other might describe how he found Titchfield, Hants, still on the map and as full of swedes as ever.

Our adjutant, Captain J. H. Brown, M.M.—who is soon to bid us goodbye before sailing for sunnier climes—should also be back from a spot of leave in October. Time flies, and no doubt he'll make the most of the next few weeks of civilisation and make the balls fly. Captain Brown has made extraordinarily good progress in golf since he assumed duty with us early in 1931, and followers of the wee ba' on the North-West Frontier of India had better look to their handicaps. Kohat wallahs, take special note.

Winter Training.—Evening classes for operators are on the go again, and with as much keenness as ever. Whistling in Morse greets the ears of instructors whenever they are spotted in town by enthusiastic young signalmen, and that shows they are learning *something*, anyway.

Inspections.—We hear that No. 2 (Stirling) Company received a very good chit after the annual administrative inspection on the 30th August. We hope Nos. 1 and 3 will fare as well.

Re-Engagements.—The gentleman with the Mexican side-whiskers (and possibly antecedents), the bald pow, pleurisy, and two medals for long service under bad sergeant-majors, has re-engaged for another four years. Well done, Sergt Rollo: 207 yet!

Gifts to Messes.—The members of the Officers and Sergeants Messes desire to thank Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., for the excellent signed photographs of himself which he has recently presented to them. The photographs are very good and take pride of place. But what was wrong with the first attempt, sir?

LANKA MK. II.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

We apologise to all for the lack of notes from this Company for a while, but we offer no excuses, as we would not be believed if we made them. However, we really have been very busy, and had a spot of leave as well. That's the reason for our absence.

Having got over the effects of annual camp, we are now really getting down to winter training. Courses are due to commence on the 25th September, and we are hoping for a really good turn out.

The camp was most successful; in fact, the old timers of the Company say " The best ever." You will have heard from Lanka Mk. II. that No. 1 Company at last won a cup or so this year. I am asked to tell him that they are polished best with Silvo, and he is responsible that there are no scratches on them when we take them back at next camp. They are only on loan.

Mechanisation is at last becoming an accomplished fact, and we are now the proud possessors of lorries, 30 cwt., six-wheeler (brand new, this year's pattern, straight from the maker, etc., etc.). None of your old Army throw-outs for us. No, sir.

Many applications were received for courses as drivers. We were amazed to learn how many folk in the Company had at one time or another held Kaye Don's driving gloves. So a course was commenced at once, and this is still carrying on—very successfully, so far, as the lorry is still intact. Except for the fact that applications are being received to widen the door a little, everybody seems to be getting on well. L/Sergeant (Bertie) Miller is acting the part of instructor to our budding Campbells, and he is willing to carry the can for all that goes wrong. I wonder if he knows what he has taken on?

People who know us will be pleased to learn that the long-talked-of main road past this hall is in danger of actually being

made, as four or five people are very busy scratching away with pick and shovel nowadays. That will do away with the old excuse "We couldn't find your hall" when next they pass through Stirling. It now becomes a question as to whether the hall will collapse before the road is completed in 1975.

And with that, I am afraid we shall have to leave you till next month, after reminding all ranks of the Company that bounty paying out day is drawing nigh. We will try to make a better effort next month.

TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Now that annual camp for 1934 is a thing of the past and most of the aftermath has been cleared up, we once more settle down to normal work. Bounties will have been paid by the time these notes appear in print. We will then have a clear field for winter training, which will commence in October with a voluntary W/T class.

Under the direction of our O.C. we have been experimenting with a made-up wireless receiver, receiving Morse from a W/T "A" set. This has been a great success so far, and later we hope to be able to broadcast to a class of operators from a W/T "A" set operated from the drill hall, Dunfermline.

Entertainments.—If all ranks of the Company will give their support, dances and whist drives will commence in October. A general meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on the second Monday in that month.

Strength.—A "second-in-command" has been presented to Captain A. T. Wood, and twins to Sergt A. Davidson.

FIFESIGS.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

Camp for 1934 is over. The clerk of the weather was not too kind to us during our leisure hours, though he was considerate enough to allow us to indulge in a lot of extensive training in the way of schemes. During these schemes great enthusiasm and keenness were shown by all ranks, and this was reflected in the good work done and the excellent report obtained from outside sources. The unit was greatly assisted by the attachment of Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., from the Staff College, Camberley, and Captain J. A. I. Watts from the 3rd Divl Signals.

The champion Section for the year 1934/35 is E, commanded by 2/Lieut. P. Fletcher. The competition was keenly contested, and it was impossible to even guess the winners. The result was announced on the last day of camp by the commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C. This competition creates much enthusiasm in the unit, and already Section air rifle teams are practising for the pre-Christmas air rifle competition. The result of this shoot now carries marks towards next year's champion Section competition.

After a very good start, our sports—held on Sunday 5th August—were interrupted by rain, the latter half of the programme having to be completed the next day. After a keen struggle, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies tied with equal points. The commanding officer decided to present the sports trophies to No. 2 Company, as they finished with the greater number of firsts.

The football cup has not been competed for during the last few years, but this year it was won by No. 1 Company.

During the camp we were visited by Major-General J. K. Dick-Cunyngham, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (our Divisional commander), Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C. (C.S.O. Western Command) and Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C. (D.C.S.O. Western Command).

On Thursday 9th August the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess held their annual concert, and a real good show was arranged by the entertainments committee. During the evening we were honoured with a visit by our commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., and our officers. Judging by the beaming faces, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Nearing midnight, reminiscences of camps spent back in the year dot could be heard from the old sweats (Bowen and Co.).

Judging by the noise coming from the canteen on several evenings, some very successful impromptu concerts were led by those able conductors Turnski and Mahonski.

Too frequent guest nights seemed to demand eyelid supports for certain gentlemen on the 07.00 hours parade.

The unit has entered a football team in the Cardiff and District League (Division 3 B). They have commenced the season well with two wins.

A Cycle Touring Club has now been formed in the unit. The club had a very successful tour to Porthcawl on the 7th September, although on the return journey their bodies, if not their spirits, were slightly damped by the heavy downpour. (C.S.M. Maynard has volunteered to take an Army bike the next time out.)

The officers of the unit played their annual golf match on Wednesday 12th September. After some exciting play, the trophy was won by Lieut. J. B. Senior. The Glamorgan Golf Club very kindly allowed their course to be used for the competition.

The winter training for the unit is now arranged. It will consist of individual training on special courses from December to March, and Section training and traffic schemes from then until camp. During September and October, all Sections are concentrating on musketry and sports, and fitting up their Section rooms in readiness for winter training.

We Want to Know.—The Sergeants Mess member who, when asked for a scotch to put under a barrel, poured out a Johnny Walker?

How many miles to the gallon will "Jimmy" run on a tin of paraffin?

HOME STATIONS—*Continued from page 440*

5th Divisional Signals *(continued)*—

MARRIAGES.—Only three have been reported so far this month, but there are more to come later. Bogey bogey! Sigmn Cooper W. to Miss Jane McGovern. Driver Sargent to Miss Edith May Hart. L/Sergt Dicker decided to tie the knot before he sailed for India. Our best wishes are extended to all, and may they never regret it.

Light Comedy.—An n.c.o. i/c piquet, to officer strolling through the horse lines: "Permission to fall out, sir." Officer: "All out be d——d. The Australians are 349 for three."

The following wireless message was sent: "Call at R.A.F. for aerial lead-in left by ——." As received: "Call at New York Post Office for a letter for ——."

More Congratulations.—The following are to be congratulated on their recent acquisition of more pice. Sergt Brandon to be C.O.M.S. L/Corpl Coles to be Corporal. Signalmen Macey, Ford T., Lancaster, Heighton, Deakin and Done to be Lance-Corporals. I have only two little blue books left for sale at 1/- each. What about it?

Moves.—The following have departed for new spheres. May they never regret the change. Signalmen Brewer and Mintram to Ceylon on the 7th September. Sigmn Parry to South Africa on discharge by purchase. L/Corpls Hoole, Field, Jackson and Bourne to civvy life. L/Corpl Chapman and Signalmen Gilding, Goldsworthy and Walton A. to vocational training. Signalman Crozier on transfer to the R.E.

It is rather late to express a hope that the new arrivals will make themselves at home. Arriving on the eve of combined ops, they should be well settled in before they even see their new barracks. However, you're very welcome.

Sergeants Mess.—Before I go any further, a welcome is extended to C.Q.M.S. (Tich) Taylor and family. Tich has returned to work after a long sojourn in the sunny south. I should have forgotten him again had he not reminded me that his WIRE was again deficient. For the benefit of all his friends, I may say he is settled in and become a familiar figure toddling round the lines.

Late Nights.—Many thanks are offered to the various Messes in Catterick for their untiring efforts to keep us out of bed; also for their kindness in many other ways. It is greatly appreciated and, what is more, apparently necessary to keep one alive in such a "lost colony." For our part we regret that so many early mornings prevented many late nights, and the writer would like to have been present on the 7th September for the final wind-up.

OXO.



F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.—We have been drawn against E Company in the first round of the Mackworth trophy, and in preparation for this match a Company trial was held on the new hard ground. A most satisfactory game resulted in a draw between the Possibles and Probables.

A most interesting game took place on the hard ground on Friday 7th September. Owing to the efforts of Lieut. Boileau and the presence in the station of the 5th Divl Signals, a match was played between the Company team and an eleven (raised by Lieut. Boileau) of officers, n.c.o.s and men who had served in the N.W.F.P. of India. After a very hard and fast game, in which some very good hockey was seen, we managed to beat our visitors by three goals to nil. For the victory we owe a great deal to our splendid defence. The following were the teams:

N.W.F.P.—Goal, Lieut. McNair; backs, Sigmn Roberts W. N. and Corpl Coaten H.; halves, L/Corporal Bergman and Lieutenants F. R. B. Moore and T. W. Boileau; forwards, L/Corpl Pike, Lieut. D. W. R. Burridge, L/Corpl Dillon L., Corpls Nicholls and Holland E.

F Company—Goal, L/Corpl Holloway; backs, Boys Murray and Mayhew; halves, 2/Lieut. A. F. McGill, Corpl Shipton and Boy Corpl Adcock A.; forwards, 2/Lieut P. C. Williams, L/Corpl Turner E., 2/Lieut. W. H. L. Gordon, Signalman Diball and Boy Hawley.

In a Battalion trial match we had seven representatives in the Whites team and one in the Colours. To the credit of the Company and to our great satisfaction, the Whites won by one goal to nil.

Garrison Boys' Cricket Cup.—Yet another trophy came to the Corps when B Group Operator Boys won the Colquhoun challenge cup on the 10th September by beating the Boys of the Gloucestershire Regiment in the final. The game was very exciting during the closing stages, and at one time we thought we had lost our chance.

Our captain Sigmn Reedman, who has just joined the ranks, lost the toss, but fortunately our opponents decided to let us bat first. Our first innings total of 102 was mainly due to the brilliant batting of Boy Silver, whose score of 64 runs included two sixes and ten fours. The rest of the team were content to support him, and our only disaster was the loss of Reedman's wicket for nil when we expected at least twenty runs. However, 102 was a respectable score in these matches, and we went out to field feeling very confident.

The Gloucester innings opened with a boundary hit and ten runs were up in very quick time, but then the excellent bowling of Silver and Reedman began to tell and they had seven wickets down for 53 by the tea interval. After tea, however, some poor fielding let our opponents get on and eventually their innings closed for 92, leaving us with a lead of ten runs.

We started our second knock by losing our first wicket without a run being scored, but Silver again came to the fore, scoring a valuable 18. Later Reedman came in and in his usual breezy style hit up 39 very quickly. There was no one staying, however, and the end of the day saw us with nine wickets down for 73 runs. On the Monday afternoon the last wicket fell with an addition of nine runs, leaving our opponents with 93 runs to get to win.

This was where the excitement started. Their first wicket did not fall until 22 runs were on the board. Then their captain came in, settled down quickly, and commenced to hit our bowling all over the place. It looked to be all over bar shouting, when suddenly their first batsman drove a ball hard to deep square leg and Boy McDonald made a beautiful catch. This batsman had made 31 runs, and as he had run all through the first innings for 43, you can imagine the relief that was felt by everybody. Without any further score their captain gave a chance to Pritchard, who gave himself a shake and managed to hang on to it (47 for three). Now things were looking up and everyone was on his toes expecting a wicket to fall with every ball, but the game was by no means over. Reedman then had an inspiration: he put Boy Mayhew on to bowl. In his first over Mayhew clean bowled Larden, and followed up this success by taking three wickets with four balls; and with Silver also doing his bit at the other end, their innings closed for 66, leaving us the winners by 26 runs.

The fielding of our side as a whole was very good, and congratulations are due to them all for the fine sporting show that was made.

1ST BATTALION GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Boy Gray not out	43	c McDonald b Silver	31
Boy Shaw b Silver	3	lbw b Silver	2
Boy Sawyer lbw b Silver	0	c Pritchard b Silver	12
Larden lbw b Reedman	0	b Mayhew	9
Boy Boulton b Reedman	3	c Mayhew b R'dman	1
Boy Parkins b Silver	10	b Silver	4
Boy Edmunds c Player b Silver	12	lbw b Silver	4
Thorne b Silver	0	b Mayhew	0
Boy Sheppard lbw b Silver	14	b Mayhew	0
Boy White b Reedman	1	b Mayhew	0
Boy De Click run out	1	not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	3
Total	92	Total	66

Bowling—First innings: Reedman three for 36, Silver six for 36, Mayhew none for 0. Second innings: Reedman one for 19, Silver five for 29, Mayhew four for 16.

"B" GROUP, TRAINING BATTALION, ROYAL SIGNALS.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.
Boy Stevens b Thorne	3	b Shaw	0
Boy Silver b Shaw	64	b Shaw	18
Boy Mayhew b Shaw	7	b Thorne	7
L/Corpl Boy Willis b Shaw	0	lbw b Shaw	0
Sigmn Reedman run out	0	c Sawyer b Edmunds	39
Boy Parker c Sawyer b Edmunds	6	b Edmunds	3
Boy Neatham not out	3	b Edmunds	0
Sigmn Rixon b Edmunds	9	lbw b Edmunds	0
Boy Pritchard b Shaw	3	b Thorne	0
Boy Player c White b Edmunds	7	b Edmunds	9
Boy McDonald b Shaw	0	not out	5
Extras	0	Extras	1
Total	102	Total	82

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

The 1st Australian Divisional Signals Trophy.—The origin of this trophy is as follows. The commanding officer, on behalf of the officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Australian Divisional Signals, wrote to say that

1 Swimming. 2 30-cwt. M.T. Driving. 3 2-Seater M.T. Driving. 4 Motor Cycle. 5 H.T. Driving.
6 Riding. 7 Rifle. 8 Revolver. 9 Cross-Country.

			Event	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Totals
			Marks, each event	10	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	80
1	...	Lieut. C. H. Stoneley	F Section	5	3½	2¼	3½	5½	9½	8	4½	10	51¾
2	...	No. 2318968 L/Cpl Chapman W. D. M.	D.R. Section	10	4	4¾	9	3	5	4½	9½	1	50¾
3	...	2/Lieut. G. D. B. McKean	G Section	2	4½	3½	10	7	7½	6	3	4	47½
4	...	Captain A. E. Morrison	H.Q. Section	8	2	2¼	6	9	9½	9	1	0	46¾
5	...	Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland	L Section	4	5	4¾	2	8	5	0	8	5	41¾
6	...	No. 2323113 L/Corpl Thompson H. J.	J Section	9	1¼	½	7½	0	0	10	6	7	41¼
7	...	2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon	B Section	0	0	3½	0	5½	5	7	9½	9	39½
8	...	Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut	K Section	1	½	1¼	7½	10	2½	2½	4½	8	37¾
9	...	No. 2320527 Sigmn Chapman H. M.	M Section	6	3	3½	3½	4	2½	2½	0	0	25
10	...	No. 2312308 L/Corpl Green J. J.	D Section	7	1¼	0	0	0	1	4½	2	6	21¾
11	...	No. 2315666 Sigmn Harthill V. H.	A Section	0	2½	1½	5	2	0	0	7	2	19½
12	...	No. 1850148 Sergt Dilworth W.	E Section	3	0	0	1	1	7½	1	0	3	16½

they wished to present a cup to the 1st Divisional Signals, to cement the friendship which has existed for a long time between the two units. They would like it to take the form of a challenge trophy. What would we suggest as a suitable event to compete for it?

We need not say how much we appreciated the very generous offer, and how much thought was put into selecting an event worthy of the gift. Finally, it was decided to ask that it should be awarded to " the best all round officer, n.c.o. or man of the 1st Divisional Signals ": the selection of this very superior being to be by competition in a number of events which would bring out his personal skill in many branches of soldiering. This was agreed to by the 1st Australian Divisional Signals, and in due course the very handsome cup arrived.

The first competition was run off from the 21st to the 23rd August. This proved extraordinarily interesting and the competition was intense. When the final event was reached, there were still five in the running for first place.

Entries were limited to one selection from each Section, and Sections for this purpose were arranged thus: H.Q., A., B., D., M., D.R., E., F., G., J., K. and L. All the competitors completed the test.

The competition included riding over jumps, driving a pair of horses, rifle and revolver shooting, M.T. driving (lorry and light car), motor cycle riding (across country), running (cross country, three miles) and swimming (65 yards). The final results are shown above.

It is suggested that, when Australian emigration sets in again, this competition would form an excellent basis for the selection of real he-men to help populate that great country.

In the meantime, our thanks go to the 1st Australian Signals for their kind thought in providing us with the inspiration and means for a very excellent competition.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Golf.—Corporal Chamberlain and Sigmn Bateman lowered the foursomes record for nine holes with a round of 23. Sergeant Bishop set up a record for eighteen holes with a score of 52, which has since been equalled by L/Corpl Mohrstadt and Sigmn Verlander. The fourth sweepstake competition was won by Sergt Bishop, who beat Sigmn Williams by 27—32 after tieing at 28 all. The second League tournament was won by Sergeant Bishop, who won 84.5 per cent. of his games.

Swimming.—The following are the results obtained by this unit in the swimming events counting towards the Cobb trophy.

Breast stroke, one length—4th, Sergt Bishop and Sigmn Sinclair

Plunging—4th, C.Q.M.S. Yates and Sigmn Bateman, 66 ft. 3 in.

Relay, free style (four swimming one length each)—4th, C.Q.M.S. Yates and Signalmen Bateman, Verlander, Sinclair.

Back stroke, one length—3rd, C.Q.M.S. Yates and Signalman Sinclair.

Free style, four lengths—3rd, Signalmen Bates and Verlander.

Diving—3rd, Signalmen Bates and Verlander.

Command Signal Company tied with No. 3 Company 1st Divl Signals for third place.

Cricket.—The Company concluded a successful first cricket season with a comfortable win against No. 3 Company 1st Divl Signals in the last match of the Cobb trophy. Command Signal Company 118 for seven (C.Q.M.S. Yates 36, Sigmn Williams 26, Sigmn Harwocd 25 not out), No. 3 Company 1st Div. 59 (Mohrstadt seven for 30).

We won all our matches in this competition.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	Innings	Not Out	Highest	Runs	Average
Sigmn Williams	8	3	183	*54	36.5
C.Q.M.S. Yates	5	1	115	36	28.75
Sigmn Harwood	6	2	72	*25	18
L/Corpl Mohrstadt	7	0	117	42	16.11
Sergt Harvey	5	0	74	38	14.8
Sergt Bishop	6	1	55	30	11
L/Corpl Durand	2	0	18	13	9
Corpl Stanley	6	1	29	11	5.8
Corpl Chamberlain	6	1	22	*12	4.4

* Not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Sigmn Williams	66.5	7	199	31	6.4
Corpl Chamberlain	2.3	0	14	2	7
L/Corpl Mohrstadt	81	5	253	32	7.9
Corpl Stanley	8	0	40	5	8

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket Averages, 1934.

BATTING.

	Innings	Not Out	Highest	Total	Average
Honnor	21	1	57	306	14.5
Rapson	21	0	47	242	11.5
Appleton	17	0	*40	171	10
Rogers	17	0	28	138	8
Cassidy	15	0	27	120	8
Richardson	10	0	19	125	6.5

* Not out.

BOWLING.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Rogers	154	43	340	62	5.5
Honnor	180	26	569	102	5.6
Rapson	17	2	64	11	5.8
Richardson	67	13	262	35	7.5

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company.

Rugby.—

v. C Company King's Regiment, drew at 6—6
v. U Field Battery R.A. won by 8—6
v. H.Q. King's Regiment, won by 8—0 and 8—0
v. 15th Brigade XV. lost by 5—14
v. S Field Battery R.A. won by 8—0

HARWOOD LITTLE RUGBY CUP.—v. C Company King's Regiment, lost by 7—14.

EDULJEE RUGBY CUP.—In this tournament we have been drawn against the XV. of the 15th Field Brigade R.A. Our hopes are none too bright at present in view of our casualty list, but nevertheless we shall give a good account of ourselves. The result of this match will be recorded in next month's WIRE.

GENERAL.—A series of lectures by Major C. A. Murray has proved most beneficial and interesting to all our team, and our recent list of victories can be attributed largely to the outcome of these lectures.

The undermentioned have represented the S.T.C. (India) this season: Lieuts. E. C. Thompson and G. A. McMunn, Sergeant Bramwell, Corporals Gourlay and Wright, L/Corpl Driver, Signalmen Guest, Martin, Bourner, Davidson, Nelson, Haigh, Burns, Hampton, Keenleyside, Knox, Gibson and Barrett.

Football.—A Company beat Combined I.O.R.s XI. by 7—1 and 4—0, and B Company by 4—0; drew with Christchurch School at 2—2, and lost by 0—1.

A Company Second XI. beat F Section by 3—1 and lost by 0—6
Attached Section beat G.I.P. Railway XI. by 3—1 and lost by 1—3, and lost to R.A.M.C. by 0—6.

Up to date we have won all our Inter-Half Company Football League games, with the following results: v. D Left Half won by 10—1, v. C Right Half won by 11—0, v. E Company won by 19—0, v. B Left Half won by 12—0, v. C Left Half won by 10—1.

Basket Ball.—In the league matches, the games played to date resulted as follows: v. B Left Half drew at 1—1, v. E Company lost by 0—5, v. F Company lost by 0—4.

Cricket.—Owing to the rains, we have not been able to commence our season. Our fixture list is gradually getting larger, and with the valuable aid of our new O.C., Captain L. C. Boyd, we should have a successful season.

S.T.C. (India) Golf Club Notes.—The handicap two-ball foursomes cup competition has just been completed. It proved one of the most interesting tournaments put up by the committee, who are to be congratulated on their enterprise.

L/Sergt Murphy (25) and Sigmn Bourton (24) beat L/Sergeant Baker (16) and Sigmn Strutt (25) in the final by 4 and 2. Sigmn Spiers (25) and Sigmn Bond (25) put up a great effort against the eventual winners, taking them to the nineteenth hole in the semi-final round.

Captain L. C. Boyd presented the cup and miniatures to the winners, and referred to the excellent work of the committee. Thank you, sir!

And now for the handicap stroke and bogey competitions. Two more cups are awaiting owners, and the way members are spread over the links daily is proof that once again the S.T.C. (India) Golf Club can do things—and do them well. We await with interest that challenge from the Gun Carriage Factory Golf Club.

GOLF CLUB'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY.—In the following review of this club's first year of existence, it is not my intention to convey to our brother units at home and abroad the impression of trying to show off our efforts in the golfing branch of sport, but rather to impart a few interesting facts to our ex-members who have been posted to other units, and also to any future arrivals at Jubbulpore who may have already succumbed to the fascination of the game.

Fifteen months ago there was only one bag of golf clubs amongst the B.O.R.s in the S.T.C. (India), and early on Thursday and Sunday mornings a little band of about four used to roam in the wide open spaces with a piece of white cloth mounted on a stout piece of G.I. wire, which was taken ahead by a chokra and stuck into the ground. The game then commenced and finally the players arrived at the " flag," which was then moved ahead again, and so on. A little later, however, this bag of clubs was reinforced by a borrowed one, and things began to develop until the idea of a golf course was mooted.

Sanction was obtained from the commanding officer to form a Golf Club, and Brigade gave authority for a course to be laid out; but the big question arose, where were the funds coming from? Well . . . this is how it was done.

The B.O.R.s of the unit were approached, and although they didn't know anything about the game, they were quite willing to support the endeavour, with the feeling that something out of the ordinary was always interesting—even if golf is " an old man's game."

At the first meeting, held on the 15th September, 1933, it was agreed that the subscriptions should be Rs.2 per month and that the members themselves should turn out and commence on the course, which had already been planned out with heaps of arguments between the founders. The result was that they paid the September subscriptions and worked on the course as well. This enabled us to invest in a lawn mower of the value of Rs.45, which seemed to cut the grass into some semblance of a " green."

We progressed through stormy periods of damaged greens and the loss of quite a number of flags until, I think, we must have supplied all the temple and " people " trees with their requisite number. Anyway, they seem to be satisfied now and leave our flags alone.

Meanwhile, our capital was steadily increasing and the club becoming more financially established. To help matters, Captain A. E. Barton very kindly presented a cup to be competed for annually, and there is no doubt that it was through his very sporting gesture that we are now firmly established as a club, with a capital value of Rs.390 and a steady income of approximately Rs.100 per annum. Further, we have had two other cups presented to the club for annual competition, and two more are in the offing. The Sergeants Mess have just " raised " one for competition between their Mess members, and I believe that the junior n.c.o.s and men are also going to have one to compete for. Anyway, I hope so.

With regard to the development of the course. We commenced originally with nine holes, and gradually chopped and changed them until now we have fourteen with decently raised tees; and we employ six malis for the further improvement of the course, which, although yet not up to scratch, is definitely making progress.

On Thursdays and Sundays (not to mention every afternoon and evening) one may walk out in the direction of the course and see half the unit playing golf—a good sign of the appreciation of the hard work put in by the various committees.

I would like to point out to any reader of this article who doesn't like to take up golf on account of its being an old man's game, that if he has not tried it, he should just once hit that " little white pill " for six and then see if he can leave a golf club alone? If any other reader has tried it and still contends that the game is only for the aged—if he's done a hole in bogey and has not experienced a thrill from his achievement—well! . . . he's dead, but he won't lie down.

If you profess yourself of even temper, or with your vocabulary you dare to tamper—try golf!

If it's exercise you're seeking, or a liver you want easing—try golf!

In conclusion, if any player or potential player is coming to Jubbulpore from home, I should advise him to bring his clubs with him, as over here they cost double the U.K. price.

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

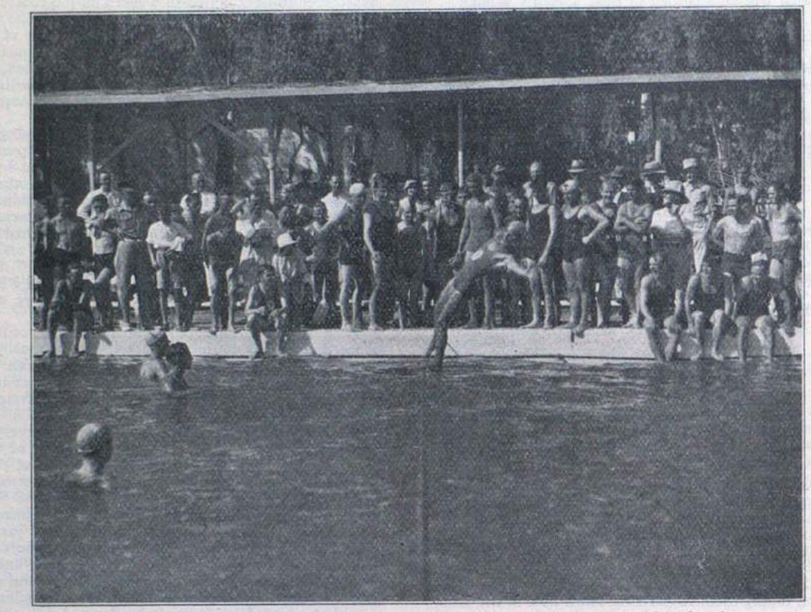
General.—No tournaments have been played this month, but a number of friendly matches have, the results of which are given below:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals
Football	10	5	1	4	24—18
Hockey	2	1	0	1	4— 2
					Points
Rugby	10	5	2	3	52—41

Soccer.—The soccer team are entering for the Murree Brewery cup, and will probably enter for the Durand tournament, the latter being one of the finest tourneys in India. We hope we can next month forward some good accounts of our team in these two tournaments.

Rugby.—The ground is in fine condition for rugger and there have been some very exciting games played. The best was the match versus the 2nd Battn Welch Regiment (the holders of the All India rugby cup) in which we lost by 3—5. We have the making of a fine team here, and under the direction of Lieutenant Clarke (R.Signals) and Sergt.-Instructor Richards (A.E.C.) we hope they will do well in the All India rugby at Calcutta. We take this opportunity of thanking the units who have helped us in the making of a Northern Command rugby team by providing the following players: Sigmn Harrison from Kohat, Signalmen Dolaghan and Murrell from Peshawar, L/Corporal Johns from W.D.S., Signalmen Cox and Hurst from 1st Div. Their help has been greatly appreciated, and all these players are proving well worth their positions.

The Annual Aquatic Gala of Egypt Signals.



Signalman Gregory makes a gallant but unsuccessful attempt to walk the Tight Rope—which, by the way, was slack.



The Commanding Officer (Brevet-Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C.) and Officers of Egypt Signals.

Tennis.—The courts are now in fine condition after the rains and two tournaments have just commenced: the open singles and doubles, and the Upper Topa Tennis Club handicap. Our great hope is that the weather will allow these to be played off without postponements.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Rugby.—Now that the monsoons are with us, we have had six games of rugger up to date, and rugger enthusiasts—who for the rest of the year are quiet—have now come into their own. We have done fairly well and have the making of a good team. Unfortunately, every year, just as we're getting a good team together, the rains stop and we have to postpone our activities until another season arrives.

Results so far: v. E Battery R.H.A. won by 13—3 and lost by 0—3 and 0—6, v. Black Watch won by 5—3 and 10—0, v. The Royals won by 8—5.

Swimming.—We have had several matches but have not been very successful. This is due to the fact that as soon as we get a good team, the mid-season change takes place and most of the team depart to the hills. We then have to start afresh. Other units in Meerut manage to keep their teams down here all the time and have the advantage of us there. Also, we have no swimming bath of our own, which makes practice difficult. However, every one is keen, and we hope next year to keep most of the team in Meerut.

Results this month are: v. A Company Black Watch won by 5—2 and lost by 0—6, v. The Black Watch lost by 0—4, v. E Battery R.H.A. lost by 1—5.

Football.—Although the rain has made our ground in a pretty bad condition, we still plod on. There have been no competitions, but we have had quite a number of friendly games and the results are as follows: v. G.M.P.s won by 3—1 and lost by 2—3, v. 6th Battery R.A. drew at 1—1, won by 1—0, drew at 1—1 and lost by 1—2, v. Meerut College won by 11—1, v. B Squadron Royal Dragoons won by 2—1.

We visited Delhi to lose to the 1st K.S.L.I. by 1—4 goals. Had it not been for the able assistance of Corporal Robson and the splendid game played by L/Corporal Horne, it might have been worse. Our goal was scored by Sergt (Percy) Hayhoe. So now we await our revenge when they come here, which we hope will be soon.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

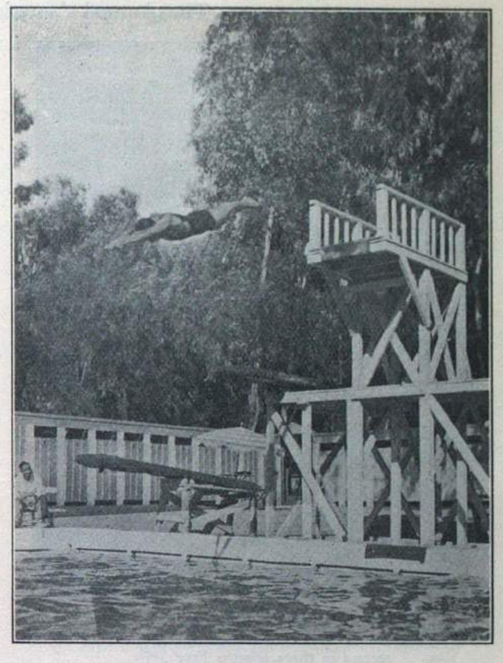
F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Football.—v. Attached Section S.T.C. won by 3—1, v. 10th Brigade Headquarters drew at 1—1, v. U Field Battery R.A. drew at 3—3 and lost by 0—7, v. A Company S.T.C. won by 6—0 and lost by 1—3.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Annual Swimming Gala.—This was held during the last week in August, and as usual the heats were contested in the Ezbekieh swimming bath, the finals being held in the Heliopolis bath. The results were as under.

One length back stroke—1 Sigmn Gregory, 2 Signalman Burke, 3 Sigmn Wood.
One length free style, novices—1 Sigmn Johnson, 2 Sigmn Hicks R. E., 3 Driver Quinn.
440 yards free style—1 Sigmn Greenberry, 2 Signalman Clarke, 3 Sigmn Cockshott.
One length free style—1 Sigmn Gregory, 2 Sigmn Thompson, 3 L/Corpl Ogden.
Three lengths free style, novices—1 Sigmn Hicks R. E., 2 Driver Quinn, 3 Sigmn Maunder.
880 yards free style—1 Sigmn Clarke, 2 Sigmn Boylett, 3 Sigmn Caveney.
Two lengths free style—1 Sigmn Brierley, 2 L/Corpl Ogden.
One length breast stroke—1 Sigmn Greenberry, 2 L/Corporal Ogden, 3 Sigmn Cockshott.
Three lengths free style—1 Sigmn Brierley, 2 Sigmn Gregory (what a wangle, Greg!), 3 L/Corpl Parry.
Plunge—1 Sigmn Hallam, 2 L/Corpl Rossiter, 3 L/Corpl Parry.
Diving—1 Sigmn Thompson, 2 Corpl McCreeth, 3 Sigmn Clarke.



Corporal McCreeth favours an English "header."

Open relay (teams of three) one length back, one length breast, one length free style—1 King's Own Royal Regiment, 2 Royal Army Service Corps, 3 Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Command Swimming Championships.—The Command individual and team swimming championships were held at Heliopolis during the last full week in August.

We did not do so well as in previous years, as a number of the team have been on out-stations and could not return to Cairo until the night prior to the commencement of the meeting, and this was the first occasion on which they had met during the present swimming season.

In the individual diving Sigmn Thompson proved the Command champion for the second successive year.

Sigmn Gregory, the hero of many Corps and Command championships, faded out this year, but he covered himself with as much glory as in previous years. He won his heat in the 75 yards free style, but refused to defend his 75 yards back stroke championship, which he has held for three successive years. He was really ill, and wanted to save himself for the Corps water polo match which was to follow within an hour. So poor old Greg goes home this trooper without any 1934 championships!

In the first round of the Command knock-out water polo competition we played the R.H.A., and startled the whole Command by putting our full team in the water for the first time this year. Sigmn Gregory scored the only goal of the match. Thank you, Gregory, for placing the Corps before individual honours.

Later in the meeting we defeated the Grenadier Guards in the next round by six clear goals—Signalmen Gregory and Brierley each scoring three.

In the semi-final we played the R.A.S.C. and within a few minutes we were leading by three clear goals, but at half time that lead had been reduced to 3—1. We crossed over to defend the shallow end, confident that we would maintain, if not increase, that lead, but time found the scores even at 3—3. Extra time was ordered, and in the second half Sigmn Sebborn scored the solitary goal which carried us into the final by a 4—3 victory.

The Annual Aquatic Gala of Egypt Signals.



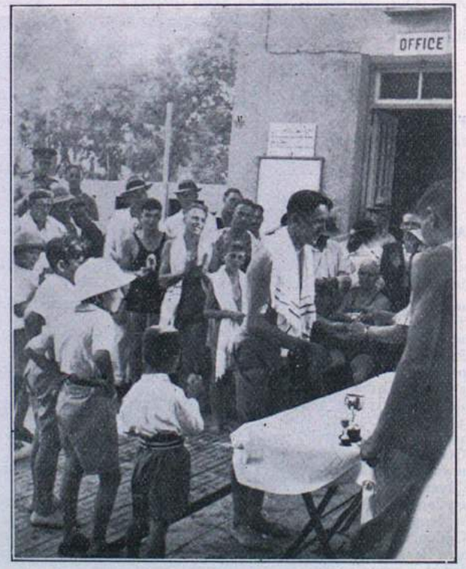
Signalman Gregory.
First in one length Back Stroke and one length Free Style, second in three lengths Free Style.



Signalman Hicks.
First in Novices three lengths Free Style, second in Novices one length Free Style.



Signalman Johnson.
First in Novices one length Free Style.



Signalman Brierley.
First in two lengths and three lengths Free Style.

The Annual Aquatic Gala of Egypt Signals.



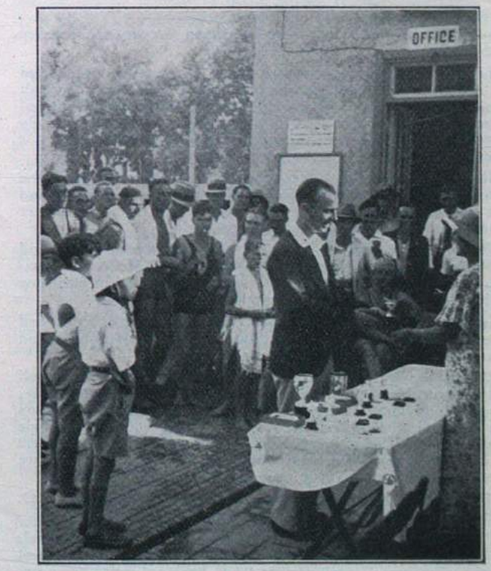
Signalman Clarke.
First in 880 yards, second in 440 yards, third in Diving.



Signalman Greenberry.
First in 440 yards and one length Breast Stroke.



Signalman Thompson.
First in Diving, second in one length Free Style.



Signalman Hallam.
First in Plunging.



Signalman Thompson doing a Swallow Dive.

The scorers in this match were Signalmen Gregory (2), Brierley and Sebborn.

In the final we met the 12th Royal Lancers—an undefeated team during the present season and League champions. At half time they led by three goals, but in the second half L/Corporal Kenneally reduced that lead by one goal, so that we eventually lost by 1—3. This was an extraordinary feat, seeing that our team had played together only four times.

In the remainder of the team events we were unplaced in the 880 yards, 440 yards, five lengths relay (teams of three), and the plunge, although in the last named event L/Corpl Rossiter made a useful plunge of 58 feet 2 inches.

Although our team comprised Sigmn Thompson (Command individual champion, 1933 and 1934) and Corpl McCreeth (Command runner-up, 1932 and 1933), we only succeeded in obtaining fifth place in the team diving competition.

In the medley relay (one length back, one length breast and one length free style) we failed to get beyond the semi-final, and that was an event we felt sure of winning.

Disqualification put us out of the final of the unit relay, and we were unable to win the remaining final—the 75 yards relay, for teams of four—so for the first time for a number of years we conclude the swimming season without winning a single event. Sergt Hitchens and Sigmn Seale are the only members of last year's successful team who have left the country, so we cannot attribute our failure to a break-up of the team.

The placings in the Command championships were: 1st K.O. R.R., 2nd R.A.S.C., 3rd 12th Royal Lancers, 4th Royal Signals.

Our swimming team comprised Corpl McCreeth, L/Corporals Kenneally, Parry, Rossiter and Ogden, and Signalmen Brierley, Clarke, Gregory, Greenberry, Hallam, Sebborn and Thompson. The water polo team included Corpl Gibbs, L/Corpls Kenneally and Ogden, Signalmen Barnes, Brierley, Gregory and Sebborn.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Rowing.—The crews have kept in light training in anticipation of the challenge cup and challenge trophy which commence at the latter end of September.

Cricket.—Results of matches played during the month are as follows:—

v. Dockyard Tower, lost by 37 runs (65—102). Sigmn Pendlebury 22, Corpl Parry 17; Sigmn Harvey three for 4.
v. H.M.S. *Shamrock*, won by 86 runs (180—94). Signalman Harvey 46, Sigmn Blake 31; Sigmn Waller six for 44, Corpl Parry three for 20.
v. H.M.S. *Shamrock*, lost by 9 runs (112—121). Corpl Parry 44, Q.M.S. Harris 20; Corpl Parry six for 62, Signalman Fuller two for 12.
v. R.A.M.C. lost by 19 runs (43—62). Corpl Parry 20; Sigmn Waller four for 17.
v. R.A.M.C. lost by 40 runs (91—131). Corpl Parry 27, Sigmn Pendlebury 18; Corpl Parry seven for 55, Q.M.S. Harris two for 4.

Tennis.—Two further matches in the Command Inter-Regimental League have been played:—

v. R.A.O.C. drawn. Carr and Waller won by 6—1, 6—3. Blake and Tavender lost by 3—6, 3—6.
v. R.E. lost. Carr and Waller lost by 4—6, 7—5, 4—6. Blake and Tavender lost by 3—6, 3—6.

Several men also entered for the Command individual championships, but unfortunately we have none left in the finals.

The Section tournament is now in full swing. L/Corpl Carr and Sigmn Taylor have reached the singles final, and L/Corpl Carr and Sigmn Postance v. Corpl Parry and Sigmn Taylor the final of the doubles. These will take place in the near future.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Sports.—The unit sports were held at Wimborne St. Giles Camp, Dorset, on the 6th August. All events except the open mile were run on a Company team basis.

Events and winners—100 yards, No. 3 Company. 880 yards, No. 1 Company. Tug-of-war, No. 3 Company. 440 yards, No. 2 Company. All ranks relay, No. 3 Company. 220 yards, No. 1 Company. Obstacle race, No. 3 Company. Mixed mile relay, No. 2 Company. One mile: 1st Sigmn Baker J. (No. 2 Company) 2nd Sigmn Bartlett W. R. (No. 3), 3rd Sigmn Dawe G. C. (No. 3)

Boxing.—This competition was also held at camp. No. 3 Company secured the trophy with 15 points, No. 1 Company were second with 5, and No. 2 third with 4. No. 3 Company held the advantage in a much larger number of entries. The results were as under.

Middle weight final—Sigmn Smith (No. 3 Company) walked over.
Welter weight—Semi-finals: L/Corpl Challice (No. 1) walked over, and Corpl Dear (No. 3) beat Sigmn Eyres (No. 2) on points. Final: Corpl Dear beat L/Corpl Challice on points.
Light weight final—Sigmn Fildew (No. 1) beat Sigmn Phillips (No. 3) on points.
Feather weight—Semi-finals: Sigmn Darch (No. 3) beat Sigmn Baker (No. 2) on points, and Sigmn Harvey (No. 2) beat Sigmn Newton (No. 3) on points. Final: Sigmn Darch walked over.
Fly weight final—Corpl Prout (No. 3) beat Sigmn Petherick (No. 3) on points.

The annual presentation of unit trophies took place at camp on the 11th August. Colonel The Lord Basing, the commanding officer, handed them over to the respective winners as shown.

The Moore efficiency trophy—No. 3 Company.
The Gould cup (open range musketry)—No. 1 Company. Team: 2/Lieut. H. W. Fenwick and Signalmen Floyd and Clatworthy. Each received a bronze medal.
The football shield—No. 2 Company.
The Michelmore trophy (miniature range)—No. 225 F.A.S. Section (Topsham). Possible 80. Top scorer, Corpl Pulman, 77.
The Varwell boxing trophy—No. 3 Company.
The Murray sports cup—Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies tied with 12 points each. This is the first occasion on which such a close result has been obtained.

THE WIRE

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- Editorial Notes -

Royal Signals Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display, 1934.—Lieut H. N. Crawford, the secretary of the Display Party, has prepared a 24-page illustrated handbook giving brief details of the origin and performances of the Display, with the names of those taking part and the "pedigree" of the horses which had their share in providing many thousands of spectators with a thrilling exhibition of athletic daring, skill and ingenuity.

The greater part of the handbook is occupied by illustrations of various "stunts," kindly made possible by the proprietors of newspapers and magazines who have lent blocks used in their various publications.

Bound in a light blue cover printed in dark blue and green to approximate the Corps colours, the handbook is well worth the modest shilling for which it is on sale to members of the Corps if obtained personally from Lieut H. N. Crawford, Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks. If sent by post, an additional threepence will be charged to cover postage, etc.

"A fine production, my masters!"

❀ ❀ ❀

Our very warm congratulations are extended to the Association football team of B Corps Signals, Upper Topa, India, on having won the DURAND CUP at Simla on the 1st October, when they beat the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders by three goals to one. For the first time in the history of the trophy (which is the Indian equivalent of the Army cup at home) the tournament has been won by a non-regimental team; and we share to the full in the felicity of our B Corps Signals warriors in adding yet another laurel to the sporting achievements of Royal Signals. We hope to publish a photograph of the winning team at an early date.

❀ ❀ ❀

We are much indebted to Messrs. W. T. Lowe and E. Phillips (Fellow of the Television Society) of the Central Telegraph Office, London, for a series of technical articles dealing with subjects of intense interest to many of our readers. The first of those articles is published on page 468 of this issue, and others will follow monthly as opportunity arises.

❀ ❀ ❀

We have been asked to notify our readers that the 1935 edition of the Corps Calendar published by Royal Signals in India is now on sale and available for distribution. The Calendar consists of fifteen pages with a detailed history of each unit of the Indian Signal Corps, together with topical illustrations, and can be obtained on application to The Commandant, Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore, C.P., India; price 2/- post free. "Another very fine production, well worth sending for."

❀ ❀ ❀

There has been a noticeable falling off in the number of suitable Cartoons submitted for publication in the Corps Magazine. That such talent exists amongst our readers is well known, and we appeal to those who are gifted in that direction to favour us with subjects of topical interest. Cartoon drawings should be executed in Indian ink and should be posted *flat*, with cardboard protection to avoid damage in transit. The co-operation of those concerned would be much appreciated.

❀ ❀ ❀

Will Unit Representatives and Correspondents kindly note that all manuscript copy and photographic illustrations submitted for publication in THE WIRE will, in future, be destroyed after a lapse of six months. Those desirous of having their contributions returned after publication are therefore asked to notify this office accordingly.

❀ ❀ ❀

Obituary.—We regret to record the death at Fenny Stratford, Bucks, on Wednesday 3rd October, of Harry Robert Nelson, more familiarly known to many of our older readers of R.E. Telegraph Battalion days as "Tich" Nelson, of the original and voluntary "Signals" Band. An old Sapper of 3rd Divisional Signals, he was deservedly popular with all who knew him;

and those of our readers whose service carries them back to R.E. days will share our regret at his passing. A wreath from his "Old Comrades" was sent on the occasion of his funeral, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and family.

❀ ❀ ❀

Received Too Late.—Unit notes from the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of "The Wire" for 1934.—All Readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of THE WIRE for 1934 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. *No Royal Signals Mess Library is complete without it.* Price 8/- per copy, post free (at home or abroad).

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Beds	Salesman
2	Ex-Signalman, London	Electrician
3	Ex-Driver, Manchester	Town Hall Attendant
4	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
5	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
8	Ex-W.O. Kent	Reception Clerk
9	Ex-N.C.O. London	Cadet Servant
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
14	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Labourer
16	Ex-N.C.O. Croydon	Postman
17	Ex-N.C.O. Croydon	Imperial Airways
18	Ex-N.C.O. Swindon	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Extra
20	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Lineman
21	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Lineman
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
26	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Clerk
27	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Wrexham	Pipe Jointer
29	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Northern Command Tattoo Funds.
Royal Signals Officers Mess, Catterick.
W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, S.T.C. Catterick.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Hants. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	£5	0 0
2	Ex-Sigmn Gateshead. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0 0
3	Ex-Sigmn Sunderland. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0 0
4	Ex-Sigmn Surrey. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10 0
5	Ex-N.C.O. London. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10 0
6	Widow of ex-Sigmn London. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0 0
7	Orphanage Quarterly Maintenance Fees		10	0 0
8	Orphanage Quarterly Maintenance Fees		3	18 10
9	Ex-Sigmn Somerset. Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2	0 0

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 17th October 1934.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the November 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 14/11/29.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 12/8/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

An Old Campaigner.

7 Church Street, Uckfield, Sussex, 18th September 1934.

The Editor "The Wire."

Sir.—The enclosed photograph will, no doubt, be of interest to older members of the Corps. Charger No. 3953, aged 19



years, was with the S.T.C. some twelve years back and was ridden by Captain Wiggins, of the School. The horse is now owned by Mr. Botting, of Uckfield, and ridden regularly with the Southdown Foxhounds. On discharge, it was classified as vicious and in bad health. It must have been "swinging the lead," however, for Mr. Botting informs me that it has never once shown vice, and the state of its health may be judged by the fact that it never hesitates either at a bar-gate, a hedge or a wall, providing the rider has courage and is always up with the leaders. The photograph was taken at the Uckfield Carnival, when the horse led the procession for some two and a half hours with 250 performers carrying torches and four bands in attendance.

Yours faithfully, W. J. A. NICKS.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain R. H. Gem from the School of Signals to S.T.C. Catterick.
Captain A. E. Morrison from 1st Divisional Signals to "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.
Captain L. A. E. Tozer from Aldershot to China.
Captain W. O. Bowen from Burma to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant F. H. Pellew from Aldershot to Egypt.
Lieutenant T. W. Boileau from S.T.C. to School of Signals, Catterick.
Lieutenant K. E. Holmes from Catterick to China.
Lieutenant E. V. McCormack from Catterick to India (3rd Indian Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant J. H. L. Crichton from Colchester to India (2nd Indian Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant G. U. Finney from Bulford to India (Kohat).
Lieutenant T. A. K. Howe from Aldershot to India (Peshawar).
Lieutenant C. P. S. Denholm-Young from Catterick to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals).
Lieutenant H. C. B. Rogers from Catterick to Lough Swilly.
Lieutenant M. J. Conway from Scarborough to Cambridge University.
Lieutenant A. D. Boddam-Whetham from Scarborough to Cambridge University.
Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley from Colchester to Cambridge University.
Lieutenant H. V. Hayfield from Blackdown to Cambridge University.
Lieutenant A. J. Hamilton from 1st Divisional Signals to A.D.B. Signals, Blackdown.

UNIT MOVE—

4th Divisional Signals moved from Colchester to Canterbury on 15/10/34.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 18/9/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. R. B. Ridley-Martin is seconded whilst employed as Instructor, School of Signals, 20/8/34.

Lieut. K. R. Holmes is restored to the establishment, 20/8/34.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—J. McVittie to be Lieut. (Qr-Mr) 19/9/34.

56th (1st London) Divl Signals—R.Q.M.S. W. J. Barnes, D.C.M., to be Lieut. (Qr-Mr) 19/9/34.

War Office 21/9/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. P. T. Wood to be Lieut. 29/8/34.

War Office 28/9/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain J. C. McDonald, M.C., to be Major, 29/9/34.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. H. Moyse-Bartlett to be Lieut. 5/9/34.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

53rd (W.) Divl Signals—W. R. T. Barnes to be 2/Lieut. 29/9/34.

War Office 2/10/34

REGULAR ARMY—MEMORANDUM

Lt.-Colonel A. E. Meredith, M.C., half-pay list (late R.Signals) retires on Indian pension, 1/10/34

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut W. S. G. Edgecumbe is seconded under para. 135 T.A. Regulations, 19/5/34.

War Office 5/10/34

REGULAR ARMY—MEMORANDUM

Captain W. G. L. Kennard, R.Signals, to be Inspector of Signals, Iraq Army, 30/9/34.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. V. Mitchell to be Captain, 4/7/34.
Lieut. W. J. H. Campbell to be Captain, 4/7/34.
Lieut. E. H. W. Banner, from R.Signals T.A., to be Lieut. 6/10/34.

War Office 9/10/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major J. R. Carter, O.B.E., retires on retired pay, 10/10/34.

ESTABLISHMENTS—S.E.E.

Major J. R. Carter, O.B.E., R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Superintendent (Cl. Z) 10/10/34.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. N. A. Waters to be Lieut. 5/9/34.

War Office 16/10/34

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

School of Signals—Captain R. H. Gem, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Adjutant, 1/10/34.
Lieut. T. W. Boileau, R.Signals, to be Adjutant, 1/10/34.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

L. of C. Signals—Colonel J. W. Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D. (retired T.A.) to be Hon. Colonel, 17/10/34.

Film Television.

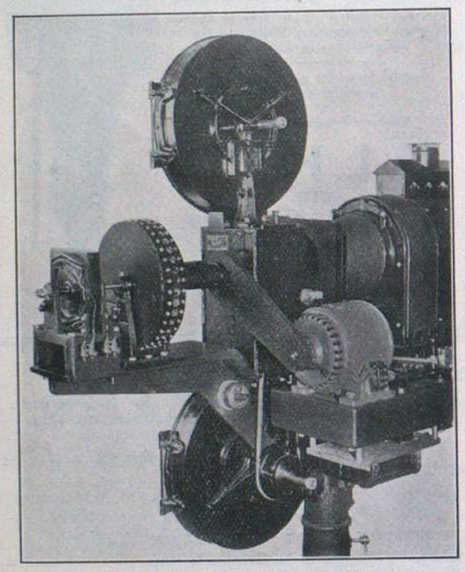
By W. T. Lowe and
E. Phillips (Fellow of the Television Society).

Sound wireless and television will one day be associated. And no doubt signalmen of H.M. Forces will eventually find an additional item added to their list of qualifications.

In the field, film television is likely to be the most useful adjunct, especially as miniature and portable apparatus would be essential, for obvious reasons.

Film television has some advantages over direct television. Greater detail in the received image is possible, particularly in televising outdoor scenes.

Consider, for instance, the televising of the Derby or some outdoor sport. The amount of light which reaches the photo-cell of an ordinary disc or mirror-drum transmitter is not great. As a wide angle of view must be covered, much detail is lost. At the receiver, little more than the outline of the game can be seen.



H.M.V. Film Television Transmitter.
This was demonstrated at the Physical and Optical Societies' Exhibition in 1931.
[*Photo by the courtesy of Electrical and Musical Industries Ltd.*]

If the same scene were photographed, the details and tones would all be reproduced in the film. In televising films, light is directed *through* the film on to the photo-electric cell. Detail and half-tones are transmitted with greater faithfulness to the original, and the received image is correspondingly improved.

Intermediate film television, as against transmission of actual scenes, is most favoured in Germany. One system uses a continuous strip of cinematograph film. The subject can be passed through a television transmitter in *thirty seconds*, and received in the home in less than one minute after the photograph is taken.

Telefunken is another German concern which, in co-operation with I. G. Farben of Ludwigshaven and Professor Karolus of Leipzig, is interested in film television. This company is also paying great attention to developments in cathode-ray reception for the home.

For some some time over here, Baird has transmitted films from the Crystal Palace on ultra-short waves. Although at times the results are inferior to the cinema (even on a much smaller screen) yet they possess an entertainment value. There is not much flicker. Facial expressions are clear. Actions can easily be followed in detail, but the high-lights appear to be rather "muddy."

Practical televising of films is a very delicate task. The size of the films used is about .7 of an inch high and .83 of an inch wide, so that the difficulties of accurately scanning such a small area will be appreciated.

(The above particulars relate to sound-films—that is, the transmission of "talkies.")

One hundred and eighty lines scan the picture. Each line is therefore only .0046 of an inch wide! A special system of lenses is used to overcome the difficulty which would normally arise in scanning-disc methods, by reason of the extremely small amount of light which passes through the holes. One method is to place a powerful light behind the film to be transmitted. The beam passes through the celluloid. It reaches the lenses. From here the picture is projected on to the scanning-disc. And so the minute subject is enlarged prior to transmission.

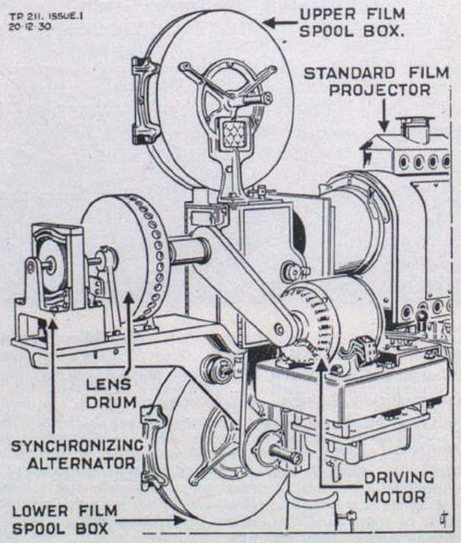
This is a similar procedure to projecting films in a cinema. You merely substitute scanning-disc for screen.

The light which passes through the holes of the disc, however, is collected by another system of lenses placed behind the disc. From thence, the light is directed into the photo-electric cell.

Another system places the source of light *behind* the scanning-disc. Coming through the holes, this light is focussed down by the lenses to cover the small area of film. In this instance, the light required is much less powerful, but the apparatus is not so easily adjusted.

Then there is the variable-speed method, in which the scanning-spot travels fast over dark portions of the picture and slowly over the high-lights. But this system is only applicable to the cathode-ray tube.

Technically, however, the television of objects by transmitted light, as through films and lantern-slides, is simpler than the television of objects by reflected light. It was Mr. J. L. Baird's success in the latter sphere in 1926 that warrants him the title of "the Inventor of Television." Numerous experimenters had previously obtained reproductions of films or lantern-slide subjects, but Baird was the first to obtain reproductions of the living image, which is television.



Explanatory Diagram of H.M.V. Film Television Transmitter.
[*Reproduced by the courtesy of Electrical and Musical Industries Ltd.*]

Plain Tales

Lesser Lunacy.—Have you noticed how many of our Wire correspondents commence by saying they have nothing to write about, doesn't the time come round quickly, and thank goodness, that's finished? So do I neither. I don't believe any of them. Just lately I find my time fully occupied, and apart from the fact that I *never* know what to write about, I don't *want* to write. A brand new hobby has bitten me. I am an inventor. Just at the moment I am engaged on a most ingenious piece of work. It consists of a flat strip of brass about a foot long. In the centre stands an ebonite pillar with a spiral groove. On one corner of the strip I have fitted the spring from an alarm clock, and fastened it with a brown shoe lace so that it cannot unwind. A series of geared wheels is set in motion by a small dynamo clamped on the opposite corner looking south. I have not yet decided what use it will be.

• • • •

November Note—

When fireworks bang and rockets soar,
Run out and buy the kid some moar.

• • • •

Ped. Ped.—Tom Sayers' Cabaret Band (advt.) is about to suffer yet another disaster. Tom Sayers himself goes on the Terriers at Stratford early in November. We shall be very sorry to lose him, but Sigmn Pip Carlton, who has had previous experience of the work in India, will do much to soften the blow. It will not surprise me to hear that Sergeant Sayers is organising another band from among his new friends. Sigmn Giles has taken over the drums and is settling down rapidly. Sigmn Softly (trumpet) has not yet been replaced. There is a good violinist in the unit who declines to play because he doesn't like late nights. A great pity. Anyone who fancies his chance on the piano accordion is requested to come and see me right away.

• • • •

In Brief.—Arrived. R.S.M. T. Harrison, early in October, with Mrs. Harrison and the two girls. All looking fit and very welcome.

Gone. Lots of people. Lieut. G. U. Finney for one. Wonder what he did with his Ford?

Going. Joe Cotterell. Truly, no joke. Joe for India. Sensation. Lieutenant M. A. Charlton and one case, wood, packing. There may have been others, but I am only interested in one. Sergt (Imaginary Line) MacIntosh, also for India.

Week-end. C.S.M. Thomas. What! again?

Slimming. Joe Brooks, but not so much that you'd notice it.

Petticoat Government. C.Q.M.S. Arthur Fuller. Tied hand and foot, but doesn't seem to mind.

Shaking. C.Q.M.S. A. Knight (Notchy). Reason somewhat obscure.

• • • •

Ukann Larfe Again.—Ukann Larfe threw himself into a chair with a curse. This was a deplorable habit of his which had often led to much bitter feeling between him and his beautiful but fiery tempered wife. On more than one occasion Ukann completely missed the chair and threw himself into the glass front of a book-case or against a small table covered with delicate pieces of china. However, this time he was lucky and landed in the centre of the chair. Hermione sat on the piano stool and idly fingered the scale of G sharp minor.

"Shut that beastly piano up, woman!" screamed Ukann. "And that last note but one should be a natural."

Hermione Larfe, being a woman of some spirit, slammed the lid with such force that a great split ran along its entire length. "Say, Ukv. What you gonna do? Divorce me?"

"No. Why should I? Inspector Faceache has explained everything, and besides, we must get this Plugger fellow fixed up."

A powerful racing car pulled up outside Scotland Yard with a noise like a quartermaster moaning about deficiencies. The little knot of plain clothes men playing cards on the front steps sprang to their feet as Lord Percy Penchant staggered from the car. "Anyone at—hic—home?" he asked.

"Why? Whatcher want?"

"Got shom some imporn't—important inf—informashn for bosh—boss."

Even as Detective Sergeant Bladderwort threw up his arm to stop a speeding delivery van, there came a fierce burst of machine gun fire. Lord Percy sank to the pavement.

"See the name on the van?" asked the sergeant, his eyes blazing. "Ah! Plugger and Co. Ltd. What a nerve!"

"Get on to the boys at once. Tell 'em to come right away."

Do not miss our next staggering chapter.

• • • •

Believe It or Not.—A Glasgow friend of mine was feeling a little fed up with an American acquaintance who had been throwing his weight about more than usual. Jock took him down to Clydebank, and the American was only mildly interested until they came in sight of the almost completed "534." Then his face lit up. "Land sakes!" he cried. "That's a hefty lil' boat."

"Where?" asked Jock.

"Over there, man. Gee! what a size!"

"Well, fancy that!" said Jock, displaying great surprise. "It was no there last nicht."

Barleux.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Murree Mists.—I have a hazy recollection that I have recently spent a month in the Murree hills after an intensive course of sunbathing on the Plains.

After leaving the bull-dog episode on the railway station and haggling with a hundred lunatics who desired (as I understood, with my limited knowledge of Urdu) to take me in a supercar to the ends of the earth for 100 rupees, I espied a C.Q.M.S. of the Corps from Peshawar who rescued me from the rabble and tucked me in the front seat of an automobile which, from its looks, ought to have been relegated to the knacker's yard long years ago. I mentioned this fact to the quarterbloke, who said that after spending seventeen years out here he had found that many a good tune was played on an old fiddle and that we should reach the land of the Galis o.k.

For about three miles we ran through the suburbs (?) of Rawalpindi, and I was amazed at the poor state of the roads and the congestion of animals and traffic which occurs in this part of the city. Most evident above all the noise and bustle, however, was a *smell* that would cause any self-respecting soldier to don his gas mask without orders. Unfortunately, being without gas masks, we had to resort to the usual cigarettes. This is a bit of India which is never apparent on those glorious snaps which proud album possessors show, and yet a most necessary evil to any Indian bazaar. After many hairbreadth escapes from which my ticker has not yet ceased to palpitate, we reached Murree in time for a bath and breakfast.

Murree is essentially a resort for ladies from the Plains. Mere man is only tolerated as "the goose that lays the golden eggs" in very many cases. Yet I've been given to understand that a great sigh of relief is wafted to the heavens when the time comes for those families, stuck away for months in the hills, to return to the outstretched arms of hubby on the Plains.

A succession of storms and (on most days) mist was my experience of this hill station 7300 feet above sea level, but when the sun *did* shine, the panoramas were magnificent and the rarefied air a pleasure, and the vegetation awakened impressions of old England.

The Mall in Murree is the meeting place of all manner of folks of all castes, creeds and beliefs—the native, of course, predominating. It is the promenade of the Station, and I found it advisable to walk out minus a hat, thus taking the line of least resistance by nodding one's head rather than undergo rheumatic pains in one's arm through a perpetual raising of the hat.

It was a pleasure, at the end of August, to meet two warriors of the Frontier, tanned and bubbling over with the joy of life. They had just returned from Kashmir, and what they told me caused me to pack my "traps" within forty-eight hours and get on my way to the place from which I am now writing amidst a scene of exquisite beauty—of which more anon.

Yes, my memory is very misty about Murree.

Tim.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in February 1934) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

1850264	C.Q.M.S. Graham K.	1/7/34	15

To be Staff-Sergeant (Farrier)

*1850142	Sergeant (Farrier) Bellwood W.	1/6/34	70

To be Sergeant.

*2310797	L/Sergeant Bosworth H.	4/4/34	78
*1850321	L/Sergeant Campbell W.	23/4/34	78
*2311061	L/Sergeant French W.	23/4/34	78
2314313	L/Sergeant Hart R.	9/6/34	28
*4793132	L/Sergeant Lynham C.	1/7/34	78
2306824	L/Sergeant Lemon J.	4/7/34	28
2313030	L/Sergeant Gresham H.	20/7/34	28

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

6279929	Corporal Webb D.	15/4/34	34
*4793132	Corporal Lynham C.	23/4/34	78
2316436	Corporal Appleby H.	1/5/34	34
2311312	Corporal Mott H.	1/5/34	34
2315459	Corporal Lewis F.	9/6/34	34
2314010	Corporal Brookes G.	23/6/34	34
*5907860	Corporal Field E.	26/6/34	78
*2312808	Corporal Brazier R.	1/7/34	78
2310903	Corporal Ward E.	8/7/34	35
1850094	Corporal Warren J.	14/7/34	35
2316714	Corporal Jones E.	7/8/34	35
2554430	Corporal Adams M.	18/8/34	35

To be Corporal.

2319141	L/Corporal Oliver J.	24/2/34	50
2313683	L/Corporal Harbury W.	11/4/34	50
2316934	L/Corporal Page C.	18/4/34	51
2315227	L/Corporal Wood J.	25/4/34	51
2310857	L/Corporal Shove J.	1/5/34	51
2309584	L/Corporal Feltham A.	1/5/34	51
6189879	L/Corporal Saunders H.	1/5/34	51
2316545	L/Corporal Wright H.	14/5/34	51
2316223	L/Corporal Teal L.	25/5/34	51
2316525	L/Corporal Hopwood C.	2/6/34	51
2318021	L/Corporal Hothersall P.	9/6/34	51
2316456	L/Corporal Manning G.	12/6/34	51
725518	L/Corporal Hunt J.	21/6/34	51
1053735	L/Corporal Green A.	21/6/34	51
544377	L/Corporal Wainscoat D.	26/6/34	51
2318013	L/Corporal Weeks L.	8/7/34	51
2318523	L/Corporal Nicholson F.	10/7/34	51
2317444	L/Corporal Rowe A.	12/7/34	51
2315423	L/Corporal McKenzie L.	14/7/34	51
2317070	L/Corporal Coles H.	20/7/34	51
2314792	L/Corporal Marsh A.	26/7/34	52
2317221	L/Corporal Chambers E.	10/8/34	52
2316494	L/Corporal Steele H.	10/8/34	52
2316076	L/Corporal Durand A.	25/8/34	52
2309424	L/Corporal Brunton-Douglas J.	28/8/34	52

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2318833	Signalman Snell J.	6/1/34	
2319375	Signalman Smith H.	1/2/34	
2319450	Signalman Dunlop W.	16/3/34	
2314263	Signalman Greenland A.	19/3/34	
37403	Signalman Berry W.	5/4/34	
2318889	Signalman Cartledge A.	6/4/34	
2318873	Signalman Bowyer W.	11/4/34	
2318380	Signalman Dean S.	11/4/34	
2317522	Signalman Pettit T.	25/4/34	
2317639	Signalman Lamont W.	25/4/34	
2318958	Signalman Henwood S.	1/5/34	
2318959	Signalman West W.	1/5/34	

* *Special Roster (India)*

2318491	Signalman Drake R.	1/5/34	
2319119	Signalman Cant R.	3/5/34	
2319819	Signalman Hickman H.	14/5/34	
2319888	Signalman Roberts J.	15/5/34	
2321581	Signalman Daly C.	18/5/34	
2317061	Signalman Macey A.	25/5/34	
2320583	Signalman Davidson F.	25/5/34	
2319498	Signalman Dangerfield W.	28/5/34	
2320204	Signalman Rumford G.	2/6/34	
2320117	Signalman Thornton G.	2/6/34	
2319345	Signalman Rudd P.	9/6/34	
2320042	Signalman Stringer A.	12/6/34	
2320075	Signalman Wilson G.	21/6/34	
2318434	Signalman Welch A.	21/6/34	
4609343	Signalman Woolner A.	26/6/34	
2315420	Signalman McKeer J.	27/6/34	
2316991	Signalman Walton S.	10/7/34	
31889	Signalman Barter E.	12/7/34	
1058214	Signalman Shorrock L.	14/7/34	
2321200	Signalman Peuleve E.	15/7/34	
2319874	Signalman Cole L.	16/7/34	
2318415	Signalman Ford T.	17/7/34	
2316134	Signalman Lancaster F.	20/7/34	
2318761	Signalman White H.	25/7/34	
2318978	Signalman Bisby C.	25/7/34	
2315844	Signalman Thomas G.	26/7/34	
760021	Signalman Linington R.	27/7/34	
2319312	Signalman Abraham J.	27/7/34	
2321810	Signalman Deakin A.	30/7/34	
2315947	Signalman Heighton E.	31/7/34	

The dates of appointment to Lance-Corporal of the undernamed, appearing in the August issue, have been amended by the O. i/c Records, Indian Signal Corps, to read as given below.

2319524	Signalman Sherard D.	24/2/34	
2317848	Signalman Moulinie H.	18/4/34	
3185128	Signalman Noble G.	19/4/34	

Discharged.

2306284	W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.) Pitt F.	3/7/34	5
2306250	W.O.ii. (Q.M.S. F-of-S) Terry C.	27/7/34	9
2306502	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Williams R.	30/6/34	6
2306256	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Grist G.	7/7/34	6
2306272	W.O.ii. (C.S.M.) Johns W.	18/7/34	6
2306264	C.Q.M.S. Kirby H.	4/7/34	15
2306278	C.Q.M.S. Warr W.	13/7/34	14
2306242	C.Q.M.S. McDonald F.	20/9/34	14
2306267	Sergeant Cayley W.	19/7/34	18
2311786	Sergeant Malcolm A.	19/8/34	20
2306469	Sergeant Burr W.	26/8/34	19
2306474	Sergeant Battersby W.	14/9/34	15
1858869	Sergeant Carney A.	29/9/34	17
12586	L/Sergeant Gould T.	30/5/34	28
2306276	L/Sergeant Frost H.	6/8/34	30
312120	L/Sergeant Cotton A.	17/8/34	32
2319355	Corporal Dacombe L.	27/6/34	51
1041873	Corporal Whybrow R.	9/7/34	27
2315097	Corporal Franklin W.	11/7/34	36
2315186	Corporal Cousins B.	25/7/34	30
769959	Corporal Burton W.	19/8/34	38
528504	L/Corporal Hoole W.	16/7/34	51
2315171	L/Corporal Slater H.	24/7/34	56

To Army Reserve.

2319537	Corporal Harrison J.	8/8/34	46
2317950	Corporal Phipson L.	24/8/34	43
2317978	Corporal Baker D.	26/8/34	37
2315756	Corporal Wilcock H.	27/8/34	36
2317909	L/Corporal Frost A.	14/7/34	53
2310506	L/Corporal Goring P.	24/7/34	63
1068936	L/Corporal McConnell M.	25/7/34	52
2319509	L/Corporal Field E.	29/7/34	
2315743	L/Corporal Jackson J.	30/7/34	62
2315727	L/Corporal Snow H.	3/8/34	53
2317944	L/Corporal Stanley A.	3/8/34	62
2319536	L/Corporal Etchells J.	7/8/34	56
2317954	L/Corporal Yates A.	15/8/34	62
2317965	L/Corporal Bourne C.	22/8/34	52

Royal Signals
Combined Horse and Motor Car Display.

Last month's WIRE notes left the Display Party about to depart from Catterick for Altrincham (near Manchester) for the last show of the season.

We arrived the day before the event, and were cordially received by the Show secretary and his committee. Mr. Bell, whom the Mounted Wing had met at Catterick, came on the scene and took the officers of the party under his wing. The secretary seemed very proud of his stables, but the horses apparently did not think quite so highly of them, for they instantly started to destroy them!

The following day we put on part one of our Display at 2.45 p.m., and after this was over we were very pleased to find Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., Captain Swan, and many Signals Territorials and old soldiers in our midst. We were honoured and pleased to find that we were so well supported so far from home.

At 3.15 p.m. Lieut H. N. Crawford and L/Corpl Glynn represented the Display Party in the open jumping competition. There was a very large entry, there being over thirty in the class. Lieut Crawford on Hot Pot took third prize.

The second part of the Display was due to be put on at 4.45 p.m., but it was after seven o'clock before we actually took the field. It was nearly dark and the rain was teeming down. Great credit must be given to the drawing power of the Display, for a very large crowd waited in the pouring rain and growing dusk to see our second appearance.

Many of our members have their home in Manchester, so there was a general exodus in that direction immediately we were settled down for the night. The following morning we caught our train at 9.15 a.m. for Catterick. This was not done without difficulty, for the caterers were late with our breakfast. Had we not taken the law into our own hands and raided their back premises, we might never have had any breakfast. Incidentally, we probably fared better this way than the caterers intended; at any rate, we managed to get enough for lunch as well!

Back in Catterick, we hastily packed up for the winter and some of us are now on leave, getting ready to start practising again for next year. We hear that we are due at the Royal Tournament on the 5th May—three weeks earlier than usual.

We are very sorry to say good-bye to Captain Firth, who has left us to become a Territorial adjutant in London. He may well be called the "father" of motor cycle displays, and his figure will be much missed in Catterick "circus" life. We will also miss Mrs. Firth, who was always there to encourage us and lead the applause in the audience. We wish them both the best of luck in their new station, and know that they will be with us in spirit if not in the flesh in 1935!

History and Traditions of Catterick and Surrounding District.

I have often heard the question asked as to what went on in this locality before the advent of the Catterick Garrison. The answer would fill at least one volume of interesting reading. Possibly there is one in existence, but my effort can only be confined to a few outstanding though not widely known facts, together with one or two traditions.

I will commence with Catterick itself. The origin of the name I cannot give, but the history of Catterick goes back so far as the Saxons. At that time Catterick was a prosperous city and, surprising as it may seem, it was here that the marriage of King Ethelbert to a daughter of the King of the Mertians was celebrated. The original Catterick—or whatever it was known as in those days—was destroyed during the invasion of this part of the country by the Danes, prior to the Roman invasion, and never regained its former greatness.

A more recent outstanding event in the locality was the birth at Brompton-on-Swale in the year 1500, of the famous Mr. Jenkins (Christian name Henry). This amazing gentleman lived to the remarkable age of 169 years, 140 of which he spent in thatching (presumably cottage thatching) and fishing for salmon, and was buried in the graveyard at Brompton-on-Swale. A monument marks the spot. (It is interesting to note that the fact of his fishing for salmon indicates that a change must have taken place in the local rivers since his demise. Trout and grayling have now taken the place of the larger sporting fish.)

Following the Swale westward from Brompton brings us to Easby Abbey. Founded about 1152, little remains except the crumbling outer walls. To realise the original magnitude of the structure, one needs to view the ruins from the rising ground on the north side—where, by the way, is a stone on which one may stand and shout, and hear the shout echoed from all sides. The origin of the stone I could not discover, but it would appear to have some bearing on the Abbey. Possibly it was from this stone that the monks were called in at the end of the day. One of these monks was nothing if not practical. History has it that at an annual Richmond Fair of bygone days a considerable amount of gold and silver plate, jewellery, etc., was on show, when word was received that King John had arrived at a neighbouring castle. The news caused no little consternation amongst his worthy subjects of Richmond, who, knowing their king, decided to hide their precious possessions, and in due course they were buried quite safely near Easby. At least, the citizens thought them safe; but a worthy monk, who had watched the burying, went and dug them up and claimed them as treasure trove!

From Easby we reach Richmond, where the castle demands our attention. Recognised as one of the finest Norman towers in the kingdom, the castle was built in 1146 and at one time and another has been the scene of much military activity, being formerly of great strategic importance. At least one king entered it as a prisoner. Many fierce battles have been directed or planned within its walls, and it is said that after one encounter in the vicinity of Richmond, in which no fewer than 60,000 men took part, the river Swale flowed red with blood for three days.

Neither was Richmond immune from the ravages of the Plague, and a large number of the victims were buried in the castle grounds. (This fact, a short time ago, prevented excavations being carried out on the site of the castle.)

Now to return to the annual fair on another occasion. A shooting booth had been erected, and to mark the occasion an

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eminent citizen of the historic borough was to discharge the first blunderbuss. The crowd gathered round, the worthy citizen aimed, and off went the blunderbuss. Unfortunately, an old lady thought fit to mar the proceedings by walking behind the booth and stopping a certain amount of shot with her rather rotund figure. Luckily she wasn't killed, but it took the whole profits of the fair to pay the surgeon's bill and to compensate the woman for her injuries.

But records are not filled altogether with tales of the shedding of blood on the banks of the Swale. For instance, we find that shortly after the introduction of Christianity into Britain a throng of some 10,000 persons were baptised in the Swale by Paulinus, Archbishop of York.

From the banks of the Swale we go on to Willance's Leap, a precipice of some 200 feet. Tradition has it that Willance, a local gentleman, while out hunting was carried over the precipice by his horse, which had bolted. The horse was killed, and Willance sustained a broken leg. Another version adds that, finding his leg broken, he cut open the animal's belly and placed the injured leg inside to keep it warm and counteract the pain until assistance arrived. There is a tombstone in Richmond Churchyard to his memory, and a large granite obelisk marks the spot where he leaped over the precipice.

Although I had intended to write only of Catterick and the adjoining Swaledale, on second thoughts we might also take a glance at Wensleydale, which, after all, is but a short distance from the Camp.

From the scene of Willance's Leap we travel westward across country to Leyburn, passing over the very fields across which, in the year 1569, Mary Queen of Scots, destined soon to be beheaded, fled in a vain attempt to escape from Castle Bolton. Legend has it that she might have eluded her captors had not her shawl become entangled in the branch of a tree. The scene of her flight is to this day known as Leyburn Shawl.

The more we study the countryside, dotted here and there with these ancient abbeys and strongholds, the more we realise its important bearing on English history. Hardly have we left Leyburn than Middleham Castle, another spectre from the dim and distant past, looms before us. Built in the latter part of the thirteenth century, Middleham Castle soon became famous. Here came Richard, Duke of Gloucester, the accredited villain of Plantagenet history. Middleham became the "Windsor" of the north, and the ancient castle was the birthplace of many of the ruthless plots and intrigues which are now so many blots on the country's history.

That they found time for other things at Middleham is evident from the records of huge feasts given in the castle. At one such orgy of eating (the only adequate description) pies, each containing turkeys, geese, rabbits, hares, pigeons, fowl and woodcock were served, and the cattle slaughtered for the occasion numbered several hundreds. After reviewing the contents of one pie, we must at least give them credit for taste and appetites. (It should, however, be remembered that these feasts lasted for the better part of a week.)

In common with most old castles, tradition has found a secret subterranean passage, which at Middleham is supposed to lead to Jervaulx Abbey—pronounced "Jervo" and familiar to us as the scene of part of Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe." The abbey flourished from 1141 to 1537. During this period, it is interesting to note that the monks owned copper mines and had the sole right of mining coal over a considerable portion of Wensleydale. (These mines do not now exist.) The monks were also allowed to kill deer—no small privilege in an age when the peasantry were forbidden to do so under the pain of losing a limb or maybe their heads.

The first Abbot of Jervaulx, one John de Kingston—credited with a vision of the Virgin and Child, who directed him on his way when he was lost in Yorevale—is buried at Jervaulx, where his tombstone can still be seen. The last abbot, Adam Sedburgh (or Sedbar) was not quite so fortunate; he was executed at Tyburn in the year 1537 for high treason and purloining the abbey plate.

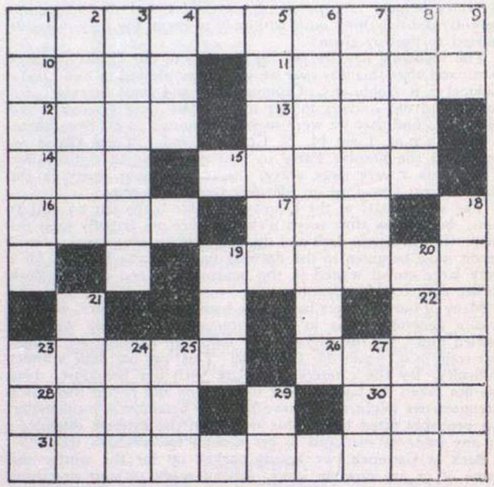
With the decline of the abbeys and the general acceptance of one sovereign, the villagers were no longer required to give their allegiance to the "Lord of the Castle" and settled down to till the soil. With one or two interruptions, again to take up arms, this occupation continued until the present time.

Although I have only referred to some half dozen castles and abbeys, do not imagine that I have mentioned them all—there are many more. Neither have I mentioned the many small villages and hamlets, each of which can justly lay claim to a fair share of the history, traditions and legends of the Dales.

B.W.

Cross-Word Puzzle : No. 10.

[For amusement only]

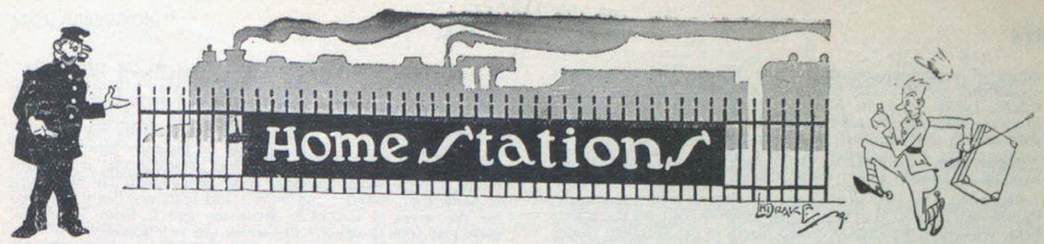


Clues—Across.

1 Having many colours.
10 We are expected to do this in the Services.
11 Architectural feature.
12 To enlist troops.
13 A cockney would say "Blimey!"
14 Almost an Egyptian mythological deity.
15 Last or perfect state of an insect.
16 French for "head."
17 Preterite tense of "to eat."
19 Coquettes.
22 Italian river.
23 Friendship.
26 State of want.
28 Cotton gauze.
30 Nearly "goodbye."
31 Pertains to the brain.

Down.

1 Sergeant-Majors often are not.
2 C.Q.M.S.s often are.
3 A priest.
4 "The Three ??????? Men."
5 Pertaining to winter.
6 Supplication.
7 An Asiatic wild ass.
8 Nearly mid-on.
9 London district.
18 Pertains to the spinal marrow.
19 Fated to die.
20 Tepid (*anag.*)
21 An augury.
23 Sold in public houses.
24 Incorporated (*abbrev.*)
25 Plural apt to get trodden on at times.
27 Lea (*anag.*)
29 Surprise.



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Sympathies.—Spectator No. 1 (at football match): "Old Buttonstick doesn't seem to be doing much good." Spectator No. 2 (sympathetically): "No; that is true. But he is not in his correct position to-day." S. No. 1: "Oh! then where should he be playing?" S. No. 2: "Lineman."

This is awfully sporty. The Mounted Wing drew with F Company at hockey. We had a good game. F might have scored more but that they only had two shots at goal. The final score was two all. Maybe our goalkeeper felt strange at being so adequately clothed—and booted.

Definition.—In spite of murderous threats (gore and drooling, eh, Freda?) I *will* get this published. Necessities for the cultivation of wallflowers are (i.) a wall, (ii.) a hut orderly, and (iii.) good luck. But would a papier maché structure or a plan of Catterick Camp be suitable in lieu?

And we had a chit asking whether we wanted chestnut or oak trees for the unit lines. The power that is scribbled "oak" at the bottom and passed it to the orderly room for typing. The latter, being by now largely Americanised, mistook it. The typist said oak and chestnut were the same thing, weren't they? Orders clerk said he was no gardener and didn't know. Registration said that wasn't how "oke" was spelt. Despatch remained aloof and laughed at them all.

Changes.—Pay, nil. Personnel, normal. P.S.: To Mush-along Postlethwaite Baxter. Service pay is granted to a soldier to give him a little baseless optimism. It has a shorter and less polite Service name.

And while discussing the Service (so interesting, dontcherthink?) the encyclopedia acknowledges three kinds of intelligence: human, animal and military. Significant? Well, read the spy books. Curious game, spying. The better you are at it, the less people must hear of you. Maybe an ideal world must be peopled with spies or people who have the spy mentality—utter unselfishness and a desire to work for the plaudits of a very secret few. An extremely select coterie.

Books to Read.—"History of the World War," by Liddell Hart; "Defy the Foul Fiend," by John Collier; "Theory of Determinants," by T. Muir.

Music to Hear.—Unfortunately: Radio Luxembourg. Occasionally: a Prom. This latter by accident, I am told. Steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence.

More Sympathy.—Further to the above paragraph with the same title. I meant that his boots, although size ten, were but poor substitutes for skis.

Heaps of soccer and rugger is being played, and consequently much work is being done in the Wing offices. "We'd better have this in Orders because Blank and Dash (old friends) are playing against each other, and it will be useful at the C. of I." This is nothing like a C. of E., since it is governed by logic (not dogma) and its pronouncements are always binding and usually truthful.

Conundrum.—When a lamb, instead of baa-ing, begins to tee-hee, does he become a sheep or a goat? All replies to be addressed to somebody else.

And while in the vicinity, our heartiest congratulations to L/Corpl (Busty) Gay on his marriage. He will long be remembered as the originator of the wise and witty saying, "I'll still be here when you're not P.R.I. but R.I.P."

More Humour.—Lawks a mussy! isn't the Army a hive, covey, bundle, heap, or what have you of comedy? As witness the recruit who described his father's occupation as "unknown, deceased," and his own as "cheff."

And who was the man who was charged with "prejudice to good order and military discipline"? We are surely allowed our prejudices.

I love A.A.'s humour: "A lance-corporal is a man who orders his beer through a different hatchway."

"Captain (or Mr.) Ledger bowled so slowly, you would have thought the ball was on his charge." "*I* saw you last guest night."

And some of our own. Driver Snaffle (to the pay bloke): "Sergeant, I want to go on short pay until Christmas." Pay bloke (pleased): "That's good news. Thrift and all that. Righto! we'll start you next week with five bob." Snaffle: "Oh! I don't want to do that. Can't I have it all then?"

Home Gardening.—The lines are becoming more and more cultivated every day. Paths, flowers, shrubs, trees and lawns are being made, laid and planted by the score, peck or bushel. The latest excuse for being late on parade is that "I lost my way in the forest by the quartermaster's store."

The roads are also being thoroughly overhauled, and mud will soon be a curiosity outside playing fields. When one thinks of Catterick Camp even three years ago, one is apt to reflect "Sic transit vilii"—which, being interpreted, means "Thank heavens that's gone."

While on the subject of excuses, know ye of the man who, when on the carpet, said in pained astonishment: "Are you insinuating I was drunk, sir?"

Marriages.—We offer our hearty congratulations to Lieut E. V. McCormack on his marriage, on 3rd October, to Miss E. J. McKeag at North Shields. Unfortunately, they must also be coupled with regrets at his leaving us, as Lieut McCormack is due to sail for India on the 10th October.

POSTLETHWAITE.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—After the extra hour in bed on Sunday morning, everyone started this week full of vim and vigour. Even the clerks in the Wing office were breaking all the unofficial rules that govern that trade, and were displaying a phenomenal amount of industry before they managed to obtain that Monday morning "break time" cup of tea. By the way, as it is National Rat Week, we have been specially asked to announce that none of the cadre are conspicuous by their absence. Of course, names could be mentioned, but discretion. . . . . In spite of several veiled (?) hints on the subject, we are still putting in an appearance and doing our best to fill these notes with the usual sweet nothings.

Postings.—No. 58 Squad under L/Corpl Payne passed off the square on 22/9/34. Sigmn Still won the C.O.'s whip as the best man in the squad, Sigmn Cotton the physical efficiency medal, and Signalmen Still and Brooks spoons for musketry.

No. 59 Squad under Corpl Hart passed off on 6/10/34. Signalman Green won the C.O.'s whip, Sigmn Stranks the physical efficiency medal, and Signalmen McMillan and Horstead musketry medals.

Arrivals.—During the past month Captain R. H. Gem has joined us from the School of Signals and has taken over the

duties of second-in-command of the Wing. The 1934 junior n.c.o.s drill and musketry course has assembled here this month. C.S.M. Leckie from the Mounted Wing and L/Corpl Brookes from the Training Battalion have also come to us. We hope their stay in the Wing will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—Lieut E. V. McCormack on leave prior to embarkation for India, and L/Corpl Rose to the Training Battalion.

Recruits.—Our new arrivals are all shaping well and keeping up the standard of the Wing both at work and on the sports field. Several have already gained places in the Battalion teams. No. 63 Squad under Corpl Nicholls won the flag for the cleanest and smartest barrack room for the month.

Inter-Squad Sports, September.—The keen tussles for places and points are almost too numerous to mention here. No. 59 Squad won first place in the soccer competitions, and No. 64 won first place in the cross-country runs and also the shield for the month.

During the early part of September an inter-squad boxing competition was held in the Blood Tub, and practically every squad entered en masse. Considering that a large number of the men had never entered a ring before, some very plucky and interesting fights were witnessed. Herewith is a list of the winners in the different weights and the number of points gained by squads.

Feather weight—Sigmn Williams (No. 65 Squad).
Light weight—Sigmn Morgan (No. 58).
Middle weight—Sigmn Jackson (No. 58).
Welter weight—Sigmn Duckworth (No. 63)
Light heavy weight—Sigmn Burge (No. 62).

No. 58 Squad won first place with 75 points. No. 60 were second with 55, Nos. 65 and 63 equal third with 49, No. 64 fourth with 36, No. 62 fifth with 34, Nos. 59 and 66 equal sixth with 33, and No. 61 brought up the rear with a solitary point.

To bring to a close three evenings of thoroughly good entertainment, the commanding officer presented the prizes on the final night. I think everyone will join in a vote of thanks to the officers who give up so much of their time and take such pains and interest to foster the efforts of the recruits in the different branches of sport. You will all agree that nothing is more encouraging than the knowledge that the officers in the Wing are always pleased to give a helping hand in every way to brighten what is, for most of you, your first tast of life in the Army.

Congratulations.—To Lieut C. P. S. Denholm-Young and Corpl Myddleton on obtaining their places in the Yorkshire County rugby trial match at Acklam Park, Middlesbrough, on the 26th September.

Things We Want to Know.—Who is the junior n.c.o. who borrows the office broom and invariably forgets (?) to return it? Also the n.c.o. (not so junior) who borrows the office Brasso?

Agony.—To T.E.S., A Corps: What about a line on the usual subject? Northampton.

Finis.—Did I hear cheers? As it is impossible for me to be in more than one place at the same time, it would help a lot if anyone connected with the various sports would hand in to the Wing office an account of any particular game which they would like reported in these pages. Please do not send too much. Remember, I have to type it all out for publication.

EL PEE.

Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion.

October has been very quiet so far, the majority of us having yet to get over that furlough feeling. Someone has just remarked that there's every incentive here.

We've been correspondingly reckless and have played three games of soccer, against the Training Battalion sergeants, the School of Signals sergeants, and the Depot corporals (a fine body of men). Results: won one and lost two.

We hope to play the officers this month (maybe the hope is all on one side, 'cos we're a great crowd) and then we look forward anxiously to the return challenge from the T.B. We keep a battered creature here to write about sport; we feed him on shredded "U" blankets and gun fire, and he spawns articles like that about the Training Battalion match, shown in the Sports Notes.

We had our first whist drive and dance on the 5th October, and although there were two regimental balls in the Garrison on the same night, there was quite a decent attendance. This is known as the doctrine of infallibility and is good for colds.

Many congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Pennicott on his elevation to the peerage, and to L/Sergt Jones on his entry into the mess. Auspicious occasions both. Our chief welcome mat is awarded to the orderly room sergeant, Sergt Strawbaum, on his return to work from hospital and leave; and mats are being prepared for the wives of C.Q.M.S. Stevenson and L/Sergt Dunne on their exit from hospital. Do wives get sick leave?

The red carpet is renovated to greet C.S.M.s Ingles and Leckie with their respective families. We hope they find us not a bad crowd. Speaking dispassionately, I might say that we're a . . . . . fine lot—and if the printer omits those dots, I'll wring his neck! [For information only, the printer asks what those eight dots stand for.]

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Very little has happened since the last issue of notes. The majority of the Company have fired their annual musketry course. Those who have yet to fire will, we hope, bring our average—at present fairly good—up to a standard which will put us above the other Companies. The revolver course is now in progress, and we hope to give a satisfactory report in the next issue.

Under a scheme for the improvement of the Company lines, all waste ground in our area is being converted into lawns. When the scheme is completed, all the lines will be enclosed in a series of fences, thus rendering us safe against the ravages of stray sheep, etc.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sigmn Gibson and three exchange operators from D Company, and also a number of recruits from the Depot Battalion, all of whom we hope will find their stay in the Company both pleasant and beneficial.

Departures.—Sergt McMahon, who has been Band sergeant for about eight years, has left us on discharge after twenty-two years service. We wish him all the very best in his new and probably strange sphere of life. L/Corpl Philpott is at present at Aldershot, attending a sergeant cooks course at the Army School of Cookery.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Robinson, of the Band, on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal, presented to him by the commanding officer on church parade on Sunday 7th October. L/Sergeant Chesters W. has re-engaged to complete twenty-one years with the Colours and so enters the professional ranks of soldiering.

Marriages.—L/Corpl Adlington W. was married at Middlesbrough on the 1st September. We wish him all the best, and hope that the week-end trips to Middlesbrough, which are now becoming numerous, do not cause the death of his ancient and trusted motor bike.

Drafts.—L/Sergt Patterson and Signalmen Page and Peddie have been provisionally warned for draft to India, while Sergt Lockyer is warned for China. Any person of Jewish or Scottish feeling who would care to have his or her mail delivered by hand—and maybe free of charge—can apply to me, and maybe it will go.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—We are now preparing for the winter season which will soon be upon us, and we hope it will be a mild one. Extra blankets have already been issued by the quartermaster, with the result that he is now strutting about the lines boasting of his autograph album—he's got every signature available in the Company except his own: he dare not use that too often. In fact, his pen is put away and a typewriter has taken its place. If you have plenty of typing to do, just send it along, as he is thankful for any practice that he can get. We also hear that he has applied for one of the new garages to keep it in.

The polishing of floors still continues to be an excuse from parade. The barrack damages went up when the first squad moved in and found that running, ammunition boots and polished floors did not have a very good effect in keeping plates, mugs, etc., intact.

We sowed grass seed and, lo and behold! it sprang up and made greenness. It certainly improves the look of the lines, and many have volunteered to act as chief cutters next year. We notice, though, that the volunteers are due for posting before the spring.

Ice bags, etc., have been in great demand, for the first class certificate examinations have just finished. We already know how many "D's" have been obtained—if we are to believe all we hear.

Congratulations.—They are all in the sports line this time. To those boys who have the courage to stand up to the instructors at boxing, on their good showing (our instructors, 2/Lieut A. F. McGill and L/Sergt Harrison are sweating on a few Garrison and maybe Army champs). To the cross-country team on their win in the first Mackworth run (the whole twelve to count were in the first twenty-one). To Corpl Boy Piddington and L/Corpl Boy Ball on their promotion to those ranks.

Thanks.—To E Company for giving our team such a great try-out in the first round of the Mackworth hockey. We hope to have beaten them by the time these notes appear. For the next meeting they have decided to call the umpires referees, and to take their own seconds up with them.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieut P. R. Hyde, and hope that his stay will be long and enjoyable: also Sigmn Robertson from D Company (who arrived just in time to type these notes—Typist).

Departures.—Although we are sorry to lose him, we must congratulate Lieut T. W. Boileau on his appointment as adjutant to the School of Signals. We started off by calling this a departure, but it is not so, for his presence is still seen and felt wherever the boys' sports colours appear. We thank you, sir, for your kind support and great interest in our Company.

The following ex-boys have left us to become real soldiers in sunnier climes: Signalmen Salmon, Blackman, Hart R. and Adcock. We wish them the best.

Sigmn Painter has also left us, but not to go far—just to E Company. The Company are holding a parade to see him mount guard.

We lost a very good all-round sportsman in Adcock, and we will look up THE WIRE to see if he carries on the good work with his new unit, the 4th Divisional Signals.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Apologies are tendered for the absence of WIRE notes for the last few months.

Arrivals.—We extend a glad hand to the following arrivals, and hope their stay in this unit will be a pleasant one. From Training Battalion: Signalmen Bonner, Evans, Kirk, Gleason, Rixon, Humphreys, Cullen and Ferguson, Drivers Tillotson and House.

Departures.—Sigmn Anderson to the School of Signals. Signalmen Moran, Smith and Waterston to sunny climes: No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand, Palestine. Corpl Kerr G. to India (they got you after all, Tich). Driver (I.C.) Hamilton to civil life. L/Corpl Hunter to the S.I.C. Defences Signal Section. Sigmn Lawrence to the 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury. Sigmn Mitchell L. to Malaya. Signalmen Clarke, Hutchison and Long to China.

Continuance in the Service.—C.S.M. Strange to continue in the Service until 7/12/38.

Marriage.—Sigmn Brown J. J. to Miss Ellen Coote at Whitfield on 8/9/34.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—Signalmen Hutchcroft, Grant and Barnes have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve. We wish them every success in civil life.

Promotions.—U/L/Corporals Greenland, Dean, Welch and Bisby to be L/Corporals on the Corps roster. First step up the ladder of fame. Congratulations to all concerned. Remember the Field-Marshal's baton, etc. Corpl Adams to be L/Sergeant. "I've been waiting long."

Things We Want to Know.—What is the B.B. League? When is Doctor Alekhine going to visit a certain signalman in No. 1 Company? What were the thoughts of a young gentleman at Southampton who exclaimed "Oh! they're all gone"? Where did *they* go?

For Sale.—Very desirable corner bed space. Owner desires a change of scenery. All modern conveniences, fine view. The owner would exchange for tin of treacle or what have you? Anyone interested and calling between the hours of 4.30 and 5.30 a.m. will hear something that will make his hair curl.

Finis.—Here endeth the efforts of A Corps scribe. One by name

TIKKI.

No. 2 Company.

General.—All is quiet on our front. The C.S.O's inspection is finished, and we are pleased to say that our colours are still flying. The parade on Friday was certainly a good show considering the size of the Companies, although the general opinion prevailed that everybody was over-anxious to put up a good show. The turn out was very good, and the march past and drill proved that we have not forgotten our Depot training. "S" for Signals, or "Certa Cito," as the case may be.

Work in the Company is being carried on as usual. The casuals have fired their course and the employed operators have finished their refresher course. The O.M.E.'s inspection was certainly a trying time for the garage personnel. Two inch back lash in the steering—B. No, sirree, we cannot cope.

Arrivals.—Captain Bailey assumed command of No. 2 Company on 11/10/34, and we hope his stay will be long and pleasant.

Departures.—We were sorry to lose Captain Heffer, who has been posted to the Command Signal Company. Good hunting, sir! Signalmen Allen and Hubble to civilian life. Don't forget the bended knees, Tiger.

Promotions.—U/L/Corporals Greenland and Dean to be paid w.e.f. 19/3/34 and 9/4/34 respectively. Congratulations! (it won't be long now)

DIXIE.

Elegy—Written in a Muscle Factory.

At last! the end of one more day.
Two aching souls creep slowly o'er the lea;
Two darned fools homeward plod their weary way.
O.k., chaps; it's only Matt and me.

Now looms our bungalow in sight.
And through the air the feeble wisecracks fly;
Annual courses keep many awake at night—
A P.T. course kept sleep from Matt and I.

Let not doctors' darlings mock our useful (?) toil,
Our gymnastic joys—their usefulness, maybe;
Let not the crafty with disdainful smile
See muscle-bound trials laid on Matt and I.

Full many a gem of puerile wit unfunny
On P.T. instructors' victims lie;
Full many a table in the gym unsunny
Just wastes its sweetness on Matt and I.

Right in the madding crowd's ignoble strife,
Our sober selves ne'er thought to be;
The controller of our martial life
Ordained a P.T. course for Matt and me.

Haply some dissipated sheiks may say
"Oft have we seen them at the break of sky
Brushing with snappy steps the dews away"—
We meet the sun, dear Matt and I.

For those who may have been "selected,"
The bitter questions answer annually;
Those "in the band," so carefully protected,
"Passed the baby" on to Matt and me.

No further seek our merits to disclose—
Mentally dead, the days creep slowly by;
An alleged physique still remains and shows
The bitter pill that came to Matt and I.

JONZ.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Introductory.—It is not often we function under this heading, and our appearance now cannot be taken as an indication for the future. We have, however, carefully followed our Company scribes, and hasten to repair one or two omissions. These are mainly concerned with sport, but as they are considered to be of general Corps interest we make no apology for trespassing on the topical pages of the Journal.

Athletics.—No doubt, the whole of the Corps will join in our hearty congratulations to Lieut C. H. Stoneley on the close of a very full—and successful—summer season. The summary of his exploits which follows will, we feel sure, be of interest to all.



Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley.

[*Photo by H. H. Menzie, Toronto*]

Ran for this unit's relay team which won open relays at the following Regimental sports: 2nd Medium Brigade R.A., Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Railway Training Centre (Longmoor), Royal Engineers (Aldershot), 2nd Divisional Signals; and 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards (second). Congratulations are also due to Lieutenant R. B. S. Eraut and 2/Lieutenants G. S. K. Maydon and T. G. V. Stephenson, the normal members of the team.

Ran for Milocarians against Royal Military College, won 440 yards in 50 sec.; Royal Military Academy, second in 440 yards; Oxford, in 440 yards relay; Southern Command, won 440 yards.

Ran the final 440 yards in relay for Milocarians, who won the International Club meeting in the British Games at the White City. Again, in the Kinnaird trophy, was second in the 440 yards, won by Lieut Rampling in 49.4 sec. Milocarians were second by two points.

Created a new ground record in the contest between the A.A.A. and Cambridge by winning the 440 yards in 49.2 sec. D. L. Rathbone was second.

Won the 600 yards in 73 sec. at the Plymouth athletic meeting.

Won the 440 yards in 50 sec. in the Army individual championships.

Ran for the Milocarians in the A.A.A. one mile relay. The times of the winning team were: Lieut Craddock 51.8 sec., Lieut Bowen 49.6 sec., Lieut Rampling 48.8 sec., Lieut Stoneley 48.2 sec.

In the A.A.A. championships was second to Lieut Rampling, who won in 49.6 sec. The healthy rivalry existing between these two officers has not escaped the newspaper reporters.

Ran second in the 440 yards in the inter-Services championships.

Ran the final 440 yards of the relay won by England versus France.

Ran third in the 440 yards at the British Empire Games. This event was won by Lieut Rampling in 48 sec.—a new British record. The times for 440 yards by the mile relay team at this meeting were: D. L. Rathbone 50 sec., G. N. Blake 49.5 sec., Lieut Stoneley 48.8 sec., Lieut Rampling 48.5 sec.

Ran second in the 400 metres at the International meeting at Amsterdam. Hardin (U.S.A.) won this event by five yards in 47.9 sec.

Then, just to vary the proceedings a bit, took first prize in the handy hunter competition at the 11th Field Brigade R.A. mounted sports. His horse Wobley provided the motive power in this case.

Finally, in that pot-pourri of everything a he-man ought to be able to do—the Australian trophy—he was content with first place. A full account of the wide range covered by this contest was given in the October WIRE.

We raise our caps S.D. to you, sir, and will gladly uncover again next year. Here's hoping!

Army Team Championships.—Another honourable mention is due to the winners of the one and a half miles medley relay in the Army team championships, particularly as this is the first time any Signal unit has won the event. Here they are in order of running. 110 yards, Lieut Gray, Signalmen Husband, Dunlop and Scarisbrick; 440 yards, 2/Lieut Stephenson; 880 yards, 2/Lieut Maydon; 220 yards, Sigmn Alexander and Lieut Eraut; 440 yards, Lieut Stoneley. If the fates and the Editor are kind, there should be a photograph of the team in the near vicinity of these lines.

Rifle Shooting.—The Corps does not appear to have a great deal of limelight under the above heading. Therefore it gives us the greater pleasure to introduce L/Corpl Thompson H. J., who took part in the following team matches: Army XX. in inter-Services match (winners), Yorkshire in the N.R.A. long range county championship, and Royal Signals in the Steward



1st Divl. Signals Mile-and-half Medley Relay Race Team.

[*Photo by Bassano, London*]



F Section, No. 2 Company, 1st Divisional Signals.

[*Photo by Wm. May and Co. Ltd. Aldershot*]



Lance-Sergeant Farlow on Whistler Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley on Wobley.

[*Photo by Wm. May and Co. Ltd. Aldershot*]

cup. Firing individually, he succeeded in reaching the King's second stage but failed to get into the King's Hundred by one point. He won the qualifier competition with a double possible, and also had the satisfaction of figuring in the prize list of three competitions and three aggregates. Well done! We shall look forward to your getting that extra point next year.

Billiards.—If you've followed these headings, you must be thinking we ought to have "Ubique" in our Corps motto. You needn't think again—you're right, first time.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Sweet, winner of the Aldershot Command snooker championship. He defeated Sergt Neish (R.T.C.) in the final by two games to nil (129—86).

Congratulations to the Sweet family—L/Corpl Sweet (R.A.S.C.) beat his brother L/Corpl Sweet (R.Signals) in the semi-final of the Aldershot Command billiard championship by 500—492. At the risk of being howled down, we cannot refrain from saying "Revenge is Sweet."

Mounted Events.—Whilst Lieut Stoneley was performing on Wobley in the officers section at the 11th Field Brigade R.A. mounted sports, L/Sergt Farlow was successful in lifting the first prize in the n.c.o.s section of the handy hunters competition. This is all the more commendable as it means a Signal Section walking off with both first prizes at a Brigade show. L/Sergt Farlow also won first prize at the Aldershot Command Horse Show for the best trained troop horse, Whistler.

Tailpiece.—We apologise to all and sundry for using up so much valuable space, but regret that we do not anticipate having the material to do the same again next month.

JESSAMINE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The period following a strenuous time on manœuvres is not an ideal one for disporting oneself, one's kit and one's habitation before one's G.O.C. However, after a rush on the Q.M. for kit and a concentrated effort on the M.T. for the O.M.E., we managed to brighten up domestically, sartorially and horticulturally, and feel that we have acquitted ourselves—er—reasonably well.

Arrivals.—The Company extend a hearty welcome to Captain W. O. Bowen, on taking over command of the Company at this critical period. We also welcome to our midst L/Corpl Burgess and Signalmen Frazer, Goodall, Payne, Marvel and Smith T. A. All except the first and last named are for India.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with our late O.C., Captain L. A. E. Tozer, who is off to China. The best of luck to you, sir. L/Corpl Cooke to Sarafand and Driver (I.C.) Thomson D. to China. Good luck to them as well.

Courses.—Lieut L. W. J. Dryland is attending a short P.T. course. L/Sergeant Freeman and L/Corpl Wood R. have gone on six months courses with the G.P.O. at Brighton and Birmingham respectively. Lucky fellows! This also applies in a lesser degree to L/Corporal Watson D. on an R.S.I. course at Catterick.

Without Comment.—Once upon a time there were three single Signal captains—two were married and one went to China.

Marriage.—Our congratulations to Captain C. D. Hinds on his recent marriage. We regret we cannot give any particulars, as he is sojourning in the land of Mussolini.

Births.—(The sequence is accidental.) Double congratulations to Lieut and Mrs. W. J. S. Gray, who have recently become the proud parents of twins.

JESSAMINE.

F Section.

As a Section we feel that we have hitherto kept far too silent, and therefore, in view of our achievements during the past season, we feel that our appearance in print is about due.

Let us start with the more serious side of our activities. Having completed our preliminary Section training, we went into camp at Thursley with the rest of the unit, and we were favoured with the kindest weather that anyone under canvas could wish for. Here, we were able for the first time to get practice with our newly acquired No. 1 sets in their Morris Minor cars. Unfortunately, this partial mechanisation has resulted in the loss of four of our seven riders, leaving only twelve horses in the Section, including the officer's charger. This complicates the transport problem in no small degree and necessitates full use of the Government "grid" (hitherto regarded merely as a rather useless piece of iron which had to be cleaned for the weekly inspection!)

Our camp included an afternoon devoted to sports, both athletic and mounted. On this occasion we were joined by the wives and families, and it was a great success.

Our final excitement (?) before camp finished was provided by a heath fire near Churt, in which we were called upon to protect Mr. Lloyd George from the fire (no rude remarks, please!) It had its compensations, however, for the explanation "destroyed in heath fire" was a very convenient one when accounting for lost stores!

After camp, training with the 11th Field Brigade R.A. commenced in earnest, and our acquaintance with the Long Valley, Tunnel Hill and other well known spots was once more renewed. Naturally we had our spots of bother such as the loaded forage lorry (which must have been fully 30 feet high) which caused a little trouble on silent practice. This, however, was quickly remedied. At any rate, by the time we came to march down to the Plain we felt with some justification that our training had not been in vain. We marched down in two days, spending one night in Popham en route, and got into our camp at Windmill Hill on the 1st September.

Our first job on the following day was to install the camp exchange and its attendant locals, and the operating of this provided some of us with our first experience in working over civilian lines. With this was connected the incident of the exchange operator (he shall be nameless) who, being suddenly awakened by the night alarm bell, at once seized the hand set and murmured "Hello! Billow Minnit answering"—to the amazement of the operator at the Bulford exchange. It should be noted, however, that he had spent several sleepless nights on the last scheme in making similar answers, so perhaps it was excusable.

The manœuvres ended with the rout of the Tanks on the last exercise, and on their conclusion we marched back to Aldershot in one day—no mean undertaking, we can assure you. We did the fifty odd miles in just about twelve hours, including halts, which wasn't too bad.

Well, there you have a brief account of our doings during the summer, and we feel that we can now sit back and take a little well earned rest—after the inspections by A.D.R., O.M.E. and G.O.C.

And now to turn to our less military achievements. At the unit sports, which included athletic, mounted and M.T. events, a spectator at the distribution of prizes was heard to enquire "Is there any other Section except F"—which speaks for itself. Our successes included:

Athletic sports—Second.
Section jumping—First. Team: Lieut C. H. Stoneley, L/Sgt Farlow, Sigmn Lawes, Driver Farley.
Inter-Section relay—First. Team: Signalmen Lawes, Ringrose and Dewdney, Drivers Brown C. and Farley.
Inter-Section medley relay—Second. Team: L/Sergt Farlow, Sigmn Dewdney, and Drivers Farley and Brown H. C.
Wrestling on horseback—First. Team: L/Corporals Emblem and Gilkes, Signalmen Powell and Banham.
M.T. driving (light cars)—First. Signalman Banham.
Command Horse Show—Best trained troop horse class: First. L/Sergt Farlow on Whistler.
11th Field Brigade Mounted Sports—Handy hunter competition. Officers class: First. Lieut G. H. Stoneley on Wobley. N.C.O.s class: First. L/Sergt Farlow on Whistler.
Australia cup (for best officer, n.c.o. or man in the unit)—Lieut C. H. Stoneley.

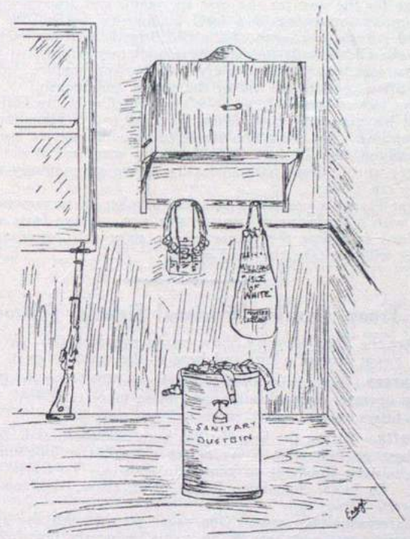
This is only a brief summary of the Section's athletic and other achievements, but sufficient (we hope) to show that we have not been letting the grass grow under our feet!

In conclusion, we wish all who are leaving us for the ends of the earth (we include Catterick) the very best of luck, and that they may continue, wherever they may be, the good work they have been doing with F Section this year. Sergt Evans to the T.A. at Manchester. L/Sergt Farlow on a P.O. course at Peterborough. Corpl Clark on a boxing course. Sigmn Willoughby to China. Signalmen Jenkinson, Cadwell, Holt, Popple, Hallam and Burke to India.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Editorial.—Our special representative, Easy, having gone north for the shooting (or should it be grousing?) he leaves me to fill the gap—not personally, but with this sort of literature—kindly allotted to him by our sympathetic Editor. I use the adjective sympathetic in connection with our Editor, as I know that that is his greatest redeeming feature. It really must be, or I don't think Easy would have lasted so long (sorry, Jacko). Well, that's that.



TO BODY LINE

A SUGGESTION FOR YOUR NEXT KIT INSPECTION

It is not the notes that are troubling me, but the fact that I have unofficially taken them over in exchange for a worn-out suit and overcoat. Of course, we know they are "easy" and not very fussy in small Lincolnshire villages, but it certainly seems rather out of place to re-incarnate a suit which had once been slung into the incinerator. It has now come to the ears of the public here that, in one of those villages, someone with a smart soldierly bearing has been seen walking through the main street, wearing an overcoat on which a painful attempt has been made to disguise the fact that it was once a "U" blanket.

Arrivals.—Signalmen White and Mannering from the Training Battalion. Unfortunately, they don't look like stopping with us for any length of time, as they have both been warned for India. Sigmn Moody has also joined us from No. 3 Company.

Departures.—Corpl Harry Harbin, late of Quetta (six months) has at last started his probationary period with the A.S.P.T., and I believe they call him "Sarnt" now. We shall miss his magnetic personality.

L/Corpl Smith has gone on the Reserve, but it doesn't help us "unwanteds" as regards the akkers, as some one in Sialkot has now got a sweat on.

Admiral Dewar has also left us for civvy street, and we are pleased to know he has a good job to go to. No. 40 Block East misses your nautical yarns, Jock.

Tubby Harden has also gone, his destination being China. He confided to me that already he was able to walk down Nankin Road with his eyes shut. But a word of advice, Tubby: keep your peepers open.

Congratulations.—To Egypt Signals on their fine display in the Egypt Command swimming and water polo championships. Also to Signalmen Gregory and Thompson on winning the back stroke and diving respectively in the individual championships of the Army in Egypt.

General.—The furlough and individual training season has started once more, and also there looms on the not very distant horizon the G.O.C.'s inspection: and for the next fortnight we have our work cut out in getting barrack rooms, stores, etc., ready.

Agony.—Oh, to be in Egypt now that winter's here! It isn't half cold in this place. Roll on.

EASY II.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The Company have settled down again now after the strenuous time at camp, schemes, manoeuvres, etc., and now the order of the day is musketry, individual training, stable cleaning, and general preparations for the G.O.C.'s inspection which takes place on the 18th October.

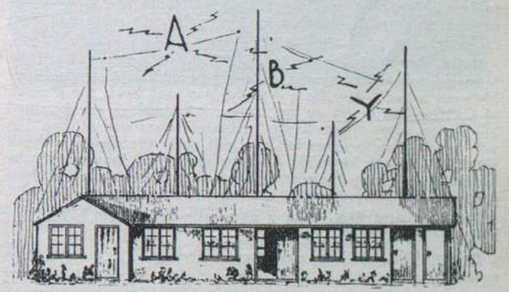
Death.—It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death of No. 2321869 Sigmn Donnelly J. He was admitted to hospital suffering from tonsilitis on 5/10/34, and died at 4.59 p.m. on 8/10/34. Sigmn Donnelly was liked throughout the Company, where he performed the duties of Company clerk, and the deepest sympathy with his relatives is felt by all in the Company.

Departures.—Corpl Dale G. to No. 1 Company and thence to Catterick on a drill course. Sigmn Brookes R. to No. 2 Company.

Appointments.—Congratulations to U/L/Corporals Funnell and Miller on attaining that rank.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone.

THREECO.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Prologue.—Does it seem as long as two months ago that I wrote my last notes? Does it!"? If it weren't for the fact that I have just come back from a refreshing month at the old ancestral home, I doubt if I could attempt the task of getting this stuff away by the 15th of the month. Yes, dear reader—although probably you know it—I simply must tell you that Portsmouth is more wonderful than ever. As for *the* soccer team, they are a —— (cut it out—Censor).

Whilst I was taking my vacation (hard-earned) the moral standard of several of the Cads must have slipped. From what I can gather, trips to Frensham Ponds, Reading, Hook, and (horror of horrors) road-houses have been frequent. I have been assured by the culprits that the trips were innocent and for simple amusement. No doubt, they were amusing: but innocent—well, I doubt it. Anyhow, all this gaiety is a thing of the past. I've got 'em all under my thumb again, and things are very calm (maybe the calm before the storm).

I was rather disappointed on my return. Evidently Allah did not hear my prayers, because the same old faces were knocking around and the same old expressions were coming from the same old lips: "Heard this?" "Stagger me."

I was also rather surprised to find that the W/T Station had been getting along quite well without my help, and that various returns had been going off prompt to time. The " graphologic " section of the station was at a standstill, but that was only what I expected, because I seem to be the only one with whom a graph will make friends.

I really must congratulate the Cads on holding the fort during my absence. The young soldier of to-day seems to be showing a lot of intelligence: a lot more than in my young soldier days. Now, during the Zulu war, I —— (boloney!—Censor).

General.—Captain H. H. Anthony has been admitted to hospital with typhoid fever. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Captain E. S. Heffer assumes command of the Company vice Captain Anthony. We offer our new O.C. a hearty welcome, and trust that his stay with us will be entirely free from X's and frequency deviations.

Just at present Captain Heffer is in the midst of that delightful old Army custom of taking over. He hasn't said whether he is enjoying it, but maybe he will next week, when he starts counting the 2000 odd air line poles and their accessories.

Talking of air line poles makes me wonder what the storeman thinks of the order to paint the lot. If each pole is 16 feet and its length has to be walked twice to complete the job of painting it, I can see him losing all that muscle round his waistline. There's one spark of brightness about it: he won't have time to come over and worry us for various lists of stores. Cheer up, Mac! you may die of painter's colic and get out of the job.

Congratulations.—And hearty ones, to B Corps, Rawalpindi, on winning the Durand cup. Also to Corpl Durand on pulling his second stripe last month. Cheer up, Bert! only six years for the next one.

Inspections.—The C.S.O. paid us his annual official visit yesterday (4/10/34) and having heard nothing nasty, we hope that he was satisfied with our show.

Transfer Market.—Reference our Sports Notes. We are open to buy a first-class goalkeeper, and are prepared to pay three packets of Player's Weights for the right man. No one born in Manchester or Stroud need apply.

India, Beware!—Sigmn Bateman G. has been warned to form himself into a draft on 25/1/35 and proceed away into the East. He's not a bad fellow for a draughtsman, and holds the position of Caddish-Cad No. 3 on our books. His hobbies are the usual hill season ones. Plays a good game of soccer and cricket, but will be a rotten bargain for any golf club. He sings " Lily of Laguna " with a beautiful baritone croon. A member of the famous Synchronated Three, and has thoroughly earned all he's got from audiences. Family motto: " Veni, vidi, vici."

Bio, Loa and Saa.—Got a new recr on trial fm RAF. It's beezer. If only u ad CC.

Originality.—Roll on, next month, and let's write some more notes.

Epilogue.—The WIRES are just in, so I must away to amend the little blue book. I'm getting all excited as I think I've only four years, nine months and twenty-seven days to go for an increase. AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

We have just finished firing our annual musketry course. What a time we all had, to be sure!—myself especially: I simply revelled in it. Nothing less than a short verse can describe my triumph on the ranges.

There was a little man who had a little gun,
And his shooting was most erratic ;
But when it came to extra leave,
The man's C.O. grinned up his sleeve
And his " No!" was most emphatic.

Everybody seems to be getting married these days. Sigmn Badgy Walsh, whom I always credited with more sense, has just been and gone and done it. L/Corpl Joyce and Sigmn Alexander have both hung out their " last weeks " boards in the blessed state of singleness, too. The others who are dithering on the brink are too many to mention. Sammy Wake's new suit is so becoming that some old dear is sure to lay hands on him, and he, too, will be joining the unhappy band. It's too pathetic to contemplate.

L/Corpl Smith (B.A.S. of these pages) has left us to join the Reserve. He is greatly missed in the unit, for (apart from being a very likeable chap) he made as much noise as any two men that I know—Henry Coombe always excepted. Yes, dear Henry —whose devoted slave I am—will permit me to say that if silence is golden, he ought certainly to be in the workhouse. But to leave Henry—if not in the workhouse, in No. 2 barrack room, which isn't unlike that abode of hope—we will return to our casualties. Before this item appears in print, we shall have lost Signalmen Tinkler and Rose. Tink, who has played soccer and hockey for the unit for the past six years, and always with distinction, is something of a local landmark: he will be sorely missed. Rosie, a veteran of the Old Brigade (I'm not quite sure what the Old Brigade is, but I have adulatory intentions) will be a great loss, too. His soldierly wisdom and mature judgment have often come to the aid of the young and foolish.

Lieut H.V. Hayfield has also left us—for Cambridge University —and his place has been taken by Lieut A. J. Hamilton from the 1st Div. Mr. Hamilton rendered valuable service last week in instilling new life into those honorary members of our cross-country runs whose names usually figure prominently in the " also ran " list.

Sergt French's push bike has had another disagreement : this time with a limousine of considerable size. Grave fears are entertained regarding the future of the sergeant's conveyance. I fear it will not take the road again. E.F.M.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

After the Lord Mayor's Show comes the dust cart. Well, we have swept around a bit, and here is the result.

Courses.—Four bright youths to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, on an operator signals course, and three more to A.F.V. Signals on a fitters course. May success crown their efforts.

Drafts.—At last the boat list has been confirmed and, as usual, the best go first. To E Troopites abroad, the following send their salaams and hope to join them shortly. To Egypt, Sigmn Barr. To India, Signalmen Bolton, Fall, Glew, Williamson and Rogers.

'Tis strange, but true. One eager youth, with the spirit of adventure coursing through his veins, is nearly heartbroken to think that Records may have forgotten him.

Congratulations.—It is wrong, I suppose, to sing one's own praise. Actually, I am not, but the Brigade commander did write to say how he appreciated our splendid work on manœuvres.

Whose is the best horse (conditionally)? the best car? and the best motor cycle? One would think it would not be hard to say after the hectic life we had during September, but the task was far from easy when the O.C. was judging. The old Troop spirit, " Nothing but the best," naturally made everyone extend themselves, and the results were: Best conditioned horse, Paddy, ridden by Sigmn Bluff. Best all round car, Sigmn Rapson. Best motor cycle, Sigmn Veal.

Musketry.—Now that the casuals have done their little bit, the Troop average becomes a matter for further congratulations. The average for the year is 61.2: still improving compared with previous years. Keep it up, lads, and keep your hand in every Tuesday evening at the miniature range.

Arrivals.—Signalmen O'Hehir, Wild and Williamson were posted to this Troop some months ago, but have been held on command by A.F.V. Signals until the 22nd September. They are settling down now.

Departures.—Three of the lads have left us for civvy street this month. They wanted to get in with the big money. Charlie Darby has at last left us to achieve fame and fortune. He was really sorry to leave us in the end! but a man of his intellect and capacity for work needed a car and a directorship before he could be even partially satisfied, and we could only provide him with the former. Alfred Lomax has retired to go into partnership with Hoddgy, also late of this Troop and a big noise in Wembley. Tommy Vost has been punching up at the A.V.T.C. Aldershot for the last six months, and now he is going to put his

knowledge to work. The best of luck (and plenty of it) from the Troop to them all.

Bring 'Em Back Alive.—Our public schoolboy, armed with ten rounds of .303 blankets (his own definition). His shots have a smothering effect.

We'd Like to Know.—Why a number of the Troop still go to Calne (frequently, too). We thought manœuvres were over, but apparently a few night schemes are still to be carried out.
E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—With the close of the training season and the usual epidemic of inspections, we have had a fairly hectic time during the past two months. An apology is tendered for the absence of notes in the previous issue owing to the Troop being at camp.

We have successfully passed through the final inspection of the year—that of the C.S.O.—and acquitted ourselves in the traditional manner. The first period of individual training is now in full swing and will continue so until the beginning of December, when we are hoping to proceed on a spot of furlough.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Fraser J., Pritchard L. and Sayers A. arrived from Catterick via A.F.V. Signals on 6/10/34. The usual greeting is extended, and we trust that they will soon settle down to the routine.

Departures.—L/Corporal (Flatto) Fletcher departs to civvy street on 27/10/34. He takes with him our very best wishes and the coal contract for Candahar Barracks.

Signalmen Graham J. and Harrison E. departed for China on the 3rd October. We sincerely hope, Edgar, that you have a sufficient supply of anti-seasickness tablets. You will need them on the six weeks journey. The youthful exuberance may be slightly damped after the first six months. The far-flung outposts may seem a trifle too far flung at times, and you will probably be yearning for the land of Tid. However, bon voyage : and remember that the Troop will always be pleased to hear of your exploits (keep them clean).

Attachments.—Sergt Archer W., our worthy Troop sergeant, is at present basking in the sunshine of Bulford, where he is attending an upgrading course.

Gloucester Cathedral, steeped in tradition and history, has now established a definite link with Richard the Third. Whether it will be the subject of controversy in the Diocesan Journal, or preserved as a relic, is a matter left to the discretion of the Dean in conjunction with our Georgie. The Pyrene Company would be green with envy!

List of Changes (M.T.).—The Troop has suffered an increase in the establishment of M.T. vehicles. Our worthy Troop sergeant has acquired an Austin Seven to replace the Bargain. Like Jehu of old, he drove fast and furiously along the Shipton Road, but omitted to replenish the tank. " What! no petrol? I only bought a quart on Monday."

The tar-sprayed chariot has suffered relegation in the social scale. It has passed from its former owner and is now the pride and joy of its most bitter critic. Rather a case of poetic justice. On its maiden voyage Popeyes forgot to replenish the carbide generator, with the result that the crew were forced to tarry by the roadside. We didn't mind pushing the chariot, but objected to Popeyes draping himself in the sidecar—asleep!

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Speakes on receiving honourable mention in Part II. Orders. The extra clods will assist Lord Norton and others in attending at the launching ceremony. Three hearty beers!

Jasper Garrett, our voluble fitter, has taken over the rôle of the old family retainer.

Technical.—The Throaty Three is now functioning on the medium waves.

Maintenance: T. and S. Chariot.—This is being held over pending the arrival of a brother-in-law. We may then proceed to cast pearls before swine.

Pungent Ponderings.—Can C.P. tell us the actual burning hours of one 5d. tin of carbide? and does this time normally exceed the average motor cycle time from Aldershot to Tidworth?

We offer no comment on the foregoing, but the answer in each case is unprintable. One can cater for the inclemency of the weather, the dispensation of Providence and the divine rights of civvy cops, but cannot cater for the idiocy of the sidecar passenger. Bah!

Agony.—Thomo: Whyfor you no write long time? Maybe you seek? R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

We owe an apology for failing to send in our usual bulletin for last month's WIRE, but life in camp was proving rather hectic and we decided to leave our notes until the next issue.

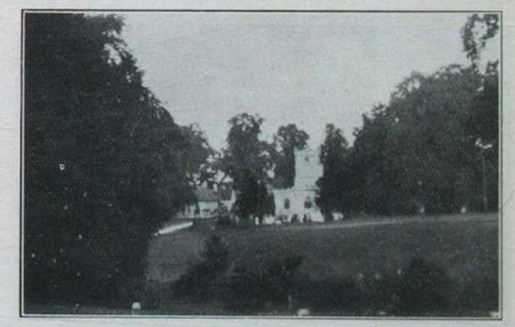
As promised in our September notes, we enclose a photograph of the sun dial which was put up in the Officers Mess garden to the memory of the late Lieutenant John Agar. A wreath from the unit was placed on his grave on the 27th August, the anniversary of his death.



The Sun Dial Memorial to the late Lieutenant John Agar.

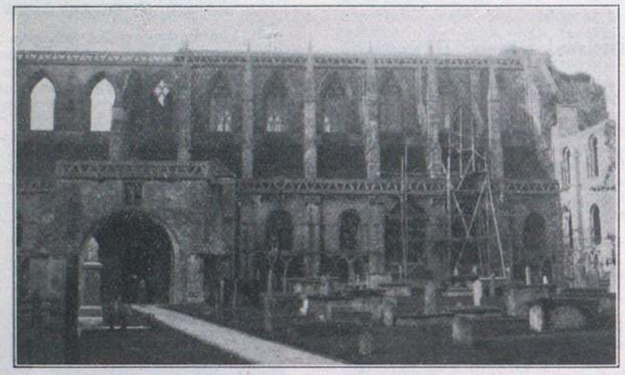
We arrived in camp on the 1st September and found everything very nice, thanks to the efforts of the advance party under Captain C. H. Manton.

We spent the first week in settling down and improving the lines, and in the second week we had two Divisional exercises—one on the 10th/11th and the other on the 13th/14th. The latter proved highly entertaining. We had the 7th Brigade against us. Their commander sent out troops in lorries, and they got between one of our Brigades and Divisional Headquarters. They started off by capturing a well known cavalry regiment (without opposition) whilst they were asleep, and then went on



Charlton Church (from the Officers' Lines).

further and bumped up against one of our Groups, under the command of Captain J. F. Charlesworth, which had been pushed forward. The Group put up a gallant resistance and the enemy unwisely threatened to destroy the instruments, thereby thoroughly rousing their "Signal spirit." At one time, I am told, six individual contests were taking place, and the raiding party withdrew discomfited. Later, a complete enemy Company arrived and the umpires awarded them the match.



Malmesbury Abbey.

This exercise finished the manœuvres as far as we were concerned as a unit, but we went on immediately afterwards to serve as neutral Signals in the Southern Command exercise. This was not all, however, as all ranks of the H.Q. Mobile Force were fed by this unit under the very able arrangements of Captain C. H. Manton, who proved a veritable magician, producing meals and drinks at the shortest possible notice. The cooking staff for both officers and other ranks had practically no sleep during the whole time the battle lasted. Nevertheless, they appeared to have enjoyed their experience. A complimentary letter was received from Major-General G. M. Lindsay, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C., and Captain Manton was later presented with a memento in the shape of a cigarette lighter by the officers of H.Q. Mobile Force.

On the 9th September No. 1 (S.R.) Aircraft Depot Signal Section and No. 2 Air Wing Signal Section from Birmingham, under the command of Captain Birch, joined us in camp, and on the same day twelve S.R. despatch riders from Southampton also arrived. We were very pleased indeed to have them with us, and we hope that they enjoyed themselves as much as we did in having them.

After the 14th September the unit split up and moved back to Bulford in driblets, the main party arriving on the 18th and those who were on the Southern Command exercise on the 21st. The two S.R. Sections stayed on until the 23rd and gave us much assistance in packing up, which was rendered more difficult owing to the rain. However, we eventually got the rear party in on the 27th.

This ended a very pleasant time at Charlton Park, and we feel that we should be very lucky to go to such a pleasant place again. A few photographs of the camp appear with these notes.

Camp life is not without its humorous episodes, and here are some of them.



The Officers' Lines.



The Signal Office.

Things We Want to Know.—Who was the distinguished sergeant who missed the bus at Swindon and gallantly tackled the fourteen miles back to camp? It is understood that he completed the journey with his puttees under his arm—a distinct tip to those who design Army clothing.

A certain C.S.M., being anxious not to awaken any one at 1 a.m. on his return from his nocturnal wanderings, put his foot into a pan of beef dripping. In his efforts to extricate himself, he put his other foot in the pan and promptly lost his balance. It was unfortunate that the large number of pots and pans which were within easy reach of him afforded no security.

A New Corps Trade.—Who was the operator who was sent out on a line and, when asked who he was, said "I am the line mender"?

R.S.M. Harrison T.—We extend a hearty welcome to R.S.M. Harrison, who arrived from the S.T.C. Jubbulpore on the 17th September. We hope that he will enjoy his stay with us in Bulford. He has come to relieve R.S.M. Bramley, who will be leaving us next January for service in India.

Football Ground.—Here is a bit of news which we feel will be of interest to all ranks who have left the unit within the last few years. We recently played our first game of football on the Pimple, in which we beat the Sappers team by 2—1.

We have for many years been wanting a sports ground near the unit lines, and the good work started by members of the unit some eight years ago, and continued under Garrison arrangements, has at last borne fruit. The Pimple of to-day is a very nice sports ground, with plenty of room for everything.



Charlton Park House.

Gardens.—For the first time since the Garrison garden competition was inaugurated, we have won the cup. This competition involves three quarterly inspections during the summer by a board of officers from the Garrison. In the first inspection we were second to the R.A.S.C. by only six points. The last two we won, and got the highest aggregate, and so won the cup. This result is very gratifying, and we now have lines which are a credit to all concerned.

In the individual competitions held at the same time as the above, F/S/Sergt Garnett obtained a first and a second and Signalman Wright W. C. a first.

Musketry.—The second party have now completed their annual course, and the results were highly creditable. The following are the final results for the year: Number fired, 343; 1st class, 246; 2nd class, 94; 3rd class, 3. Unit average, 60.4. Best score, Lieut P. G. B. Gambier (86). Besides this officer, the following all scored 80 or over: 2/Lieutenant Western, L/Corpl South, Signalmen Durber, Sherwood, Stokes and Mitchell, and Driver Smith.

A competition was subsequently held for all who scored 75 and upwards, of whom there were twenty-eight. The result was: 1st, Corpl Waite; 2nd, 2/Lieut Read; 3rd, Sigmn Mitchell. Sergt Gladwell tied for third place, but in the shoot off at 500 yards (lying in the open without cover) he was pipped by two marks by Sigmn Mitchell, who scored a possible.



3rd Divisional Office Lorries on an Exercise.

Revolver Practice.—These results are also very satisfactory. Number exercised, 7 officers and 41 other ranks. All qualified except one other rank. Unit average, 38.25. Lieut Winterborn and Sigmn McGarrity scored possibles.

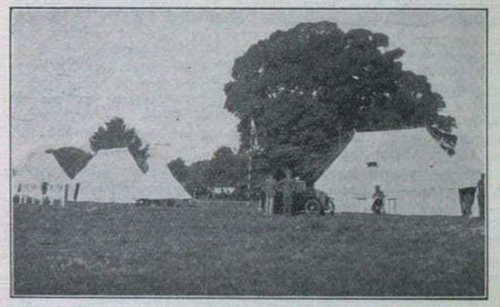
Corporals Mess.—A very successful smoker was held at the beginning of October as a farewell to two of our members who were departing for abroad shortly afterwards. Consequently, an admirable excuse was manufactured for us.

To old Mess members who remember similar sessions in Bulford, I may mention that the indoor decorations were again carried out by our old friends Messrs. Simmonds and Ludgershall, and the effects when the lights were lowered at midnight would have to be seen to be appreciated.

Several vocal numbers were given during the evening, and it is surprising what dormant talent we have. There are several budding Crosbys and at least one junior edition of Ukule'e Ike, and the remainder appear to be all Carusos (in volume only, I'm afraid). If only the interference had been cut down slightly during some of the numbers, they would have been appreciated even more than they were. "Rose of Tralee," admirably sung by L/Corpl McGivern, was without doubt the best number of the evening. The following number was jammed rather badly, but as it was one of the pathetic ballads regarding someone working underground with a shovel, perhaps it was just as well that the X's were 9's.

The committee are to be congratulated on running such a pleasant affair. In passing, and taking into consideration these dark nights, couldn't we have something similar rather more frequently?

The Garrison N.C.O.s Billiards League—for winning which last year we hold a very nice cup—is about to start again; and as we have had the table re-covered, ordered six new cues, and possess tons of enthusiasm, we are hoping to come through with the same result as last year.



The Guard Tent and Telephone Exchange.

Talking about billiards reminds me that, at the presentation of the cup and medals last year, it was remarked that proficiency in billiards was considered by some people as a sure sign of a mis-spent youth. It is rather a coincidence that our star player's father is on H.M. Prison staff!

Regarding marriages. We have none to report for this month—at least, so far; but rumour hath it that we are about to lose one of our very old established members in a fortnight's time. He is, of course, very reticent on the subject—probably too bashful; but we think it's about time you told us the date, Dick. We don't mind bringing our own knives and forks and mugs until you get settled. Good luck, at any rate, when it happens.

Cheerio! S.E.F.

Appointments.—The undermentioned are congratulated on attaining the dizzy height of paid Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster w.e.f. the dates shown: L/Corpl Abraham J. 27/7/34: L/Corpl Sutcliffe W. 8/8/34.

Marriage.—Signalman Gent to Miss Sylvia Selina White on 4/8/34.

Departures.—Signalmen Clements A. and Davies H. and Driver Benn C. to the Depot Battalion. Signalmen Binstead P. and Hawthorne W. to Gibraltar. Sigmn Wellard to Chisledon on a vocational training course. Signalmen Elphick A., Keeble G. E., Lampson S. and Hall to the Army Reserve.

Arrivals.—R.S.M. Harrison from Jubbulpore. Drivers Sier, Mason, Lock and Hinton from the Depot Battalion. Signalmen Brown L., Bowser and Reedman from the Training Battalion.

Transfers.—Signalmen Simm T. C. and Pilkington J. are now finally transferred to the R.A.P.C.

Courses.—L/Corpl Jerram and Signalmen Cole, Bramley and Mays to Cardiff to undergo a course with the G.P.O. Corporal Gibson and Sigmn Young to Luton, also on a G.P.O. course.

Sigmn Etheridge rejoined from the School of Science, Woolwich, having succesfully passed a test as carpenter and joiner, class ii.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

We much regret that, owing to our move from Colchester to these new quarters on the 15th October, it has been found impossible to forward our usual contribution of notes for the Journal. We will do our best to provide a " double number " in the December issue.

Birth.—We tender our hearty congratulations to Captain and Mrs. R. R. A. Darling on the birth of a scn at Colchester on the 1st October.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Combined operations are fading into the past, and the unit is now settling down to normal routine.

Individual training has commenced, and efforts are being made to fit round pegs into square holes. All the normally regimentally employed have been relieved by volunteers—and others. Which reminds me. One often hears what a cushy job so and so has until he wants a relief whilst on leave or training, and then the list of volunteers never causes any heartache.

It is very noticeable what a lot of new friends one discovers during the training season. All day long the door is being opened and a head pops round the corner. " Can you fix me up with a bit of . . . .?" " Can you oblige Sergt —— with a few drawing pins?" Like Woolworths, we are expected to be able to supply everything.

Seedtime and Harvest.—On most sides one sees signs of harvest festivals. Not so at Scalby. Our vicar, paying a visit to his orchard, noticed with pleasure the plentiful supply of fruit. How nice, he thought, for the coming harvest festival. Other people, other views. Instead of the fruit being ready for collection at the appointed time, he discovered a notice in lieu: "All is safely gathered in."

Special Request.—It is requested that, for the benefit of the old and decrepit, gardening be re-mustered as a sport, so that Wednesday afternoons may be devoted to spearing snails with a fork.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Cartwright S. and Brown J. from the N.I.S.C. made themselves at home and appear to be benefiting by the sea breezes. Signalmen Taylor A. and Smith G. E. are due to arrive any day from the Training Battalion, Catterick.

Departures.—Sergt Schofield has left us for the Lowland Signal units, Glasgow, while Corpl Browne G. A. and Signalmen Hipple and Reay prefer to try their luck in civvy street. Sigmn Whitters has left for Belfast, Sigmn Heald D. for the Depot Battalion, and Sigmn Bergman for the 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot.

Social.—On the 13th September Sigmn Jerrard increased his establishment by one son, Francis George.

Marriages.—Business continues to be brisk in the Scarborough district.

No. 1.—On Saturday 29th September, at Scalby Church, L/Cpl Lane A. (late of Quetta) took unto himself as wife Nellie Irene Sullivan (ex-Egypt Signals, and step-daughter of Sigmn Hodge of this unit). A description of the wedding is attempted for the benefit of lady readers. The bride was tastefully attired in flowered georgette with a Russian head-dress, veil in palest pink, pink lace mittens and pink satin shoes. Pink carnations were carried. She was attended by Mrs. Cooke as maid of honour, also attired in pink flowered georgette. The bridegroom wore—but what's that matter? He was there, so what else need be said? Corpl Badham performed as best man, and the weather was wet! (Description ends).



Lance-Corporal Lane and his Yoke-Mate.
[Photo by Walker's Studios, Scarborough]

No. 2.—Sigmn Barrel attended a like ceremony at St. Peter's Church, Scarborough, on the 25th August, when Miss Kathleen Kelly was duly remustered as Mrs. Barrel.

No. 3.—On the 29th September Sigmn Hodgson, not liking to cause too much work for the vicar of Scalby, decided to patronise All Saints Church, Scarborough, and there, together with Miss Clarice Grice, entered the realms of wedded bliss.

No. 4.—At St. Peter's Church, Scarborough, Sigmn Northall J. and Miss Gladys Ling tied the knot on the 15th September.

No. 5.—Ah! a change. On the 12th October, Sigmn Ginders C. and Miss Laura Hanson decided to provide the Registrar with a little work and were married at the Register Office, Scarborough.

All the above are doing well, and we hope that it continues. It's a life sentence, anyway.

Someone else got in a knot last month: it was myself. It is regretted that the following amendment should be necessary. For " Sigmn Cooper to Miss Jane McGovern " read " Sigmn Barker N. B. to Miss Jane McGovern." Any raspberries to be given are all mine.

[*To be continued in our next.*]

Migrations.—The daily papers continue to report the departure of Society to the sunny south for the winter. No mention, however, is made of the Society of Scarborough who are proceeding to the east for several winters (and summers). Some go forth to Egypt on the 15th November, and others to India on the 13th December, whilst the busiest people of all are unable to get away until the 25th January. Names are too numerous to mention, but I have no doubt accommodation has already been arranged, and we are sure that their long holiday will prove beneficial.

OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

Friday 12th October 1934 will go down as a red letter day in the history of this Mess. The quarterly dinner, held on that day, was made the occasion of a presentation to the Mess of a first print of the picture " Through." Mr. Leonard Scorah of Scarborough (an ex-sergeant of R.E. Signals) was the generous donor.

The picture was originally the property of the Sergeants Mess of B Depot, Bedford, and on the disbandment of the Mess it was purchased by the donor, in whose possession it had since remained.

In presenting the picture to the Mess, Mr. Scorah spoke of his association with the R.E. Signals and briefly sketched the history of the picture. He said he felt sure that it would receive more appreciation in its new surroundings than it had in his home, where only he could realise its significance.

The president of the Mess, R.S.M. Bevan R., in well chosen words thanked Mr. Scorah for his valuable gift, and assured him that the picture would not lack appreciation in the Sergeants Mess of the 5th Divisional Signals.

R.Q.M.S. Tilford V. C. H. proposed the toast " Mr. Scorah and other Guests."

Departures.—Our best wishes go with Sergt Wilmot and his family, who embarked for China on 3/10/34, and Sergt Schofield, who proceeded on attachment to the 52nd (Lowland) Divl Signals in relief of Sergt Dodds, who has returned to this unit.

SAILOR.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

September brought with it sundry inspections, not to mention our annual musketry at Ballykinler. Our shooting was quite good, but those hoary veterans who were excused differ quite a lot in their views.

Once again there is a Trade Board approaching, and there are several budding signalmen swotting for their class i. or ii. We wish them luck.

We have been fortunate in being able to send an n.c.o. to a G.P.O. course at Leeds. The lucky one is Corpl Salmon, and we expect great things from him when he returns.

The D.R. Section are expecting a consignment of new bikes. At the moment they still have the old Triumphs. The new ones are to be B.S.A.s and are due this month, with a Baby Austin that is to replace our ancient " combo."

Records have not kept us long in suspense this trooping season, as the final draft warnings are through. Next month we are to lose Sergt Goodman, who leaves us to become an instructor with the Terriers at Darlington.

The vet decided that two of our horses were unfit for further service, so they have departed this life in true military fashion. One hears the comment, " Pity they aren't under a bonnet with a starting handle." Nevertheless, they are useful, and it is hoped that the replacements will be respectable remounts.

The G.P.O. engineers are installing a new automatic telephone exchange in barracks.

N.I.S.C. is advancing with the times, and looking back at our work for the past few months, we may be excused for being a little boastful.

Promotions.—One beaded perspiration.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Joint, Maddox, Maddison and Stevens from the S.T.C. Sigmn Ryan from D Troop, Aldershot. Sigmn Whitters from the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. We wish them a pleasant stay and good luck with the Company.

Departures.—Sigmn Brown to the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. Sigmn Swift A. O. to the Army Reserve.

Draft.—Signalmen Hedley and Ashby leave on the November boat for India. The former is to join the 1st Indian Divl Signals, Rawalpindi, and the latter the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta. As they are joining the S.T.C. prior to embarkation on the 15th October, we take this opportunity of wishing them a pleasant voyage and a good time in India. Corpl O'Brien and Signalmen Morrison, Parkinson, Leedham, Jones, Hale and Miscummons are to leave on the January boat. Corpl Wooton is deleted from the draft.

Detachment Moves.—Corporal Salmon from Londonderry to Leeds. L/Corporal Turner from Baronscourt to Londonderry. L/Corpl Blount from Belfast to Baronscourt. Sigmn Parkinson from Armagh to Belfast. Sigmn Joint from Belfast to Armagh. Sigmn Cade from Ballykinler to Belfast. Sigmn Maddox from Belfast to Ballykinler. Sigmn Eccles from Magilligan to Londonderry. Signalmen McCormack and Dowe from Magilligan to Dunree.

We congratulate L/Corpl Turner on his marriage at Baronscourt, and also Sigmn Cox on his marriage at Buncrana. We wish them the best of luck now and in the future.

The detachment at Omagh remains very fixed and steadfast. There is a rumour that the n.c.o. there has decided to revise his very fixed bachelor ideas (all right, D; it came by pigeon service).

Sigmn Gattrell is now a proud father. Our correspondent at Omagh didn't say whether the stork brought a he or a she. Anyway, here's our congratulations.

Sergt Davies is now i/c Section at Dunree. By the way, are you chief gardener as well as caretaker of those other souvenirs of 1923?

Tailpiece.—Having judiciously perused Part II.s and heard little birdies twitter, I regret the effort is not better. HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Bowler J., Cartwright R. and Hirt S. J. arrived from E Company Training Battalion, Catterick, on the 29th August. They are all operators and are in part relief of our unusually large overseas draft.

On the 2nd October L/Corpl Hunter W. E. arrived from A Corps Signals, Aldershot, accompanied by his wife, and proceeded to Fort Camden for attachment to the 33rd (F) Company R.E. in relief of L/Corpl Wilson C. Cead mille fialte.

Departures.—By the time these notes appear, the following n.c.o.s and men will have left us for the Training Battalion in preparation for service in India. L/Corpl Wright F. and Sigmn Priest G. for A Corps Signals, Karachi. L/Corpl Wilson C. for B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. Sigmn Gilchrist J. for 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi. They all sail on the same boat on the 13th December (not a Friday). Sigmn A. L. Osborne (Speedy) has also been warned for India, and he sails on the 25th January (which *will* be a Friday). His station is not yet known, but to him and the other four we bid farewell and thank them for their comradeship.

Education.—Sigmn Hopgood A. obtained his second class certificate at Spike Island on the 4th July, and he is now quite capable of carrying on for his first with the moral support of Signalmen Bowler J., Cartwright R. and Hirt S. J. Signalmen Osborne A. I., Parker P. A. and Wilmot L. U. de B. are studying for specials.

Trade Ratings.—The following were successful in obtaining ratings as shown: L/Corpl Wilson C. (lineman C.ii.) and Sigmn Parker P. (instrument mechanic A.ii.) w.e.f. 26/6/34. Sigmn Richardson C. (electrician fitter A.ii.) w.e.f. 29/6/34.

As this seems to be a variety of Part II Orders, we may as well finish off in the usual manner: " Certified that no rations have been issued in kind, etc."

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NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

Saturday 6th October.

It will be of great interest to all members of the Corps to learn that the premier football award in India, namely the Durand cup, has been acquired by this unit. This is the first time in the history of the tournament that the trophy has been won by any other than a battalion team. By Bekore winning it, Signals have come right to the front of the football sphere in this country. The various stages through which our team passed to meet the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the final will be found in the Sports Notes. Congratulatory messages have been received from many sources, including the regiments who entered the tournament.

The team returned to Upper Topa with more or less similarity to the Lord Mayor's Show. The whole camp turned out to welcome the team. All officers and married families also turned out at 100 per cent strength. The victors were met at the foot of the hill leading to the guard room by Drum Major Pony Moore (late of the S.T.C. Band, Maresfield) and his band of would-be musicians; the latter being armed with fire buckets, combs, drums, saxophone and anything that would make a noise. Their rendering of "Colonel Bogie" was excellent. A photograph of the team and their trophies will be published in next month's issue. The usual celebrations were carried out in the sergeants and corporals messes and the canteen. Our opponents in the final, the 2nd Battn Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were also well represented. The celebrations are not yet finished. Our commanding officer, Lieut-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., was absent on tour when the team arrived back in the unit, and no doubt there will be further doings on his return.

In conclusion, to the team, trainer and all connected with this splendid achievement, I have no doubt that all members of the Corps will join us Bekorites in saying "Well done!" To Major R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., at Army Headquarters (India) Simla, all ranks of the unit tender their sincere gratitude for his untiring energy in all he did for the team and spectators during their stay in Simla.

These notes will be the last from Upper Topa this year. The unit leaves for Rawalpindi on the 15th October after a very enjoyable six months in the khuds. We all have to thank our commanding officer for one of the best khud seasons that have been experienced in this station. His untiring efforts and sympathy with all ranks has enabled all and sundry to enjoy the social amenities that are obtainable in an Indian hill station.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the unit, in the usual manner, Lieut C. C. Worrall from 4th Indian Divisional Signals, Sigmn Robinson from A.H.Q. (India) W/T Station, Sigmn Webb from the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, and Sigmn Garnett from the 1st Indian Divisional Signals. It is hoped that they will all soon settle down in their new surroundings and feel that they have belonged to Bekore for years.

Departures.—Lieut H. B. Kealy to the Equitation School, Saugor, for a long course. We are looking forward to those riding classes before breakfast next summer, sir. Sigmn Hall to the 1st Indian Divl Signals. Sigmn Dawes to the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. To the last named two, we tender our sincere wishes for a good future, and in the case of Sigmn Hall not too rough a one. They say Blanco is a good thing, Daisy.

Promotions.—Things in this line are certainly looking up. Jock Hutcheon has actually got that third stripe—and civvies. Congratulations, Jock! he who waits longest still waits. To U/L/Corpls MacFarlane and Hughes, we tender our heartiest congratulations on attaining that rank.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to report the death of Mrs. Newton, wife of our quartermaster, Major Newton, at Murree on 12/9/34. Mrs. Newton was well known and respected amongst the families of this unit. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. The funeral took place at Upper Topa on the 13th September. Pall bearers were found from members of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess, Upper Topa. All families, officers (including Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., C.S.O. Northern Command, and Major Smelt, D.C.S.O.), and a number of B.O.R.s attended. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Major Newton and his children in their sad loss. They left for England on eight months leave on Saturday 22nd September.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.—By the time these notes are published, this Mess will have closed down until next summer season. Our last binge was held in the form of a dance on the 22nd September and was well attended.

Our entertainments during the last two months have been greatly assisted by "Fruity" Frampton and his melody makers. On two occasions they have very generously given their services free of charge. Naturally, they looked upon this as practice, though it was observed that their throat muscles did not need much practice. However, Dutch courage goes a long way, especially with McCann; he's about six feet.

Our numbers have been swollen by the introduction of one Jock Hutcheon. His advent was greeted in the usual manner, and naturally the bar takings showed an increase for that day. This is rather unusual, considering he's a "wee Scot."

The Durand winnings certainly upset all the good resolutions about tacking until we reached Rawalpindi.

Finale.—Our new addition to the unit orderly room has found out that he cannot use Service stamps for his private mail, so he has asked that his notes be used instead, with the following result: "Does Sigmn Plum Fairclough remember his brother who went East?"

Just one more item from the "believe it or not" series heard in the B.O.R.s mess room: "Getting up these khuds gets me down." Sort that one out.

BEKORE.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[*Accidentally omitted from the October issue*]

Thursday, 9th August.

General.—We offer our apologies for being absent from these pages for some time, but news seems to have been scarce lately. The British ranks who proceeded to Upper Topa for the first half of the season's courses have now returned to the unit. The results have been entirely satisfactory, and our congratulations are offered to those who have obtained the extra pice. The second batch are now up there, with that extra pice dangling temptingly in front of them. In Rawalpindi the second upgrading has commenced, and we wish all candidates the best of luck.

Entertainments.—The British Ranks Dance Club has once more had another try, and this time the dining hall was the venue, as the monsoons have now broken. Owing to most of the families being up the "bumps," the ladies were few, but a very pleasant evening was spent by all present.

Sports.—For this news see the Sports pages.

Arrivals.—The following have arrived in this unit. We extend to them a hearty welcome, and hope that they will have a long and happy time in the Div. Sigmn Morris from Quetta, L/Corpl Debell from Risalpur, Sigmn Brookes from Cherat, and Sigmn Bridges from Trimulgherry.

Departures.—Our departures are three in number. L/Corpl Johns to Risalpur, Sigmn Bowey to Quetta, and Sigmn McGuigan to Cherat on discharge from hospital. Bad luck, Mac! but the sequence was correct: hospital before convalescence. We wish them all the best of luck in their new stations.

Congratulations.—To Corporals Manning and Hopwood on attaining that rank. To Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown, on reaching the final of the Brigade hockey cup. Better luck next season. (H.V.B. Sergt.)

ONE DIV.

Sunday 9th September.

General.—The hot weather season is drawing to a close, and we shall soon be welcoming the married families back to the Plains after their sojourn in their summer residences. Some very heavy storms were experienced during the month, the last of which was the worst of the season. Many trees were blown down in the district—two of them in the unit lines—but fortunately nobody was hurt.

Training.—The season will soon be starting with route marches, Section schemes, etc., in preparation for the unit camp. The programme looks rather formidable, but it is hoped that all will carry on with enthusiasm and uphold the reputation at present enjoyed by the unit.

Entertainments.—These have been nil during the last month owing to so many members of the unit being away on leave, courses, etc., but we are looking forward to making a start in the near future—in fact, as soon as the families and B Corps Signals return to Rawalpindi—the first dance of the season being billed for the 24th October. It is hoped that the committee will get the same support as they have had in the past, and that both units will do their best to make these combined dances a success.

Sport.—Some good hockey matches have been witnessed during the past month, and hardly an evening passes without the ground being in use. Hockey in the unit has improved a hundred per cent. A great deal of this is due to our commanding officer, who takes a great interest in all our sports and, being a hockey enthusiast, is able to give many useful hints to the players. The unit now has three hockey and two football grounds, and these are all fully used.

Promotions.—Once again the dhurzi has had some rush jobs, and in this respect we offer our congratulations to L/Corporals Thornton and Stringer on attaining that elusive first, together with the pice.

Arrivals.—We offer the glad hand of welcome to Sigmn Briggs G. from the 4th Indian Divl Signals, and trust that he will settle down and enjoy life with the Div.

Scotsman's Corner.—Congratulations to 9847, but what abart a line? 9835. To Monty and Brew, 4th Div.: Your attention is directed to our promotion column. Jake from Tex.

The Pay Bloke's Mail.—The writer of the following is a very fine example of the University graduate that we get in the Signals, of whom the home newspapers have told us so much.

Upper Topa, 17/8/34.

Dear .....

I No ..... Sigmn ..... was, like the misguided ass that I have always been, under the impression (now an evident delusion on my part) that you were sending me money of a calculated sufficiency to enable me to acquit myself nobly by paying off the balance of the cost of my accommodation at this summer residence. On my arrival at this spiritual haven I lobbed over thirty rats with a certain amount of manufactured glee, the balance of which I *faithfully* promised to settle on the 18th inst. (signifying of the present month). The fabulous sum of money which was placed in my mitt this morning on the pay parade was indeed somewhat staggering, but I managed to salute smartly, turn about and creep away. With that colossal wealth, I am faced with such outrageous liabilities as the following:—

Balance to summer residence	Rs	19	8 o
Return fare to Pindi ..... approx.	Rs	5	o o
A most careful week-end	Rs	40	o o
Making a stunning total of	Rs	64	8 o

Therefore, in view of the disastrous straits previously published, would you kindly forward me what moneys you consider adequate for my future comfort, and oblige

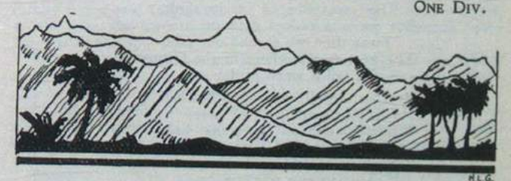
Yours, in everlasting awe,

??????????

P.S.—If there are any spare local griffins floating about, will you broadcast in my direction?

We Would Like to Know.—How long does a week-end last?

ONE DIV.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Heartbreaks: 1—L/Sergeants Moore J. and Mott H., Corpls Berriff C. and Stockton F., Signalmen Barber W. and Huggett F. have returned from U.K. leave—all looking nicely browned. It is surprising, how much some people like India!

Heartbreaks: 2 (?)—Sergt O'Connor D., Corpl Javens P., L/Corpl Smith G. (of toll pass and rail and road warrants fame), Signalmen Barbsy D., Bray J., George H., Heaps L., Howarth J., Lucas J., Martin C., Gigg W., Moore J., Watkins W., and last

HE WHO HESITATES IS LOST ! !

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(although he is least in stature) Williams G.—all to discharge or the Army Reserve. " The very best of luck to all " goes with them to civilian life and work. In this draft we lose some good tradesmen and sportsmen who will be extremely hard to replace, but we also lose a few swedes. Villages like Thames Ditton, Hamworthy and Petworth will have extra hands in " The Dog and Bacon," etc., and for the pumps.

Whilst on the subject of repatriations. The other week I came across a ditty composed by someone in the R.A. After taking much licence with it, I reproduce it herewith.

Time Expired.

I've packed me box, I've flogged me kit,
I've handed in me spurs ;
I've said goodbye to the wet canteen
For better or for worse ;
'An I'm waiting 'ere on the barrack square
For the band to start to play—
For I'm goin' 'ome : I'm time expired :
An' I sail a week to-day.

I just forget 'ow oft I've said
" Roll on, that blinking boat ! "
And now it's near, it seems somehow
To catch me in the throat :
And now that 'ome I've dreamt about
Don't seem so far away.
I almost wonder if I'm glad
That I sail a week to-day.

Me 'arf-back's standing over there,
Waiting to say goodbye—
'Is time ain't up until next year :
'E joined about July.
I remember, when 'e first come up,
We mucked in straight away,
And for six odd years we've been as one,
But I sail a week to-day

I joined in March an' was in top ride
When 'e came to the ridin' school.
'E put his mind to soldiering,
And I just played the fool
Till 'e caught me up and pulled me thro'
An' we heard the ole man say
" Right, sergeant-major ; pass 'em off ! "
Yes, I sail a week to-day.

We went on training an' learnt our drills :
'E was better than me by far,
An' arter about six months or so
They offered 'im the bar ;
But 'e knew I'd never get a stripe,
So 'e boloed " Abbi nay."
An' we've soldiered on as signalmen till—
Well, I sail a week to-day.

We've had our fun together,
On the tack and on the drink ;
Sometimes it led to troubles—
Then we sobered up in clink.
But we was picked men on manœuvres :
'Twas then we earned our pay—
The best two workers in the Company.
An' I sail a week to-day.

Re sport—well, 'e played football
For this small unit of ours,
While I stood on the touch line
And cheered till I was 'oarse ;
But when it came to boxing
(Cos scrapping was me lay)
'E'd be wagging a towel in me corner—
An' I sail a week to-day.

We'd lay outside on summer nights
When 'twas too 'ot to kip,
An' the call of the hyena
Was givin' us the pip.
'E'd talk of 'is 'ome an' 'is muvver
In a village down Hampshire way.
Me? I ain't got neither to go to,
But I sail a week to-day.

Evolutions and Revolutions.—Until recently we had physical training for a half hour in the early mornings, and some of the actions thus produced even Tom Webster, could not ape. The commands " On the hands, down," " Leapfrog, commence," " Fingers and thumbs, twist," " Cartwheels, turn," " Once around me," " Twice round the cantonment, double march," inspired the most wonderful fairy-like motions imaginable. It was noticeable that the people who should have performed elfish dances and kangaroo hops—mingled with a few spicy " wrists, roll " and " necks, roll or break "—did not present themselves for parade. I mean those who " go for a run every morning " to rid themselves of Indian corporations, and who are also over the age limit of fifty-odd. What about Okasa, you Nimrods?

Condolatory.—The sympathy of members of this unit who knew Sergeant Dodds W. is extended to him in the loss of his favourite daughter.

Chitral Reliefs, 1934.—These reliefs have always caused a wee bit of excitement in the past—just to relieve the monotony. Perhaps the tribesmen saw us doing P.T. this year, as rumour has it that everything will be peaceful this time (except on one W/T Detachment).

Commencing this year, we man the W/T sets at Drosh, Chitral. The personnel includes Sergeant Sibley T., Corporal Frey N., and Signalmen Brett H., Keigher J., King E. and Semple J. They have promised to send in a few notes and snaps, and they should prove interesting.

At the time of writing everyone is joining the Earthquake Fund—you know, just quivering either with excitement at being on a real column, or ??? This unit is supplying the column signals, and B Corps Signals are helping us out in providing various necessary detachments at outposts whilst the column is on the march to and from Chitral. As a chota camera club proceeded with our Signal detachments, there should be some snaps forthcoming for the November issue of this Journal.

Idle Thoughts.—Why is the Scarborough ozone such an incentive to marriage? Why are some red-haired people so bumptious? Who is P. Swift, who collects cutlery?

Vocational Training.—At the end of these notes is a brief résumé of vocational training in India—not taking local courses into account.

Unconscious Humour.—Extract from Orders for the N.C.O. i/c Forage : " No animal will come in or leave the stables without a L.R.C." Rumour has it that the n.c.o. has been seen showing this order to our long-nosed friends and threatening them with disciplinary action in the event of non-compliance.

Gaelic Press.—To Bob, from Mick and Gunner : Congratulations on the L.S. and G.C. We wonder how many of the Ashi . . . gang of old E.W.O. will be thus honoured.

Books Worth Reading.—" The Ginger Griffin " (by Ann Bridge) : " The Cautious Amorist " (by Norman Lindsay).

MIIM.

Army Vocational Training Centre, Calcutta.

In contributing these notes, I hope to let the Signals in general know of the vocational training systems in India.

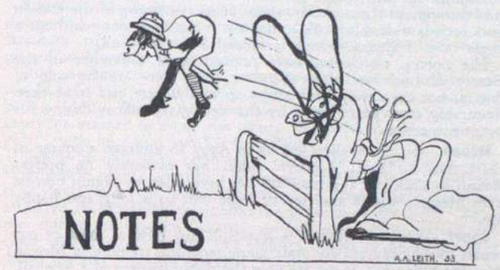
At present there are ten members of the Corps undergoing training here in Calcutta : four from D.I.K. on motor engineering, two from Rawalpindi on wireless telegraphy, three from Peshawar (two on electrical refrigerating and one on armoured cable) and one from the S.T.C. (India) who in two months qualified as wireless operator P.M.G. class i.

Unlike England, there are no really organised training centres here. Men are controlled by the Staff Captain, Vocational Training, who allots them to certain civilian firms for the peculiar kind of training desired. At the time of writing there are 150 men in Calcutta alone—all working through the day with firms, etc., and being accommodated and rationed by the British Attached Section.

Calcutta is to most military stations in India what London is to the " local lad " in England. There are plenty of cinemas (annas eight, only, admission for British troops) where one can see films that generally have not been released in England. The most amazing thing about these cinemas is the fact that they show news reels of events happening in Britain before we see and read about them in the English newspapers.

The main thoroughfares of Calcutta are very strange to the casual visitor. Rolls Royce cars and bullock carts, Parisian models and humble loin cloths, all mix rather well in this ultra-modern Oriental city. Lepers squat on the pavements side by side with the most gruesome cripples imaginable, and in spite of all this mixture of civilisation, there are electric flashing signs, automatic traffic control lights, and one of the most efficient tramway systems I have ever seen. Surely there is something wrong with " East is East and West is West "!

More next month. PESHVOC.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Monday 17th September.

The past few weeks have introduced numerous visitors, to all of whom a hearty welcome was extended.

Peshawar District Signals detachment, forming part of the Chitral relief column, stayed with the Troop for fourteen days prior to joining the main column at Dargai Fort. It is quite a change to have personnel from another unit attached to us, and their stay proved very popular from a sporting and social point of view. We wish them all the best on their journey to Chitral. We were naturally interested in the commencement of their journey and kept a fatherly interest in the first stage to Dargai, and it is of interest to note that a novel form of pack transport has been introduced. It is gratifying to note that an ex-Troopite was responsible for the innovation.

A party composed of two British officers and four despatch riders from the 1st Indian Divisional Signals broke their tour of the Frontier stations to spend a day and night with us. Two other parties will be staying for short periods during the latter part of this month.

Lieut R. C. Yule of Peshawar District Signals was attached for about three weeks for riding, etc., prior to going to Saugor on an equitation course. We wish him every success.

We have emerged from the throes of pokey drill, and our annual musketry course, with the exception of the casuals, has been fired. The high Troop average has been maintained. A stone-wall certainty was a rupee offered to those who scored a " possible " in all three practices (snap, rapid and slow) at 200 yards. Of course, this is looking at it from the bookies' point of view—like Windsor Lad, 6 to 4 on, for the St. Leger.

The unit was recently inspected by the new C.S.O. Northern Command, and according to reports he appeared to be quite satisfied with the turn-out. We now await a visit from the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India in October.

Many well known faces will be missing from the Troop by the time these notes appear in print. Sigmn Wilding is being repatriated on that old tub *Nevasa* for transfer to the Army Reserve ; L/Corpl Boston and Signalmen Few and Perkins are proceeding to Peshawar on vocational training ; and Signalmen Webb and Collins proceed to B Corps Signals and the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals respectively.

As a means of entertaining the unit, a tennis at home, followed by a whist drive and a housey-housey party, was held by the O.C.A. The housey-housey school was quite o.k., especially as everybody was shouting and nobody listening. Altogether, the show was quite a good one, even though our renowned cook sprinkled the pepper with salmon and cucumber. RISI.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

September.

This is the gathering-in month, when all those stragglers who have been spread far and wide during the hot weather return home to roost (as opposed to roast) and to prepare for the winter's work.

Well, over half the unit have been away for at least some portion of the summer ; their destinations have been as wide apart as England, Kashmir, Calcutta and Jubbulpore. We all know what a wrench it is to return from a grand holiday and do a spot of work again, but battles have to be fought and much of the Kohat countryside has to be flattened by marching feet!

The Fort Lockhart W/T Station has closed, the second Topa course has finished, and the leave season is ended. This leaves only our W/T Detachment at Thal and a few stragglers at Upper Topa who are helping to close the Station.

We are facing the forthcoming training season with many changes in our ranks, for we have lost over thirty of the old brigade since last training ceased. However, Jarman Ridge has still to be captured ; Bar Valley still has to be picquetted ; Hoblyn's Fort is still holding out—and the stunted eyelash of the Old Lady for ever gazes down. These facts assure us that as we tread where others have trodden, the old spirit will flame anew, and the grunts of the marching men will be the voice of K.D.S.

This martial strain reminds me that we get medals for it—not for coming the old soldier, but for *being* the old soldier. It should have been reported some time back that Sergt Tim Turner and Corpl Bishop have pulled the roti gong out of the bag : good boys, they have behaved splendidly for eighteen years or more—you can't *medal* with them now! An award for bravery should also be handed out to C.Q.M.S. Molyneux, who has contracted for the extra year in India : this is an old trick of the men of Kohat, and we hoped that Molyneux knew new tricks.

Brigadier H. L. Scott has relinquished the command of the Kohat Brigade. He came down to the Sergeants Mess to wish us all goodbye. We are extremely sorry to lose one who has ever been a hardy soldier amongst us. In his place we welcomed Brigadier Abbott, who also visited the Mess to form a friendship which we hope will be a happy one.

There have been some changes of personnel this month between ourselves and the Troop at Risalpur. Corpl Manning S. and Sigmn Mason W. have left us for the land of boot and saddle, and in their places have come Corpl Weeks A. and Sigmn Pittman W. G. We wish them all happy hunting. L/Corporal McMahon is attached to the Hampshire Regiment at Rawalpindi as an aspirant for a commission.

K Section have started training quite early this year in view of an early move on a Cook's tour of Lahore, Kasur and Ambala. Owing to the warmth which is still evident at midday, the poor creatures of this Section can be dimly discerned creeping around to their stores in the faint glimmer of " first light " and to the tune of the wailing notes of a very unwelcome reveille—and all this to prevent them getting sunburned.

Some of the families have returned from their sojourn in higher climes and are jolly glad to be back home, I guess—even though hubby has a few manœuvres to do. We are glad to see them, at any rate, for as a rule when they are away " nothin' ever 'appens down our way."

Section tennis competitions for the Murray cup are just about to be played off, and as this is the first time that tennis has been ab'e to figure, it should prove interesting.

At the swimming bouts in Rawalpindi the team of Kong, our swimming expert (of which we told last month) had no luck, though they enjoyed the fun of the show. They graciously conceded all the prizes to others more worthy.

There is so little else to write about until the educational examinations are finished next week that you must guess the rest.

Finis.—If ye have faith—and a couple of lorries—ye shall remove mountains.

Another effort, even more mad than the last—again probably disclosing " the blokes what works in our firm."

Extract from " The Daily Wire," published October 32nd, 1882.

A well attended concert was thrown in the Signals The-ayter last Friday (pay day) and the proceeds amounted to the sum of

Rs. 1 (bad), 2 annas (ditto), three Scissors coupons and three cheers. The programme ran as follows and was all supplied by local talent and M.B.

Overture—"Drummond Fife."

Song—Maxwellton Braes ..... Ditchfield
Song—The Lost Cord ..... Stringfellow
Monologue—My Sprinting Days ..... Sprunt
Recitation—Bishop Hatto ..... Dean
Song—Wi'lson Grow Old ..... Whitehead
Song—Robert'son Parade ..... Shufflebottom
Song—On the banks of the Shannan ..... Bens'son
Recitation—The Flying Scott ..... Burns
Song—Thain is my heart alone ..... Howard
Monologue—He Robs-on Sight ..... Starling
Chorus—I Pask By Your Window ..... Mason

Interval.

Recitation—The Murderers ..... Angus
Tips (Duet)—How to keep a door shut ..... Bolton and Barrett
Song—Manning a Boat ..... Bow
Duet—The Match Makers ..... Bryant and Hayes
Recitation—Who was Jim Harrison? ..... Molyneux
Chorus—Whither Bound, Cos-Tell-Oh? ..... R.O.T.B. Choir
Monologue—Stick to your Game ..... Leach
Song—Anybody here seen Kelly? ..... Murphy
Recitation—Bax-ter the Wall ..... Gunn and Steel
Monologue—The Black Boxer ..... Johnson
Community—Hark the Yerrell'd Angels Sing
(The first Newell) ..... Led by Humm

The Ball was kept rolling until 23.62, and all present (sober) showed their appreciation in the usual way (damages still being assessed). Lost: two Signals, last seen proceeding towards the gymkhana ground, bearing a sack (?).

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

October.

General.—It'll be the best part of two months before these notes appear in print, so those people who suffered heart-burnings at the meagre allotment of passages for the November boat may either (in the snugness of their Blighty homes) be able to draw their armchairs a trifle closer to the fire and read on or (in the bareness of their Karachi bungalows) spring from under their mosquito nets, throw these lines out of the window, and soldier on for a bit longer in India. What a blow, though! only one passenger for the "Christmas dinner at home" boat. What did we do to deserve this? Still, don't worry; remember, we have the best messing in India.

Boxing.—We entered five boxers, L/Corpl Rymer and Signalmen Bradbury, Sokell, Lovell and Barlow, for the Royal Sussex Regiment's show, and they all won—Rymer, Sokell and Lovell by knock-outs, too! This augurs well for our retaining the Western Command team championship.

Our Stadium is again staging the Western Command individual and team championships. They are an assured success, both from a boxing and financial point of view.

Swimming.—As is often the case, the casual mention of a subject brings forth quite a lot of comment. The accomplishments of certain of our Lido enthusiasts, mentioned a couple of months ago, have been more than surpassed. Mrs. Bayliss now speaks in miles—not strokes. Miss C. B—— informs us that she has had three new hats since that time, and the R.S.M. (with fatherly pride) lets it be known that daughter Jean was first in the 150 yards race at her school championships, in addition to carting the two lengths championship cup and prize for the best style. Father is lavish in his praise of her trainer, Sigmn R. V. Clark.

At the inter-Section swimming, some good performances were put up. As a "Scotch mist," I'll refrain from comment, but the Crocks deserve to be congratulated on their win. Sigmn Walker's attempt to obey the R.S.M's order to step (whilst in mid-air), Mrs. Hawthorne's cake, and Wally Dangerfield's tactics (size 12's) were the outstanding events of the afternoon.

Excuse.—This month sees us lose twenty-four of the old hands to U.K. and the Army Reserve. We wish them the best in civilian life. In conjunction with the preparation for the unit's Quetta scheme, they must be blamed for a shortness of notes this month. S.W.B.

6th Field Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Lucknow.

Monday 10th September.

General.—Since our last contribution to THE WIRE, the Section has endured its first summer on the Plains under very difficult conditions but with most excellent results. Being very short of men throughout the summer, those of us remaining in the station have each had double work to do, but it has been done without a single case of illness—which is indeed a credit to all.

The horses, no doubt, have noticed some difference in the climate of Lucknow after spending their lives in the cold of Quetta, but even they have stood up to the heat and have been favourably commented upon by the veterinary officer during his recent inspection.

Moves.—Sigmn Skellon left us in April to undergo a course of instruction for D.ii. despatch rider, but evidently he prefers Meerut to Lucknow and his place has been filled by Sigmn Forrest from Meerut, whose stay we all hope will be a long and happy one.

Sport.—This is rather at a standstill just now as most of our expert hockey players are undergoing technical training in Meerut or in the hills; but as we are now the proud owners of a football, every effort is being made to teach the I.O.R.s the art of soccer. They all seem delighted with the new game, and each Tuesday evening we all turn out in full force to wage war against the 18th A.T. Company.

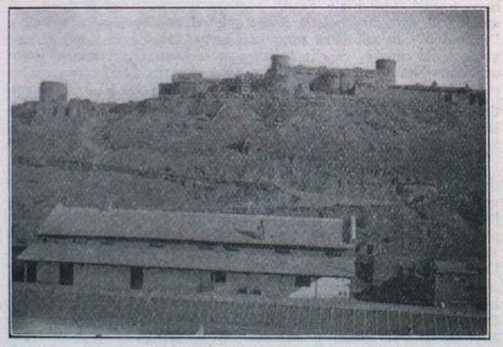
Training.—During the first half of the hill season Signalman Jenner did his stuff by obtaining his B.ii. o/s, and now Signalmen McFarlane, Ryan and Thorpe are in Chakrata swotting for their extra annas. We hope they will return to us full of knowledge and with a higher income.

In addition to the three B.O.R.s away on courses, we also have several I.O.R.s in Meerut under training and others on leave, but the few of us left behind are all "toughs" and manage quite well. Even the horrors of new vehicles cannot get us down, and we long for the day when we can pull in alongside the Div. to give them a close-up view of some pukka tope wallahs. PIP.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

General.—As the cold weather approaches, the jackals come closer and closer, and the kuttahs crouch under the charpis with a pukka sweat on. (Note: These terms can be interpreted at any N.A.A.F.I. pub; so, young soldiers, get your hands in.)

Whilst on the subject of sweats (fever), we are glad to record that no further cases have occurred this month. In consequence, we are obliged to extend our sympathies to the Sandeman gang. Judging by results, it would appear that they are the prize meat for the skitters.



"Catterick Castle," Fort Sandeman.

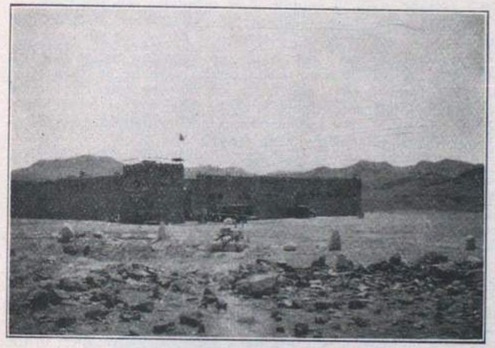
The long-talked-of bungalow is nearing completion. The contractor and his local boys will have to put in all they know. Everything is being pressed into service, even up to 10 p.m. nightly.

Entertainments.—The 13th October marks the opening dance of the season, and one wonders who is going to hold the first girl: I 'spect young Howard will take some keeping back. We hope that this and subsequent dances will be as good as last year's efforts. Other entertainments include dog fights, mice hunting and guffing.

Sports.—No football games have been played this month, owing to our depletion in numbers, but the first round of the Beetham cup takes place shortly. Practice games are being played on Murree's brown (sorry! I mean *ground*).

One exciting cricket match was played against our old friends the M.E.S., and we were beaten into the bargain. It wasn't too bad a licking, for we only lost by a small margin of runs, and everyone seemed to enjoy the game. But who was the "50 expert" who so easily lost his first digit?

Tennis is still very popular in the Section, and games of a Wimbledon nature are being witnessed nightly. The popularity is so contagious that none other than the famous Seth has been attracted to the arena to uphold the prestige of the S.M. Since the closing of Chautair Camp, several ladies have graced the court with their presence, and Geordie seems to be sweet on a dame (printer's error—game).



Gul Kach Fort on the borders of Baluchistan and Waziristan.

Examinations.—Three of our noble company have departed to Sandeman in quest of that elusive "fust" and in the hope of picking up enough tips to enable them to scrounge sufficient marks. Reports from Fort Sandeman are conflicting, but our kids are hopeful, and the Q.M. has already indented for a special supply of outsize topees, as well as special sweaters to wear until after the results are published. Still, here's wishing them the best of luck.

Hospital.—Signalmen Franks and Taylor E. are keeping one another company in the B.M.H. Quetta. The whole Section wishes them a speedy recovery. We sent Fortes in to cheer them up and give them the latest gup.

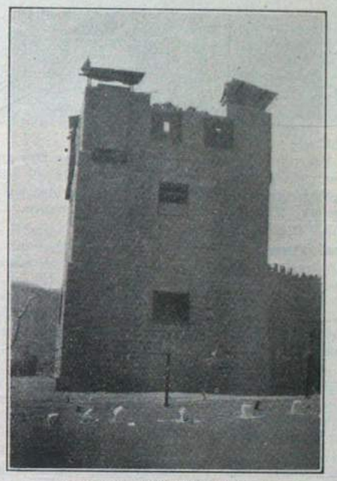
Arrivals.—Corpl Thelma Todd and cats from Hindubagh. L/Corpl Burke from leave (U.K.). We hope he enjoyed his stay at Sibi station. He seems to like sojourning at that salubrious spot. What's the attraction, Charbie? We hope the wife doesn't get to hear of these goings-on. The O.C. can't provide additional married accommodation these days.

Congratulations.—The whole Section heartily congratulates B Corps Signals on winning the Durand cup at Simla. We hope to see them repeat this performance next year. How about a snap of the team in THE WIRE?

Further Congratulations.—To Sigmn Shields on getting a further tour in the Zhob (I should like to see his pass-book now).

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of Bachha, a valued long-faced friend of the O.C. and held in high esteem by a number of the Corps in India. His tragic death, due to a ruptured stomach, will be greatly felt by those of D Mounted Company S.T.C. (India) who knew him, G Signal Section 1st Indian Divisional Signals, and last (but not least) by his first master and trainer, Captain R. H. Hooper, M.B.E.

Tail-piece.—Here's to the next bulletin. PHILLIP.



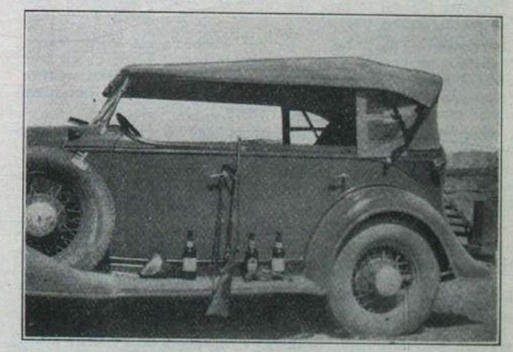
A Corner of Gul Kach Fort.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Friday 28th September.

By the Way.—After leaving WIRE notes to the last minute, our regular scribe Buck Taylor (222) has pushed off into hospital and left me responsible. It is hardly cricket, y'know, but I may let Buck creep with it, because he has been after a spell in dock for a long time. He proceeded to the B.M.H. Quetta with a nasal complaint, and I have heard from a good source that an operation is more than likely. Let's hope the old trunk does not commence to sprout after its treatment, because there is only room for one like mine in the Section.

Movements.—L/Corpl Howard (with only a few days to go for the boat), Sigmn Constantine (with his tall stories) and Sigmn



A Day's "Shooting" in Waziristan by members of the Zhob Signal Section.

Johnson (with that "only four more tomato seasons" look) arrived from Loralai for a few days schooling prior to the first class examination. The only trouble about this extra swotting is that the school hours are between 14.00 and 16.00 hours—a period when all good soldiers should be crouching—and loud moans may be heard when the scholastic shuffle of the students announces their return and awakens the learned and those who think the first is too easy. Let us wish them luck, and hope that the time will come when they will be able to flaunt their certificates before the eyes of those who crouch.

L/Corpl Smith and Sigmn Johnson move to the detachment at Hindubagh on the 10th October. Signalman Bamber Taylor is remaining at Hindubagh for a further period of three months, and on his discharge from hospital Buck Taylor will complete the Section. They say that this three months at Hindubagh takes a bit of doing, but I think that Bamber and myself will get through it, because each month is one nearer that six months leave (perhaps!)

Sport.—We have played several games of hockey and football lately. I witnessed a very good game of football between the B.O.R.s and the 1/7th Gurkhas on the 26th inst. I must give each of our players full marks for his performance. The result of the game was a draw of one goal each.

The Fever Stakes.—I am sorry to report that our n.c.o. i/c telephones is again in hospital with malaria. I am not quite sure, but I think this is the fourth time this summer. (Bear up, Darkie, old chap! I know it's very hard when you old timers keep getting stung, and we youngsters creep with it.) Our Section sergeant is competing very well, and is liable to join Darkie almost at any minute.

Howler.—A correspondence course has been held for the fellows taking the first, and I happened to see a paper set by the n.c.o. i/c geography which said: "Geography. Union of South Africa. See Tobbut and Jennings' Army Mathematics, page 46." No wonder we fail!

Tips.—To Sigmn Delicate, Egypt Signals: The Rams beat Sunderland. What about swimming home for a week-end next year? Six months to go. Pheep. JAYCEE APOZAI.

Hindubagh Detachment.

First of all, for those people who are not privileged to visit this pleasure resort, I will endeavour to describe the Hindubagh Riviera. To the north you see imposing barbed wire and the renowned hills of Baluchistan. In the morning (at a reasonable time, of course) with the sun shining on them, they look marvellous; in the evening, with the red and blue sky, shades of darkness, etc., they look indescribable. The same to the east and west. To the south, more barbed wire and hills.

Inspections.—Our O.C. paid us a flying visit: he flew in, flew up in the air, and flew out again. Phew! But the O.C. had to admit on the kit inspection that there was nothing wrong with my laces.

We are pleased to hear that our O.C. is fully recovered from his recent serious illness.

Arrivals.—Two "he's" for our Thelma's cat—naturally, as "she's" are kept down to a minimum here. Thelma's cat was only allowed to come here after the O.C. had looked up her records and threatened her with a posting if she did not come up to scratch. She's been scratching ever since!

Reminder.—To those who wish to send any bills, debts, etc. The Section now consists of Corpl (Thelma) Todd and Signalmen Taylor (off the map Mexborough), Cotton the famous Nazi, and Donnelly (made his name at Quetta). Naturally, by the time these notes are published we shall have been posted.

Things We Never Hear.—"I do wish our O.C. would come!"

Things We Do Hear.—"He's the worst . . . . . operator, and the officer who gave him his rating should be cashiered."

We are starting an operator's fund to improve the standard of living. Cheques may be crossed, but only with one line. Remember to sign your name.

Finis.—I wish I could write all that is in my mind, but the Editor states that space is limited to so many ems.

We wish a speedy recovery to Signalmen Franks and Taylor E. at present in B.M.H. Quetta. SPARKS.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

September.

General.—In the very near future (about a fortnight or so) No. 2 Company will commence Section training. The majority of us look forward to that time for many reasons—chiefly because at that time of the year the weather has cooled off considerably and sometimes there is a genuine English nip in the air, and also because it provides a change from the rather monotonous routine of the summer period.

F Section are due to join their Brigade at Jhansi early in October, and with that exception it is very likely that the rest of us will spend Christmas in Meerut.

Departure.—Sigmn Forrest to Lucknow.

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corpl Spriggs on obtaining that rank.

Agony.—Sigmn Walker (late K.O.Y.L.I.) would like to hear from Sigmn Smith 90. Sigmn Lewis would appreciate a letter from Sigmn Crouch. R.A.C.

No. 1 Company, Chakrata.

Sunday 9th September.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes last month. Excuses being bad form in the Army, we offer none.

The Company, less a few details (on command and at Meerut), are living serenely in their new summer residence at Chakrata—a change from Raniket, which has up till now been our annual hill station—and are delving into the finer points of technical training to qualify for higher ratings and to uphold the reputation of the Signals in the next manœuvres.

As all hill stations are not alike, a brief description of Chakrata will not be out of place in these notes, to enable Signals in other stations to compare results, and for the probable future residents of the station (at present on the square in the Depot or serving with units at home) to form some idea of what the place is like.

From Meerut, the journey is in two stages: train from Meerut to Dehra Dun, and route march from the foothills to Chakrata. The march is about 57 miles and is divided into four stages, with rest camps at the intermediate stations of Jumnapore, Kalsi and Siaah. The road is almost level until Kalsi is reached, and from this point no heavy traffic is allowed and military transport in the shape of six-wheelers does not go beyond it.

Most noticeable about Chakrata and the scenery en route from Dehra Dun is the amount of grass on the hills, the quantity of flowing water in the streams, and the absence of trees: not unlike the Sussex Downs in comparison, but of course on a much grander scale. The slopes just below Chakrata are tree-covered, but pines are not very much in evidence, the Indian oak being the major flora of the district—vastly different from the wide panorama of the pine-clad hills of the Ranikhet and Murree districts.

The station is divided into two areas: Chakrata along the knife-edge ridge on one side at a height of 7500 feet above sea level, and Kailana on a hill top on the other side, about 1¼ miles from Chakrata. Kailana is visible from Chakrata, and Mussorie can also be seen on a clear day. Clear days, however, are rare, and here among the hills and mists the No. 1 set comes into its own as a means of rapid communication.

The road from the Plains enters the station at Chakrata Gate, at a point where a narrow spit of land (Kailana Neck) connects the two areas.

At present, the military population consists of detachments from the various infantry stations on the Plains in the United Provinces.

Electricity is not available, and the only place where it is used is the improvised talkie theatre, in which private plants run the projectors. All the same, Chakrata is well lit with petromax and oil lamps in the bungalows. Water is laid on by pipe through all bungalows and is good and plentiful.

There is plenty of sport when the weather permits. This offers a great opportunity for meeting old friends and making new ones in the various infantry units, for all detachments share a common institute, and in the case of officers and senior n.c.o.s, a common mess.

The routine of families moving up to and down from the hills is worthy of note. Government transport is not available, for it is not permitted to use the hill road; and although the families are carried up by the contractor's lorries, their heavy baggage comes up by mule cart and of course takes a period of days to arrive. Families must therefore prepare the baggage so that absolutely essential items can be packed in, say, one box which can be taken with them on the whole journey, and they must "camp in" until the arrival of the heavy baggage. The same applies to the journey down. Heavy baggage leaves three days ahead of the families, and they must exist on the minimum which can be packed in a small space to accompany them down on the contractor's lorries.

To date the Company has not seen the whole of the usual splendour of the hill views, as the monsoons are still with us and clouds cover the distant views and hills—and us as well, for that matter.

Arrivals.—On the 21st August we welcomed C.S.M. E. Gradden from Meerut, posted to No. 1 Company from Rawalpindi. We hope his stay with us will be a very pleasant one. P.R.

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra.

Monday 10th September.

General.—Nothing unusual has happened this month, and my notes have to be made up from a few miscellaneous jottings which don't look very promising.

A couple of weeks ago I saw a rather good display of snake charming outside the Section bungalow. I took a few snaps, a couple of which I am sending to the Editor for publishing if he thinks them good enough to be of general interest. Black cobras can be seen in each of the snaps. This snake-charmer had about five black cobras, each four to five feet long. During the display one cobra got a little out of hand and scattered the lot of us, including the lads who were telling us that the snakes had no poison in their fangs.



Note the "Necklace" of Snakes.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Lynham C. on pulling full rank.

Chess Moves.—The latest, heard when a player was trying to explain the various moves that each piece makes: "Castles move literally and laterally." HEAP.



An Indian Snake Charmer.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Sunday 7th October.

General.—Ganges canal monster! There isn't one, really; but the Loch Ness variety having retired, there is an aching void in the news columns—and after all, one must make a start somehow.

Having thus successfully (I hope) attracted your attention, let me break it to you gently that I have nothing much to tell you this month. We have survived the Brigadier's inspection, the T.A.B. inoculation, the rains and summer, and knocked another month off those three score years and ten.

One item of interest to impart is the splendid achievement of B Corps Signals football team in winning the Durand cup. Following, as it did, A Corps reaching the final of the all-India boxing, it certainly has put the Corps on the map. Congratulations, B Corps!

Revivals.—Pardon! I meant arrivals. Corporals Thomson and Mundy from U.K. leave. The extra time taken by the boat in coming out was due to the number of calls it made in the Mediterranean, and I am asked officially to contradict the rumour that it was delayed through being overweighted.

Promotions.—Mohammed Din, syce class ii. to class i. (see Blue Book, page 76: Modifications for India).

Hank.—See Proverbs xxvii. 2 and xxix. 1. Having been as it were only *locum tenens*, I do not wish to involve the permanent incumbent in a lengthy argument. However, to answer your queries, I am in neither category and work for a living. Apropos those horses of yours which do 4 ft. 6 in.: why bring up these everyday occurrences? Also, talking about that ten thousand miles per annum, it is in "The Code of Grippers" (a work in preparation) that a gripper who knows his work will always keep within the bounds of probability. Finally, many thanks for your criticism. When I wrote those notes I'd no idea that anyone would read them, and it is nice to get in touch with one's public. Heil!

Transfers.—Sigmn Payne S. R. to the Indian Army Ordnance Corps.

Lost.—One green parrot. Will finder kindly return to Sergt Fee, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals?

Found.—One blue parrot. Owner may have same on application to Sergt Fee, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Curtain.—Not before time. NON-NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Friday 21st September.

Our theme song in this unit continues to be "Indianisation." The happy little band of twelve odd signalmen still continue, however, to do guards and churches until such time as the duties are Indianised. These men, together with about twenty

n.c.o.s, still manage to keep the name of the 4th Divisional Signals on the map, and considering our rival competitors (may we be excused for saying so) do it rather well. Very soon we will be making the numbers even less, as our dashing D.R.s are to be posted shortly. Changes are taking place almost every week.

Our commanding officer, Major D. A. Brown, M.C., is still away on Blighty leave, but rejoins us very soon. Lieut-Q.M. Jones returns three weeks later. Our adjutant leaves us soon to take over command of the 2nd Cavalry Signal Troop, Sialkot. We hope both he and Mrs. Younie will have a happy time in their new station. Lieut Vulliamy recently joined us from Jubbulpore and is our present adjutant. We are glad to welcome him and are very pleased that he has dug himself in with us, particularly in the hockey team.

Old 4th Divites will recall with pleasure our triumph in winning the Bishop Whitehead cup for hockey. We are again turning out a very fine team who promise to keep the cup in our possession. Already they have done well, beating D Company North Staffs and N Battery R.H.A. The latter was a very well earned victory for us. Having drawn with the Battery at 2—2 in a hard going game, the replay was won by 3—0 goals. The game was very exciting. Everyone worked hard—even the spectators supporting 4th Div.—and the forwards and half-backs pressed continuously. The Gunners found it hard to get past our backs, and when they did, well—to sum it up, Wood (our goalkeeper) seemed as though he couldn't do wrong.

It would not be out of place, for the special benefit of those who helped to win the cup last year, to record the team. Forwards, Signalmen Wells A. F. and MacQuire J., L/Corpl Barnett G., M.M., Sigmn Johnson H. and Corpl Hawkes W.; half-backs, Corpl Watterton L., L/Sergt Copp D. and Lieutenant Vulliamy E.; backs, Sigmn Constantine and Lieut Pargeter H.; goalkeeper, Signalman Wood R. C. F.

The results of the semi-final and final will be duly recorded next month.

Section training has started, the only B.O.R.s affected being in A Section. J Section is complete with Indian ranks and the D.R.s also, four Sikhs and one Dogra having just joined the unit.

Now for more departures. Sergt Daniell and family left us for Quetta. This seems tough, but maybe he will manage to settle down some day, and in any case we were all sorry to see them go.

Our one and only Peter J. (Sigmn Inglis P. J. E.) also left for a *tour of duty* with the Army Signal School, Poona. Actually, he has been posted to 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. Goodbye and good luck. May you still manage to dodge guards, old soldier.

I forecast the departure of L/Corpl Jones and family, L/Corpl Howard and Signalmen Williams and Johnson—all D.R.s—very soon. May they all find congenial billets.

Our scholars continue to "skoll" and will no doubt sweep the board this October, making our percentage of firsts nearly one hundred.

The Evolution of a Cricketer.—Once upon a time in the land of Ind there served an illustrious demi-god in the Corps which is Signals. And it came to pass that after several trials in the game which is called cricket, at which his failure to smite the ball had become a byword, there was born in his heart a fierce desire to excel in this not-so-easy game.

He did bestir himself and hied unto a merchant Punga, who lived in the city of Bad which is in Secundera, and from the crafty Punga he did purchase not a bat, but the blade only of a bat, for having seen the slogan "Hand-hammered" on the bat of Bradman, he did think to hammer it himself. Next he did obtain the hammer, a round instrument of steel covered with leather. Nightly did he belabour the bat. Yea, at sunrise and at sunset were the sounds of bat hammering to be heard, and also during the period that is for tiffin. And it came to pass that, with much hammering and application of balm and oils, the bat began to show promise of a good grain, and the look of joy on his face was good to behold. "Truly," he thought, "with such a bat, a man of strength will surely reach unto the three-figure score which is the practice of the cracks, and such a man am I, for I am fit."

He next bethought himself to get some practice in the use of the bat. And it happened that there was in the store which is for sports a bat which was old. And he did borrow the bat which was old: and three stumps, or a wicket, which were also old: and a ball. He did suffer the little chokras to come unto him, and upon the bestowal of alms the little chokras did consent to play with him the game which is called cricket.

And there began, in the lines of the Div. which is the 4th, a daily spectacle which caused much mirth and became the subject of many and varied jokes, for he did gather the chokras together each evening and commanded that they bowl unto him whilst he stood at the stumps, or wicket, with the bat which was old. But in that motley crew of children was one called Jahhny, who could bowl a ball which was true. And verily did he spread the wicket of the demi-god, not once but many times. And the chagrin of the demi-god was indeed a sight for lamentation. But let it be said of him that he did persevere, though nightly was his wicket spread by Jahhny to the accompaniment of the subdued chuckles of delight from the men that were in the Div. which is called 4th. Truly, a warrior with so much foreign service should have known better.

And now let us anticipate events. The first match of next cricket season draws nigh. The demi-god, owing to the fact that he possesses a private bat, is automatically placed in the team. It is good to see him with a glint of "do or die" in his eye. Woe is me, oh warrior, that your fall should be so heavy.

And it came to pass that the time came for the demi-god to show his mettle. Well and truly did he truss himself with sundry pads and gloves, and even donned a funny pattern of headgear which he had been told that cracks wear. And the silence was unbroken when he drew forth *the bat* from its silken case. Truly an impressive figure he made as he took his stance at the stumps, or wicket. But let it be known to you all that the bowler was one of no mean repute, and one who could do peculiar things with a ball. So be it. And the patriarchs sitting around fully realised that this was a real battle of skill against skill. The ball which was thrown first decided the battle. It looked easy, but alas! it was not easy enough for our warrior and his *bat of bats*. For he did open his shoulders and smite lustily at the moving sphere with that peculiar stroke which cuts the grass, but lo! the ball seemed to spin and leap off his bat, finally to destroy the geometric setting of wicket and bails.

So ends the story of a cricketer. ANON.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Tuesday 11th September.

General.—The Section's contribution to THE WIRE must, I am sorry to say, start with two regrets this month. In the first place, we have lost our O.C. (Lieut E. L. L. Vulliamy) who has been posted to the 4th Div. at Trimulgherry. We are sorry to lose you, sir, and sincerely hope that your stay in your new station will be a long and enjoyable one. And here I cannot help using that old phrase, "Our loss is someone else's gain." Secondly, our regular scribe (Sigmn Hennell) is still in hospital and Razor is still pining away. Never mind, Hank; the boat gets nearer just the same.

Point to Point.—The 15th Field Brigade held the Monsoon point to point races last Saturday, the 8th inst., and although we had four entrants the success which attended our efforts in the handy hunter (reported last month) completely deserted us.

Sergt Penfold, riding Bess in the senior n.c.o.s race, put up a good show, but for once Bess was not up to the heavy going and only succeeded in gaining fourth place. Corpl Peake on Barney was doing very well until the horse thought the quickest way past a jump was round it instead of over it, which idea lost him a lot of ground, but in spite of this he caught up and was fourth past the winning post.

In the Gunners race our representatives again had bad luck. Sigmn Wright found a large hole all to himself and remained resting therein until half the Brigade went to pull him out. The horse, being refreshed after its good rest, decided to have a run round on its own and bolted, which put Rudy completely out of it. Sigmn Hulme had a good lead with only three fences to go, when the notorious Floss found she had had enough. It was a wonderful refusal, bringing the rest of the field to a standstill. They soon got going again, however, leaving Ginger crooning that old ditty "You went away and left me all alone." We are now hoping for better luck next time.

Camp.—The Section leaves its cosy corner in Jubbulpore next month for camp at Andora, and so if we do not appear in print, think of us out in the blue. I was going to say where men are men, etc., but as I hear of men being men and marches being carried out in the hot sun in the neighbourhood of Catterick and the Scottish border, I will refrain and simply ask you to think of us as indulging in all the pleasantries of camp life and marches where the sun really *is* hot.

Things We Hear.—Imagine moans, screams, screeches, and King Kong let loose, and you will have some slight idea of the alarming noises we have heard lately. To a person not in the know they are very alarming, especially on a dark night. But the old hands simply sigh and murmur "Our John's wireless; do not worry." I do not, however, agree with this "do not worry" attitude. When a new hobby gets such a grip on that it causes one to twirl imaginary dials in one's sleep, I think it's high time someone started to worry.

This Really Happened.—One of the lads came in to breakfast, helped himself to a slice of bread, carefully buttered it, and with one sweep of his knife cut the inoffensive slice in two and doubled it over, making a sandwich thereof. Another of the lads changed this carefully made sandwich for one with no butter in the middle; and, believe it or not, the first mentioned lad proceeded to eat it without noticing the difference. When he had finished, the buttered bread was returned to him and he expressed considerable surprise at seeing the sandwich in his hand when he had only just finished eating it! But to put the lid on it all, when he was asked a little later if he had eaten his bread and butter, he replied "Yes, and I ate the dry bread and rotti as well." It really is funny what love can do, eh, Rudy?

Births.—Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Penfold on the birth of a daughter, Audrey Patricia, at Jubbulpore on 20/8/34. Sergt Penfold states that he has been playing cards all his life, but this is the first nap hand he has picked up.

THE DEPUTY.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Thursday 11th October.

General.—The past month has been spent in winding up individual training before the Troop training commences. L/Corpl Hartley gained his class 1. electrician fitter, and Sigmn Breed has classified e.f. class iii. as an extra trade. Both are to be congratulated.

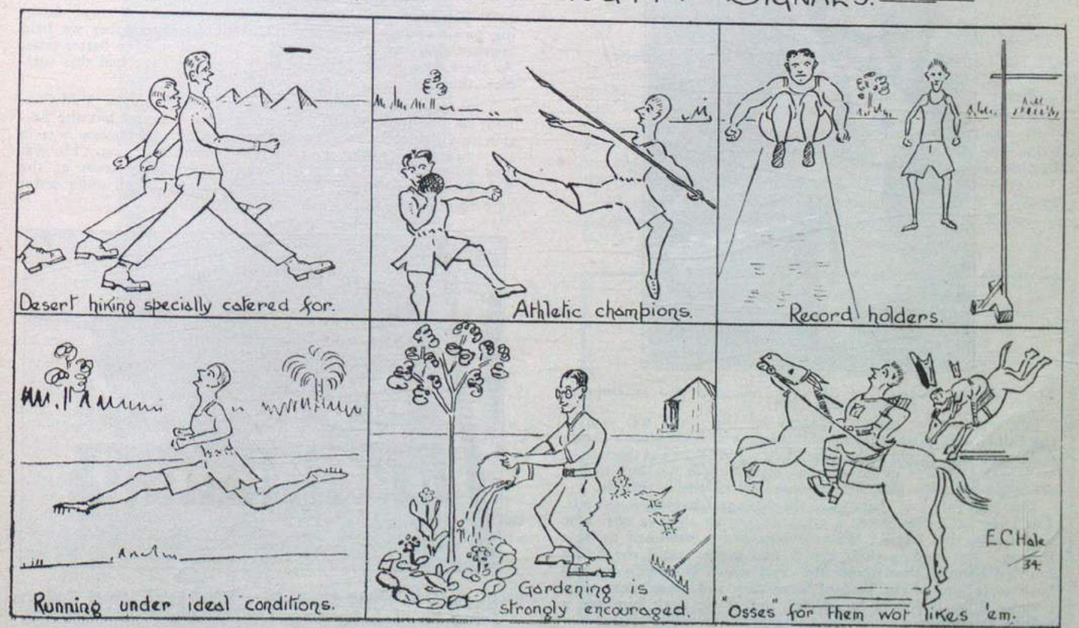
Education.—We have five people sitting for their first class at the coming examination. Keep pegging away, people; it's all good for the brain box.

Schemes.—We had a nice little trip to Moascar last month. C.Q.M.S. Emsley took three Leylands and our Austin down there, both as a break from individual training and a test for the cars after being overhauled. We spent our time in testing cars and swimming in the Suez Canal, and we much preferred the latter. We attached ourselves to the Royal Scottish Fusiliers, and their hospitality is one of the pleasant memories we have of this trip. We had schemed to make Steve "volunteer" for a compulsory swim, but the gang deserted at the wrong time, so we have yet to see Steve doing the crawl.

Command Small Arms Meeting.—We have been working hard in practising for the Command Rifle Meeting, and to our great satisfaction we managed to win the small units rifle match—the event we were very keen on winning. Great credit is due to the team for the really keen way in which they tackled the hard work involved in the preparation for this match, but everybody is feeling now that all the trouble was worth while. This unit was twenty-eight strong at the time of shooting. When it is remembered that we were competing against units such as the Royal Engineers and R.A.O.C., who muster two or three hundred at least, there is some small excuse for us if our hats fit a little tightly. In addition, this is the first cup that this Troop has won, so don't be too hard on us.

In passing, we cannot speak too highly of the 12th Royal Lancers, the regiment to which we are attached. They have

WINTER IN EGYPT WITH EGYPT SIGNALS.



given us every assistance possible, mostly of a practical nature—such as providing officers to go on the ranges while we were practising. And here must be mentioned Mr. Sparks, Mr. Kennard and Mr. Willis, who helped us with hints and tips from their own experience. Mr. Lawrence was also much to the fore here. We are much indebted to the Colonel and Major McCreery.

The 12th Royal Lancers won the cups for machine gun and revolver, the two weapons with which they are armed. The Brigadier, in his prize giving speech, said that the 12th Royal Lancers could take the machine gun cup away with them. They have won it three times running and five times during the last eight years.

This regiment is a first class shooting unit, and any success we have gained is due solely to them. We would like them to know that we realise this fact. We are all sorry that they are leaving Egypt this year. They will be relieved by the 11th Hussars from Tidworth.

Leave.—The wife of our Foreman-of-Signals has returned to Egypt after three months leave in England. We hope that she has enjoyed her holiday and is glad to be back. M.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 11th Sept.

General.—Owing to an unforeseen happening—a drop of good weather—I missed sending any notes last month, as I got out while the going was good. Since the 3rd August the weather has been beyond reproach, but July was wet in the extreme, 16.5 inches of rain falling in four weeks. The Water Board assures us that there will now be no water shortage, a fact which gives small satisfaction to some of the locals who can manage quite well on beer.



The "Beauty Queen" of Cheung Chau and two Attendants.

July was a quiet month. Except for the grand old man of the F.E.C. and his rendering of "Have you ever seen a dream walking?" life would indeed be dull. The Wireless Section is no longer a shower in his eyes, as one of them put him to bed one night after the F.E.C. had passed by on the other side.

The 30th July saw the end of the Cheung Chau leave periods. The trips have been voted a great success by all save one, who would take that banjo. We told him it was supposed to be a holiday. I'm sending along one or two snaps, and if the Editor can find room to print them, the draft which is coming out will have some idea of the kind of leave they will spend next year. Cheung Chau is full of bungalows, and if we can't hire one it will be just too bad.



A View from the Bungalow.

A germ sown in the Depot Battalion a few years ago has taken root in this Section, and one or two of our younger set are now sporting manly moustachios. L/Corpl Grundy of the R.A.S.C. was also partly responsible, as he already has a beauty—only six months old, too. At the time of writing things are becoming a little strained and only the fittest survive. Ed Grunda leads the field, with Busty Reynolds second and Ooch and Dilley tieing for a dubious third place. Another month and we'll be able to tell just what they have, and make a just ruling.

During the last two weeks of August the coolies who live near the barracks have been holding their annual whoopee party, and we have had some rough nights. Last year this stunt lasted two nights. This year it has lasted two weeks, so there is something to look forward next year. It's quite interesting at first, but as Chinese concerts consist of 99 per cent drum and gong banging and only 1 per cent acting, they get rather tedious after one o'clock in the morning.

On Saturday 25th August we held an enjoyable "stag" bathing picnic at Joss House Bay. On the 6th September we held another, this time at Big Wave Bay, and had an even better time. As these two picnics were the only ones we have had this summer, they were much appreciated.

The small units swimming gala was held in the Y.M.C.A. bath on the 10th August. It was a great success, but the Section was definitely unlucky this year. Our only success was in the twenty-five yards, which L/Corpl Rousseau won. He was also selected to swim for the small units relay team at the S.W.B.s sports. Sigmn Cord played for the small units water polo team in the Garrison knockout.



Signalmen May and Short, Pvte Klitofsky, L/Corpl Rafferty, Driver Bashford, Signalmen Lomax, Reynolds and Henshaw.



Back row: Signalmen Chapman and Jones, L/Corporals Funnell and Emary.
Front row: Signalmen Henshaw, Brahn and Erridge.

Mr. Mamak, our sports outfitter, has presented the Section with a tennis singles challenge cup to be competed for annually, the winner to hold it for one year and to be presented with a replica. The tournament is reported in the Sports Notes.

Hockey was commenced last week, when we played three friendly games. An inter-Section game was also held, and Corpl Hodges was found hiding his light under a file in the C.S.O.s office. He is now "figgerin" in the unit team. Results of the matches are in the Sports Notes.

Exchange and Mart.—We will trade our Buckie and a cure for Hong Kong feet for a good sewing machine and a set of "Wonders of the World." The cure is a good one.



Before the Attack.

Congratulations.—To Hec Me on the air again from Northern Ireland. Hope to be seeing you soon, Paddy. I'm sweating on that place, although I'm not Irish.

Agonies.—The dollar at 1/6¼.
Bill Ferrier, Depot Battalion: Congratulations. Will be seeing you in January. Jock Cord.



On the Beach.
Signalmen Mills, Martin, Neale, Austen and L/Corpl Cross.

Sigmn A. Sharp, Scarborough: Congratulations on the marriage. Was I surprised? Austen.

Barleux: Is there any competition between Ukann Larfe and "The Foundations of Music" provided by the B.B.C.? Sugg.

Shanghai: Ref. your July "We doff our tiles." The word "virginity" was not used, and that case was one of fiction and not of fact. Sugg.

Catterick: Has Les Vincent made a hit yet to beat Berlin's compositions? Ohms enquires.

Howler.—Culled from an R.A. examination paper. "A.A. is used as a call for an unknown station, and is also used for *reputations*."

Till next time. MATA HARI.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, Wellington Front, 8th October.

General.—With the arrival of Signalmen Binstead and Hawthorn from the 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, on the 11th September, our numbers are once more back to normal. Needless to say, we trust their stay on the Rock will be a pleasant one.

During the forthcoming trooping season we anticipate the arrival of ten other ranks to replace a like number who are due for repatriation to the United Kingdom. It will be seen that the unit will be one of almost entirely new faces in 1935.

We are pleased to record the return from leave in the United Kingdom of Captain and Mrs. House, and Sergt Rankin and family, during the present month.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?

If not, join now!

Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 466.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.



Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

During the past few weeks we have had a series of lectures. Air Commodore J. B. Bowen, O.B.E., spoke to us on "Signals and Aviation," and described with lantern slides the method of communication used by the Royal Air Force and civil aviation. We were pleased to welcome on that occasion members of the Royal Flying Corps Wireless Operators Old Comrades Association.

Mr. O. Sallmann chose a rather unusual subject in "War Stories of Ancient London." The lecture was very entertaining and provided some little-known information on the tactics of the early invaders of London. A lecture on "Tactical Problems" was given by our own commanding officer, and actual situations were studied with the aid of maps and contours.

The final lecture in the series will be given by Major-General H. F. Salt, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., on "Air Exercises and Air Defence Training, 1934." An account of this lecture will appear in the next issue of THE WIRE.

The social season commenced with a dance held in the drill hall on Saturday 6th October. This was the first occasion on which the new floor was available for dancing. The hall was brightly decorated, and the evening was a great success. The entertainment committee worked extremely hard, and they are anxious to ensure equally successful events in the future.

Everything necessary for an enjoyable evening is now provided, and it only remains for the members of the unit to turn up with their friends. Dances will be held monthly, and details will appear in Orders. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brook's Bar, Manchester 16.

We must apologise for the lack of notes during the past month or two, but it was due to lack of news, as the period between camp and the beginning of the next season's training—in our case, between Whitsuntide and the 1st November—is a time of quiet and peace: a lull which precedes great activity.

Our annual prize distribution will take place on Saturday 17th November. The prize list is now published, and the inter-Company trophy has been won by No. 1 Company with 111 points. No. 2 Company is runner-up with 110, while No. 3 gained 103.

We congratulate our popular "Quarter" (R.Q.M.S. McVittie J.) on his promotion to Lieut.-Quartermaster which took effect from the 19th September. He will be greatly missed in the Sergeants Mess.

We regret to lose the services of F/Sergt McKenzie, who has retired under the age limit. Mac (as he was known to everyone) had been with the unit for many years, and was wont to sigh for the good old days when a soldier could stand at his tent in the evening and hear the sounds from the horse-lines—the movement of the horses and the soft clump clump of their hooves. Nowadays, when there are no horse lines and no sound, one sees across the training area a line of vehicles looking like a row of deserted houses silhouetted against the evening sky. One dreads to think of the next advance party without Mac and the gallons of whitewash he used to mark out the camp area.

On Sunday 21st October a very interesting ceremony will be performed at our headquarters: none other than the unveiling of a War Memorial. This will take the form of a plaque and will be in memory of the members of the 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signal Company Royal Engineers who gave their lives in the Great War. This ceremony has a double meaning, for in addition to commemorating the fallen, it will be the means of teaching the present members of the unit (particularly our younger people) that they are in the direct line of succession to a body of men who did their duty in a valiant way, and it is up to all of us to carry the torch of progress in such a way as to prove ourselves worthy of their sacrifice. The ceremony will be preceded by a short service at St. John's Church, Old Trafford. All past members of the 42nd E.L. Divisional Company R.E. have been invited to take part.

On Saturday 6th October the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess had an outing to Blackpool to see the famous illuminations. A cold wet afternoon was not able to damp the spirits of the members who boarded the special bus at headquarters, and on arrival at Blackpool tea was served. Between then and 11.30 p.m., when supper was ready, the party fully explored the "City of Light," and it was a tired but happy bus load which turned towards home and eventually reached Manchester about 3.30 a.m.

We welcome Lieut L. O. Oldham on his appointment to this unit, and hope he will enjoy being with us. KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—News is scant this month, so one assumes that the various scribes who usually produce "local colour" are engrossed in preparing for the opening of the new year on the first proximo.

The recruits' musketry courses on the various open ranges are now complete, and at least one Company did not seem to mind the weather. I was privileged to attend this shoot, and the way in which the recruits carried on, despite three hours of drenching rain, was proof that they were not going to allow such a trifle to interfere with the job in hand. MERCURY.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

The annual shoot for recruits was held on the open range at Tavistock on Sunday 7th October. The day was described by the Company commander as the wettest he had encountered in his military experience. The approach to the range is normally quite marshy, but as a result of the recent excessive rain the whole area was transformed into a miniature lakeland. Mr. Herbert, in particular, was very disappointed! In addition to the discomfort of getting thoroughly soaked, he was forced to wait a further two hours for his train after arriving back at Devonport. Naturally, he was more than usually loquacious.

Visit.—We were delighted to renew the acquaintance of Sigmn McClounan G. G., late of this Company, who is now in the Royal Signals and enjoying life. We hope that any others of ours, now in other branches of the Services, will not forget that we are still residing at the old spot and will be delighted to see them when they may be in this district. THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—There is not a great deal to write about this month. Individual and recruit training, as well as operating and procedure courses, keep the troops busy on Mondays, Thursdays and alternate Sundays. The classes are well attended, and it is hoped that those taking part will greatly benefit from them. There were very few failures when the Trade Boards were held at the end of the pre-camp lessons. Let's hope everyone will pass with honours when the present term comes to an end.

Officers.—The first monthly dinner since camp was held on the 4th October. Twenty-five officers and their guests attended and spent a very pleasant evening.

Sergeants Mess.—We held our first dance of the season on the 6th October, and a really good show it was, too. About 250 members and friends were present and spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Congratulations.—To Sergeants (Blanco) White and Knowles G. H. on being awarded the Territorial efficiency medal (the long distance gong).

Births.—The stork has been around, and in consequence we have to heartily congratulate Sergt and Mrs. Hall on the arrival of un petite Pierre. 'Appy days and . . . . . nights, 'Arry!

Sport.—We lost our first football match of this season—but it was only a friendly.

Social.—We are holding an Armistice carnival dance on the 10th November, and a regimental dance on the 24th. We shall be pleased to welcome you if you come along. EFFEMMA.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—As the past month has been a period of rest following camp, there is very little material for the notes from this unit. The annual Divisional Command inspection of the barracks and quarters took place during the month, for which occasion the permanent staff took over the rôle of painters with the R.S.M. as foreman. Their efforts have greatly improved the drill hall, among other places; and if their artistic abilities can be enlisted in the future, who knows but that D Section's trailer will not turn out in regimental colours? Anyhow, the experience they have gained might some day prove of value when they return to civvy street, for pavement artists are becoming more and more scarce.

Training.—Although general training for this year is over, next year's policy, as decided upon at a meeting of the officers, has been issued. Several notable changes are included, among them being that Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D. (formerly O.C. No. 1 Company) has been placed in charge of the general training of the unit, Captain C. Bray taking over the duties of O.C. Company. Lieut A. H. Woodland leaves D Section to take command of the Wireless Section vice Captain Bray. It was also decided at the meeting that the week-end camps, which last year were so successful, should be continued next season on the same site at Arthington. Another decision was to form a D.R. sub-section to be attached to D Section, Lieut K. Darlow taking charge.

Medal Awards.—Part II. Orders announce that C.S.M. Allen R. (No. 1 Company) has been awarded the second clasp to his Territorial efficiency medal—a distinction of which very few can boast, and an excellent example to L/Sergeants Chappell H. and Webb R. J. S., who have each been awarded the medal.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following promotions and appointments, all w.e.f. 1st October, are announced. Promoted Sergeant, L/Sergt Thornhill W. H. Appointed Lance-Sergeant, Corpl Smith E. Promoted Corporal, Lance/Corporal Wrighton A. C. Appointed Lance-Corporals (paid), Signalmen Allmark L., Kerfoot E. and Parker A.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Winter training has now commenced, and we are concentrating upon at least twenty men to qualify for a tradesman rate. As we are now in possession of a six-wheeler 30 cwt. lorry, we can carry out lineman training with the telephone wagon every Sunday morning during the winter months. There is nothing startling to report at present, as we have only just commenced to parade again for drills.

We hope during the coming months to again challenge No. 1 Company on the miniature range, and also the 4th Battn. Green Howards and No. 608 Squadron R.A.F.

Badminton.—With reference to the match against No. 3 Company of Gateshead, we hope in the near future to accommodate them on our courts—and may the best team win.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant and Mrs. E. Walker on the arrival of another prospective recruit. To ex-Corpl J. Craggs on his success in the Regular Army. To Mick (may his cakes never burn in the Alfred).

Musketry.—On Sunday 30th September we had a pool ammunition shoot on the range at Eston, and some excellent scores were registered. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Training.—Winter training started on the 15th October with operators' and linemen's courses. We trust we shall have the usual good attendance, and that many tradesmen will be added to the Company's total at the end of the course.

C.O.'s Parade.—The second-in-command of the unit, Major J. J. Sheffield, paid us a visit on the 1st October to inspect the Company and its affiliated Sections. From what he said after the parade, Major Sheffield must have been pleased with the general turn out of the men. After the parade our adjutant congratulated all officers, n.c.o.s and men on the very good spirit which they had shown in all spheres of training and sporting activities—especially the boxing team, who had won the Divisional cup for us last year, concluding with the remark "Keep it!" We shall, sir, if it's done by trying. Afterwards, the annual efficiency grants for the year 1934 were paid to all who had qualified.

Football.—In the first of the two matches played so far, we were fortunate to win by three goals to two against No. 234 Field Company Royal Engineers. No. 234 Field Company are near friends, as they are in the same drill hall as ourselves.

On the 4th October we went to Blaydon to play the Blaydon Tyne House U.W.C. It was quite a good game, each team scoring one goal. After the game we were entertained to tea, and left with a promise to visit them again.

Badminton.—The semi-final ties for the P.S.I. prize were played off on the 16th September between L/Corpl Nicholson and Sigmn McCaughey, and on the 29th September between L/Corporals Stephenson and Dixon. The results were as follows: L/Corpl Nicholson beat Sigmn McCaughey by two games to love. L/Corpl Stephenson beat L/Corpl Dixon by two games to one.

There was a large attendance at the final game, played on the 8th October, in which L/Corpl Nicholson beat L/Corpl Stephenson by two games to love.

On Wednesday 12th September the n.c.o.s entertained the men of the Company to a match, and a very good and argumentative evening was spent. The score, however, was even, each side obtaining 16 points.

On Monday 24th September the men entertained the officers, and again a very good evening was spent. This time the officers gained 4 points and the men 22.

Lost or Strayed.—The S.O.S. message sent out in last month's WIRE has had the desired result, as the persons have now reported. Yes, they got their bounty and went home. Still, we have the consolation of knowing that they are yet with us in spirit.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Winter Training.—The first sixty-hours course of the season commenced on Tuesday 9th October and was very well attended. Among the twenty-five n.c.o.s and signalmen forming the class are a few electrician fitters, linemen and despatch riders, all anxious to learn what they can about signal work. They already look like beating the established operators at their own job! And their retort personal is going to be "We can do your job, but you can't do ours," if the operators don't get their noses to the grindstone.

Congratulations.—This time to Major David P. Levack, M.B., R.A.M.C. (T.) the unit medical officer, on his promotion to that rank. May his stay be long in the land.

More Congratulations.—The commanding officer, in Part I. Orders, heartily congratulated the three old-timers of No. 2 (Stirling) Company who qualified for the efficiency medal, and we take this opportunity of further congratulating them.

Another bagful of gongs is expected in the next issue, and quite a brave array of medals will adorn manly chests on the next unit ceremonial parade.

A certain n.c.o. of No. 207 Section, already the proud possessor of two of these oval emblems, has been enquiring as to the possibility of his qualifying for a third! Unluckily, it will have to be a clasp next time. Clasp yourself, Rollo!

Badminton.—The officers have dug out their racquets and are getting a good sweat once a week. Is this serious practice, we wonder, with a view to seeing off the sergeants later in the season, or merely very pleasant recreation?

On Monday and Friday evenings the junior n.c.o.s and signalmen are making the feathers fly. The members of their recently formed club are most enthusiastic, and some really exciting play is to be seen on these evenings.

Sergeants Mess.—The first dance of the season, held on the 5th October, was very good indeed. Among the happy crowd who favoured the sergeants with their company were the Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command (Lieut-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C.) the C.O. and officers. C.S.M. Bremner and his live committee organised this show splendidly. We look forward to the next, and thank them in anticipation.

Billiards.—Sergt Allan (unbeaten) challenges all comers, barring a few—the loser buys the beer. The few barred will ken a'richt, so drink up, lads!

LANKA MK. II.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

Training.—Our wireless experiments continue to make progress. We hope in the near future to have W/T communication (using A sets as transmitters and made up receivers) between Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline. We have received Rg signals up to a distance of ten miles, using A set aerials. When the necessary permit is given by the Fife Territorial Association to erect special aerials at the respective drill halls, we hope communication will be established, and we are looking forward to spending some pleasant evenings. The turn out of n.c.o.s and men up to the present has been very gratifying, but as the O.C. remarked, "Same old faces." Now, lads, make an effort and roll along sometimes.

Efficiency Medal.—All ranks of this Company congratulate C.S.M. Marshall, Sergt McCormack and L/Sergt Beveridge of No. 2 Company on being awarded the efficiency medal.

Entertainments.—Company dances have been arranged for the 16th November and the 14th December. A provisional date has been fixed for our annual whist drive, supper and dance early in the New Year, when we hope to welcome to Kirkcaldy representatives of the unit. The actual date will be notified later.

Here we are again, all smiling and in season:
The dance committee's on the job—
So smile, boys: there's a reason.
This winter, we have just mapped out
Entertainments you'll enjoy, no doubt,
With whist drives, dances, smokers, too—
It's all your fault if you get blue.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Ewshot.—The S.R. camp at Ewshot has come and gone. L. of C. Signals from London, Liverpool and Glasgow met there for the first time. It would be difficult to picture anything more delightful than the setting of Camp 49—the encircling woodlands breathing the fragrance and freshness of the pine trees, the blue skies and the sunshine featuring rustic England at its best.

It was not all play for the Glasgow Cable Sections. There was work in plenty to be done. We provided the only mounted contingent. The comparison with the mechanical units was very interesting.

We made fast friends with our London and Liverpool comrades. It would be difficult to over-estimate the splendid work of R.S.M. Sewell and R.Q.M.S. Smith of the London Company. The organisation and messing arrangements were excellent. Our w.o.s and sergeants are especially grateful to R.S.M. Sewell. He did much to make us feel at home.

We made a good show on sports day, despite the rush to get our entries in, and we were especially pleased in beating all comers in the tug-of-war event.

Pleasant memories of Ewshot will linger with us. It is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when L. of C. Signals will meet again.

Auld Friends.—What a joy it was to meet our comrades of A Corps Signals again. They welcomed and fêted us: nothing but their best was good enough for us. Mons Barracks was to us an ever open door. We have again to thank R.S.M. Grigg. We were privileged to join A Corps Signals w.o.s and sergeants in a most enjoyable social function, and we made many informal visits to our comrades in the barracks. Old friendships were renewed and pledged. We are proud that we retain the regard and esteem of A Corps Signals. That in itself is sufficient commendation.

To Eva.—The two Glesca' fellows send their regards to little Eva at Rawlinson Quarters, Aldershot. They hope Eva will some day fulfil her promise and come to see them in Glasgow.

Brilliant Bottomley.—We have a brilliant bombardier named Bottomley. He is not exactly straight limbed or Guardsman shaped. He had no time for the dashing Grenadier sergeant at the Union Jack Club. The Guardsman haughtily eyed Bottomley. Bottomley eyed the Guardsman. "Golden stripes and a pair of horses don't go well together!" said he. "Most curious of soldiers!" said the Guardsman.

Here's Luck!—We were glad to welcome at Ewshot our new officer, Lieut W. Johnstone. We feel that in him we have found another good comrade.

Our S.R. Commander.—Now that Major Cumming is located not very far from Glasgow, we understand that he will often be seen in our midst. Major Cumming was at Jardine Street to welcome home his Cable Sections from camp, and he appeared to be in his element amongst some of the old lads.

Sergeants Mess.—Things have got going for the winter. The first dance of the social season was a splendid function. There appears to be a marked demand for gatherings of a similar nature. The entertainments committee have things well in hand, and there is every indication of a bumper season of social events.

If Winter Comes.—If and when winter comes, we are not halting. The Officers Mess, Sergeants Mess, and Men's Club all look forward to a merry time. There will be dinners, dances and other attractions. An eye is being kept on the serious side. There will be classes and lectures. This happy combination of work and play should do much to carry us into the spring training season.

Macmaster the Master.—For thirty years Jimmy Macmaster has been at Jardine Street. He is our curator and master of all he surveys. No function is complete without him. Jimmy is thoroughly established as one of our pillars. A walking encyclopedia on all things military, he has a splendid record of service in the Cavalry and the Royal Engineers. Our hope is that Jimmy Macmaster and his good lady will long be with us.

Goodbye!—Sergt Dodds A. W. of our permanent staff has left us for the 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough. Although Darkie was only with us for a short time, he won the respect of all ranks. His departure was somewhat hurried, and many of us would like to have bidden him a personal farewell. We take this opportunity of wishing Sergt Dodds the best of luck and assuring him that he has left behind in Glasgow many who wish him well.

Arrival.—We extend a hearty Scottish welcome to Sergeant Schofield, who has joined our permanent staff from the 5th Divisional Signals, and we trust that his stay with us will be a very happy one.

Football.—We have emphasised our entry into the Glasgow Amateur Football League by recording a succession of wins. The Glasgow Amateur League is one of some standing in the city.

The performances of our team have exceeded all expectations, and this reflects credit on last season's spade work and talent-spotting efforts.

Men's Club.—The opening dance of the season was an object lesson in the way such a function should be conducted. Kindred organisations in our units might well copy the methods of the committee. The dance was an outstanding success, and there will be a similar gathering fortnightly throughout the winter. Lieut J. D. Rankin, who has charge of the club, very wisely delegated most of the arrangements to the men themselves, and the trust reposed in them was productive of an evening of perfect orderliness and innocent enjoyment.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—The drill hall is now in the hands of the electricians, who are rewiring the building throughout. Our training has been hampered through the failure of the lights, but we hope to be in full swing again next month.

Congratulations.—To Capt and Adjutant R. T. H. Gelston, also to Major W. G. Trice and Captain W. R. Hawkins, on promotion to their respective ranks.

Mr. V. F. Alban and Mr. W. R. T. Barnes have been recently commissioned in the unit.

The Divisional commander, Major-General J. K. Dick-Cunyngham, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., inspected the drill hall and administration on Wednesday 10th October, and he appeared to be very pleased with what he saw.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess held a table tennis tournament against a team from the Cardiff Post Office, and some very exciting games were played. The result was a good win for the Mess—a great surprise to a good many present.

The social season starts once again on the 1st November. The W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess are having their annual dinner on the 3rd November, and the annual Armistice ball on the 9th. Arrangements are also being made for the Christmas draw and the children's Christmas tree party.

THE LEEK.

[*54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals—See next page*]

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Annual training for 1934 now being completed, one can sit back and consider the writing of a few WIRE notes.

We were very fortunate in being allotted such a spot as Shorncliffe, Kent, in which to carry out annual training: a delightful spot, if a little breezy. The unit concentrated there on the 29th July and remained until the 12th August.

Many interesting schemes were carried out, and No. 3 Company unravelled the mysteries of their "coffee shop," whose secrets heretofore had been jealously guarded. Great keenness was shown by all ranks, especially our latest joined recruits. The latter are the result of our recruiting campaign on which we discoursed at length in a previous issue. Our despatch riders worked wonderfully well, even if they did rouse the officers a little early in the morning as they drew their petrol. Our postal service was the envy of all other units: it was so good that our postman, with the aid of his super-charged Bentley (h. and c. all mod. con.), could do the journey from camp to the post office—a distance of about two miles—in something under three hours, weather permitting. Rumours that L/Sergt Hollister is applying for a postmastership are entirely unfounded.

Sports day on the middle Saturday was a great success, much hidden talent coming to light, especially amongst the Sergeants Mess heavy weights who took part in the tug-of-war. With the C.S.M. of No. 2 Company as anchor man, they would have been quite invincible. It gives me great pleasure to praise the little ones—uneasy lies the arm that wears the crown.

A very happy and interesting time was spent by all, and we hope our recruits will spread the news among their friends and bring them along to join them and us at next annual training.

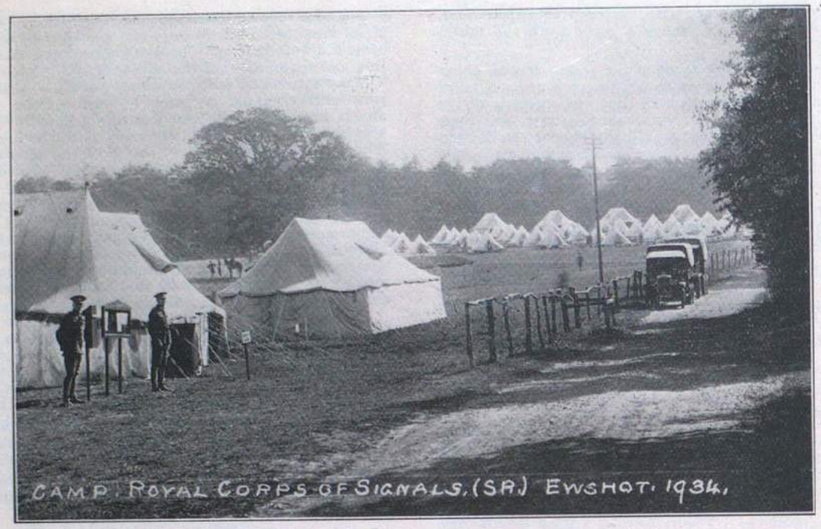
Training now carries on under Company arrangements, all aspiring to greater things at our annual training in 1935.

C.E.S.

Supplementary Reserve Units, Camp 49, Ewshot, Hants.

It was originally the intention of the powers that be that certain S.R. units should go to Salisbury Plain, attached to A Corps Signals, for Army manoeuvres; but owing to the shortage of water, the original intention was amended and the units concentrated at Camp 49, Ewshot, from the 9th to the 23rd September. These units were as follows: Headquarters L. of C. Signals, No. 22 Construction Section, and No. 21 Cable Section, Balham; No. 3 Company L. of C. Signals, Liverpool; No. 25 Construction Section and No. 22 Cable Section, Putney; Nos 23 and 24 Cable Sections, Glasgow. The Group was under the command of Lieut-Colonel M. F. Allan, commanding L. of C. Signals (S.R.), and Captain H. J. Wiseman, A Corps Signals, acted as adjutant.





During the first three days preliminary training was the order, and on Thursday and Friday short schemes involving cable laying, air line construction and fitting up of offices, were carried out ; but during the first three days of the second week Lieut.-Colonel Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., commanding A Corps Signals, who had been nominated chief instructor, really got to work and organised extensive signal training schemes with staff co-operation. These were carried out successfully and much useful experience was gained—" Q " also having to do a spot of work in feeding the Sections at various points near the " front." Of course, it *would* rain on the last and longest day of the scheme. The thanks of the Group are extended to A Corps Signals, who generously assisted in many directions.

The Sergeants Mess were exceedingly comfortable. They had the pleasure of entertaining the officers of the Group, and also the members of the Sergeants Mess from Mons Barracks. Both entertainments were very enjoyable.

Among the things we did *not* learn, one must include the following:

Who were the Gammage Sisters?
What is the " absolution " bench?
What is roughing it?
Are stays on poles put on to stay poles, or for jokers to play jokes wiv?
If three superimposed sounders chatter at the same time to the same tune, who is Chief Joker?
" Blocks on "?

C.E.S.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

The Green, Stratford, London, E.15

No. 1 Company.

General.—As we are nearing the close of the training season, our thoughts turn a little more towards the social side of the unit and the Company.

The annual unit dance takes place this year on a Friday evening—the 9th November—at the New Baths, Romford Road, West Ham, E.15. This dance promises to be something out of the ordinary, so " The unit expects," etc.

Everyone of No. 1 Company knows of the arrangement kindly made by the unit for those who would like to own their patrol uniform. Now is the time to take advantage of this arrangement, because there are many functions to follow the unit dance, such as Company dances, dinners and boxing shows to be held on dates yet to be fixed.

Training, of course, is by no means neglected during the whirl of the social season, and the fact that the large lecture hall has been turned into a miniature gymnasium, with boxing ring, punch bags and punch balls replenished and as good as new, testifies to our activities in that direction. It must also be mentioned that only qualified instructors are engaged, so the stage is set for another bright and successful show. In addition, we have quite a gathering of enthusiasts in No. 1 Company, so we whisper loudly of how we intend to keep the boxing cup where it is.

Training.—A series of very interesting lectures is in progress for those whose souls are afire with the thirst for knowledge, the lecturers being C.S.M. Simpson H. A. and C.Q.M.S. Fleming W. The lectures are in the form of talks and practical demonstrations, the subjects ranging from " Elementary Magnetism " to " The Making of a Set for Broadcast Reception."

The recruits are getting interested in talks and practical demonstrations with all the various signalling apparatus, and we are not forgetting the learning and practising of the Morse code, so that when the paid evening classes commence the recruits will be able to continue the good work. See? ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—A series of lectures on that weird and wonderful subject " E. and M." is now being given by C.S.M. Simpson and C.Q.M.S. Fleming, together with practical demonstrations of building simple receiving sets. The latter should prove very useful to the wireless fiends, providing they do not try to " improve " the £14 sets at home or write to the manufacturers and inform them that in their estimation the circuits are all wrong.

We have also formed a P.T. and gymnastic class under the instruction of R.S.M. Dowie, and things are going with a swing.

Departure.—All ranks are sorry to lose Sergt Finn V., who has left us for No. 3 Company. He had been with us for nearly two years and had made himself very popular during his stay. Our best wishes go with him to his new station.

Arrival.—We extend a cordial welcome to Sergt Newton W. G., who has been posted to this Company as P.S.I., and we hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

We Want to Know.—What the " dealer " said in reference to the dashboard when he came to take the Sunbeam away?

TWOCOY.

[*Continued at foot of page 508*]



Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Football: Depot Sergeants Mess v. Training Battalion Sergeants Mess.—So much discussion on sport has taken place lately that the Mess committee decided to test some members as to their abilities. Whoopee! We started off by challenging the Training Battalion Sergeants Mess to a football match, and our hopes ran high when we saw our team and staff on paper ; but having since seen them on grass, our hopes are now as high as the bottom plate of the " 534." Still, the lads turned out, and also turned modest when they came in. Where was I? I have turned so much that I have forgotten the yarn—I mean the match. I will mention each star by name whilst describing the game.

Goalkeeper, L/Sergt Jones—a brilliant youngster of great promise, called upon at the last minute to defend his honour—sorry! goal. Succeeded except for four cannon balls fired by a howitzer ; otherwise a darned good show, Moss-er (Jones).

Right back, Sergt Seabrook—wonderful back, a good security to any theme (I mean team) ; played a sound game while his petrol lasted. (Darlington F.C., note: available for transfer to civvy life in three or four months, having completed twenty-one years with the Army F.C.) You young monkey, George!

Left back, Sergt Carpenter—known all the world over as a good all-round sportsman. Cannot say much about him, as he can pass me out in everything. He should have been skipper in this match ; only the guy who acted as captain could beat him at one thing. Of that more anon. Whoa, Maxie!

Right half, the Czar of Scotton—Sergeant Lemon. In the first half he played like the last rose of summer—faded everywhere. Struth! he was like a man fermented. Still, every pansy has its day, and after the rest interval (you know, ten minutes halt in the hour) he surpassed himself and booted the ball *twice* (blocks on, printer, please) and we nearly lost it. We would not sell him for anything ; haven't the neck to.

Left half, C.S.M. Young—high stepper of jumping fame. Plays like a tin opener ; you know, up and down. A wonderful mover, although he " brushes " a bit after a couple of hours play ; otherwise a sound performer.

Centre half (captain), Sergt Shardlow, alias Maxie—no relation to Max Baer except in spirit. He played a river's game: roved all over the Garrison (I should say the field). I think he is going in for politics, judging by his speech-making, and at times during the match it sounded like Hyde Park on a Sunday afternoon. Will exchange this player for a good photograph of a gun being fired on the Rock of Gibraltar.

Outside right and inside right, Sergeants Mains and Hill. These two players " mucked in " so, it was a job to know who was who, so I think they should share the honours between them. I don't think there will be any argument, as there are no honours going to the right wing. After a lot of practice, I am sure they will find their goal.

Centre forward, Sergt Roberts (R.A.O.C.). Wonderful leader of a Band of Hope (hope for the best) but not a leader of a football attack ; plays a better game when he is back—no, not back



Boys " B " Team, winners of the Garrison Cricket Trophy.

Back row (left to right)—Sergt Napper, Boy Silver, Signalmen Pritchard and Stevens, Boys Neatham, Player and Parker.

Front row—Boys Whittenham and McDonald, Sigmn Reedman (captain), Captain V. C. Holland, L/Corpl Boy Willis, Sigmn Rixon, Boy Mayhew.

of the goal post. Already on the transfer list to the Gold Coast United F.C. Y.M.C.A.

Inside left, Sergt Spike May. Although this man is a great star, he must have slipped his stifle, because his near hind would not function in the right direction.

Outside left, Sergt Jock Carnegie. As his name implies, he plays Scottish football. He would not try to get a goal as he would have to share the honours, and that is against his nationality. On the day of the match he was seriously handicapped, as he was suffering from thrush. After having a little thrush dressing applied to his frogs, he had to run from the pharmacy to the ground, which made him late for the match (didn't it, Jock?)

Trainer, Sergeant Searle—suffering from spavins and lampas ; couldn't appear.

Team manager, Sergt Bennett. As he has to pick the team, and unfortunately only eleven can be chosen out of thirty-two players, he is willing to sell a couple for a knuckle duster, a sawn-off shot gun and a typewriter. Lemon prefers an Indian F.C. Any ex-Corps member wanting a job should apply for the situation of bodyguard. Address all letters to Jock Carnegie, and write " Football " all over the envelope.

Linesman, Sergt Brooke—has a passable knowledge of the game, but is going to Lincoln with the P.O. F.C. to learn some more about lineman's duties.

Reserves, remainder of the Mess. As they are such a shower of toughs, I dare not say any more.

The Training Battalion sergeants scored four goals, and then five players took it in reliefs to keep the game going whilst the remainder smoked on the touch line.

I was rather struck with the style of the Training Battalion goalkeeper, although once during the game I thought he had played for the Navy. I think I'll buy him for our own team.

Another instalment next month. We are going to endeavour to show up the yachtsmen.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby: Boys First XV v. Richmond School.—Played at Richmond on Saturday 13th October. Result: Boys XV 52 ; Richmond 0. A startling score, but very well deserved, as the Boys showed to great advantage—the results of hard training. Right from the start, the forwards got bustling and carried the ball into Richmond's " 25," where it remained during the whole of the first half. Scoring was rapid, and halves, forwards and threes shared the honours. By half time the score stood at 28, and Richmond appeared to be demoralised.

After the change over, the Boys opened out well and the threes, running hard, got over several times. The forwards were especially good in following and backing up, and Luscombe scored two good tries in this manner. Individual scoring was almost too frequent to note, but tries were scored by Harrison, Luscombe, Offord, Piddington, Smith, Sullivan and Latter, and a good run by Verlander (full back) added more points. So ended what had become rather a walk over, but the game was very instructive to all and faults will be rectified before the team plays Ampleforth on the 27th October.

Team—Back, Verlander ; three-quarters, Piddington, Willis, Offord and Smith J. ; half-backs, Shergold and Harrison ; forwards, Luscombe, Terrey, Moore, Parker, King, Latter, Allcock and Sullivan.

Swimming.—We must congratulate Boys McEvoy and Brewster on their excellent performance in the final of the Command 100 yards championship for enlisted boys. McEvoy swam a well judged race to win easily, while Brewster was only just beaten for second place. McEvoy has been a very useful member of both the Battalion water polo and swimming teams for the past two seasons, and in the final polo match of this season was selected as a member of the Catterick Garrison team.

Hockey.—Our Mackworth game with E Company took place on Scotton ground on Thursday 11th October. E Company turned out almost a Training Battalion team, but we took the field full of confidence and the usual " nothing daunted " spirit which is so marked in all our Company sports.

The game was one which will not be readily forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to witness it. We did not allow our opponents to settle down to their normal game and, after having the major portion of the first half, we led at half-time by one goal to nil.

In the second half we did not have quite so much of the game and E quickly equalised. We fought back with plenty of spirit and determination, and twice we got the ball into the net, but both goals were disallowed. We are looking forward to the re-play with confidence.

The game was fought with plenty of the renowned Mackworth spirit. By keeping the game open with swinging passes from wing to wing, we continuously had our opponents on the run.

The following friendly matches have been played: v. Mounted Wing, drew at 1—1 and 2—2 ; v. D Company, won by 2—0 ; v. No. 9 Section R.A.O.C. won by 1—0.

Three matches played by our second eleven against E Company second eleven resulted in two wins for us and a draw.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Football.—This is our first season as a Company team, and some results of our games are given below. We have only fourteen players to pick from, even if we had no duties to perform, so we are quite satisfied so far. A shaky defence is our great problem, but we hope to have remedied that by the time the Company cup games come round. In the match v. the 1st Div. we turned out a depleted team at short notice, to give them a game when their opponents could not turn up. Although we were beaten heavily, the game was not so one-sided as the score suggests. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and learned a lot from a good and sporting side. Results so far are as follows:—

v. D Troop Cavalry Signals 6—6 (Harwood 2, Macken 2, Corpl Chamberlain, L/Corpl Abbott).
v. No. 4 Company A Corps Signals 7—3 (L/Corpl Mohrstadt 3, Verlander 2, Macken, L/Corpl Durand).
v. 1st Divl Signals Eleven 5—12 (Macken 2, Williams 2, Homer).
v. D Troop Cavalry Signals 0—0.
v. No. 1 Company 1st Divl Signals 4—3 (L/Corpl Mohrstadt, Corpl Chamberlain, Macken, Verlander).

Golf.—The only competition during the month was a hidden number affair. The prize was shared by Corporal Stanley and Sigmn Goldsby, whose scores were the same as the hidden number (32).

Several pairs challenge matches have been played, and invariably these have been won by Sergt Bishop and Sigmn Williams, who have rightly earned the title of the " Jammy unbunkerables." Sergt Bishop equalled the course record of 22.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Sports.—2/Lieut Read and Sergt Murphy attended the fortnight's course held by the A.A.A. at Loughborough College. They are now to give the unit the benefit of what they learnt by holding a course in field events this winter.

Rugby.—We have the promise of a useful side and have no intention of relinquishing the Cobb-Nicholls cup if we can possibly avoid it.

A match against Swindon First XV. was only lost by 5—8, and a victory was gained over the Royal Welch Fusiliers by the same margin.

Soccer.—As usual, we have a number of gaps to fill. So far, we have played two League matches, losing one to the 4/7th Dragoon Guards and drawing the other against the R.A.S.C. In addition, we have played two friendlies against the Royal Engineers, winning one and losing the other.

Hockey.—2/Lieut Western is working hard to replace casualties in our team of last season, and our first matches have been encouraging.

Cross-Country.—We have lost most of last year's team, including Joe Cotterell and two other leaders (Page and Robinson) and such stalwarts as Hawthorne and Stanger. This year's team will necessarily be mostly novices, but we still have a stiffening of old hands in Sergt Ayres, Driver Stillwell, Sigmn Strickland, L/Corpl Bucke and Sigmn Hudson—so here's hoping!

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Cricket.—Owing to the unit being away on annual manœvres during the month of August and the early part of September, we were unable to complete our full list of fixtures for the season. However, we were able to play quite a number of very pleasant matches during the earlier part of the season. Played 14, won 8, lost 6.

The leading batting and bowling averages up to the 4th August were as follows:—

BATTING.

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Average
Sigmn Cooper A.	14	4	167	16.7
L/Corpl Chapman C.	7	1	94	15.6
Sigmn Smith L.	9	1	112	14
L/Corpl Chaffey E.	8	1	92	13.1
L/Corpl Dillon L.	8	1	86	12.2

BOWLING.

	Runs	Wickets	Average
Sigmn Smith L.	237	26	9.1
Sigmn Woodwark J.	240	24	10
L/Corpl Chapman C.	278	27	10.3

Sigmn Cooper A. was selected from the unit team to play for the Rest team versus the Champions, and we are hoping that next year (or season) *none* of our players will be required for the *Rest* team.

Rugby.—Our season opened in a very promising if not successful manner. First impressions induced the belief that we would have an even better team than last year. Owing to injuries we have not yet been able to field a fully representative side, but opportunities of testing second team men in the senior side have been taken, with the result that Sigmn Pullinger has firmly established himself as a senior second row forward of the hard-pushing hard-playing type.

Sigmn Cooper A. was selected for a County trial (Yorkshire) and gave a really good display. Unfortunately, he is now on the injured list with a twisted knee.

The following is a brief summary of the matches played to date.

v. York Railway Institute, on the 22nd September.—The opening game was lost by us by one try to a goal. The Railwaymen, who already had three victories to their credit, combined better than our team, but we were unlucky to lose. Sigmn Anthony scored our try.

Second XV. v. Scarborough Second XV. (away).—The Scarborough XV. proved just too good for us and ran out winners by one goal to nil.

v. Old Blenkonians, on the 29th September (home).—The Old Blenkonians registered another victory against us by 10 points (two goals) to 3 (one try). During the first half we pinned the Blenks in their own twenty-five by really brilliant back play, and were unfortunate not to have established a double-figure lead by half-time. In the second half the visitors scored two tries as a result of breakaways for which Sigmn Turner (loaned to them, as they arrived a man short) was responsible. Our try was the result of a splendid effort by Sigmn Last.

Second XV. v. Scarborough High School (away).—Scarborough School nil, Signals 19 points.

First XV. v. York Y.M.C.A. on 6th October (away).—This game, for which our back division was complete for the first time, provided us with an easy win by 26 points to nil. Sigmn Cooper, who was the outstanding man on the field, had to retire just after half-time. Wretched weather prevented more than one of the eight tries being converted.

Second XV. v. Scarborough High School (home).—Signals 19 points, Scarborough School nil.

First XV. v. Leeds Salem, on 13th October (away)—Signals 3 points (one try), Leeds Salem 19 points (two goals, three tries). Unfortunately, we had to bring in four reserves—two backs and two forwards—for this game. On the previous Saturday Leeds Salem had met the Gloucester Regiment at Catterick, losing by 3—6 points, and they were determined to take their revenge from us! But I think there would have been a very different tale to tell if we had been at full strength. Sant (our scrum half) and Anthony (left centre) received leg injuries which will keep them out of our side for our Army cup game.

Second XV. v. Beverley (away).—Beverley 3 points, Signals nil.

Record to date.

First XV.—Played 4, won 1, lost 3 ; points—for 35, against 34.
Second XV.—Played 4, won 2, lost 2 ; points—for 31, against 8.

Forthcoming Fixtures.

17/10/34 v. 4th Battn Royal Tank Corps (away) Army rugby challenge cup.
20/10/34 v. Ionians (away) Yorkshire cup ; Second XV. v. York Railway Institute (home).
27/10/34 v. Bridlington (away) ; Second XV. v. Bridlington "A" (away).
31/10/34 v. Training Battalion or Depot Battalion (away) Cobb-Nicholls cup.
3/11/34 v. Leeds Chirons (away).
10/11/34 v. Leeds Medical School (home).

Football.—Once again I have the pleasure of being " at home" to the many soccer fans who interest themselves in the Fifthdiv's annual endeavour to place the Corps on top of the football tree in Yorkshire.

Readers may recall that the Div. were last season the runners-up in Division I. of the Scarborough and District League, whilst the Reserves occupied the fourth place in Division II. Well, so far it has not been a bed of roses in determining who shall represent the unit in the premier league. Our first effort against Hunmanby F.C., away from home, met with no success, the odd goal in five sending us home pointless.

The absence of such stalwarts as Corpl Gibbons and Signalmen Scaife and Baines has been felt very much. Unfortunately, the former has not recovered from an injury sustained at the latter end of last season. Scaife had the misfortune to injure a collar-bone whilst taking part in a practice game, which resulted in his removal to hospital. Baines, one of the lucky ones, is at present away on a course with the G.P.O. Lincoln.

I hope to be able to report a victory or two in my next effort, including (by the way) an eye-witness account of our tie with the 1st Battalion Essex Regiment to be played at Catterick on the 24th October in the first round of the Army challenge cup.

Better news comes from the Reserve section. League matches to date are as follows:—

v. Ayton F.C. won by 6—1 (away).
v. Snainton F.C. won by 8—0 (home).
v. Junior Imps, lost by 3—4 (home).
v. Sherburn F.C. won by 8—0 (home).

Quite a good start! There is no reason to doubt that a series of further victories will be the happy lot of the second string.

No little interest is being shown in the unit in the introduction of an Inter-Section League for the present season. Run on an home and away basis, it will no doubt be an interesting attraction for Wednesday afternoons. Just keep those civvy suits in the press for an hour or two longer, folks, and give the " colts " your whole support. Remember, it may be your Section that will win the Section soccer shield this season.

Dwelling on the game from a spectator's angle. It is rather disconcerting to record that some of the youngsters—and even some old 'uns, too—have been given a raw deal at recent games. Do please remember that experiments have to be made in order to find winning combinations. Always encourage a trier ; don't put him off his game. In the past your support has been loyal and very welcome. May it continue to be that way!

It is rather premature for the League tables to appear in print at such an early stage of the season. Watch for them in the December number.

STOP PRESS.—B Cable Section met A Section in the opening match of the Inter-Section League on Wednesday last and ran out winners by 4—3 goals.

L/Corpl Lancaster took full marks for the " spot " competition by converting three out of four penalty kicks taken. (Did you hear that one about Mae West, Lanky?)

B Corps Signals, Upper Topa.

Football Notes.

Murree Brewery Tournament, 1934.—In the first round we defeated the Dorsets by four clear goals, these being scored by Sergt Smith (2) and L/Corpl Jarvis (2). The second round saw us meeting our Waterloo as far as this tournament was concerned,

the Border Regiment beating us by 4—1 goals. No detailed report of these matches is given as there is plenty to report in the Durand games and space will not allow of accounts of all matches.

Other matches played before the Durand tourney started did not leave us with too much optimism concerning our chances at Simla. The following are the results:—v. H.L.I. lost by 2—3 and 1—3; v. Welch Regiment, lost by 0—1; v. Leicester Regiment, won by 2—1.

The Durand Football Tournament, 1934.—This is the most coveted football trophy in India and is played for annually at Simla. The luck of the draw was with us, giving us a bye in the first round.

SECOND ROUND V. COLLEGIANS CLUB.—Play started off with a great rush, Hislop scoring for us after only 23 seconds play (a record for the tournament). Although we had this great advantage, our team could not settle down until ten minutes before half-time. The Collegians were playing extremely well and proved themselves the best civilian team in the competition, their goalkeeper bringing off some fine saves from Jarvis, Smith and Managhan in turn. A goal was scored by the Collegians from a penalty just before half-time. After the resumption of play our team showed great improvement, and further goals were added by Smith (2) and Nichol, leaving us winners by 4—1.

THIRD ROUND V. THE DORSET REGIMENT.—This game opened almost with the same sort of rush as in the second round, Jarvis scoring a fine goal less than four minutes from the start. We were playing nearer our true form in this match, which was a fast and clean game throughout. Half-time came with us in the lead by one goal to nil. The second half started off with some very determined attacks by the Dorsets, but Walsh, Fleming and Jones were on their top form and cleared well. Late in the game the Dorsets were awarded a penalty from which they equalised. This put fresh life into our team and Jarvis added a second goal, and the final whistle blew to leave us winners of a ding-dong struggle by 2—1 goals.

SEMI-FINAL V. NO. 20 (A.C.) SQUADRON R.A.F.—Played before a record crowd, with the sun doing its best to scorch us. The first half found both teams trying hard to settle down, and up till about half way through this period nothing really exciting happened. After this the game improved, and ten minutes before the interval Managhan scored for us—a wonderful header from a fine centre by Jarvis. The Air Force then put on great pressure in an effort to equalise, but our fellows were playing a fine game, outstanding among them being Walsh (who made some marvellous saves in goal), Fleming at back and Cant at centre-half.

After the interval we were definitely on top, but some glorious chances in front of goal were missed, and at last the Air Force drew level with a goal scored from a mêlée in the goalmouth. This setback livened up our team, but they could not find the net until we were awarded a penalty from which Jarvis made no mistake in scoring. We were not content with this, and soon Managhan scored a third goal for us from a fine pass by Nichol. Our fellows were playing better football than they had shown throughout the tournament, but the Air Force again attacked and scored from a free kick taken just outside the penalty area—Walsh being unlucky in not getting his hand to the ball in time. The Squadron tried hard to equalise, but without avail. Players of note in this match were Walsh in goal, who played a really fine game—his sense of anticipation at times being almost uncanny, and also Fleming, Cant, Smith and Sinclair. So we moved into the final after defeating the Squadron by 3—2 goals.

FINAL V. 2ND BATTN ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.—This game had had to be postponed for two days owing to replays in the other semi-final. A party of more than twenty came from Upper Topa for the "great match," and although most of them have now sore throats as a result of their great vocal efforts, it was a vast help to the Corps team to get such fine support.

The game opened with a very large crowd in attendance, among them being the Governor of the Punjab and Lady Emmerson, to whom both the teams were presented before the start of the game.

In the first minute the Argylls scored from a free kick taken just outside the penalty area. Instead of this disheartening us, however, it only served to spur us on to greater efforts. After a real ding-dong struggle for about twenty minutes Jarvis received a fine pass from Smith and a goal was almost certain, but he was badly fouled inside the penalty area. Jarvis himself took the penalty and made no mistake, thereby bringing the scores level. Half-time came with the scores still at 1—1.

On resumption the Argylls were hard pressed to keep us out, but their backs were playing a fine game. About a quarter of an hour after the restart the Argylls conceded a corner, which Jarvis centred direct into the goalmouth, and Smith got his head to it and scored a very fine goal. As can be imagined, this made the excitement very tense in the crowd—especially our own supporters, who showed the Simla folks just what support meant. The Argylls made some very stubborn attacks, but Walsh, Fleming and Jones were playing extremely well and kept our goal intact. Once the ball dropped from Walsh's hands just out of goal; an Argyll forward was quick to take his chance and pushed the ball goalwards: but MacFarlane seemed to come along like a bolt from the blue and saved a certain goal, kicking the ball out almost off the goal-line. Play was of a very fast and high standard which was maintained to the final whistle. When the crowd were beginning to look at their watches for time, Managhan nipped in and scored a good goal. Although the Argylls kept trying, it was too late to save the game, and so the Durand cup came to B Corps Signals with a score of 3—1 goals.

We left Simla with the following trophies:—

The Durand cup, competed for annually.
The Simla trophy, which can be won outright by a team winning the Durand cup three years in succession.
The Viceroy's cup, the property of the winning team.
The winning captain's cup.
Silver medals for the winning team.

The team who have given the Signals in India such a great uplift in sport were as follows:—Goal, Sigmn Walsh; backs, Signalmen Fleming and Jones H.; half-backs, L/Corporals MacFarlane and Cant (captain) and Sigmn Sinclair; forwards, L/Corpl Managhan, Sigmn Nichol, L/Sergt Smith C. A., Sigmn Thomas and L/Corpl Jarvis.

Others who travelled to Simla with the team and helped them were L/Corpl Statham, Signalmen Hislop and McNulty, and Corpl Denyer (trainer).

Tennis.—Two tournaments have been held recently, and all ranks took part. We all voted them a great success and look forward to similar tourneys in the near future. We wish to thank L/Sergt Smith for the hard work and keenness he has put into the smooth running of these matches.

The winners of the tournaments were L/Sergt Smith (who beat L/Corpl Managhan in the final of the Club handicap) and Sigmn Nichol H. (who beat L/Sergt Smith in the final of the open singles after a very hard and exciting match).

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Accidentally omitted from the October issue]

August.

Hockey.—In May of this year the Div. entered for the Murree Brewery tournament which is played annually in Murree. The most exciting match in this tournament from a Div. point of view was the third round meeting with B Corps Signals. This proved a very exciting match between two old rivals, and the Div. just managed to win by the only goal scored. They lost, however, in the semi-final to the Punjab Rifles after a very fine game.

A hot weather tournament has been started here this year and it is proving a great success. So far the Div. have played six matches and have won three, lost two and drawn one. This is indeed a very fine performance, as the two teams who have beaten them are still undefeated in the league.

In addition to the above tournaments, many friendly games have been played and the Div. have held their own with the best.

An inter-Section tournament is in progress and here again friendly rivalry, sportsmanship and real excitement are prevalent. At the time of writing U.H.O. are leading in this event, but M Section are close rivals, only half a point separating the two teams.

Several trial matches are being held in the station between military and civil teams for the purpose of choosing a team to represent Rawalpindi Military and Civil against a strong Punjab team which is at present on tour in the Province. In these matches the Div. have had one representative in Sergt French.

Football.—The only item of note has been the Buffalo tournament held in Murree during June. In this the Div. successfully won through the first two rounds and met their old rivals B Corps Signals in the third round. This match was played on Gharial Flats, and on this occasion the Corps avenged the hockey defeat in winning by 2—1 goals. The outstanding performance in this match was the display of goalkeeping by Sigmn Pollard of the Div. In fact, at times some of his saves were truly marvellous; and it is to him that the Div. owe our escape from heavier loss, for in the second half, when B Corps were surrounding our goal, Pollard time and time again saved the situation when all seemed lost.

Cricket.—Practice has again commenced, and although no outside matches have been played, two trial matches have been staged from which it is hoped to gather a team that will give a good account of itself when the fixture list is commenced.

Inter-Section Football.—Here again some really exciting matches are being played, and at the time of writing the lead is held by M Section; but this is no forecast, as there are one or two teams close on their heels who may take the lead from them at any time.

September.

Hockey.—At the present moment there is being run in Rawalpindi a hot weather hockey tournament open to both civil and military teams. Some excellent play has been witnessed and the unit team have been holding their own with the best of them, even though they have been without some of their regular men who have either been on leave or attending courses at Upper Topa. Many friendly games have also been played and the results have been very satisfactory. Four "Jimmies" have been awarded this year, and the successful players are Lieut C. D. Gardiner, Signalmen Froud and Charlton, and Sergt French.

The results of matches played since the last notes were published are as follows:—v. 3/11th Sikhs drew at 2—2; v. 7th Battery R.A. won by 3—0; v. N.W. Railway drew at 3—3; v. Sikhs drew at 1—1; v. Garrison Officers won by 3—2; v. Pindi Tigers won by 2—0; v. B Corps I.O.R.s drew at 1—1.

In the League the unit have played ten matches, of which five have been won, three drawn and two lost, and have scored 23 goals against 17 by their opponents.

Football.—The football team played two friendly matches before proceeding to Murree for the Murree Brewery football tournament and in each case secured a victory—defeating the Hampshires by 1—0 and the 4th Field Brigade R.A. by 3—2. In Murree they played four friendly matches before the tournament, and won three and lost one. They defeated the A. and S.H. by 4—1, the R.A.F. by 2—1, and the rest of Upper Topa by 4—0, and lost to the H.L.I. by 2—3. In the tournament, however, they lost in the first round to the Border Regiment by 0—4.

Cricket.—The monsoon weather we have been having lately has been all against cricket, but many of the enthusiasts have turned out at night and have been getting plenty of practice at the nets. It is hoped to get a very good side together this year, and the first of our fixtures is being played on the 26th September at Campbellpore.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket Notes.—On the 6th September we played the R.A.F. "A" team in the last match of the Hot Weather League, winning by five wickets.

The R.A.F. won the toss and elected to bat. Therefore we had to field in the heat of the sun and later to bat in a failing light. Our fielding throughout was good. Sigmn Barrett, in particular, made a spectacular catch at deep square leg by running back to a very hard ball and eventually taking it high over his head with one hand. Sigmn Steele made two good catches whilst fielding at deep mid-on; Sigmn Akehurst safely held one at square leg; whilst Corpl Ray likewise hung on to a sharp one in the slips.

K.D.S. were left with 76 runs to make in fifty minutes, and the light was definitely bad. However, the R.A.F. were kind to us, Mr. Extras totalling as many as 24!

Scores—R.A.F. "A" team 75 (Sigmn Greenhalgh six for 17); Kohat District Signals 84 for five wickets (Sigmn Greenhalgh 33 not out).

The result of the Hot Weather League is as under:—R.A.F. "B" team 7 points, Kohat District Signals 5, R.A.F. "A" team 4, and Best's C.C. 1. The S. and D. Club scratched.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

General.—Sports at this time of the year are, as usual, held up by the torrential downpours which occur every two or three days. Our football ground has been unusable a good deal of the time, and hockey fans have had to twiddle their thumbs until the sun shines once more. But now that the monsoon is nearing its end games should become normal again. Nets have been started at cricket, and we have entered for the Garrison cricket tournament. We are losing a very good all-round sportsman in Sergt Ryan, who has represented the unit in cricket, hockey, football and rugger, to say nothing of being a billiards, water polo, darts, etc., expert. We wish him the best of luck at Peshawar, his new station. Our football ground has been improved by returfing a large area around one goal-mouth, thanks to the efforts of L/Corporals Collington and Drake and Sergt Hayhoe, to say nothing of quite a lot of critics.

Rugby.—This might have been called water polo, as the monsoon has the habit of saving itself up until a game starts and then proceeding to give of its best for the next hour. We are sorry to lose the support of Mr. Boon of the Police, who has left Meerut. Sergt Ryan as full back has been a great help in keeping out a large number of tries, and we shall miss him and his accurate kicking next year. Corpl Teal, both as scrum half and stand off, has the right ideas. Corporals Heasman and Turner, L/Corpl Spriggs and Sigmn Styan have played hard and been very useful. We also have been fortunate in having such strong support from the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Results this month are: v. E Battery lost by 0—5; v. Black Watch drew at 3—3; v. 12th Field Brigade R.A. won by 3—0; v. 91st Battery R.A. lost by 0—6.

By losing against the 91st Battery we have been knocked out of the Garrison rugby tournament, which we won last year.

Soccer.—Our ground has been unfit to play on for some time, but we have had quite a number of games.

Against the 6th Field Brigade R.A. we won by 3—1. A very good game. *The Statesman* says that owing to the good passing by the forwards and good placing by the half-backs, we ran out worthy winners.

Our next match was versus the Royals, and we lost by 1—4. The best goal of the game was ours. Houghton, outside right, was in difficulty and passed back to Taggart, who from thirty yards scored a beautiful goal.

We met E Battery, and in the last minute of the game Dunn, our outside left, put in a shot which the goalkeeper fumbled and the ball rolled over the line, giving us the game with a score of 2—1.

We congratulate Sigmn Bovill on passing the theory side of the hockey umpire's examination, and hope that by next month he will be a full-blown umpire. Congratulations also to L/Corpl Collington on obtaining his referee's badge.

Swimming.—The unit team (combined with the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop) is not very strong owing to several members being in the hills. However, we are still able to turn out against other units. Each member of the team has to take part in each event except plunging and diving. In the station inter-unit tournament we were unfortunately drawn against the Black Watch in the first round. At the time Sigmn Fish, one of our best swimmers, was in hospital and his absence weakened the team considerably. We were beaten in every event except one.

The next match, a friendly against E Battery, we lost by six events to one. We won the breast stroke, and E Battery suffered their first defeat in that event this season.

In future matches we hope to do better, as one or two other B.O.R.s will be included in the team.

No. 1 Company have swum against No. 2 in two matches, each resulting in a win for them by four events to three.

Several new swimmers have been seen in the Company matches, and we hope soon to get quite a lot of new talent in the unit team.

Two matches have been arranged against the Royals and E Battery R.H.A. The results will be included in next month's notes.

The unit team consists of: Lieut Hobson, L/Sergeants Fraser and Fee, M.M., Corpl Hothersall, L/Corporals Edwards, Hill and Hollingshead, Signalmen Fish, Fry, Hurt, Ellis, Otton, Styan, Smith A. R. and Hoar.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Hockey Results.—Versus Hong Kong Mule Corps drew at 0—0; v. Punjabs Signal Section lost by 1—2 (Whitehead); v. St. Andrew's H.C. lost by 1—2 (Larking); v. Hong Kong Mule Corps won by 3—1 (May 3).

Tennis.—MAMAK CHALLENGE CUP. First round: Signalman Lomax beat Sigmn May, L/Corpl Rafferty beat Sigmn Erridge, Sigmn Shove beat L/Corpl Emary, Sigmn Whitehead beat Sigmn Fielding, Sigmn Martin beat Sigmn Williams, and L/Corporal Funnell and Signalmen Farrell and Austen walked over.

Second round: Sigmn Lomax beat L/Corpl Rafferty, L/Corpl Funnell beat Sigmn Shove, Sigmn Whitehead beat Sigmn Martin, Sigmn Austen beat Sigmn Farrell.

Semi-finals: L/Corpl Funnell beat Sigmn Lomax, Sigmn Whitehead beat Sigmn Austen.

Final: L/Corpl Funnell beat Sigmn Whitehead by 6—8, 6—4, 6—3.

ARMY DOUBLES TOURNAMENT.—First round: L/Corpl Funnell and Sigmn Lomax beat Privates Hart and Fuller (East Lancs) by 6—1, 6—3.

At a sports meeting held in August, the following were elected for the forthcoming season. Hockey—Captain, Sigmn Martin; vice, Sigmn Dilley. Football—Captain, Sigmn Lomax; vice, Sigmn Fielding. Cricket—Captain, Sigmn Mills; vice, Sigmn Erridge. Swimming—Captain, L/Corpl Rousseau.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Cricket.—As our season terminated in September, a brief résumé of our games will not be amiss. During the season we played seventeen matches, winning seven and losing ten. This is considered quite a creditable performance, as owing to the small strength of our unit our opponents were invariably numerically much our superiors. Corpl Parry was our best all round player, taking 59 wickets for 619 runs, while he also managed a batting average of 30.3 for the sixteen games in which he played. The unit supplied seven players for the Junior Staff and Departments team who were defeated in the semi-final of the Garrison inter-Company cup by the 1st (Fortress) Company R.E., the winners of the trophy.

Tennis.—In this our first season in the Junior Tennis League we managed to hold our own, playing six matches, winning two, drawing three, and losing one. Our representatives are to be congratulated upon their outstanding performances.

Rowing.—We have two crews in training for the challenge cup, challenge trophy, and emergency trophy. We hope next month to record successes in more than one of these competitions.

Swimming.—The annual Section swimming race took place in Cormorant Waters on the 29th September. The competitors, who had spent the major portion of the season in training for this event, were handicapped according to their ability. A gruelling race in a choppy sea, with a considerable wind, resulted in L/Corpl Poulton winning by a touch from scratch. Sigmn Waller gave him an exceptionally hard race.

TERRITORIAL NOTES—*Continued from page 502.*

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals—*Continued.*

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—During the last month the "after camp" feeling has died down, and we have commenced a programme of winter training which is both useful and popular.

There are two technical classes: one for the trained men who delve into the mysteries of wireless waves with the expert assistance of C.S.M. Cooley, and one for the recruits who do a certain amount of Morse operating followed by an introduction to the simplest forms of electrical apparatus—helped along by Sergt Bradbury and various little gadgets. Both classes go well, and it speaks for itself to hear argumentative voices at 9.30 p.m. leave the lecture rooms and disappear in the direction of the canteen—no doubt, to continue the issue over a glass of beer.

The remainder of the members parade in the gymnasium and do their stuff. The boxers practise on the punchball the smashing upper cuts they are saving up for Stratford, and the aspirants to health and strength, coupled with that slim sinewy outline, practise tricks on the vaulting horse and parallel bars. A good evening's work and entertainment.

W/T.—The pole has now been erected, and great things are expected of it. Of this more anon. For the present, let us hope that it is successful and won't have to be moved.

Permanent Staff.—All ranks of No. 3 Company join in wishing Sergt Johnson P. (our late P.S.I.) the success he deserves in his new rôle of Mr. P. Johnson, civilian. We hope he will follow the example of many other ex-Signals n.c.o.s and sign on the dotted line for the unit.

We extend the glad hand to Sergt Newton, the new P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, who has recently joined the unit. May his stay be long and pleasant.

We must also welcome Sergt Finn V., who has joined us from Stratford, and hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

Concert Party.—"What do you think of my turn, old man?" "Not bad! That 'no hooting' order is still in force in Southend, isn't it?" THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

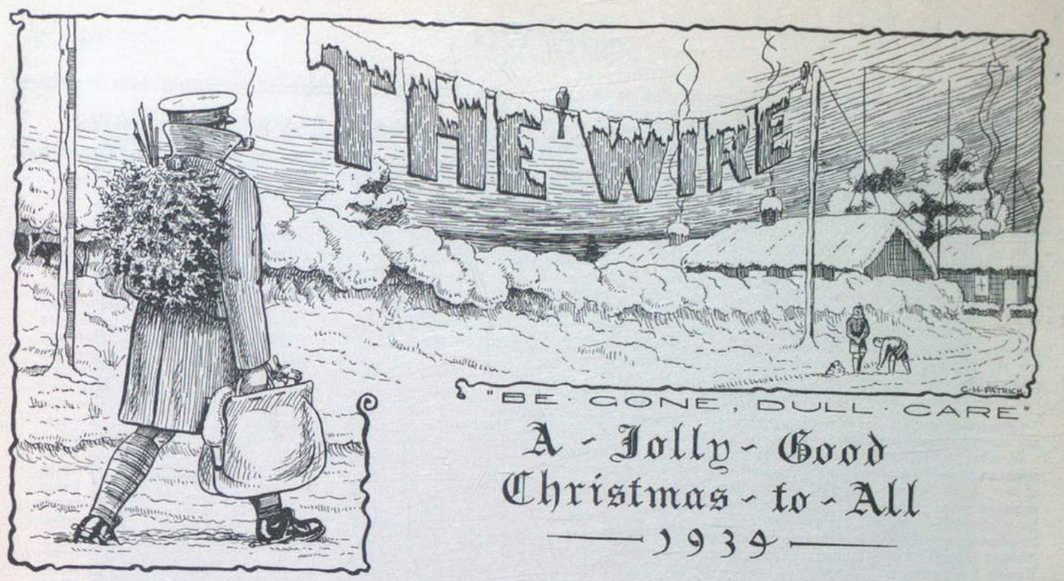
General.—As usual after annual camp, everything is very quiet. We are holding winter classes on drill nights, and quite a goodly number of the fellows are turning up to them. We give them operating to keep their hands in, and after that we give them interesting lectures concerning electricity and the various organisations of the Service and also Service instruments. By these means, and with the help of the winter trade classes of instruction which start in January or February, we hope to produce quite a good number of Group E operators at the next Trade Board.

Social.—With the winter evenings now on us, our thoughts turn to social evenings in the Club. We hold our first social evening on the 20th October in the form of a sausage and mash supper. We hope this will be the success it has been in previous years. Anyhow, the arrangements are in the right hands and a good evening's entertainment is assured.

Inspections.—The unit has just been inspected by the new G.C.C. 54th Division and East Anglian Area, Major-General R. M. Luckock, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. We have every reason to believe that he was very satisfied with what he saw.

Departure to Civil Life.—The Detachment wish Sergt Johnson (P.S.I. No. 3 Company) every success in his new sphere of operations. We might run up against you one of these fine days, Johnno, old man. BEDFORDIAN.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association?
IF NOT, JOIN NOW!
Your military service will come to an end some day, and you may then need help in finding civil employment. See how the Association helps its Members in that direction, as shown on page 466. The subscription is only Two Shillings per annum.
Ask your Unit Representative for further details.



A Jolly Good Christmas to All
1934

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VOL. XV.—No. 178 DECEMBER, 1934 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

With the Best of all Good Wishes to our Readers at Home & Abroad

Particularly to—

Ex-Sergeant F. V. March, Victoria, Australia
Ex-Corporal E. S. J. Haines, Auckland, New Zealand
Ex-Signalman E. J. Young, Venezuela
Ex-Signalman C. F. Vicker, Venezuela
Ex-Sergeant A. C. Lennox, Ontario, Canada
Ex-Sergeant L. E. Chick, Vienna
Ex-Signalman A. S. Mitchell, Rhodesia, South Africa
Ex-Signalman N. F. Graham, Nyasaland, Central Africa
Ex-Sergeant T. G. H. Bennett, Iraq
Sergeant R. C. Bland, Khartoum, Sudan, Egypt
Ex-Sergeant E. Elkins, Berbera
Ex-Corporal H. S. Hodgson, Ceylon
Mr. K. G. Montgomery, British East Africa
Mr. Vernon A. S. Wade, Simla, India

from all of whom we should be glad to receive news when they have the time and inclination to write.

Once again we tender our best thanks to Unit Correspondents and all contributors to the pages of the Corps Magazine, who during the past year have so ably and regularly assisted in furthering the interests of this publication. THE WIRE still continues to hold its own as the Regimental Magazine with the largest circulation among many contemporaries, and a great deal of the credit for this is undeniably due to those who so consistently contribute to its pages.

In this connection, we would also convey a message of thanks to the many Firms who use THE WIRE as an advertising medium, for their loyal support and valuable co-operation, and to state that we shall always be prepared to further their interests on every possible occasion.

It is felt that too much attention to this most important feature of magazine production cannot be given by our readers, and it is with confidence that we again appeal to them to PATRONISE THOSE FIRMS as and when opportunity to do so arises.

Orders from Messes or individuals may be placed either direct or through the agency of this office. We shall welcome the opportunity to act as medium for home or overseas requirements.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of Colonel A. A. Jayne, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., at Birmingham on Friday 26th October, after a very brief illness.

Colonel Jayne will long be remembered with respect and affection by those who were privileged to serve under him, both in France and during the latter stages of the war at C Depot, Bedford.

Early in 1914 he went to France as a Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers (Signal Service). His military career was distinguished, for following the first battle of Ypres he was mentioned in despatches. In 1916, he was awarded the Military Cross for

services rendered with the Canadian Corps of Signals on the Somme, and was again mentioned in despatches in February 1917 for work in the St. Eloi sector. The D.S.O. was conferred on him after the battle of Messines, and later the Order of the British Empire (Military Division). Having served in France continuously for the first three years of the war, Major Jayne (as he then was) returned to England and continued to serve as Second-in-Command of C Depot, Bedford, where he was mainly responsible for the training of telegraphists for R.E. Signal Service.

In 1928, when various Companies of the Supplementary Reserve were amalgamated to form Lines of Communication Signals, Colonel Jayne was called from retirement as the first Commanding Officer of the new formation. He completed his tour of command in 1933 and was promoted Colonel on retirement.

By his untimely death Royal Signals lose one of their most distinguished officers, and one whose first thought was invariably for the comfort and welfare of those serving under him. A photograph is shown opposite.

❀ ❀ ❀

Commencing with the January 1935 number of THE WIRE, we are contemplating a complete change of the Section Headings.

In place of the existing sketches by L. H. Drake, it has been suggested that we should substitute photographic reproductions of our many Service Stations, viz.: Home Station Notes to be prefaced by photographs of Catterick, Aldershot, Bulford, Canterbury, Scarborough, etc., in rotation; The Indian Signal Corps by photographs of well-known Indian Stations; and Other Stations Abroad by topical illustrations of the surroundings in which Royal Signals are quartered.

With this end in view, therefore, we appeal for the co-operation of our Unit Representatives and ask them to submit any photographs which may be considered suitable for that purpose—such contributions to reach this office at *the earliest possible moment.*

❀ ❀ ❀

It is officially notified, for the information of all concerned, that the supply of ex-Regular soldier pensioners (long service and for disability) for employment as Auxiliary Postmen in the Provinces is at present not equal to the demand.

We have been asked to notify such potential candidates that they have a preference over other ex-Service men for Auxiliary Postmen vacancies. They should, if they have not already done so, take steps to register for that class of employment at the local office of the Ministry of Labour nearest to their place of residence.

The qualifications necessary are as follows:—(a) The assessment of military character must not be less than " good "; (b) Candidates must not be less than 5 ft. 4 in. in height. No age limit is imposed, but applicants must be physically suitable for the work.

The employment is of a semi-permanent character. Most of the duties vary from 18 to 30 hours weekly, and the present weekly wages on entry vary from about 16/0 to 30/6.

❀ ❀ ❀

Royal Signals Quarterly Journal.—Will those who wish to subscribe to this publication, but have not yet sent in their instructions for 1935, kindly do so without delay, in order that we may be in a position to estimate bulk requirements.

❀ ❀ ❀

Ideal Christmas Presents.—The following articles are now stocked at this office and can be obtained on application at the prices quoted:—

Sweaters, Corps Colours	from	11/6
Scarves, Woollen, Corps Colours	each	7/6
Silk Squares, Corps Colours	each	10/6
Double-ended Silk Ties, Corps Colours	from	2/6
Cuff Links, Corps Colours	per set	3/0
Cigarette Cases, Corps Colours	each	2/6
Tobacco Pouches, Corps Colours	each	3/9

(Postage extra; cash with order)

❀ ❀ ❀

Bound Volumes of " The Wire " for 1934.—All Readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of THE WIRE for 1934 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. *No Royal Signals Mess Library is complete without it.* Price 8/0 per copy, post free (at home or abroad). THE EDITOR.

[*See " Stop Press " Note at foot of page 517.*]

Signals Association Notes

The attention of all Hon. Branch Secretaries is directed to paragraph 5 of Editorial Notes in this issue.

EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of The National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Joiner
2	Ex-N.C.O. Yorks	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, London	Storekeeper
4	Ex-Warrant Officer, Manchester	Postman
5	Ex-Driver, Manchester	Attendant
6	Ex-Warrant Officer, London	Messenger
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Mechanic
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
10	Ex-Warrant Officer, London	Instrument Maker
11	Ex-N.C.O. London	Film Extra
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Barman
13	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Joiner
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Baker
16	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
17	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Labourer
19	Ex-N.C.O. London	Clerk
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephonist
21	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
29	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool	Postman
30	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
31	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
32	Ex-Signalman, Staffs	Patrolman
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephonist
34	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
35	Ex-N.C.O. Reading	Lineman
36	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
Managing Trustees, Aldershot Command Trust.
Tidworth Branch, Royal Signals Association.

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from:—
2/Lieut. J. F. Campbell.

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from:—
Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E.
Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Durham. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	£2	10	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Darlington. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
3	Family of ex-Sigmn (deceased), Caithnessshire. Domestic difficulties	Grant	5	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Sussex. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
5	Ex-N.C.O. Kent. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Stirling. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Hounslow. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn Colchester. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
9	Ex-Sigmn Southampton. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	5	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Ex-Sigmn Hants. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	2	6



The late Colonel A. A. Jayne, O.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

[Photo by Jas, Bacon & Sons, Leeds]

12	Ex-Sigmn Salisbury.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4	10 0
			Loan	4	10 0
13	Salvation Army Headquarters, London.		Grant	2	2 0
14	Ex-Sigmn Middlesex.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	2	0 0
15	Ex-Sigmn Blackburn.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0 0
16	Ex-Sigmn Manchester.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10 0
17	Ex-Sigmn Burnley.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	3	0 0
18	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0 0
19	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	0 0
20	Ex-Sigmn London.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	0 0
21	Ex-Sigmn Warrington.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0 0
22	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	0 0

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Salisbury Signals Old Comrades Association.

Reunion Dinner.—The third annual reunion dinner of the Salisbury Branch of the Signals Old Comrades Association was held at the Café Rendezvous, 21 Catherine Street, Salisbury, on Friday 16th November.

After the loyal toast had been submitted by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (chairman) Mr. W. Ison proposed " Our Guests " and said that some explanation of his presiding over this reunion dinner was due to the members. It was consequent on the formation of a new Branch of the Association: the Headquarters, Southern Command, Branch, and this controlling body had taken away their chairman (Colonel Bradley) and vice-chairman. The committee of the Salisbury Branch, in their wisdom, had appointed him as chairman and Mr. Marsden as vice-chairman until the next annual meeting of the Branch.

The Headquarters, Southern Command, Branch was intended to control all the other Branches in the Command ; and in addition to the existing Branches, it was considered that there was room for several others—the primary objects of each Branch being (1) financial assistance, (2) employment, and (3) social activities.

Mr. Ison referred to the many activities of the local Branch during the year. It now had a membership of seventy, and he was glad to see sixty present at this reunion. He was delighted to welcome Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (who had always commanded the deepest regard of those who had served under him), Colonel Naylor, Flight-Lieut. Bishop, Colonel Day, Captain Carnegie (their old treasurer, who had come down from Town specially), Mr. W. Butler and S.S.M. Trusler amongst their guests.

Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, in responding for the guests, thanked the Salisbury Branch most heartily for inviting them to be present and for the warmth of their reception. He referred to the development of the Branches in the Southern Command, and said he felt that the O.C.A. movement was one of the greatest assets of the Corps. It did a great deal for the prestige of the Corps and helped their old members when they had left the Colours. Flight-Lieut. Bishop (the Salisbury representative of the National Association) had been of the greatest assistance in this direction, and he thanked him for his co-operation. The Corps was going very strong. Its prestige in work and in competitions was better than most. "Always playing the game "—whatever it may be—is the best which can be said of any Corps. He referred to the recent success of B Corps Signals in winning the Association Football Cup in India, which had (he remarked) been achieved by a unit of comparatively small numerical strength. He was very pleased to be there that evening with so many old comrades, and he wished them all the best of luck.

Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, in proposing " The Signals Association," said he was particularly glad to have this opportunity of being present, because his time was drawing to an end on " The Plain " and shortly he would be moving on. Of his twenty-five years service, twenty-two had been spent with " Signals," and he had never had better men under him than during his service with the Corps. The men were of the best type, and deserving of the best possible jobs when they left the Corps, and the Corps Association was doing its utmost in that direction.

Mr. W. Butler, in replying, said he was delighted to be present at their dinner once more. As secretary of the Association, he was pleased to report that they had been successful in placing 477 members in jobs in the current year—which was 150 more than any previous year—and they still had the month of December to go. There was general satisfaction with the type of men supplied, which was very gratifying, and he thanked the various Branches for their co-operation.

The vice-chairman of the Branch, Mr. W. A. Marsden, proposed "Absent Friends," which included all men who had served in the Corps at any time, and he hoped that any who might have been kept away that evening by hard times would have better luck in the future. He had received letters of regret at being unable to attend from their old friends Brigadier Heymann, Major Bray and Captain Moore.

The chairman referred with regret to the impending departure of Colonel Naylor. He wished, on behalf of the Branch, to thank (amongst others) Mr. Balmain, Mr. Cannell and Mr. Hand for the unique table arrangements and decorations ; the 3rd Divisional Signals for the loan of the gear ; the caterers for the excellence of the dinner ; and Mr. Cole, the local Branch secretary, who had his heart and soul in the work, for all he had done for the Branch.

A musical programme was provided by Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., Mr. J. Bryant and Mr. F. Ewens ; and these artistes were heartily thanked for the excellence of the programme.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
16th November 1934

The Editor of " The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the December 1934 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 27/1/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 26/8/29.

C. FIRTH, Colonel, i/c R.Signals Records.

Military Memorial to the late King Albert of Belgium.

The Editor of " The Wire."

Sir.—The recent tragic death of King Albert has revived many memories of one of the truly heroic figures of the Great War. Surely there could be no more fitting tribute to his work for the Allied cause than a memorial in the historic town of Ypres erected by those who served with the British Army in Flanders. With this object in view, a small committee has been formed, of which I am chairman.

Fortunately, a very fitting opportunity has presented itself to us, namely, that of filling the great Rose Window at the main south entrance of the restored Cathedral of Ypres with stained glass of British design and make. The artist selected by the Committee is Miss Geddes, whose work in Canada and Ireland is well known.

His Majesty the King has approved of the scheme, and I am glad to say that His Majesty King Leopold has also expressed his approval of our proposal and considers that it would form a most acceptable memorial to his illustrious father.

The sum required is two thousand pounds (£2000) and I make this appeal to all ranks of those who served in the Great War, and to the Regular and Territorial Armies of to-day, to assist me in raising this comparatively modest sum.

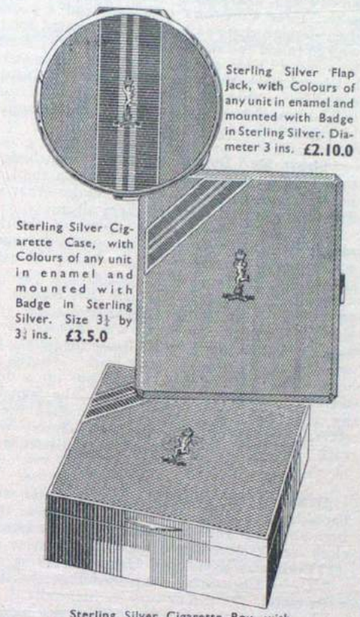
The work will be put in hand immediately the Committee feel justified in doing so, and should be finished during next year. The window will be shown to the public in this country before being handed over as a gift from British soldiers to Belgium.

Any surplus funds will be handed over to the Anglo-Belgian Union to be used for providing beds for ex-soldiers in St. Andrew's Hospital, Dollis Hill: if feasible, to build a " King Albert Ward."

All cheques should be made payable to " The King Albert Army Memorial " and sent to the Organising Secretary, King Albert Memorial Fund, Ypres League Headquarters, 20 Orchard Street, London, W.1, or to Lloyds Bank Ltd. (City office) 72 Lombard Street, London, E.C. Postal orders or stamps will be gladly received at either of these addresses.

Acknowledgments and records of donations will in all cases be sent by Captain Guy Cassie, c/o Ypres League Headquarters, 20 Orchard Street, London, W.1.

(Signed) ATHLONE, Chairman.



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Royal Corps of Signals

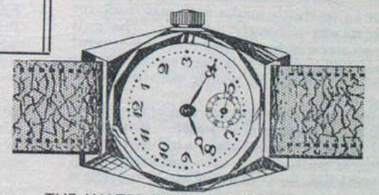
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Plain Tales.

Rhapsody in Snow.—According to my calendar, Christmas is approaching with some speed—rather more speed than I had bargained for, in fact. "Peace on earth, goodwill to all men" really includes women and children, and it is amazing, the number of women and children who expect "peace and goodwill" in the shape of a box of linen handkerchiefs or a working model of the Flying Scotsman. Perhaps you have noticed it yourself.

An evening spent in thinking about the Christmas spirit must have left its mark on me, for early the other morning I was conscious of a distinct change in my feelings. Sort of buoyant, if you follow me. The ground was covered with a mantle of snow about six inches deep, and everything was hushed with the silence that seems to come with a hard frost. Not a sound was to be heard save the continual slamming of the hut door, the raucous singing of a guy called Way, and the occasional dull plop as a holly berry dropped from the bushes about a mile away. The sort of peace that goes right through and out the other side.

I stepped out into the glorious morning and a snowball hit me on the ear. For one fleeting moment the morning seemed not quite so glorious, but this new feeling surged over me and I smiled happily. I was imbued with the spirit of giving, and I didn't mean maybe.

Gathering a handful of snow and an odd stone or two, I quickly fashioned a snowball. With unerring aim I flung it at my assailant, to discover—too late—that he was the orderly officer! The missile struck him under the nose, loosened his front teeth, and disappeared down his throat. He let out a mighty roar of laughter and called out the boys.

The battle that followed would have done credit to any Christmas card. Even the R.S.M. joined in, until it was observed that nearly everyone was fighting on his side. After a while there was no snow left, so the O.C. said it was a shame and what could you expect with a B.B.C. like ours?

The Quartermaster gave us a lot more snow to play with, on condition that we handed it back afterwards. All joined in the chorus of "Freeze a jolly good fellow," while the caterer brought out several crates of beer. Everyone cheered madly when the O.C. blew "Dismiss" on a tin whistle, and a rush was made for the N.A.A.F.I., although it was still early morning. The girls tripped lightly up and down, serving tea. Sometimes they tripped up without serving any tea at all. A driver banged on the counter for order, but he was thrown into a coal scuttle with many expressions of peace and goodwill.

Then a Naafi girl climbed on to the counter and stamped her feet until silence reigned. She continued to stamp. Maybe she is still stamping. I don't know, because I discovered that it was about time to get up. It was pouring with rain, blowing a gale, and there was fish for breakfast, so I shot the cook and felt a little better.

Christmas? Huh!

* * * *

Causerie.—With our usual low cunning, we announced that Joe Cotterell was going to India. This created the sensation that we expected. We are now able to state that Joe is going to China, and next month we will probably declare that he is posted to Scandinavia—devils that we are! According to Orders, Joe is going to Egypt, but we hardly ever read Orders because we haven't finished our new Jeffrey Farnol book yet.

Sergt Tom Sayers and Mrs. Sayers, of Tidworth, are the proud parents of a baby boy. Maybe E Troop notes will supply details. We only see Tom several times a week. Congratulations from Barleux and his Quivering Quavers (advt).

Our new invention, which will positively revolutionise the methods by which conjuring tricks are now performed for gramophone records, is not quite complete. One part of the apparatus consists of a wheel with a short piece of cane thrust through it. At present this cane prevents the wheel revolving, but we are removing the spokes gradually. Voyons!

* * * *

Just Ayresay.—We were interested in a paragraph we read in a newspaper the other day. It concerned one Gustave Knockenen, a blacksmith from Fiorita, if you know where that is. He died after eating forty-seven boiled eggs and six loaves. A poor effort! One naturally thinks of the well-known Harry Ayres, who sat in a car outside a roadside café and ate fifteen steak and kidney pies, two dozen ham sandwiches, twenty-two "Pansy" cakes, three Christmas puddings, and a pound of grapes. He then decided that, as he was not pressed for time, he might as well go inside and have something to eat! A newspaper reporter, who arrived later, jumped to a hasty conclusion and wrote "After a hearty meal, the troops moved off." Naturally, Harry took exception to this and obtained an apology from the newspaper. "It isn't as though I was a big eater," he said, with difficulty, as he swallowed a pork chop.

* * * *

"Chase Me" Department.—"All sunshades will be returned to C.Q.M.S. stores forthwith." If you think we made this up, we will send you a copy of the Order—that is, if they haven't dashed round and gathered them all in.

We are now waiting to see something like this: "It has been observed that Drivers H.T. are using an excess of lipstick and nail varnish. Cosmetics will, in future, be used sparingly."

* * * *

One Each Apiece.—The 3rd Divl Signals met the 1st Battn R.W. Fusiliers in the first round of the Army Cup at Bulford on the 24th October. The start was advanced by fifteen minutes in case extra time was needed. Pause for hollow laugh. The Signals were up against a much better team. That is a safe remark, anyway. The boys tried hard and put up a decent show. They were well supported by the unit. The Signals would have won by 3—0, but the R.W.F. cruelly netted the ball no less than eleven times—which, as Stanley Holloway would say, was one each apiece all round. Result, as you have so cleverly guessed: 11—3.

* * * *

Arrest of The Plugger.—Ukann Larfe stood with Inspector Faceache in a dark alley near a garage in the Old Kent Road. Both shivered with the cold, for it was a bitter night. A distant clock struck eleven, and the two detectives shivered again.

"Christmas Eve," said Ukann, breaking the silence.

"D—— Christmas!" exploded Faceache, breaking the silence even more.

The famous pair were on a dangerous mission, which probably had something to do with the shivering. Ukann's heart was in his mouth. He pushed it back with the butt of his pistol. Presently, a dark shadowy shape came up to the Inspector and a whispered conversation took place. Ukann strained his ear to listen, but found he could hear better by straining both of them and thus caught scraps of the talk.

The Inspector was answering, and his rasping voice carried a little further. "Yes, George. Righto, George. Rely on us, George, old boy. Oh, no, George. Not at all, George. Goodnight, George." The figure faded into the darkness.

"Who was that, Facey?"

"Harry!"

Ukann Larfe made a mental note to see about the straining of his ears. Suddenly a car was heard turning into the garage.

"The Plugger!" whispered the Inspector.

"O.k. We'll fix him."

The two dauntless detectives crept on all fours to the great doors. As the Plugger stepped down from the delivery van, four shots rang out. Four pencils of red light stabbed the gloom and three bullets sped on their way. (Ukann had a round of blank, so sit down, woman, sit down.)

"Hey! what's the idea?" shouted the Plugger as the bullets whistled into the night.

"You're under arrest."

"What's the charge?"

Ukann Larfe looked carefully through his notebook. "We don't know yet, but you'd better come along with us now. Have you got any handcuffs you could lend us?"

All four jumped into a car and drove to Scotland Yard.

Uncle Alf: "Who's the other bloke?"

Me: "What other—oh, I see. That's a secret at present.

(*Note*—Curse it! I don't know who it is.)

* * * *

Coda.—Well, folks, you can hang on to your hot water bottles and jam spoons a wee bit longer. Meanwhile, a very happy Christmas and a great New Year to you all. Be good, and we will be meeting somewhere around this page in 1935.

BARLEUX.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major T. B. Gravely from London to Palestine (No. 2 W/T Company)
Captain F. C. Curtis from Aldershot to War Office
Captain C. M. F. White from India to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Brevet-Major H. A. Spencer from India to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals)
Captain L. D. Goddard from London to Aldershot (1st Divisional Signals)
Captain H. R. Firth from Catterick to 56th Divisional Signals, T.A.
Lieutenant L. W. J. Dryland from Aldershot to 51st Divisional Signals, T.A.
Lieutenant G. B. Bell from Aldershot to 50th Divisional Signals, T.A.
Lieutenant N. G. Newell from India to Aldershot ("A" Corps Signals)
Lieutenant D. H. Prissick from Aldershot to Canterbury (4th Divisional Signals)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS War Office 19/10/34
The undermentioned are restored to the establishment:—
Captain R. H. Gem 1/10/34
Captain W. O. Bowen 18/10/34
Lieut. T. W. Boileau is seconded whilst Adjutant, School of Signals, 1/10/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
S. Carwin to be 2/Lieutenant 20/10/34
War Office 23/10/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
Captain W. G. L. Kennard is seconded whilst employed as Inspector of Signals, Iraq Army, 30/9/34
Captain A. E. Morrison to be Adjutant vice Captain J. W. Bailey 11/10/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—S.T.C.
Major T. B. Gravely, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Brigade Major 2/10/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. E. A. Bennett to be Lieutenant 25/9/34
War Office 26/10/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Sergeant W. J. A. Nicks, Supplementary Reserve, R.Signals, to be 2/Lieutenant 27/10/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
53rd (W) Divl Signals—Lieut. G. Cawthorn to have seniority 7/5/33 next above J. B. Senior, 27/10/34
54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—R. V. Pascoe to be 2/Lieut 27/10/24
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Captain (Brevet-Major) A. C. C. Willway to be Major 27/10/34
Lieut. M. M. Cuthbert to be Captain 27/10/34
War Office 30/10/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
43rd (W) Divl Signals—Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O., vacates the appointment of Hon. Colonel 29/10/34
Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing retires on completion of command and retains his rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform 29/10/34
Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing (ret. T.A.) to be Hon. Colonel 29/10/34
Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., Reserve of Officers, R.Signals, to be Lieutenant-Colonel 29/10/34
50th (N) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel G. Walton to be Brevet-Colonel 4/9/34
War Office 2/11/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
Lieut. G. A. Jones resigns his commission 3/11/34
The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants 9/10/34: C. P. Ingram, F. T. Britton

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
43rd (W) Divl Signals—R.Q.M.S. F. F. West, 43rd (W) Divl Signals, to be Lieutenant (Qr-Mr) 1/11/34
54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—R.Q.M.S. C. J. Sharp, 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals, to be Lieutenant (Qr-Mr) 1/11/34
War Office 6/11/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF
Captain F. C. Curtis, R.Signals, to be G.S.O. 3rd Grade, War Office 1/11/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS
The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants 3/10/34: K. C. Braine, D. J. Braine
The undermentioned to be 2/Lieutenants 7/11/34: W. J. Trimmer, H. M. Yells

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. E. A. Goodland, from Cambridge University O.T.C. to be 2/Lieutenant 1/10/34
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., to be Brevet-Colonel 5/11/34
War Office 9/11/34

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF
Colonel E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., from Commander 157th (H.L.I.) Infantry Brigade, T.A., to be Commander Cairo Brigade, and is granted the temporary rank of Brigadier whilst so employed 1/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
2nd Cavalry Divl Signals—2/Lieut. W. P. Doyle to be Lieut 17/6/34
War Office 13/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS
42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—R. H. Clegg to be 2/Lieut 14/11/34
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—N. D. Wright to be 2/Lt 14/11/34

Television: 1880—1934.

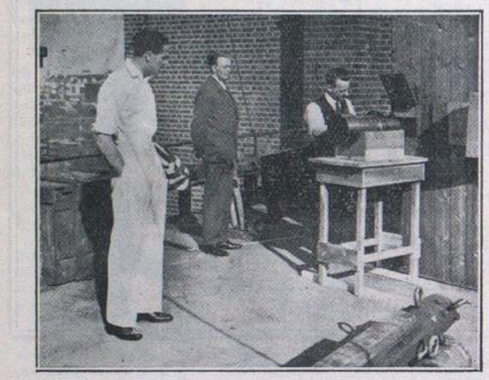
By W. T. LOWE (ex-R.F.C. and R.A.F. Wireless) and E. PHILLIPS (Fellow of the Television Society).

At some future date, Gunner and other Signalmen of H.M. Forces will no doubt be required to know something about Television. So we will make a start by endeavouring to interest you in the historical side of the subject.

Television a new idea? Good heavens, no! It was more than a dream fifty years ago.

Mr. George Carey, of Boston, Massachusetts, invented an apparatus in 1880. It transmitted the image of a scene on to chemically treated paper.

Later, other scientists experimented on similar lines—notably Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, and also Edison, who invented an apparatus which he called the electro-phonoscope. This was cartooned by *Punch* in 1879.



Jack Buchanan being "televised."
(By courtesy of Baird Television Ltd.)

The discovery of the principle of the thermionic valve by Professor (now Sir) Ambrose Fleming in 1912, and its improvement for amplifying purposes during and after the war, however, gave experimenters the means of increasing weak electric currents for which they had been looking. But actually the photo-electric cell solved the problem of television.

By 1923 several experimenters had succeeded in televising shadows.

Real television—the presentation of the image of the living form—was attained only by J. L. Baird, who in January 1926 gave a demonstration of television before members of the Royal Institution in an attic room in Soho, sending the images from one room to another.

Bribed to sit under the fierce glare of the lights and submit to this novel experience, the first living person to be televised was a lad from the offices situated below Mr. Baird's laboratory; but improvements in the apparatus have removed the necessity for using strong light, and that now used is soft and pleasing. Although crude, the result was real television and only required development. The original apparatus is now kept in the Science Museum, South Kensington.

More funds became available for experiment. An instrument of greater precision replaced the apparatus which had been built from "odds and ends."

In 1927 Mr. Baird transmitted television from London to Glasgow by means of land-lines arranged in the sitting-room of the Central Station Hotel. His image was seen and recognised by leading scientists and prominent men of Glasgow.

Later in that year the American Telephone and Telegraph Company transmitted television from Washington to New York, a distance of two hundred miles, using apparatus of the Baird type. It is said they required a staff of one thousand men to accomplish this. The London to Glasgow transmission required Mr. Baird and two assistants only.

In February 1928 Mr. Baird transmitted television across the Atlantic from London to New York. The wavelength used was 43 metres and the test was successful, though the images were still crude.

Sitting before the televisor is an eerie business at first, and Mr. Fox, who was one of the people televised, said it was difficult to realise that, through the little window facing him, his face was being disintegrated and flashed across the Atlantic for inhabitants of the New World to see. Yet such was the case.

Then, in mid-Atlantic, the wireless operator on the *Berengaria* saw the picture of his fiancee seated before the televisor in London. Although crude, and fading very obvious, the looker-in recognised the picture of the sitter and admitted the transmission as being clearly a feat.

In 1932 the Derby was televised by means of mirror drum scanning and shown on the screen at the Metropole Cinema at Victoria, London, S.W. In this case three wires were used for transmission, and three mirror drum systems at the transmitting and receiving ends. Each mirror drum dealt with one portion of the picture only. The result was quite good.

In America television has been tried from aeroplanes; and a "television" wedding took place in an exhibition in New York in 1929. The bride and bridegroom occupied separate telephone television cabinets, and the clergymen officiated at Yonkers, a town twenty miles away. An interested audience watched the ceremony, and the responses, etc., were heard from loud speakers. Other couples have since used this method of being married. What a difference from Mr. Baird's first attempt, when he had to bribe that office boy to sit before his fearful machine!

Mention of the radio wedding reminds us that the adaptation of televisors in telephone cabinets has been tried in America and France, using the interruptor disc method. The experiments were successful, but the cost perhaps prohibitive.

Subsequent developments were (1) colour television in which images of delphiniums and carnations were transmitted, and showed up very clearly as such by their colouring, as did also a basket of strawberries; (2) stereoscopic television; (3) phonovision, or the recording of television signals on gramophone discs, from which they could be repeated at some future time; (4) daylight television; and, most strange of all (5) noctovision, or seeing in darkness, by means of the infra-red rays.

—From "The Gunner," October 1934.

Honour for an R.E. Signals Corporal.



Mr. G. P. W. Keay.
[Reproduced by the courtesy of "The Post Office Magazine"]

The medal of the Order of the British Empire has been presented to Mr. G. P. W. Keay, head messenger to the Postmaster-General, in recognition of his twenty-five years service to the Headquarters Boy Messengers' Institute. He has devoted himself unstintingly to the welfare of the boys. This is the first time that the medal has been presented to a Post Office messenger.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Kashmir.—I have heard it called "The Land of Beyond," and after my experience of the mists of Murree, it was a haven of refuge when I reached there.

Gone was the continual racket of dance music from those two bands that one could hear nightly in the Mall, vieing with each other as to who could create the most noise to attract customers. Gone was the hustle and bustle of the native element who have invaded Murree in their thousands during the last decade. Gone were those clouds that appeared to rise from under one's very feet, and in which atmosphere everything seemed clinging, clammy and unreal. And in its place, that beautiful valley picturesquely situated in the lap of the Himalayas, amidst all the sublimest beauties of nature, where one can forget about the N.W. Frontier—yes, and Murree, too.

No trains, trams or planes are seen or heard in this spot which is likened unto "a Venice in Switzerland." Travelling by car up the Jhelum Valley for a distance of about 130 miles, impressions come so fast that each beautiful scene—here a gorge, there a wooded valley running at right angles to the Jhelum, the fascinating mountains towering above—is speedily blotted out by succeeding ones, so that one can never enjoy them to the full.

If you want mountaineering with a splash of snow, there is plenty to be had within striking distance of Srinagar; or if you are not satisfied with those 16,000 feet hills near Gulmarg (thirty-three miles from Srinagar) you can take a little trek of 150 miles in another direction and have your fill of snowclad mountains with Nanga Parbat as a background.

Having trekked over many "skylines" on life's journey, I decided to anchor in a houseboat on Nagin Bagh (five miles from the city that was founded somewhere about 80 A.D.) as opposed to eating, drinking and sleeping "golf" at Gulmarg. For this latter remark, I shall probably get it in the neck from some of my friends who have returned from that charming health resort, not full with the beauties of Kashmir, but satisfied at last that they have reduced their handicaps!

Approximately 5200 feet above sea level and surrounded by high mountains, the valley is defended from the cold that comes from the higher ranges of the Himalayas to the north, and those in the south form a barrier that excludes the scorching winds from the Plains. So, in this bracing climate, one's ideal is just to laze about, or swim in the clear crystal waters of the lakes, or fish, or paint (if so inclined), and at night to sit on the top deck of the houseboat and watch the moon rising over the Himalayas in all the glory of a clear Eastern sky. And as the moon comes sailing over, so the shadows on the waters grow less until her full glory is reflected from the centre of the lake, surrounded by myriads of coloured electric lights shining from the numerous houseboats moored by the banks—a scene never to be forgotten.

If you get bored, take a trip by water to Shalimar Gardens, that paradise of fountains and cascades amidst lovely lawns, beds of gorgeous flowers, and huge chenar trees—and where, to obtain the correct setting, you should burst forth into that well known song "Pale hands I love," etc. Or if you haven't then had your fill of paradise, try Nishat Gardens, Harwan, or Dal Lake with its acres of lotus flower beds—where you can watch for hours the antics of that little jewel, the kingfisher. With its bright feathers of ebony, garnet, turquoise and topaz, and its friendly habits, it is a pleasure to watch as it poises over the water, dives after its prey, and perches on a lotus flower to consume its silvery morsel.

Or yet again, if you desire something more material, take a trip to Srinagar City (by boat, of course). Visit not the Bund, where all Europeans congregate, but disembark at the seventh bridge and walk through the native bazaar to the second bridge. Take a large-sized handkerchief and a big bottle of perfume—you'll want 'em!—and when you have finished your walk, you'll thank your lucky stars that there are such things as the big open spaces. Yet it is all very interesting and new, and one's camera is continually clicking; but a favourite pastime (which many of us were forced to indulge in during the late war) appeared to be very prevalent here also, and I was extremely disappointed in not being able to take a snap of the many native ladies whom I saw "doing their hair"!

Back on the clear waters of the lake, the sordidness of the native bazaars is forgotten; and so, when my time came to return to the shadow of the Old Lady's Nose, I (who on several occasions have "done the necessary" on the Bridge of Sighs in Venice) sighed a profound sigh as the car took me away from this earthly elysium, this Venice in Switzerland. TIM.

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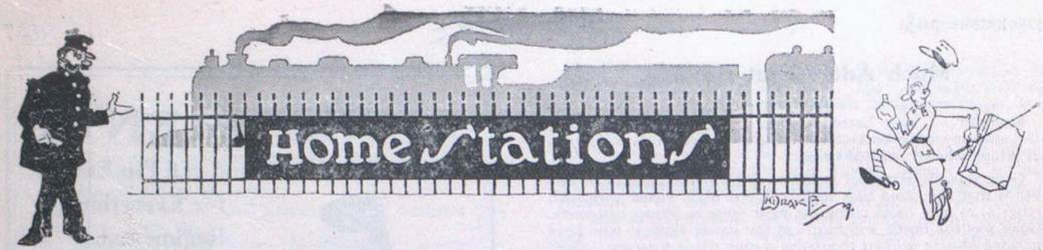
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The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

[**"Stop Press" Note**]

Too Late!—We much regret that Unit Notes from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, and a further contribution from the 1st Indian Divl Signals at the same Station, have come to hand too late for inclusion in this issue.—ED.



SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Obituary.—All friends of ex-C.Q.M.S. Todd C. will hear with regret of the death of his son Alan. The lad met with a motor cycle accident and died on the 10th October, exactly one week after his eighteenth birthday. A very nicely-behaved boy, he was in the best of health and just preparing to make his way in the catering business. The very deep sympathies of all who knew him are extended to his parents.

Discharge.—At last C.Q.M.S. Pennicott has left us for the Horse Guards, where he is now employed in the C.S.O.'s office. He had been with us a long time, and the unit will not be quite the same now.

Injuries.—We note with regret the accident to Sergt Shardlow, of whose achievements a notice recently appeared in THE WIRE. Whilst carrying out his duties as Sergeants Mess caterer, Sergt Shardlow suffered a nasty blow in the eye from a carelessly slung broom, and it is feared that his eyesight will be impaired. The entire unit and all who know him will, I am sure, join in wishing him a rapid and complete recovery.

Arrivals and Departures.—L/Corporals Chapman and Puleston from India, to fill vacancies caused by the annual overseas draft. Sergt Dilworth and Driver Elphick from 1st Div. and Driver Haylett from 2nd Div. are also welcomed. Driver Durkin returns to the unit after completing his training in the Training Battalion.

Sergt Bennett and L/Corpl Ferguson left us for 1st Div. on the 2nd November. Driver Stillyards has gone to 5th Div. and Driver Morrison (not the cadre Morrison, who still languishes here) to 3rd Div. James left us for a happier home for (we hear) a period of some thirteen weeks. Unlucky, that, James! Corpls Walker, Ravenhall and Hart are posted, but seem averse to leaving us. Corporals Bowie, Brunton and Martin join us in their place.

Greetings to all.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Since I took on this job, the days seem to fly by. Here is another month beginning—grhh! Winter in Catterick!! I am pleased to state that nearly seven dozen copies of "The Royal Signals Display Team Souvenir" were sold in two hours in this Wing. All the embryo dashing D.R.s and future equitation experts were queueing up to obtain hints from this very interesting booklet.

Change of Command.—Major E. L. Hill, M.C., D.C.M., assumes command of the Wing vice Major G. Tayleur, who has taken over the duties of P.R.I.

Arrivals.—We extend the usual hearty welcome to L/Sergt Jones from the Mounted Wing and Corpl Bowie from A Corps Signals, and hope their stay here will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—Corpl Hart to leave prior to proceeding to A Corps Signals, and L/Corpl Brookes to Mounted Wing. L/Corpl Taylor left us for civvy street and found a job immediately.

Postings.—No. 60 Squad under L/Corpl Allen passed off the square on 20/10/34. Driver (I.C.) Palmer winning the C.O.'s whip as best man in the squad. Sigmn Earl won a medal for P.T., and Sigmn Morgan a spoon and Sigmn King a medal for musketry. No. 61 Squad under Corpl Knight passed off on 31/10/34. Sigmn Kilburn won the C.O.'s whip and also a musketry spoon. Sigmn Nash won the P.T. medal.

Billiards.—Dismounted Wing met E Company on 8/11/34 but lost by 2—4 points.

Notice: Sigmn Field L.—Two miniature silver shooting cups, presented to the above named at Colombo about 1928, have been left in the custody of the O.C. Dismounted Wing by Sigmn Loveday. Will the owner (believed to be now serving in Egypt) send disposal instructions as soon as possible?

Finis.—We regret to say that many Sports Notes are unavoidably held over till next month. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Calling All Stations.—The usual apology for the absence of notes last month. Our scribe was sojourning down south and was too interested in the Eastbourne lifeboat crew to do any writing. What an excuse!

Your humble scribe has been posted to Aldershot, but the date being in abeyance, I am still carrying on with the notes. If these happen to be the last I compile here, I wish to thank all who have helped me during the last three years. Especially, my thanks are conveyed to the Company soccer team and the Battalion billiard team. The soccer team have helped by their clean and sporting games, and it has been a pleasure to be in charge of them. I shall miss our trips to the civilian clubs.

Hectic Moments.—Did Joe enjoy his five minutes at Newcastle? Uncle Walter had a gramophone recital in Marks and Spencer at Bishop Auckland, and then walked out after thanking the young lady. What did she say?

What did Corpl W. do with his rifle?

Rat Week.—We found a stupefied rat during the annual rat week, and this was killed with a brutal blow on the back of the head administered by our orderly corporal. Thank goodness I was on leave!

Births.—Congratulations to the following proud daddies on their recent additions (also the best to the mummies). To Corpl Washburn a son, Sidney Lawrence, at Hebburn on 1/11/34. To Sigmn Fearnley a daughter, Patricia, at Scotton on 11/11/34.

Whilst on this subject, I wish to make a public apology. (Whatcher dun now?) I was recently called over the coals by one of our married ladies for congratulating her husband on the birth of a son. The said lady informed me that any bouquets should have been handed to her and *not* to her better half. Therefore I wish to congratulate Mrs. L. whilst the going is good, and trust that this will now make "Q" Lines more safe for me. What with short pays and wet days, my life sometimes is in jeopardy. A rolling pin is a useful and soothing antidote.

Marriages.—Our congratulations are also extended to Sigmn Gale on his marriage to Miss Phyllis Helen Stratton at Lewes, Sussex, on 18/10/34. The C.R.A. for November is 5.25d.

Education Certificates.—The following obtained their first class certificates of education during October, and we congratulate them: Sergt Low, Signalmen Batty, Derrick, Jones and Williams F. Signalmen Batty and Williams obtained "distinguished" in maths.

Postings.—We have recently lost a number of our permanent cadre who have been posted to field units. We trust they are now settled down with a nice quiet pair of greys.

N.A.A.F.I. Concert.—Bouquets are not often handed out to the N.A.A.F.I., but we must really hand one to them for the excellent concert given to the troops on Saturday last. Free, too! It was, I believe, a good show and was enjoyed by all. So is their tea.

We are now closing down. If I keep on this typewriter much longer, I shall be knocked down. E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

Nothing of particular interest has happened during the past month.

L/Corpl Smith R. P. proceeded to join A Corps Signals, Aldershot, on the 19th October, and Corpl Stanton A. arrived as his relief.

On the 22nd October ten recruits arrived from the Depot Battalion to commence technical training, and we hope they settle down with as much zeal as they shouted their "one stop two's" in their late unit.

On the 26th October we said good-bye to fourteen men posted to field units—seven to 4th Divl Signals, six to 1st Divl Signals, and one to 5th Divl Signals. It is hoped that by now they have all settled down in their new units.

The trooping season being in full swing, six other ranks are attached to the Company pending embarkation for India. Don't pay any attention to the divers yarns you hear about your "five years stretch." Lots of us have had some, and as many would willingly have some more—isn't that a good testimonial for the land of Ind?

We had eighty-five B.O.R.s complete with L.R.C.s, L.P.C.s, chaplis, hats, I.U.L. (complete with oak leaf band, my hearties), lodged in our hutments for a pleasant week-end en route to the dole. Couldn't they spin a yarn!—columns, Indian rope trick, snakes, tigers. But we heard those before going out ourselves; we met you coming out; saw you coming back—so we know just a little about it, old sons. Most of the cadre have done one or two tours in India. They couldn't be bothered to get off at Port Said. Some look forward to another, and even Corpl John Jervis is silent on the subject—so why should wee laddies with one or two years service in India come home to torment us with reminders of the pleasant times we used to have?

Did you read about sacks of M.B. floating through space towards the gymkhana ground, Kohat?—that's an old Kohdistsigs custom that will cause many old boys (at present domiciled in this cold uncharitable country) many sleepless nights—why didn't I take that six months buckshee leave? We all come to the conclusion that Rudyard Kipling was right, but not until it is too late. So all you lads take six months "Blighty," but first sign on the dotted line.

The Company is pleased to see Corpl Spud Marsden out of hospital—"four walls with but one little window."

Sigmn Lyttle T. has left us on transfer to the 2nd Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment for employment in the regimental band. All who know him wish him the best of luck in his new unit.

L/Corpl Purvis has at last got his fingers on the long awaited annas for his appointment.

On the 16th November the junior n.c.o.s are holding a games tournament versus the officers and senior n.c.o.s of the Training Battalion. Many will be shadows of their "firmer" selves on the morning after. Information is bound to creep out. A detailed account may even appear in these notes next month.

Corpl Hampton P. R. is proceeding to 4th Divl Signals on the 27th November. Bunk up and see him some time. RASTUS.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—During the month we had some real spells of Catterick weather. Our nice green grass was all covered with white—and such a short time after having put in the lawn seed! We heard that someone covered the patches with a blanket. During this spell the Quartermaster decided to change a number of overcoats, and as a result many boys are comparing the adventures with a ground sheet under such conditions with what will happen if there is another war.

Leaves, leaves, and more leaves—they are to be seen everywhere: and more so when inspections are taking place. We are endeavouring to improve our Company lines, and succeed until these leaves start coming and blowing around.

The blessings of our i/c's cleaning are placed upon (1) the sheep in summer and spring, and (2) the leaves in winter.

Departures.—When walking round the Company lines one is apt to be led astray and think he is in a new place, for all the talk is of Aldershot and the faces have not yet lost that Aldershot complex. You know what we mean. During the month we had a big change in the cadre, losing nearly half our strength and gaining replacements from the "premier" Command.

The departures are Signalmen Reed, Hodgson, Milroy, Edwards, Waller, Stevens and Gibson: and as is usual in such cases, we wish them the very best in their new stations. We also said farewell to Boy Whippe, who has left us for civvy street, and Boy Peachey, on probation to the Gloucestershire Regiment.

Although still using two men's bed spaces, L/Corpl Currie has left us for D Company (pay and rations only) where he will be prepared for many years to come, so that he will be able to follow the example of many of our present hands: "Now, when I was in India." Many ex-boys will note this and hope to see him when they get there. We can inform you that if he is anywhere within a mile of you, you will not be able to miss him.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our fold the arrivals from Aldershot, by name Signalmen Cunningham, Tracey and Bray. They certainly have the complex. One other arrival (also ex-Aldershot) via 4th Div. is Sigmn Pledger. Quite an increase in the number of old soldiers in this Company!

Marriages.—Strange, but true. We are not used to such occurrences in this Company, but when they do happen, a shock is felt all over the globe. Corpl Holden vacated No. 4 bunk to take up residence outside after his marriage to Miss Evelyn Johnson at South Shields. We admire the way he has adopted "Oh! it's four o'clock." He seems to be no stranger to the ration bag and push-bike.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following arrivals and hope their stay in this unit will be a pleasant one. From Training Battalion, L/Corpl Smith R. P., Signalmen Brightmore, Menzies, Trusselle, Clement, Edwards A. and Gorman W. Sergeant Wright from Nigeria. Sergt Harris T. from 1st Divl Signals. Corpl Hart from Depot Battalion. Corpl Ives from A.F.V. Signals. Corpl Durand from A.C.S.C. L/Corpl Woolnough from Egypt Signals. Sigmn Laing from India.

Departures.—To Training Battalion, Corporal Stanton A. S., Signalmen Wood S. G., Halliley, Tracey G., Butchers W., Tant E. and Trevethan. (My regards go with the last named. I hope that Training Battalion will be able to stand his crooning (?) Is your uke still intact?)

To School of Signals, Signalmen Walmsley J. and Heatlie J.

To Permanent Staff: Sergeants McAdie and Murray to Lowland Signal units (S.R.) Glasgow. Sergt Hobby H. to 49th Divl Signals (S.R.) Leeds. L/Sergt Haines E. O. to 47th Divl Signals (S.R.) London.

Corpl Bowie to Depot Battalion. L/Sergt Beckett to A.F.V. Signals. Sigmn Baker to S.I.C.D. Signal Section. Signalmen Stewart and Fyatt to civil life. Sigmn Mitchell L. to Malaya. Signalmen Clarke E., Hutchison and Long M. to China.

Sigmn Joe "Capablanca" Tracey to Depot Battalion R.E. Chatham, where he hopes to get a transfer. No. 26 B.B. wish to remind him that his bed space is still vacant if he ever changes his mind. His sweet voice and charming personality are sadly missed by all. Sigmn Grigg mourns his mate. Check.

Extensions and Re-Engagements.—Corpl Edwards F. T. and L/Corpl Curl to complete twenty-one years. Sigmn Duke B. R. X. to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Marriages.—Corpl Shillito to Miss Vera Margery McDougall at South Farnborough on 14/3/34. Sigmn Shinn J. to Miss Stella Hancock at Pimlico, London, on 26/9/34. Sigmn Warren T. D. to Miss Daisy Rose Stacey at Farnham on 6/10/34.

Births.—To Corpl and Mrs. Walker a daughter, Joan Lorraine, at Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, on 16/10/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. Greenwood W. a daughter, Peggy Joyce, also at Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, on the same date.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—Signalmen Allen A., Collyns C. P. and Piper H. have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve. We wish them every success in civil life.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corpl Stanton A. S. to be Corporal. Sigmn Douglas-Beveridge to the dizzy heights of U/L/Corporal.

Peshawar District Signals to Note.—Sigmn Barber W. has not yet reached Peshawar, neither is he nicely browned. Instead, he lingers in A Corps Signals, green and sickly—the result of many malarial attacks. We believe he has recovered, but his behaviour at times leads us to conclude that he is suffering from a more serious complaint. At present he is engaged in No. 1 Company office, where he has proved a very useful amendments clerk. He awaits the arrival of a posting order, for he longs no more for the land of flying dhobis.

The Unit at Present.—Of late, the unit has been indulging in early morning P.T., the weather accordingly being such as to merit the issue of extra coats, warm, M.S., and at least half a dozen blankets. The lads, however, have entered into the spirit of it and, realising that it is for their own good, done their best, although it is surprising how many stalwart linemen fail miserably in their attempts to touch toes. Members of the despised race of unit clerks, even, can now boast of rippling muscles 'neath a satiny skin.

But enough! The publication of our many casualties has taken up too much space already, so I must close. More anon.

TIKKI.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Handy Hunter Trials.—The handy hunter trials for the Prescott Cup—presented by Major C. P. Prescott, R.Signals—were held on the Bourley jumping ground on Monday 29th October. The course was a most interesting one, comprising fifteen fences of the various types met in the Aldershot district and covering a large area on both sides of a valley, wooded on each side—an almost perfect setting for such a competition. The competition for the cup is open to all officers of Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command, and it attracted a representative field. The day was ideal: sunny, rather cold and no wind.

Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., and Major C. P. Prescott were the judges, Lieut.-Col. R. E. Barker starter, and Lieut.-Col. R. Elsdale, O.B.E., timekeeper and recorder.

Lieut. G. D. B. McKean on Sloth was the winner with a total of four faults. Lieut. H. E. F. Middleton on Silvertail and Lieut. C. H. Stoneley on Babs were second and third respectively.

Matrimonial Stakes.—The many members of the Corps who know Captain R. H. R. Steward, M.C., will join us in our congratulations on his marriage to Miss Vera Beatrice Stuckey at St. Michael's Church, Chester Square, London, on Saturday 20th October. Many would doubtless like to have joined us in the "afters" at the Hans Crescent Hotel. The W.O.s and sergeants of the unit, under R.S.M. Eves, provided a "guard of honour" with flags, signal, Army, white, with stripes and poles (3 ft. 6 in.) and placed a silver cigarette box on the inventory to commemorate the occasion. I regret I cannot handle the "among those present" business, but as far as I could see—*before* the celebrations, mark you!—the world and his wife were present. One bright youth was discovered trying to steady up the list of presents to see if he was on guard next day! A right royal time. Happy days to the bride and bridegroom.

Births.—[The sequence is not accidental.] If I was wrong with my parentheses last month, I must be correct this time. Congratulations to R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Spindler on the advent of a son, Michael Howard. Ration strength up 50 per cent. Well! well!!

Without Comment.—"Little man, you've had a busy day."

Army Soccer Cup.—I am able to state definitely that we shall not win the Army Cup this year. The King's Regt. saw to that, but it must have been one of the hardest tasks they've had since they took the cross-country cup from Egypt Signals three years ago (or is it four?) The first match on our ground ended at two all, and after extra time went to three all. The replay on their ground, in the shadow of the Royal Signal officers mess, was equally well contested. Half-time arrived with no score, but shortly after the re-start we notched a goal and even the King's supporters piped down, though it wasn't long before a bouncing shot found our net and levelled the score again. The winning goal came as the result of a free kick just outside our penalty area, and how it found its way into the net I don't know—so I can't tell you.



Captain and Mrs. R. H. R. Steward.

[*Photo by The Knightsbridge Photographic Bureau, London*]

Tailpiece.—More next month, if anything happens, but no brain-cudgelling for me. JESSAMINE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Most of the Company are labouring on upgrading courses, a round dozen are on leave pending embarkation, and Myers is understudying the pay bloke. Is that general enough?

Marriages.—Captain C. D. Hinds to Miss Erin Smedley at Worthing on 29/9/34. We conveyed our congratulations in last month's WIRE. I can now state that ten officers of the Corps provided the customary arch of swords and barrage of rice and, in brief, did all those things a Scotsman does on "Burns Nicht." I cannot ascertain who produced a bath instead of old boots, and who marked time at Newhaven whilst the happy couple were sailing from Folkestone. Is that why people say marriage is a lottery?

Arrivals.—The glad hand is extended to Lieutenant C. P. S. Denholm-Young, who has already started to shape our destinies in the sports field. Signalmen Witt, Morrell, McCormack, Stubbs, Shelley, Roy and Bantock have recently arrived from Catterick and helped us considerably in the building of a cross-country team.

Apropos.—L/Corporals Reed and Griffin and Sigmn Ellison were the first three home for the Company in the last cross-country run. Three married men. Come on, you young fellows—or get married.

Courses.—Signalmen Banks and McManus to the A.V.T.C. Unfortunately Sigmn McManus is a cook. That is a bald statement but a big compliment.

Signalman Connolly is undergoing a cook's course. For selfish reasons, I hope this turns out all right.

L/Corpl Steele to the muscle-building factory for a spell.

Signalmen Nunn and Kinniburgh have arrived ex-India for vocational training, but the latter—still rolling from the boat and rolling his R's—declined the course.

Football.—It is not true that Manchester City have designs on one of our star players. The documentary evidence to that effect cannot be believed. A number (say 2,320,349) may believe it, but no more.

Departures.—Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland to the 51st Highland Divl Signals, T.A., on 15/11/34. Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut (for India) on the *Neuralia* on 17/12/34. Sergt Harris T. J. to A Corps Signals on 27/10/34. Sigmn Cook T. to the Training Battalion on 30/10/34.

Salisbury's New Service Station.—An interesting item under this heading appeared in the October *Wessex News*, but of more interest was the news that this station had been handed over to the charge of ex-R.Q.M.S. Pitt F. T. of this unit. All hands (old and new) to the pump! JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

It appears to be the general opinion that there was a decided improvement in THE WIRE notes of last month's issue. The reason is that the usual scribe was enjoying a few days leave at his country house (seventh gate on the left after passing gap in hedge) and the onus fell on a very willing substitute. The willingness seemed rather exaggerated, and after reading the notes I could quite see the reason. However, I don't blame him for getting a bit of his own back in the way of leg-pulling; and I would like to thank him for filling the breach, for by doing so, our Company was not in the defaulters list.

The first item of interest concerning the past month is, of course, the annual G.O.C.'s inspection, which took place on Thursday 18th October. Judging by the general outlook later in the day, we can safely say that the results were highly satisfactory. This year we started off with the usual parade, inspection and march past on the square, the only difference from previous years being that the officers were mounted and the G.O.C. carried out his review, also mounted. The horses were very well behaved, and even they seemed to smarten themselves up for the occasion.

After the parade had been dismissed, the General inspected the barrack rooms, workshops, stores, etc., and there is no reason to doubt that they were all up to expectations. The barrack rooms in particular were looking at their best (even 40.E put on its best suit, S.M.) It has been rumoured that Woolworths are paying a greater dividend than ever this year. They certainly sell an exceedingly good brand of aluminium paint at a very reasonable price. Don't they, A Section?

The casuals having fired their musketry course, this cleared the way for the "casual" casuals and D.R.s, and these have now put "Finis" at the bottom of the B.190.A's, per the R.S.M. (There is a vacancy in No. 2 Company for an S.M. Some say he's been posted, but you should have seen the musketry return and you might have guessed his destination.)

Mention must be made of our individual training, which is now in full swing. All the ambitious members of the unit are busy writing up and swotting pages of notes in the hope of eventually being able to say "Top-rater to you." We wish them the best of luck.

Several operators, after a few weeks of strenuous flag-wagging, are thinking of volunteering as members of the unit novices boxing team, and the D.R.s have been trying to lose themselves in the hope of breaking down somewhere near their own front door. We even created a new appointment in the shape of a "courses clerk," and this has been filled by our Company manicurist.

Congratulations.—To the unit soccer team on their fine win in the first round of the Army Cup: 7—1 against the Queen's Regiment. We hope they will do as well against the R.A.S.C., their opponents in the second round.

In our own Company, A Section have made their way to the semi-final of the inter-Section trophy, in which they meet L Section. Well done, A!

As we have several members of the unit rugger team in this Company (including our C.S.M.) we would like to congratulate them on winning the Cobb-Nicholls Cup—which reminds me that the Company bath book should have been in 38.W. that same afternoon.

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CELLARS STOCKED - Payment as Consumed

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome those who have joined recently. To those who have gone, we wish the best of luck—particularly the Egypt draft who set sail on the 15th Nov.

Well Done, Bekore.—Congratulations on such a fine performance in the soccer world, from old Bekorites (including R.S.M. K.) now with the 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot.

For Information.—A crown inscribed on either sleeve of a coat, warm, M.S., denotes that it is for the sole use of a Company sergeant-major. Any person found wandering in the men's canteen, robed as aforementioned, will in future be directed to that stately mansion over the road; and if you happen to be the offender, Molly, I can assure you of a very "sore" welcome from that place. EASY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The Company expect to be completely mechanised before the advent of the New Year, and already several of the old foot sloggers are undergoing training as M.T. drivers. Many of the old-type soldiers are astounded at the idea of the Company losing their horses.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Lieut. G. Thomson from No. 2 Company, and to Driver Atkins from the S.T.C., and hope their stay with us will prove an enjoyable one.

Departures.—Signalmen Parkin and Chatfield to Malaya. Sigmn Russell to China.

Courses.—In our last notes we reported Sergt Hay as enjoying a tour of the East Coast health resorts, but this month (like all "class" society) he is back in town for the winter, undergoing a course of M.T. at Feltham.

Agony.—Smokee still pestered with ex-boys (B Corps, note).

Congratulations.—To B Corps Signals on winning the Durand Cup at football. Dunkel and Smokee.

Sports.—The Company have shown up very prominently in the unit inter-Section football tournament. Both L and K Sections have reached the semi-final. At the moment K Section are favourite. Bear up, L!

L Section annexed the unit inter-Section cross-country trophy. Sigmn Copestake, L/Corpl Miller, Sigmn Davies, Driver Groom, and Sigmn Boswell (who ran several fine races) have proved the leading lights of the Company cross-country team.

Conclusion.—Shake off. Bear up. And roll on, Christmas. THREECO.

Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

Social.—Under this heading, dances and whist drives would appear to take first place. A dance is held every fortnight in the mess, with a whist drive in alternate weeks. Both these functions are a success, and thanks are duly accorded to the hard-working gentlemen of the committee who stage the shows. They have the majority of the donkey work to perform, and are expected to "return the utensil" in the event of any hitch.

Mudge Cup.—Officers v. Sergeants Mess members. Lieut.-Colonel A. E. P. Mudge, O.B.E., kindly provided a cup to be competed for annually by teams from the Officers and Sergeants Messes. Up to the present the officers hold a lead, having won the Association football (we got a severe shock here) and the cricket (played during Signals Week) and they must also win the tennis, having established a winning lead. The hockey was drawn, but the Sergeants Mess won the snooker and the open range shooting—the latter in no uncertain manner. The butt markers were, unfortunately for the officers, called upon to recover plates which were found to be still perpendicular. The miniature rifle shooting and billiards still remain to be contested. Points to date: Officers 7, Sergeants 5. Are we downhearted?

Drafts.—Very little appears to have happened this trooper regarding those cruises East. One sees them advertised from time to time in various 'Unit Orders, but few bookings have been recorded, and the advantages of seeing Arabs and cha wallahs in the flesh do not appear to be fully appreciated.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Ayton has picked a nice one, however, and decided on Ceylon. At the moment he has not chosen his ship, but expects to go before next March.

L/Sergt Mullins is packing the tooth brush and spare socks and is off to India soon. May his stay be pleasant in the land of "princes and rich men only." (This description of India is taken from a recent advertisement in *The Times of India*. Now we understand why everyone wants to go there.)

Other arrivals and departures are rather numerous. If the following looks rather like Part II. Orders, it cannot be helped—like prickly heat and pokey drill.

From A Corps Signals—Sergt Beckett J. (Joe of that ilk) to A.F.V. Signals. He was wafted awav in September. Sergts Murray and McAdie to Glasgow. Sergt Hobby to Leeds. L/Sergt Haines (Sailor) to London (47th Div. T.A.).

From 1st Divl Signals—Sergt Crouch R. (Reg, late B Corps) to London. Sergt Evans to Manchester.

From 2nd Divl Signals—C.S.M. Spong to Manchester. Sergt Sykes to London. Sergeants Moore and Drudge (Short-Wave and Igloo fame) to Liverpool.

All the above, with the exception of Sergt Beckett, go as P.S. instructors to the T.A.

To A Corps Signals—Sergeants Hall and Spencer.

To 1st Divl Signals—C.Q.M.S. Tracey, Sergeants Knox and Thomas.

To 2nd Divl Signals—C.S.M. Purseglove and Sergt Collins.

To those departing, we wish the very best of luck and good fortune in their new spheres. To those joining, we extend a hearty welcome and trust that they will soon settle down comfortably in their new surroundings.

The best wishes of the Mess are extended to Sergt (Steve) Donahue on donning the bowler hat. We hope that he will "come up and see us some time."

Still they move! Sergt Bennett has just blown in from the Mounted Wing, Catterick, to 1st Divl Signals. Sergt Dilworth is making tracks for Catterick. Sergt Harris T. has switched over from 1st Divl Signals to A Corps Signals, and is nicely settled in No. 3 Company office.

Birth.—To R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Spindler, a son (Michael Howard) on 1/11/34. Army number not yet allotted.

Greetings.—In conclusion, we wish all ranks at home, abroad and in the Dominions and Colonies, a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We particularly thank the Royal Canadian Signals for their monthly periodical sent to the Mess, which is greatly appreciated. E.D.S.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Last month's notes were conspicuous by their absence. The reason? To tell you the truth, I hadn't time, pukka dink. I was much too busy dodging the fellows who had just returned from their summer vacation. You see, just after their return the C.S.O. chose to inspect the unit. Was I to blame? No, sir! I was merely the only who broke the news and in consequence had to carry the can. "Unhappy are the hands that punch a typewriter." Is that excuse good enough? Thanks! I thought it would be (it took me hours to think it out.)

Well, folks, to get down to business. The Tank Signal Sections returned to the old homestead towards the end of September, and commenced their winter sojourn by buffing and polishing up in preparation for the C.S.O.'s inspection.

The unit was inspected on Saturday 6th October by the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. The unit, including F Troop, paraded at 10 a.m. in separate sections, the M.T. being lined up behind the parade.

After the parade had been dismissed the C.S.O. inspected the unit lines, which I understand were all that could be desired. The turn out was exceptionally good, considering that the Sections had returned only a few days before, and everyone well deserved the congratulations of the commanding officer.

Congratulations.—To Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., on being awarded the silver medal and award of merit of the Royal Life Saving Society.

To Corpl Steele H. on being allowed to sew two tapes on his sleeve (don't let them weigh you down, Rusty).

To L/Sergt Yorke A. M. on being presented with a daughter at Swindon on 30/9/34.

To L/Corporals Speakes F. and Potts J. on getting the extra ackers for their dog's legs.

To Sergeant Tebby C. on attending course serial No. 776 for regimental instructors at Anti-Gas Wing, Small Arms School, and qualifying "Q.1."

To L/Sergt Williams on signing on the dotted line to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

To Sigmn Crebbin on passing his trade test for operator signals class ii. (Now you're over twenty-one, Tommy, you are allowed a key of your own!)

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—The following are welcomed to our little fold. Let's hope they will find it to their liking and won't stray. Signalmen Sayers A., Pritchard L., Blackman R., Hart R., Salmon G. and Gibson M. from Training Battalion. L/Sergt Beckett J. from A Corps Signals. Sigmn Brown R. A. from Punky ex the *Nevasa* (dost find it cauld, lad?)

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose Lieut. R. N. Seddon, late O.C. Tank Brigade Headquarters Signal Section, who proceeded to London on 3/10/34 for a course of study in the Japanese language. All ranks wish him every success.

Sigmn Rawcliffe J. to civvy street after completing a six months course at Hounslow (so long, Pop; let us know when you wear out your comb).

L/Corpl Galbraith A. C. to attend a six months scrounge at the G.P.O. Leeds ('ave a heart, Romeo!) and Sigmn Mornington —Sam (less musket)—for a similar scrounge at Oxford.

Sigmn Farley J. for Malaya per the *Dorsetshire* on 3/10/34. Signalmen Brand R., Graham J. and Harrison E. to Hong Kong by the same tub.

L/Corpl Fletcher J. to civvy street on 6/10/34 per 'beam.

Sergt Baldwin D. R. to Lowland Signal units (T.A.) Glasgow, on 15/11/34 (cheerio, sergeant, and all the best—some fellows get all the breaks).

Sergt Shreeves L. to 51st Divl Signals (T.A.) Aberdeen, on 15/11/34 (another jammy guy).

Things We Want to Know.—Is it right that Smoky has asked Santa Claus to bring him a buzzer at Christmas?

Why this sudden desire of everyone to grow a bush on the upper lip?

Is "Silf" really good? (a certain lance-corporal is asking).

Agony.—Al of Quetta (?): Now it's your turn. Kid. KIDBUGS.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—As in every other unit, our all absorbing topic at present is leave, with a capital "L." Some have been, some went a few days ago, and some have yet to go. To those who have been, "Live on your memories till this time next year." To those who have recently gone, "Make the most of it." To those who have it to come, "Bear up!"

Congratulations to Sigmn Veal E. on being mustered as despatch rider D.ii. It's been a long time coming, but it's worth it. To Sigmn Smith C. on being mustered as clerk, class iii.b. Also to Sergt Sayers A. on being presented with a son, David Frank, on 1/11/34.

On the 6th November we were at home to the Royal Engineers in a miniature range shoot. After leading nearly all the way, we faded out in the last practice and the R.E.s ran out winners by 397—373 points. The shoot was followed up by a games tournament in the easy room, and I think we easily won that, although no strict scoring, rules, etc., were adhered to.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Waller D. from the Training Battalion on the 28th October. Sergt Minion R. from the permanent staff, 49th Divl Signals (T.A.), with his wife and family on the 15th November. May they have a long and pleasant stay with us.

Departures.—Sergt Sayers A., with his wife and family, to the 54th Divl Signals (T.A.) on the 14th November. His portly form and stentorian voice will be sadly missed, not to mention his famous cabaret band (advt). In this connection the piano stool has come to light, and lo and behold! the missing stool, canvas, camp, was none other than that which had been worrying the Q.M. for some time.

Sergt Good W. L. sailed on the 28th November for Nigeria for employment under the Colonial Office (these cinch jobs!). He will be working out there under Captain C. Childs, who was our late O.C., so things ought to work out nicely for him.

The whole Troop wish both these n.c.o.s the best of luck and success in their new jobs.

Courses.—L/Corpl Belton A. to the local muscle factory for tuning up prior to going on a physical training course at Aldershot. He is feeling all doobled oop now; ain't you, Mick?

So short, so long. E TP.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The first period of individual training is now in full swing and we are all looking forward to the 15th December, when we are hoping to proceed on furlough.

11th Hussars Sergeants Mess Ball.—The above Mess held their farewell ball at the Garrison lecture hall on the 2nd November. To say that it was a great success is putting it mildly. Commencing at about 9 p.m., the dance continued well into the early hours of the morning, with a welcome break for supper—and what a supper! A wonderful show, marred only by the thought of the impending departure of a grand regiment. Our loss is indeed G Troop's gain.

We were very pleased indeed to welcome our old Troop sergeant, Sergt Woodcock, who came to Tidworth for the function. Unfortunately, he could not stay as long as we should have liked him to, but nevertheless we were all pleased that he was able to take the opportunity of even a flying visit.

Departures.—With the departure of the 11th Hussars for Egypt, Candahar Barracks present a very desolate appearance. The Troop, plus a few details, are holding the fort pending the arrival of the 12th Lancers from Egypt. We take this opportunity of wishing bon voyage to the regiment and of expressing our appreciation of the many enjoyable times we have had during the period of our attachment. We are indeed sorry that the Troop did not proceed with them, and our sorrow is only exceeded by that of G Troop. No more trips to Paignton or Woolacombe, and no more horse-holding during Brock's benefit. However, quite a number of the Troop are expecting to finish up in Helmieh by the end of the present trooper, and still more are sweating on the next. Even Bunker may be cruising round the Pyramids on the trail of Jock Holmes, complete with superhet and cut price camels, followed at close column distance by Freddie and his hundred and fifty three horses—less stableman.

Junior N.C.O.s Cadre.—The regimental square is daily resonant with the hoarse and throaty screams of budding drill instructors, all of whom are endeavouring to say the right thing at the right moment. Harry the Pawz, resplendent in second best khaki and note magnifier, is a sight for the gods! On Monday next we hope to see the dawn of a new period, and trust that the unaccustomed rifles will not collect too many fragments of ears in the process of being sloped. Modulation and tone control are not confined entirely to R/T sets.

Troop Football Outing.—On Saturday 17th November we are due to proceed to Aldershot for the purpose of removing D Troop's boots at football. The trip promises to be enjoyable, and we have only the weather to consider. At present it is not very promising, but we hope for the best. Eleven o'clock on Saturday night will probably find certain members of the Troop endeavouring to emulate the desire of a well-known actor in "The House of Rothschild" to walk with dignity. It is going to be a difficult job! Even the famous Stan Gover once fell into the Basingstoke Canal—complete with blue ribbon. But that was in the bad old days when Mons Barracks were almost a race course.

B.B.C.'s Unpublished Quotations.—Popeye's current fish prices. R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We have nothing particular to report this month, which—so far as Bulford is concerned—has been very quiet. The chief items of interest have taken place in sport, and accounts of two hard fought rugger matches will be found in our Sports Notes.

Here is one item, not in the sports line, which might prove interesting. Our despatch riders under training paid an organised visit, under the command of Lieut. Western, to the Motor Cycle Show at Olympia. They left here at 7.30 a.m. on the 9th

November in the pouring rain and arrived at Hounslow Barracks at 10 o'clock, where they left their machines. They then proceeded by underground railway to Olympia, where they stayed until 4 p.m. inspecting all the newest machines, together with skeleton engines and gear boxes. They left Hounslow at 6 p.m., arriving back in Bulford at 9.30. It rained the whole time and the roads were like glass, but there were no accidents.

You will note amongst our departures to Egypt the name of Sergt Joe Cotterell. All good things must come to an end, and with his departure for abroad Joe must perforce bring his great cross-country and track running career in England to an end. We of the old brigade who saw him achieve his great victories against some of the best runners of the world will always remember his great career and wonderful form. For the benefit of the younger generation, we propose publishing a short résumé of his athletic achievements in an early issue of THE WIRE. (Please, Mr. Editor!)

The unit wish him the best of health and luck in Egypt, and feel sure that we shall read of his achievements with his new unit, for although Anno Domini begins to say "No," it's hard to get Joe to agree.

Departures.—The following have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve: L/Corporals Whittle, Lymer and Kay, Driver Ambridge, Signalmen Kennedy, Childs, Hall and Hughes.

The undermentioned have left us on posting to the various units as shown: Signalmen Rowlands, Cawthorne, Barrett and Chapman to Training Battalion; Driver Morton to School of Signals.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following on their posting to this unit: C.Q.M.S. Harrison from Lowland Signal units (T.A.) Sgt O'Connor from L Company, Jubbulpore. Signalmen Dannon, Fleming, Murphy, Brooks and Larke from Training Battalion.

Appointments.—U/L/Corpl Clayton appointed L/Corporal on the Corps roster w.e.f. 10/8/34. Signalmen Mills F. and Fox A. to be U/L/Corporals 6/10/34.

Courses.—L/Sergt Lacey rejoined from the first special rifle and revolver course held at Hythe Wing, Small Arms School; L/Corpl Hartard from an equitation course at Catterick; and Sigmn Montgomery from a cook's course at Aldershot.

Marriages.—Corpl Dirs to Jessie Hilda Godfrey at Shopton Mallet, Somerset, on 29/10/34. Corpl Adams to Annie Waites at Medway, Kent, on 13/10/34.

Births.—On 13/10/34, to Sigmn Bain A. M. a son, Archibald Marquis, and to Sigmn Washbrook a daughter, Betty Margaret.

Draft.—The following left us on the 15th November for a tour with Egypt Signals: Sergeant Cotterell, Signalmen Jackson J., Beveridge A., Kendall E., Banham G., Fairclough T., Ruxton F. and Howitt T. and Driver Chalker F.

Sergeants Mess.

Since our return from summer training, the camp seems to have settled down to a normal winter existence. Life in the mess has been very quiet. Still, on the 27th October we opened up with the first whist drive and dance of the season: quite an enjoyable evening, and everyone seemed to be quite pleased with themselves when the time for closing down came along. What with swindles and draws, C.S.M. Seymour had quite a busy time: no lost funds, we hope.

Up to the present we have played two matches in the Sergeants Mess Garrison Billiard League, and have managed to win both games by 5—3. Our opponents were the 9th and 7th Field Brigades, R.A. If the team manage to keep up this average, we hope to annex the cup again after being close runners-up last season.

Leave periods are making lots of movements, and shortly we shall be seeing a few of our members off to warmer climes.

Wee Crabtree just loves those long-eared pals, so he had to rip pretty slick at the finish to undergo a course in the management of them. He should enjoy it, really.

We may be able to pass along a little more news in the near future, but at present "olive oil." 'ARY.

Corporals Mess.

News—news at last! It's strange how at the last moment, when one has but a few minutes to catch the closing mail, news trickles in and things are astir.

Billiards.—Last year the commanding officer, when presenting us with the Garrison billiards cup, announced that he had always understood good billiard playing was the sign of a mis-spent youth, but under the circumstances he felt that he must reconstruct that opinion. Judging by this year's team, we can still claim a considerable number who have mis-spent a large portion of their span of life. Which, of course (if you're good at reading between the lines) is another way of saying that we have quite a passé team.

Since last month we have added two further successes to our list. Both defeats were handed out to the R.A.S.C. Bulford. Out of a total of twelve games for the two matches, our opponents won two.

We have some distance to go yet before the league closes, but it is indeed heartening to see such a successful start.

Our sincere condolences are tendered to Corpl Dirs on entering into double-harness. Dear! oh, dear! The Editor won't let me say that which a man desireth in moments of deep emotion. How are the mighty fallen! Never mind, Dick; we all know you've got the laugh over us.

I trust one and all will forgive me for these scanty jottings, but my services were called upon at short notice owing to the fact that our usual correspondent is enjoying a quiet spell of well-earned rest amid the comforts of home.

In conclusion, I pass on to all at home and abroad our compliments and best wishes for the coming festive season; and may the New Year see a continuance of all good things to the exclusion of all things not so good, and with a prospect of even better times ahead.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 1 Company.

General.—At last the unit has arrived in Canterbury and is getting settled down. The barracks are in all respects a great improvement on those we left at Colchester.

The marching out at Reed Hall was quite a swell affair, as we were played to the station by the band of the K.S.L.I. At the station we had a good send off, and there were quite a few wet eyes as the train pulled out to the strains of "Auld lang syne."

A week after our arrival here the furlough season commenced, and 50 per cent. of the Company are now enjoying their annual rest and reducing the family forage account.

Since being here we have furnished a twenty-four hours guard, and quite a number of lads can be seen busily reading a publication entitled "How to get the stick."

Armistice Day.—Yesterday we took part in our first ceremonial parade in Canterbury at the Armistice Day service in Canterbury Cathedral. The unit was represented by a party of sixty other ranks under the command of Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C.

Arrivals.—The following have joined the Company during the past month. Lieut. Prissick from 2nd Divl Signals. Signalmen Hearne, Nix, Packman, Moore, Beever, Churchill, Crook, Eattell, Hodgson and Graham from the S.T.C. Catterick.

Departures.—L/Sgt Tanner R. to the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals. Sigmn Pledger to the S.T.C.

Marriages.—L/Corpl Fox and Sigmn Collings R. have joined the noble army of benedicts. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Very little has happened during the past month. The Company have now settled down in their new quarters, and many are the remarks on the horses underneath the barrack room. Half the Company are at present on their annual leave, and the remainder are looking forward to spending a merry Christmas at home.

Courses.—L/Corpl Bakes proceeded to Catterick on a stable management course, L/Corpl White to Shorncliffe on a physical training course, and Sigmn Francis to Aldershot to undergo a course in cookery.

Departures.—Sgt Boon has left us for No. 3 Company. What is their gain is our loss.

Education.—Drivers Staite, Bowen, Thomas, Wright and Wilson are attending college every afternoon in preparation for their second class certificate of education. We wish them the best of luck.

Exercise.—Great was the hilarity among the rough riders in the exercise party when the Company clerk turned out on exercise, but their expressions soon changed to admiration and awe at his display of horsemanship. Thanks for the buggy ride, E.

Sport.—Congratulations to the unit team on getting through the first round of the Army Rugby Cup against the Training Battalion R.E. Our team meet the Royal Scots from Dover in the second round, to be played on the 16th November.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Since the unit has been stationed at Canterbury, the Company has had a very busy time—or I should say, the remaining twenty junior n.c.o.s and men, for the rest of the Company are either on furlough, courses, or staff employed. The "gallant twenty" are upholding the name of the Company by carrying out the extra work that is entailed by the shortage of personnel.

K Section is to be mechanised again, and the lorries, W/T cars and B.S.A. motor cycles arrived yesterday; so now the burning question is "When do we lose our long-faced friends? and how long will Skeets of K have his new B.S.A. before he starts taking the engine down?"

Trooping.—On Thursday 15/11/34 we are saying good-bye to four stalwarts of the Company in L/Corpl Trivass and Signalmen Woodhouse K., Burdon J. and Herbert D., who embark for Egypt per the *Neuralia*. All the best of luck with Egypt Signals, and may you enjoy your service overseas.

Courses.—The following have departed on courses since our last notes were published, and letters received from them indicate that they are doing well. L/Corpl Main W., G.P.O. course at Liverpool; L/Corpl Ross W., drill course at Catterick; L/Corpl Raymond C., educational course at Shorncliffe; Corpl Scratcher, M.T. course at Feltham. L/Corpl Wilbraham leaves us to-day for a Command P.T. course at Shorncliffe, and if successful he will go to the muscle factory at the 'Shot.

Arrivals.—The following are welcomed to the Company. May they soon settle down. L/Sergt Hitchen E. from Egypt via Netley (may you soon be on the road to good health now that you are in the Blighty cantonment). Sigmn Redhouse A. from Catterick, where he has spent the last few months doing fancy stunts with the Royal Signals Display team. Sergt Marchant and L/Sergt Pearce are due to join us on Thursday 15/11/34 from the T.A. Sergt Boon F. from No. 2 Company for K Section.

Greetings.—To all ranks at home and abroad, a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. JACQUES.

Colchester Detachment.

Reed Hall Ramblings.—There is still a flag flying gaily at Colchester. There are thirty n.c.o.s and men left behind as a Detachment, and they are rather busy keeping the wolf from the door (sorry! I mean the rats from the stables). However, we are enjoying life with our O.C., Captain Darling.

Duties.—Unfortunately, very numerous.

Ride.—A ride was commenced a fortnight ago under Corpl Maddison, mostly for new hands. All have made considerable progress, although one still occasionally hears the cry "What about the teas?" at break time in the R.E.s canteen.

C.O.'s Visit.—The Detachment were visited by our C.O. on 16/11/34, and we hope that he was pleased and satisfied with the condition of all he saw.

Obituary.—All ranks of the Detachment are very sorry to hear of the death of Corpl Coton's wife.

Sports.—The unit played the 2nd Battn Beds and Herts on the 16th November in the first round of the Army Hockey Cup and lost by 0—2 after a very exciting and hard fought game. The Detachment turned out in full force as supporters.

Our own football team have played a few games, and we are doing quite well to date.

We Would Like to Know.—Who is the driver (the ruffian!) in No. 2 Company who takes the *dogs* for a walk after 10 p.m?

J.M.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—This period of the year, being devoted to individual training and annual furlough, may well be classed as the financial period. One earns and the other spends. May both parties have a profitable time and return to duty feeling better for the change.

Educational classes for firsts and specials are also in full swing: hence the new term "Academy" now given to this unit by local members of the fair sex. I wonder what other excuses are being given the latter for the non-fulfilment of evening engagements. Sergeant-Instructor Smale (A.E.C.) is in charge of the education, and after two weeks attachment to the unit remains single—as far as we know, at any rate. However, he has a further ten weeks to go.

Armistice.—Almost the whole of the personnel attended the Armistice parade held on the unit square, whilst others represented the unit elsewhere. A small detachment attended a service at the harbour. Others paraded with the British Legion and marched to St. Mary's Church, where a big service was held in the afternoon. In spite of the rain many waited in a queue for the church doors to be opened, and the number of old soldiers seen in the procession showed that there are still many who do not forget. In the procession were also seen many bank clerks (in khaki). Be sure your sins will find you out. A further detachment, under R.S.M. Bevan, proceeded to Oliver's Mount to lay a wreath on the Scarborough War Memorial.

Society of Pod Pickers.—This heading should—for this month, at least—read "Clod pickers." The results of the commanding officer's gardening competition showed the winners to be Sigmn Smith, C.S.M. Waller and Sergt Rose—first, second and third respectively.

Owing to the weather this branch of sport is not very flourishing at present. The amount of rain that has found its way down here has brought everything but the weeds to a standstill.

The latest arrival to the horticultural branch is renowned for the size of marrows grown by him at Catterick. As long as they are no bigger than some of the fish caught here, I think the garden will be long enough provided that the seeds are sown lengthwise down the plot instead of across it. Don't forget, the manure heap near the officers mess requires moving.

Marriages.—Back to normal again. This month, only one alliance has been reported. The others are evidently afraid of the limelight (I know there *were* others).

On the 15th October L/Corpl Johnson A. W. and Miss Isobel Mary Fawcett were married at St. Peter's, Scarborough. Both were the recipients of many useful presents. One of the most useful came from the Officer i/c Records in the shape of an appointment to paid rank. The bride looked very pretty in a dress of turquoise blue with brown hat and shoes. The bridesmaid was similarly attired. The bridegroom and best man were normal: they wore a smile. The reception was held in Cole's Café, Huntriss Row, and was very well attended.

For the benefit of the scribe abroad who wished to know the reason for so many marriages here, I think I am correct in saying there is nothing in the air to account for the abnormal state of affairs. Different places, different causes. For instance, Quetta (I know) blames the water. Scarborough is different. At most seaside places one finds seasonal workers, the season extending from May to the end of September. Here, however, there are two seasons—both of six months duration. Hence there is no respite for the mere male. This place suffers from the clutching habit: "what I have, I hold" sort of thing. In other words, it is the bull-dog breed asserting itself.

Millionaires only (or those who can win competitions) should apply for posting here, and then buy themselves out—while they are single.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Treloar and Drysdale and Driver Stillyards have arrived. We hope that it turns fine before they leave the unit. The present wet weather probably keeps you indoors (I said probably) but when it does get fine, you will find plenty of enjoyment: searching for the lost patrol, for instance. In the meantime, study the marriage notes above and be warned. Cats have nine lives, but you haven't.

Departures.—The following have escaped the snares of Scarborough and leave us, proceeding on their way rejoicing. Sigmn McLoughlin and Driver Hurst to civil life. Sigmn Boaks to School of Signals.

The undermentioned left about ten minutes ago for Egypt. Corpl Wright and family, Signalmen Bailey W., Barker H., Bulman J., Fielding F., Coslett N., Drury S. (the Army billiard champion) and Ferguson J., and Driver (I.C.) Johnson F.

We wish all arrivals and departures a pleasant stay in their new quarters, and hope that the new units will also benefit from their services.

Education.—Congratulations to L/Corporal Done and Sigmn Fletcher on obtaining the first class certificate of education, and also to those who passed in separate subjects towards the same certificate.

Sergeants Mess.

Annual Shooting Competition.—The annual shoot between the officers and sergeants took place on Scalby ranges on the 22nd October. The result was a win for the sergeants by 6—3 matches, the remaining one being drawn.

In the Sergeants Mess competition the first prize was won by C.Q.M.S. Nobes, with C.S.M. Waller a close second. One point only separated the two. Sergt Lindsay carried off the wooden spoon, his runner-up being L/Sergt Mansfield.

Snooker and Billiard Competition.—Many dark horses were discovered during this tournament. The billiard final between C.S.M. Deptford and L/Sergt Mansfield proved a triumph of brain over matter: or steady play and a minus handicap versus a plus handicap and six pocket shooting. C.S.M. Deptford ran out an easy winner and also annexed the prize for the highest break (26). The snooker finalists were C.Q.M.S. Brandon and L/Sergt Sunderland. Again, steady play showed what could be done and C.Q.M.S. Brandon came up to expectation by winning the final. Sergt Ashford obtained the prize for the highest break by potting the last four colours. Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Our annual inspection by the G.O.C. took place during October, and the Company obtained a good report.

We take this opportunity of welcoming Lieut. H. C. B. Rogers, and hope he will have a pleasant tour of duty in North Ireland.

This month sees us in the throes of a Trade Board, and hitherto unknown faces are to be seen in Company H.Q. as they arrive from out-stations to sit for various trade ratings.

Promotions.—We congratulate Corpl King on attaining that rank, L/Corporals Raine and Thomson L. J. on receiving pay for their stripe, and L/Corpl Thompson J. on drawing his chevron from the Q.M.

Excelsior!—Corpl Dodd (to use his own word) is now "edificated," having obtained his first class education certificate at the last examination. L/Sergt Davies, L/Corporal Raine and Sigmn Rowden have passed in subjects towards their certificate. Well done, all of you! May the examiners set the desired paper for the next examination.

Sigmn Davidson is to be congratulated on gaining his B.i. at the first Trade Board; and L/Corpl Raine and Signalmen Cade and Leith on gaining their B.ii. at the same time. There are others in the offing.

Arrivals and Departures.—The renowned despatch rider, Sigmn O'Flaherty, has left us to join the School of Signals. We wish him good luck. In his stead we have Sigmn Cooper, whom we welcome, hoping his stay will be pleasant.

Hot-Pot.—Omagh and Armagh have closed down temporarily and the operators have gone to view the hills of Donegal.

Many naive remarks have been recorded by various operators sitting at the recent Trade Board. The best heard is from one cheerful laddie who remarked that "he just knew the range switch on his receiver was used to work G."

Another operator of the aristocratic class almost committed a *faux pas* by mistaking the Governor's car for a taxi at that remote town in Tyrone. He thought the crown was a rustic method of road registration. Although the chauffeur offered to return for him, he condescended to accept the services of a good old-fashioned Ford.

Unstamped.—H.K.: I'll give thee an Oirish welcome. Paddy. Tim: Sorry! writing soon. M..

Tailpiece.—Cheerio till December. Hec Me.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island.

Inspections.—The Chief Signal Officer, Western Command (Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C.) held his annual inspection of this Section from the 21st to 27th October. Quite a good show was made, and the usual good report was the result.

Marriages.—The Section offer their congratulations to Sigmn Miller T. W. on his marriage to Miss E. O'Driscoll at Birkenhead on the 23rd October. This will be a memorable date in years to come!

Education.—L/Corpl Wright (now in Catterick, being prepared for draft to India) also deserves a pat on the back for passing in three subjects towards his first class certificate. Only maths now, and you can rest back on your books.

We have a very brainy Section now. Three are attending for specials and four for the elusive first.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Baker C. S. from A Corps Signals, Aldershot, on the 14th November. The Section offer the hand of welcome and hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Jew's Corner.—Les P.: If alive, please write; if not, don't bother. Tich W. Siss.

HE WHO HESITATES IS LOST ! !

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS !



Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company.

October 1934.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Newall from Peshawar District Signals. May your stay be a little more pleasant than in the last station.

The undermentioned have rejoined the unit after spending six months summer furlough in the United Kingdom: Sergt Prebble F., L/Sergt Kilford, U/L/Corpl Wallis, Signalmen Taylor and Sayers. You certainly all look well after it.

Departures.—Sergt Baker and family have left us on posting to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta. In his departure the unit have lost a very active member in swimming and golf circles, not to mention the humour he served up at the various sports and indoor parties.

Courses.—The I.M. and E.F. Courses (class ii.) are due to leave us this month for their respective field units, each and all hoping that they have been awarded the extra pice. Your names shall live for ever on the (Church) roll of honour.

Early next month we shall see a fresh batch of faces (for rack orderly): all candidates for class i. in E.F. and I.M. trades.

Congratulations.—To B Corps Signals on winning the Durand Cup for football.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of the undermentioned n.c.o.s who have been selected to attend the 1934—35 "S" Course: L/Sergt Sharples and Corporals McKenzie, Weir, Cosstick, Whenman, Lowes, Dadswell and Shurer. We hope to see you on the sports field occasionally.

Departures.—U/L/Corpl Spiers C. to Southern Command, Poona. Good looks go a long way, Clifford.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Sergt Baker L. to be Sergeant w.e.f. 8/7/34. Sigmn Spiers C. to be L/Corpl (unpaid).

Air Manœuvres (?)—Situated in the south-west corner of the S.T.C. (I.) lines is an exclusive bungalow, with all modern appliances, surrounded by a delightful garden and velvety lawn, where by day and by night one may see strange figures performing stranger antics and flourishing weird objects which from a distance look like miniature flags. For the benefit of new arrivals to Jubbulpore, this is not an addition to the British Military Hospital for those suffering from sunstroke and other mental disorders, but merely the W/T Station personnel indulging in their new hobby of collecting butterflys. Roll on!

Entertainments.—The Jubbulpore Amateur Dramatic Society gave a two-night show of Sherriff's "Journey's End" in the Regimental Institute, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing it.

Corporals Room.

By the arrival of the "S" Course our little band has been increased, and we are all looking forward to some jolly evenings. Ginger Cosstick and Ninepence Dadswell are among the stalwarts, and appear quite content provided that Mr. Younger is obtainable. (Rex of Aldershot, please note.)

Our enterprising committee are doing good work as regards indoor games, and our president, C.S.M. Price, has managed to scrounge four cups for annual competition. Well done, sir!

The annual whist drive and dance is to be held next week, and a bumper success is a certainty. More anon.

One reads a great deal about the amazing beauty and skill of "The *Daily Mirror* Eight," but little is known of the usual eight juniors who do really skilful things every Saturday morning under the watchful eye of King Louis. They are known as "The S.T.C. Eight," and although more than one fellow has tried (?) to join this little army, an excuse has always been found for him in extra office work, etc. Q.

Later.

Our annual whist drive and dance was a huge success, and from the inquiries received one gathers that a monthly show would not be amiss. It was extremely fortunate that Thursday is generally regarded as a holiday; for judging by the thick heads, I do not think that reveille would have been a popular call. Well done, the committee!

The annual billiards cup produced some good breaks (and brakes) and Corpl Edge, who lifted the cup and filled it, is to be congratulated on his success. Against Corpl McK. in the final, he put up a really good show and thoroughly deserved the spoils by a 200—182 victory.

The arrival of the "S" Course has brought together a few of the Catterick team, and the recollections of past events concerning Croft Spa, Piercebridge and Darlington caused many rounds of comments and beer. A popular tune is "Merry crowd are we," and they certainly are. For a few days, however, they went in fear of their lives, as at the inspection (for instructional purposes) of the Company kits, nothing was safe from their probing hands. Corpl Dadswell easily won the sock throwing contest, for whilst Corpl Shurer threw the length of the bay, Daddy's effort has not yet been traced. An enjoyable Christmas is foreshadowed. Whoopee!

We extend the glad hand once again to Tiny Wallis, who has returned from a U.K. spell; and to Hambone Hampson, on his first appointment, we are prepared to give anything—even several darks—provided he stops gripping.

In the Gripper Challenge Cup, only two entries were received from the juniors, one from the seniors, and several from the signalmen. It was obvious from the start that the signalmen had no chance against the bigger fry, but Gripper Barrett put up a good show to last until the concluding stages. The seniors' representative could not stay the distance and left the field to Grippers Lambird and Hampson. Day after day, and night after night, all and sundry were gripped by these battlers, and after several committee meetings the challenge cup and a packet of fly-papers was awarded to Gripper Bert of Fulham fame. His tale of how he rode from Fulham to John o' Groats sounded so true that he got the casting vote.

Agony.—To 5th Div.: What about that reply? Quig. No marriages last month. What's the trouble?

Stop Press.—L/Corporals Chapman and Puleston have left us for Catterick. Good luck, Ernest; your bald patch will be missed by many of us. All the best.

In the Younger Cup competition, against the Sergeants Mess, we secured the first leg by winning the soccer match by seven goals to three. The seniors were by no means disgraced, and for their age—which must have averaged thirty-three—they put up a really good show. L/Sergt Matthew got all three goals for the sergeants, and Corpl Edge (3), L/Corpl Dean (2), L/Corpl Roberts and L/Corpl Hampson scored for the corporals. Q.

Retirement of a Notable Indian Officer.

On the 27th September 1934 Subedar-Major Tej Singh Gurung, the senior Indian officer of the Indian Signal Corps, proceeded on five months leave prior to retirement.

The Senior Indian Officer of the Indian Signal Corps.



Subedar-Major Tej Singh Gurung

Who is shortly retiring after nearly twenty-five years of service in the Indian Army.

Subedar-Major Tej Singh will doubtless be remembered by many members of the Corps now in various parts of the world, but particularly by those who have been stationed in the S.T.C. (India) Jubbulpore during the last five years, and all will be sorry to hear that his active service is at an end.

He re-enlisted in the Indian Signal Corps in September 1921, having previously served for ten and a half years in the 2/5th Royal Gurkhas. He entered the Indian Signal Corps as a Jemadar and was promoted to Subedar six months later, and to Subedar-Major on the 1st March 1930.

His work throughout and his influence among all ranks of the S.T.C. (I.) have been exemplary. He took a keen interest in all that pertained to the comfort and welfare of the Indian other ranks in the unit, and was instrumental in securing many improvements in the lines. He had a very high sense of discipline and duty, but this did not prevent him from displaying an understanding kindliness and consideration for his subordinates which have endeared him to all. No small part of his popularity and success is due to his scrupulous impartiality to rank or creed, and to his willingness at all times to give help or advice to those in need of it, whether Sikh, P.M., Dogra, M.M. or British officer.

As one of the last serving Gurkhas in the Corps, he has proved a worthy representative of a race famous for their loyalty, courage and devotion to duty, and by his personal example has done a great deal towards improving the standard of the unit and, through it, of the whole Corps. His departure will be regretted by all.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Tuesday 9th October.

General.—Section training is now in full swing, and a great difference in the work of the Sections is evident after the few weeks of working together with a full team again—as almost all the B.O.R.s have now returned to the unit from Upper Topa, where a number of higher ratings were earned.

The unit left Rawalpindi on the morning of the 26th September on a three days route march, the advance guard of a small party of B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s leaving the day previous to prepare the road, which was in places very rough and rocky and almost impassable for M.T. and H.T. traffic, and to get everything in readiness for the main body when they arrived the next day.

The main body left Rawalpindi at 09.00 hours the next day and arrived at Shah-Allahditta at approximately 16.30 hours. Here they bivouacked for the night, and the assistant surgeon had a busy time in attending to the footsore. The next day, the route by which the main body intended to travel being impossible for either H.T. or pack transport, the unit split up into three echelons—the M.T. forming "A" echelon, H.T. and pack animals "B," and the foot party "C." "A" and "B" echelons proceeded to Sang Jani via Tirnaul railway crossing and "C" via the Pass Shahdheri—Sari Kala rest house. This part of the march developed into a map reading test and the Sections proceeded independently. The first party to arrive at the bivouac area comprised L, E and F Sections, who reached there approximately at 13.30 hours, the last party getting in about 14.30 hours. Here again the M.O. had a busy time in attending to blistered and chafed feet. The third day was a straight march along the Grand Trunk Road to Rawalpindi.

A word of praise must here be given to the M.T. drivers, on the second day's journey, for the way they handled their cars and lorries over the rough and deeply rutted road. The ruts made by country carts were very awkward for lorries to negotiate, with one wheel in a rut and the other on a bank which was in places as much as two feet high. At other times they travelled over ploughed fields where no road or even track existed, finally striking the G.T. road at Tirnaul crossing.

Unit Camp.—The unit goes into camp at Mandra from the 1st to the 15th November. A strenuous programme of unit training awaits them, but we are sure that all will do their best to bring this part of the training season to a successful conclusion, and prepare themselves to uphold the good name the unit enjoys whilst out with their respective Brigades, etc.

Sports.—Activity in this direction has been as strenuous as ever, and the games have been rather too numerous to mention in detail. The unit hockey team are still holding their own in the Hot Weather League. They have received two very good additions to the team, and are now looking forward to putting up a good fight for the Northern Command Signals hockey cup during Signals Week.

The cricket team have played two matches, both away from home—one at Campbellpore and the other at Risalpur. Not having yet seen them play, we can say very little as to their form.

Arrivals.—Sergt Stevens and family, and Sigmn Phillips, from Wazirdist Signals. To them we extend the glad mitt and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Sergt Stevens and Sigmn Phillips are the two additions to the hockey team mentioned above.

Departures.—Sigmn Roscoe to Wazirdist Signals in exchange for Sigmn Phillips.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporals Crimes G., Dixon F., Thompsett S., Beeby K., Pollard J. and Millett W. on attaining that rank. To B Corps Signals on their splendid effort in winning the Durand Cup.

Agony.—To Sergt Cutler E. (late of 1st I.D.S.) from Bob: Now in need of a nursemaid; a bonny boy, already able (although only two months old) to throw a dart, drive a car, and tell his dad to step on the gas. He is not adverse to a spicy yarn, either. The newspaper cutting was unreadable. What about a line?

ONEDIV.

2nd Cavalry Brigade



Sialkot, Sunday 4th November.

We all bid "bon voyage" and good luck to our late commanding officer, Captain C. M. F. White, who left us this month for Catterick.

The Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, carried out his first inspection of the Troop during the month, and we understand that he was pleased with all he saw, including the Troop sergeant who was visible on at least nineteen occasions.

The following are congratulated on obtaining first class operator signals trade ratings at Upper Topa this year: L/Corpl Connor G. L. and Signalmen Grant A., Ashwood V., Mitchell R. and Clayton S. Sigmn Fisher W. obtained a class ii. rating as an instrument mechanic.

The musketry casuals have now "done their stuff," and Corpl Breeze C. did well in making the highest score in the Troop (58).

After the good work done by A Corps Signals in the boxing world at Rawalpindi this year, B Corps Signals have considerably enhanced the Corps reputation by winning the Durand trophy for football. A wonderful performance, B Corps, especially as you knocked out our friends from Sialkot (the 1st Battn Dorsetshire Regiment) on your way to the final.

There are no repatriations until January, unfortunately for the remainder of the Troop. Promotions are in the same state: "wait and see." Marriages are at a standstill.

Sigmn Kent A., after a strenuous life in the Troop, has now departed on posting to B Corps Signals. His relief, Sigmn Evans W., has arrived and we hope he will enjoy the cowboy life.

To all old Troopites who are thinking of returning to the fold, we would say that we now have a first class football ground, complete with nets, and it is worth a second tour just to view the ground. All we require now is a few first class footballers.

This Month's Agony.—The last round up.

Personal.—To Cecil Hughes, F Section, Jubbulpore: How did you find friend Flo? My turn in March. Birch. KHANA.

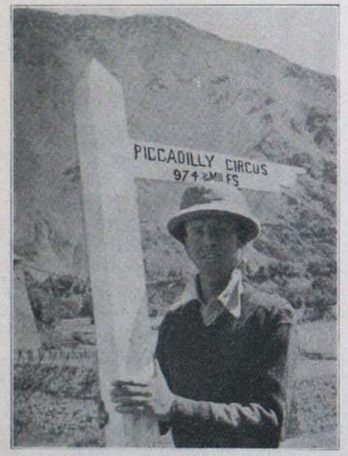
People and Scenes "snapped" on the Chitral Reliefs, 1934



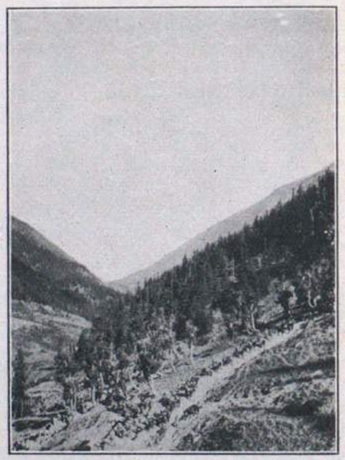
Chitcol Signals and relieved Drosh Detachment.



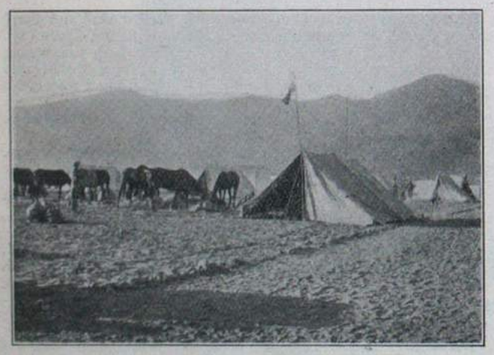
A Halt for Refreshments.



Signboard at Drosh, with the Political Agent (Malakand).



Taken during a climb over the Lowarai Pass from Ziarat.



Signal Office, Serai, on the upward journey.



Nawab of Dir's Levies proceeding to Serai.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

We wish all readers of this Journal the best of Christmases and the happiest of New Years.

Since I was thinking of New Years, and hence Scotsmen, here is a story cribbed from *The Statesman*. A Scotsman had a motor accident. His wire to Aberdeen was the minimum ten words and read as follows: "Bruises hurt erased Ford erected analysis hurt too infectious dead." Just see if you can puzzle it out before looking at the answer at the end of these notes.

Arrival.—Lieut. A. D. Molloy, Australian Staff Corps, on attachment to this unit for twelve months training, etc. Although rather belated, we offer you a hearty welcome, sir.

Chitral Reliefs, 1934.—The warriors who accompanied the Chitral reliefs column as escorting troops were all too shy of writing a few notes descriptive of their journeying, but I obtained the following valedictories from the column commander and signal officer to republish here. They speak for themselves.

"SPECIAL CAMP ORDER.—Before the dispersal of the column, the commander wishes to congratulate all ranks and followers on their work, which resulted in a most successful march from Chitral. This was largely due to the excellent team spirit which was maintained throughout, and without which real efficiency cannot be obtained. Au revoir and the best of luck."

"Remarks by O.C. Column Signals (Lieut. E. P. Blake).—The column commander told me that he was particularly pleased with the work of Signals and says they have done jolly well. I agree. Thank you!"

Herewith are a few snaps of incidents during the marches up and down from Chitral, taken by Lieut. E. P. Blake, R.Signals.

Sauce.—Taken from the label on a bottle of sauce as supplied by our contractor: "Worcester Sauce. Excellent for fish. . . . graves, etc., etc. Made in India." I have heard of the song about "picklin' bones," but do not remember that sauce was mentioned!

Books Worth Reading.—"Barnham Rectory" (Doreen Wallace); "One's Company" (Fleming); "Everest 1933" (Hugh Ruttledge); "The Sailor's Way" (Captain Evans, Master Mariner); Kipling's "Collected Dog Stories"; "Winds of Fortune" (Farnol); and for those who like a thriller, "The Man from Whitehall" (Walsh).



Waiting for Messages from R.A.F. Bomber at Kamrani Sar.



The Column Commander with the Political Agent (Malakand) at Kamrani Sar during the action against the Fakir of Alingar.



Mail Dropping at Serai.



Nawab of Dir's Levies at Kamrani Pass.



Ziarat in the early morning, with snow showing on the distant mountains.

Eheu!—Received from an out-station with the monthly acceptance of accounts: "Note: Corpl X objects to income tax." And so say all of us!

Essays, Grave and ???—The following was written by a sepoy studying for a first-class English certificate.

"Banana is extremely remarkable fruit, being constructed in same architectural style as sausage. There is however some difference between banana and sausage as skin of sausage are habitually consumed while it is not advisable to eat wrapping of banana. Banana may be held aloft while consuming; sausage may be left in reclining position. Sausages depend for creation on human being or stuffing machine while banana is pristine product of Mother Nature. In case of sausage, both conclusions are attached to either sausage; banana on other hands are attached on one end to stem and opposite termination entirely loose. Finally, banana is strictly of vegetable kingdom while affiliation of sausage is often undecided."

Departures.—Sigmn Paddy McGowan T. to the Army Reserve and Ould Oireland. L/Corpl Melmore L. and Signalmen Boulton G., Bagshaw A., Yarnell R. (br-r-r) and Wilson T. (provisional) to the home establishment. The best of luck to you all. Keep your I.G.S.M.s (and bars) well polished.

General.—The individual training season has descended upon us with its accompanying schemes and columns. At present, one or two of the local lads are trotting around the khuds up Landi Kotal way on the usual Khyber exercises. Everything else is just quiet, except for some jolly good entertainment by the band of the 1st Battn 1st Gurkha Regiment now and then.

Answer to Scotsman's Telegram.—The Aberdonian relatives of the Scotsman deciphered it as follows:—"Bruce is hurt—he raced a Ford, he wrecked it, and Alice is hurt, too; in fact, she's dead."

Seasonable Great Thought.—

May the auld year gang out moaning
To see the new come laden, groaning
Wi' double plenty o'er the loanin',
To thee and thine;
Domestic peace and comforts crowning
The haill design. —*Burns.*

Cheerio, folk! be with you next year. MIIM.

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Headquarters.

Saturday 27th October.

The Section has now returned to its winter resort, on many occasions referred to as "Dreary Dismal Khan," but according to the programme circulated in anticipation of "do's," I'm not so sure that it is going to be dreary.

The move down from Razmak went off without a hitch and everyone in the Section seemed pleased to get back to his pukka station. Smiling faces were everywhere, especially as we returned to find that the details who had preceded us and those who had remained in D.I.K. during the hot weather had certainly done their stuff; and although for a week fatigues were the order of the day, it was only a question of settling in—there being no trace of the aftermath from the dust storms of the summer.

Then, of course, the families arrived from the hills rather earlier than usual, all of them being here by the 10th October—which I am given to understand is a record! However, the weather was all in favour of their early return, and except for the sand flies and a stray "mossy" now and again, they are all happy and contented.

The junior n.c.o.s started the ball rolling from an entertainment point of view, and provided an excellent show in the form of a whist drive and dance. The lucky prize-winners were: Ladies, 1st Mrs. Williams (from D.H.Q.), 2nd Mrs. Bew, booby Mrs. Jones. Gentlemen, 1st Sigmn Finch, 2nd Sigmn Davis, booby S.S.M. Meyers (from M.T. Company at Manzai). Great credit is due to L/Corporals Watts and Foster, who were responsible for the organisation; and of course we musn't forget "our" band, who as usual came up to scratch under the able leadership of L/Corpl Poole. The drum, I noticed, was inscribed "1934/35—still going strong"; and taking the origin of the motto into consideration, I certainly think that the band —— (Oh, very good, Stanley! I'll leave that part out.) You will notice that the Christian name has a tendency to creep in. This is absolutely necessary, as all great and successful band leaders are called by their Christian names.

The Razmak Horse Show took place on the 28th and 29th September, and the following results were obtained by the unit.

Pack mules (teams of three)—first place. As this event was open to the whole Garrison and the entries seemed to stretch nearly as far as the King's Birthday parade, special credit is due to all ranks of the Razmak Section for their work in turning out our only team.

Handy hunters—Sergt Applegate on Taurus was fifth out of thirty-one entries.

Open jumping—Sergt Applegate on Taurus was fourth out of twenty-three entries.

Polo ponies—Captain Allen's Taurus was first out of twenty-one entries.

Gymkhana events—Pigsticking. Captain Allen first. Herding the donkey, Captain Allen's team second.

Sigmn Wilkinson deserved special credit for the good show he put up on Wilkie in the open jumping. He came up from D.I.K. a fortnight before the show, was handed over an animal, and obtained second place in the other ranks event.

Wana Signal Section.

September 1934.

General.—Our fête on the 4th August was a great success. An enormous amount of spadework had to be put in by the whole of the Section in the matter of preparing the sideshows,



Ringing the Duck at the Signals Fête.



"Sladen's Special" at the Signals Fête.

and a lot of disappointment ensued when it was found that the great electric Test Match (painstakingly prepared by Sigmn Hay) developed an alarming crop of unsuspected short-circuits and had to be abandoned at the last moment. An entire absence of cocoanuts precluded our having any shies, and skittles had to be improvised from ubiquitous beer bottles filled with sand. Our friends the Sappers very kindly rigged up a dozen outdoor lights for the evening, which certainly suggested the atmosphere of a fairground.

Sigmn McLeod spent all his spare time for a week in preparing a series of dazzling posters, and in addition he ran the Klondyke treasure hunt. The O.C.'s attempt to borrow bunting was unsuccessful, so we had to improvise it out of visual flags and "flags distinguishing." Luckily, we were able to unearth a large number of small semaphore flags of various colours from the Post stores.

The fête was well patronised by the sepoys of the 1/4th Bombay Grenadiers and the 5/11th Punjabis, to whom any chance of something for nothing has always a great attraction—so much so that we had great difficulty in getting them to go home at lights out. The following were the attractions offered.

Corinthian bagatelle—Sigmn Hay.
"Sladen's Special" (as above, but more so)—Sigmn Grant.
Darts—L/Corpl Rawcliffe.
Electric dip and guessing competitions—L/Corpl Sherard.
Klondyke treasure hunt—Sigmn McLeod.
Air race round the world—Sigmn Oakley.
Ringing the duck and raffle—Sigmn Thompson.
Pitching pice into a pudding basin—Corpl Lloyd.
Houpla—Private Jarvis (Dorset Regiment).



Skittles at the Signals Fête.

Skittles—Sigmn Mackenzie and Pte Whitfield (Devon Regt.)
Football—Signalmen McGratton and Green.
Pice board—Corpl Willcocks.
Pagal billiards—Sigmn Martin C.
Aunt Sally—Signalmen Wilson and Morrison.
Refreshments—L/Corpl Bridgman.

The I.O.R.s also ran a form of crown and anchor successfully.

The following week the Section had a very nice job in lowering the telephone line to Gibraltar Picquet in order to add more air navigation warnings to it. As this is a single line of multi-strand cable, in a single bay of about three-quarters of a mile in length, some idea of the tension required to heave it up can easily be gained. (Now's your chance, you No. 8 hats!)

We were visited by the C.S.O., Colonel FitzA. Drayson, on Sunday 19th August. He inspected the tents and spoke personally to each B.O.R.

We have recently started a Debating Society, which meets in the Institute at 9.30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The C.C. (Lieut. A. T. Sladen) is the president. The following lectures and debates have taken place:—

August 15th—The Retreat from Mons. Lieut. Sladen.
August 22nd—Climate and Character. Corpl Lloyd.
August 25th—Professionalism v. Amateurism in Sport. Sigmn McLeod v. Sigmn Hay.
August 29th—The Horse v. the Machine. Sergt Keegan v. Sergt Witheredge (R.T.C.)
Sept. 1st—The Five Year Plan. L/Corpl Sherard.

Razmak Signal Section.

Now that winter is fast approaching—though perhaps it is hardly appropriate—I would like to say a few words in praise of the exceptionally good summer we have had. The maximum temperature seldom reached 90 degrees, and this region being almost outside the influence of the monsoon, the clerk of the weather treated us fairly favourably—though there were times when the Headquarter Section, who had the misfortune of being accommodated in tents, were of the firm opinion that we were going to experience a second edition of the Flood. Consequently, much talk was heard of proposals to build an Ark in case of necessity. It is believed that one B.O.R. was nearly drowned in a valiant effort to retrieve his boots before they reached the Cooly Camp.

The parks—both of 'em—looked very nice this year. Efforts were made to grow every kind of English flower possible, which somewhat tended to divert our thoughts to distant Blighty and make us start counting the number of days left prior to embarking on the big boat. Incidentally, these days are counted in terms of "octs" by this Section.

In spite of my vain efforts to elaborate the climatic and floral beauties of this place, it is sincerely hoped that no romantic youth on the burning plains of India will accept this description as a "Come to Razmak" slogan. Although this may be an Eden of sorts, it is unfortunately Eveless; therefore anyone who possesses a "Lights o' London" disposition is likely to pine away here, unless of course he happens to be an ardent film-fan—in which case he could possibly be humoured by a visit to our one and only cinema. I am pleased to say that it has been improved lately, and a Western Electric sound apparatus has now been installed. We are also promised a new and efficient heating apparatus, and if the latter materialises, it will perhaps be no longer necessary to wear overcoats in the cinema this winter.

Columns.—The first column of the autumn training period took place early in September, when we marched to Lawargi via Razani. A day scheme was held from Lawargi to Spinshilla Narai. Several new members of the Razmak Hiking Club were initiated on this column. Charlie Mac would like to know who sent him the letter at Lawargi. Perhaps Wally could tell him?

"Lord" Krishna's Birthday.—The birth of Krishna was celebrated by the Indian ranks of the Section on the 1st September. All B.O.R.s were invited to a tea party and drama in the evening. The District and Brigade commanders were among the officers present. A really good show was enjoyed by all.

Sport.—A combined team selected from Headquarters and this Section was entered for the Brigade football tournament, but unfortunately, after a very close game, we were beaten by 1—0,

the winning goal being scored in favour of A Company 1st Devons only three minutes before the final whistle.

We have fared very well in other local games of hockey and football with the various other British and Indian units in the Brigade. I must on no account forget to mention our Sunday inter-Section games, when the so-called Blue Birds turn out in force and give excellent demonstrations of their individual ideas of how the game *should* be played. Unfortunately, some of these ideas, though very convenient at times, seem to be just a little dangerous. Aren't they, Ginger?

The game of rings has become very popular in the Section lately. In case this may be misunderstood, I will hasten to explain (for the benefit of the uninitiated) that tennikoit is meant. Two courts have already been constructed, and a tournament is at present in progress. I will endeavour to give detailed results of the various matches in next month's notes.

Arrivals and Departures.—The B.O.R.s who were at Topa for the upgrading courses have now returned. It is rumoured that several have already indented for larger size topees. Their successes in obtaining higher ratings are probably responsible for this measure. In addition, the results of the local upgrading courses have now been promulgated, and budding Pythagorases are to be seen daily calculating how much more they will be able to " put away " now that the extra annas will be coming in. The means test doesn't seem to be given a thought!

We are sorry to lose Sigmn Brown J. R. L. (note the correctness of the initials, James) and also his technical library. Still, his departure will save us the trouble and anxiety of looking after him this Christmas. We all hope to see him again some day when we are selling violets in the street. Even the cha wallah complains of not having sold any cold drinks since he left us.

Sigmn Ginger Phillips has also left us for the gayer Pindi. We feel assured that he is enjoying himself there and giving the lads a dog's life with tales of " when he was on the Frontier proper."

We Would Very Much Like to Know.—What it feels like to be in Wana after a couple of rather hectic months in Lahore ? Whether we would have won the Brigade football tournament had Minnie been selected to play? Whether Fanny is sweating on winning the rings tournament on his reputation alone? Who is known as the Walking Notice Board? How far is it to Moghulpura, man, please?

Tailpiece.—Step right up and call us speedy! SHELAMAC.

Bannu Signal Section.

October 1934.

General.—Bannu is now at its best. The temperature has subsided and the Section have returned to normal, both in strength and spirits. The absence of notes from this Section is regretted, but we hope to fill in a few lines every month from now on.

Comers and Goers.—We welcome the following, who have joined us from various stations on the Frontier: Sergeants Beckley and Prees, Corporals Bunn and Dewhurst, L/Corpl Sanderson, Signalmen Frake, Healy, Jackson and Martin C. Sigmn Kitson has joined us from Quetta (can you still hear him?) Since " Voice " arrived, the 12.00 hours time signal has been discontinued.

Sergt Ramsden to Karachi. Corpl Lunniss to Quetta. Corpl Hudson to B Corps. L/Corpl Whalebelly to Dera Ismail Khan. Signalmen Burke and Easton to Wana. These are the total number of goers.

Congratulations.—The happy event expected by L/Corpl Bailey N. has happened: he now has the pice. We also congratulate U/L/Corpl McFee on his appointment, L/Corpl Bailey and Sigmn Jackson on obtaining o/s B.i., and U/L/Corpl McFee and Sigmn Frake on obtaining o/s B.ii. No " What'll . . . ." has yet been heard from any of the above named.

Entertainments.—With the arrival of the married personnel from the hills, the manager of the Frontier Cinema at Bannu has been doing his stuff, and many good films have been shown recently.

New Song Hits.—Our Headquarters song: " D.I.Khan John Peel."

Sport.—Mosquito trapping. Details of other sports will be found on another page—we hope! BAIBEE.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—" Be sure your deeds will find you out." So goes the old saying. And now, since our official scribe has taken his presence to Lahore, the gods of chance have decided to let my illustrious self perform the task of scribe to his worthy people. With open arms (alms) we give welcome to the coming training season, confident that we will earn good reports from all.

A few of our members—K Section, to be explicit—have taken their annual furlough trip to Lahore, there to participate in the Lahore Brigade manœuvres and to open what we are sure will be another successful effort in that part of the country. The unfortunate part of this is that we had to lose some of our football team when K Section departed, just when we were in the throes of a tournament ; but, still, the gods so willed it, and we are making the best of a bad job with the few stalwarts left behind.

Many old hands left us on the *Nevasa*, and to one and all we extend our best wishes for their welfare. We cannot but regret the departure of the old members of the Band, as this year it looks as though we will be without a dance band. In fact, all helped in various ways in sports and entertainments, and we will miss them a great deal during the coming winter.

We welcome back to the unit our commanding officer, Major B. G. Rowley, who has returned from a two months sojourn in England.

Needless to say, the Blighty leave wallahs have also returned to the land of sunshine, and many are the tales of the fine times to be had in England (why will people add to the agony of this country by their vivid descriptions of home?) The juice of the fruit, however, is still to come: two of those leave wallahs—to wit, Signalmen Barnsley and Madgwick—have tied the knot and are now very much married men. To them we extend our heartiest congratulations, and wish both them and their wives the very best.

At a very opportune time L/Corpl West has returned from an A.I. course at Poona, and from reports received he has fully justified all expectations. Not long now before the boat sails, Jimmy: how many days did you say ?

Several of the brighter (?) youths have persuaded Schoolie to let them sit for their firsts, and now they—and Schoolie, too—are sweating.

The miniature range has just lately been ringing with shots, and it is believed that some of them *did* hit the targets ; but as results are not yet to hand, no further information can be given.

One of the last draft to proceed to the U.K. left a relic behind. Here it is, complete with apologies to R. W. Service.

A Marching Song.

Have ever you marched through Hangu Gate—
With the sun in the east at your back
As you march side by side with the man who's your mate,
With your bully and bread in your sack?

Have you ever noticed the little white stones
Which mark off the furlongs and miles,
And felt that peculiar ache in your bones
And chased it away with your smiles ?

Have you ever sat on the side of the road,
About twenty miles short of your camp,
When a surly voice growled " Hurry up with that load,"
And you grumbled and said " What a ramp " ?

If you've done it—why, then it's one up to you.
If you haven't—well, don't despair ;
For take it from me, you've got it to do—
At the end of the march you'll be there.

That is, if you stick it and don't give up hope,
And get right down to your stride ;
And if on your socks you use bags of soap,
You won't have to fall out and ride.

For you don't do that, though you limp and are lame—
Though you've blisters like plates on your feet.
Stick it, and let people see that you're game,
Though you may be thoroughly beat.

Have ever *you* been out in the Great Alone,
When the moon was awfully clear
And you couldn't get through on the Fullerphone,
With a General standing near ?

And then back to barracks, to sit round the fire
With the folk who had to stay in ?
I know they think you're a terrible liar
As tales of hardship you spin!

But it's great to look back on—when it's done!
The good old times in the blue ;
For though it was hard, it was jolly good fun,
Notwithstanding the " kam " and the stew (?) —J.S.G.

Last, but not least, I have to tell you that once again the khuds have surrendered their summer burden—in other words, all the families have returned to Kohat after spending the usual summer vacation in the cool of the Murree hills. P. AND J.

Corporals Mess.

Most members have now returned to Kohat, and under the able guidance of Jim Ray we look forward to a " brighter winter " movement.

Corpl Robins and L/Corpl Langley have returned from a furlough in the U.K. and are regaling us with the new wonders of Britain.

In the entertainment line, the ball has been set rolling by Corpl Weeks, who has kindly installed a seven-valve super-heterodyne set in the mess—and now we do get music!

It is also noted that several members have taken up that ancient game of darts and are becoming proficient to such an extent that Shoey, our " champ," has decided to attend tournaments only.

The bridge players are still going strong, and many are the tips given an enthralled audience who happen to be present after a rubber has been won.

In fact, taking it all round, things seem to be looking up—and that is something. J.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tuesday 6th November.

Last month had its red-letter days. We were visited by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief and the stork ; twenty-four old hands left us by the *Nevasa* for the Army Reserve and a thousand a year (less income tax) ; and the unit forsook our warm and flat country for the cold and khuds of Quetta to take part in the Western Command exercise.

The Commander-in-Chief's visit and the departure of the time-ex.s clashed—rather unfairly. No one can bid farewell to people like the latter and face the stern realities of the former's inspection in the same frame of mind ; but as it transpired that H.E. was quite pleased with us, and visitors aboard the *Nevasa* on the following day were quite numerous, both events must have been treated as the occasion demanded.

The stork chose his moment. We are given to understand that when he drops in, husbands are inclined to be in the way. L/Sergt Stanley, the proud father, happened to be monarch of all he surveyed (or whatever else guard commanders are supposed to be) on that day. A hearty welcome is extended to Roberta Rosemary (bit of taste about those names, don't you think?) A good start in life was accorded the young lady by having R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Trapmore as god-parents.

The Command exercise, from all reports, went off quite well. Most of the people who took part are now nursing colds or other ailments, and the hospital graph (Hudson) shows an upward tendency. Trusting in our equable climate and Vapex, these should soon be remedied.

The movement to Quetta this year was varied from that in the past. M.T. detrained at Sibi and performed the journey by road. The D.R.s had a harrowing tale to tell of their hundred mile trip. Outstanding events of the stay were L/Corpl Lamont joining the immortals by discovering a " dead spot." the fright experienced by the orderly room sergeant, and L/Corpl Berry claiming the tunic containing some rather embarrassing articles. S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Unit Headquarters.

Monday 5th November.

The commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.) and officers were " at home " to the Quetta Garrison at a pagal gymkhana held on the Lower Gymkhana on the 19th October.



Tandem Driving at the Pagal Gymkhana.

Amongst the events were " bootleggers " and Gretna Green races, musical chairs, etc., together with a display given by Corporals Baker and Wallace and their men, to whom great credit is due for an excellent performance. This consisted of a few short figures such as the scissors, etc., followed by a tandem drive. In the latter, pillion riders on the bicycles drove the horses. This was very much appreciated by the guests who attended, amongst who were General Sir Torquhil Matheson, K.C.B., C.M.G., the Honourable B. J. Gould, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., A.G., the Divisional commander, Major-General H. Karslake, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and most of the principal staff and regimental officers of the Garrison and their wives.

Altogether it was a most enjoyable afternoon for both spectators and competitors. The band of the 1/7th Gurkha Rifles gave a very much appreciated programme of music both before and after tea.



Lining up for the Blindfold Race.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Our late scribe has taken unto himself a vocational course as talkie operator in Pellier's Theatre. In consequence, the Company was minus a correspondent and a pathetic appeal for another was published. There were so many applicants for the post that I almost thought the job would never be mine. Anyhow, after careful weeding out, I have been given the honour—due, perhaps, to my possessing a highly imaginative mind.

Well, the winter training programme has been published and caused a lot of comment, especially among the n.c.o.s who, methinks, will have plenty to think about until March next. Individual training also commences this month, from which it is hoped more B.II.'s will materialise.

The cold weather is trying to set in, and most probably will have done so (with a vengeance) by the time our brothers in distant parts read these notes. As long as there is sufficient coal issued to bungalows when it does come, nobody will mind it much.

We were sorry—very sorry indeed—when A Corps Signals returned to Karachi after helping us out on the Western Command exercise, because there are no more excuses left for us to have a beery—sorry! I mean cheery time until the next boat goes. Until then no excuses will be accepted for red-tinted noses. Talking of noses, how we shall miss that glorious beacon sported by our late bus conductor, who by the time these notes appear (if they get past the Editor) will be a shining light in Blighty. Anyhow, we can console ourselves that the unit will still possess two or three people well endowed in that direction.

During the past training season the lads of the Wireless Section had a busy time in cultivating B.B.C. announcer's voices. Sergt Handby is having a loud speaker installed on each M.T. set in the near future, so we anticipate great doings later on. We now learn that the only loud speaker of this Section is being sent to the Zhob—it's a very long story!

Members of the Company extend their sympathies to Corpl and Mrs. Staerck in their recent bereavement.

Arrivals.—Sergt Daniell from 4th Divsigs, Trimulgherry, and Corporals Geere and Lunniss from Waziristan. Sergt Daniell and Corpl Geere were claimed by D Section, whilst Corpl Lunniss assumes command of the D.R. Section. The horses of D Section looked quite startled when Corpl Geere took over the horse-lines, but they are quite serene now they have found he is harmless.

The unit bus drew up and emptied its contents outside the unit office one Saturday not long ago, when the unit was on pay parade. Many strange and curious looks were directed towards the wan and dejected looking individuals who emerged therefrom, the troops thinking perhaps they were ghosts; but no! it was only the Blighty leave details just returned for a spot of sunbronze. It was a real pity that the Western Command exercise had not started then, because I believe they thought they had "swung" manœuvres.

Departures.—We were very sorry to lose Corporals Bill Edwards and Dendy, who left Karachi with their wives and family (only applicable to the latter) per the *Nevasa* for the home establishment on the 11th October. Corpl Edwards was a very old timer in the unit and a great asset to the Wireless Section. The unit hockey team will miss him, as he was a very accomplished outside man. We wish them all the best of luck and a cushy station.

Corpl Malvern and Signalmen Lapsley and Moad leave us for the Zhob Signal Section very shortly. The two first named have already been in that Section, and as they are quite jubilant about returning, it makes us wonder just what sort of magnetism the Zhob has.

There is only one more departure to report, but of a different kind—from bachelorhood, this time, Cpl Evans being the culprit. Married to Norah Kathleen Steed at Brentwood, Essex, on 7/8/34. Many sympathies have been received!

Promotions.—We congratulate Corpl Malvern on attaining that rank. Two or three unpaid lance-corporals are sweating now.

Finale.—Visiting rounds: "If a man jumped out from nowhere whilst you were on beat, what would you do?" Very smart sentry: "Hit with nothing, sir." (Collapse of officer.) Wins!

PRESSY.

No. 2 Company.

Friday 2nd November.

General.—Schemes are over and we are settling down for whatever we'll get. The Signals were congratulated on their various efforts, and of course the raspberry jam was very useful.

The advent of the last three-day scheme made quite a few knees go wonky, and someone miraculously developed a fine cold. Lieut. Burgess-Winn came down from Loralai and helped K Section to bear up under the strain. He has winning ways and a very nice car (hasn't he, Bill?) We noticed a few n.c.o.s using Pond's cream on this last scheme. No doubt, they use Lux and have film aspirations.

The soldiers—well, anyway, the men from Karachi—have returned to their seaside resort with happy memories of the beautiful scenery and re-unions with old friends ("the fellow who owed me 4/6 in the Depot" sort of thing).

Lieut. D. St. J. Hoysted will soon be leaving us for Jubbulpore. We wish you all the best, sir.

Right! Now we must record the departure of Corpl Blake and Sigmn R. (no rose in all the world) McCallum to Jubbulpore on an A.I. course. May they get what they desire.

Obituary.—Our deepest sympathy goes to Corpl and Mrs. Staerck in the death of their two-weeks-old daughter, Edna Cathleen.

Arrivals.—From U.K. leave, Sergt Marcham, L/Sergt Fields, Corpl Evans and Signalmen Nabarro and Roberts. I hate recording this sort of thing.

Births.—To Sigmn Benson—I beg your pardon! to his lady dog, quintriplets. Congratulations, Jack! such lovely pups.

Who Said ???—"It pays to be good, but it doesn't pay much." One of our contemporaries is apparently suffering from pansymania according to his eulogies in THE WIRE. "People in glass houses. . . . ."

Agonies.—To Lorenzo: I will write from Loralai. Nobby.
R. W. Price, Colchester: How about some mail? Bill.
Rogers C. W. (last heard of in 2nd Div. Aldershot): Write F.E. Quetta.
Rusty, Tidworth: Congratulations. Al, Quetta.

Our O.C., Captain Plummer, will be sailing over the seas very soon now. I'll bet he's breaking his heart at leaving Quetta! Anyway, we wish him all he could wish himself, providing he is not a pessimist. Good luck, sir.

Au revoir, mes amis.

NOBBY.

Sergeants Mess.

Wednesday 31st October.

Early October saw the arrival from leave in the U.K. of Sergt Marcham and L/Sergt Fields. I understand they are very glad to get back after a monotonous six months of idleness.

Fifteen A Corps Mess members joined us on the 18th October for the purpose of sharing in the Western Command exercise—with a view, it is supposed, to gaining experience by watching a Signal unit working in the field. They returned to Karachi on the 27th for a long rest cure. We have since heard that their orderly room has been working overtime in dealing with the applications for posting to this unit. It must be terribly monotonous to have very little to do, for people to wish to join this scheme-scarred station.

Heard in the Mess—An A Corps sergeant: "To think they have gone to all this expense to bring us up here to deal with thirty-two messages!" Voice in the distance: "Thank heaven it wasn't forty!"

However, they were a very happy and jovial crowd and we were glad to see them, and can assure them of just as hearty a welcome when they again care to visit us in the future.

Corporals Mess.

Saturday 27th October.

The members of the Mess wish to express their deepest sympathy with Cpl and Mrs. Staerck in their recent sad bereavement.

An invasion from A Corps Signals, Karachi, lasting about a week, has left me with the impression that it was quite a record-breaking event in more ways than one. I have never before seen so many bottomless throats all in one place.

The billiard team met with a heavy reverse at the hands of the Corporals of the West Yorkshire Regiment. We won one match, and that was tossed up for with a double-headed chip! Our team was hardly representative of our full strength, as most of our champion "flukers" were apparently overcome with stage fright.

X.

EASTERN COMMAND..... .....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Chakrata Detachment.

Friday 12th October.

General.—If one could follow the line of least resistance, the most obvious result of endeavouring to compile WIRE notes would read: "Our Trade Board dinner was celebrated last night." Likewise, the acid test for any note writer is undoubtedly that of attempting the business during the morning after.

October marks the conclusion of hill seasons generally. This one is drifting pleasantly to its close. The only talkie theatre closed down early in the month, following the departure of some of the troops; consequently, life now seems rather dull. The Royal Dragoons gave a band concert in the gymnasium, which was packed to overflowing. The concert was undoubtedly a success and greatly appreciated by all.

Trade Board.—The Trade Board, to which so many have looked forward, is now a thing of the past. Memories of it may last for a long time, and when it is forgotten, the dinner which followed cannot but be a lasting memorial of all that the last few weeks have stood for.

The percentage of passes was good and a pleasant outcome of the months of instruction and training, while the underlying spirit of goodwill in all ranks proves once again how well the Detachment has worked as a whole.

While the trade tests only materially affected the Detachment by ratings individually, the dinner that followed was received wholeheartedly by everyone. Funds were not lacking, in the first place, for the whole Detachment had been saving up in one way or another for this grand finale of our hill tour. Secondly, the scene of the feast was the central bay of our bungalow, so that one could almost step right back into bed. Speeches were made. The toasts included the King-Emperor, the O.C., the C.S.M. and our guests, after which the party continued to toast each other.

A cup was presented to Sigmn Macfarlane, in the acceptance of which he stated that whilst on the Frontier on a visual station, the duplex mirror of his helio was shattered by a bullet from a Pathan's rifle. Living as he was on iron rations and being a class ii. operator, he cut the bottom from his biscuit tin, and—believe it or not—he worked for three days over a distance of seventy miles with a biscuit tin as a duplex mirror. Cpl Strickson (runner-up) had nothing to say to this except that he was beaten by a better man.

The room was tastefully decorated with jokes and rhymes, and a wish has been expressed that the following be published. It was written by a man who should know better.

A MAN—AND A BASEBOARD.

With a brain all weary and worn
And a desperate careworn look,
Young Hefty gazed at a base board
And thought of his old note book.

The galvo was still as the grave—
Never a flicker it showed;
For things like this, the old text book
Many a tip allowed.

"Tap the galvo on either side:
Make sure that the thing's not sticking"—
So Hefty thought, for he moved aside,
And Hefty is no chicken.

He lifted a paw in the ether:
He brought it down with a thud—
Galvo, sounder, and baseboard too,
Went thundering down the khud.

With which we think we will close our notes for this month, and congratulate ourselves on having written so much.

PETE.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Thursday 25th October.

General.—It is hard indeed when good deeds recoil upon the head of the benefactor. Some months ago, when our regular contributor was away, I (with a benevolent regard to the needs of the British reading public, as represented by the WIRE subscribers) had the temerity to write the notes for that month. Now I find myself hurled monthly into the throes of journalistic endeavour without even an "Earn while you learn" course to sustain me—losing my self-esteem through lack of spontaneous ideas, and that of others through the publication of the fruits of many hours of laborious thinking and painful concentration. One day I shall break up under the strain, and then the WIRE correspondent will have to do some corresponding.

This month we had a competition for the last batch of remounts and their trainers. It consisted of a handy hunter course and school test. Sigmn Lawson was the winner, with Sigmn Dorsett a close second.

Although the Imperial Delhi Horse Show is still a long way off, those who can tell one horse from another (I can't) are already discussing conformation, bridoon bits, scientific feeding, and all those abstruse subjects which it is essential to know to enable one correctly to chew a bit of straw. Even those who have only heard the word "withers" in connection with the last rose of summer are confidently anticipating great things. Well, here's hoping!

Promotion.—Corpl Roberts E. R. and L/Corpl Green L. to those ranks. Congratulations to both. I take this opportunity of publicly withdrawing any derogatory statement I have ever made concerning the blue book. Things are certainly brightening.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Wilson and Sigmn Frettingham A. have returned from the hills, having successfully (we think) passed their B.i. operators course.

Gardening.—Yes! *gardening*. Plots of ground have been allotted to B.O.R.s desiring them, and the process of mutilation—or as they prefer to call it, cultivation—has begun. Sigmn Hurt is streets ahead on theory, but McMeechan got in first on the practical side by getting the Troop gardener to dig his patch before this was forbidden. Expectations run high, and there is a great demand for books with titles such as "A hundred ways of cooking onions," "Cabbages and their idiosyncrasies," etc. In the meantime we are surviving on issue vegetables.

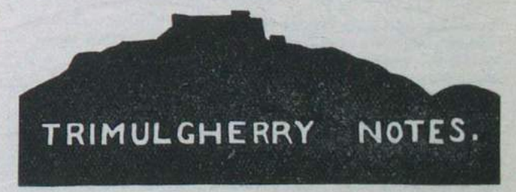
Congratulations.—To F Section, Jubbulpore, on their jumping successes as reported in the October WIRE. I see Hank's successor is carrying on the good work. Has he read Goldsmith:

At arguing, too, the parson owned his skill;
For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still.

Tailpiece.—This will be banged level with the hock before the 5th November.

NON-NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.



4th Indian Divisional Signals.

October 1934.

We wish a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to all members of the Corps.

Here we are again, turning up like the proverbial bad anna. News is still as scarce as ever, but we will try to concoct something which we hope will not be too boring.

Since last writing, not a great deal has happened. At this period known as trooping, one still hears weird dirges emanating from our old soldiers—something about "so many days to go."

I wonder what they mean by that mystic phrase! However, everyone to his own taste; that is certainly one way of passing one's time.

The manœuvre season has started, or at least the bazaar wallahs tell us so. It seems that their stock of Thermos flasks is considerably lower.

We often hear WIRE notes criticised as being too much like Part II. Orders, but after all, the purpose of reading them is to find out when and where our pals go, either with the object of meeting or avoiding them, as the case may be. In any case, here is our A. and D. report.

Our commanding officer, Major D. A. Brown, M.C., has returned from Blighty leave, looking very fit.

Leave details have returned, including Corpl Alexander A. and Signalmen Clutton A., Hughes C. and Jamieson R., the latter two going direct to Jubbulpore and Mhow respectively.

Captain F. K. Morton is welcomed to this unit, and we hope he will enjoy his stay in Jubbulpore with F Signal Section.

Wedding bells were rung in far-away Blighty when Lieut. S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan married Miss Madge Claire Hall. May they both enjoy a happy future!

Sigmn Johnson H. and our one and only Sigmn (Kaun hai) Williams T. E. (both good chaps, but Kaun cannot whisper) left us for the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. I think they packed their hoof-picks, just in case. But still, what do they usually say: "Our loss, their gain"—loud speaker strength.

I am very late with the next titbit, but really I am sorry I omitted it last time. All the lads here in Trim congratulate Tex Stringer on getting that dog's leg with pay. Can you beat it? One usually waits about two years for that. Good luck! you deserve it. I didn't think it possible.

We have also lost one of our sturdy I.B. wallah-cum-pay blokes: a fellow of the clan of Milburn. Know him? Present address: walking the streets of Bombay, keeping law and order and anything else he can find. Hope you like the policeman's job, Ginger.

Our pay branch recently excelled themselves by winning the sweep three weeks in succession. Outwardly they appeared very placid, but they very nearly forgot to pay out the unit. Later on it was my turn (forgive my telling one against myself—I have been reminded enough). The wireless score showed seven goals, so I promptly picked out a selection of gramophone records and even borrowed a pair of slacks to go to the bazaar: but alas! "there is many a slip," etc. *The Times of India* showed my team as scoring "kutch nahin," so I retired to bed, feeling very disgusted with sweeps, wireless and everybody.

Our Latest Wisecracks.—"I've a good mind to volunteer for pack" (he is still thinking about it). "Have you got your marching chocolate?" "Don't forget to fill your flasks." Dear! dear! 3rd October—red letter day. Well-known lance-corporal goes out. Such recklessness! We wonder who persuaded him.

S.V.M.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 1 Company.

M Section.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia, 1st October.

Sergt "Norrie" Norcross is at long last forced to leave Egypt. He will be remembered by thousands of Signals who have left here and are now drawing the old age pension. Several tempting offers for his services have been received from various units, but he is determined to serve Aldershot Town as a spectator and see how football really should be played. Anyway, some unit will get a go-getter, and some parson a marriage fee. Cheer up, Norrie!

According to information received, the Company shooting average has jumped about 4.3 points. If Alex comes up to scratch, the 60 mark should be easy.

Congratulations to the unit shooting team on their successes in the Command shoot—especially to G Troop on winning match 5 c.

A Section.

Our Section commander, Lieut. A. B. Ruck, is back from Blighty furlough, preparing for zero hour when the Section commences its desert rambles about the 10th October. His visit to the Olympia W/T Exhibition impressed him almost to a desire to bring back a couple of ultra-short wave sets; he didn't notice any 120's or C sets there. Anyhow, our own sets are now in readiness to take the field on a more elaborate scale than ever.

Reliefs.—Between now and April quite a number of the old hands of group fame will bid farewell to the Near East. Corpl Paxton, L/Corporals Lavender and Hilliar, Signalmen Barlow, Brierley, Cody, Davies F., Fishwick, Hallam, Malley, Mawson, Preston, Shortt, Vallis and Wheatley are included. Reliefs to out-stations will add to this number in due course. We trust that the O. i/c Records will supply us with another batch as good.

Topics of Interest.—Congratulations! To L/Corpl and Mrs. Lavender, a daughter; and to L/Corpl and Mrs. Wagner, a son. All's well. No reports of interference or atmos have reached us yet from these two new stations.

Who tried to fire a .22 bullet through a .303 bore?

Heard: "I didn't know Chippy could drive a car."

"X" numbers required: (a) trellis work, (b) class distinction.

Agony.—To Grundy, China, from Johnno: How about a line? To Johnno, Pindi: What about a line? R.I.D. To McDonagh, Scarborough: See you barden. Mc.

Junior N.C.O.s Mess, Egypt Signals.

Monday 5th November.

This being Guy Fawkes Day reminds me of Jerry. Jerry, as all ex-Egyptites will remember, is of tallow chewing fame plus a small percentage of vodka swilling, picked up whilst in Russia fighting and bleeding for the younger generation. (I have it on good authority that he was doing guards down at Dover, whilst still on boy service, during the slight differences of opinion in 1914—but Jerry still sticks to the Russian gag.) Enough of tallow, Russian slices and Olga. What I wanted to say is, if anyone is thinking of being a fireman, send a stamped addressed envelope to Corpl J.D. (Public Enemy No. 1) Abbassia No. 1, and a full course of fire fighting will be sent. The course embodies several hundreds of message forms covered with Jerry's copper-plate plus his thousand-pound signature. (Three cheers for J Section Chitty King!)

Weight Lifting.—On Saturday 23rd October we had another of our monthly games tournaments with the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess. I am sorry to say that the sergeants managed to snaffle the golden goblet, but to-morrow night is the return swim and we are confident of winning it back. In fact, Jerry tells me it's a cinch! So more anon.

Hockey.—A selected team (ahem!) from the Mess played the unit "P" team on Sunday 21st October, and although we didn't win—according to the score—I think I am right in saying that our team walked back under its own steam. (I heard one of the spectators ask if it was comic opera. Uncouth fellow!)

School.—Several of our members are busily swotting up for a first, so as to be off the mark early when the big promotion race starts. An extract from a member's conversation after watching a football match: ". . . . . and Brown, seizing the psychological moment with a firm grasp, despatched the vacillating spheroid past the custodian." Oh, Andy!

Comings, Goings and Doings.—The man with the little black bag visited L/Corpl and Mrs. Wagner on the 13th September and left a small Wagner (no connection with the piano-tuner): Carl Richard, to whom we extend a glad mitt. That's not exactly how I wanted to put it; but anyhow, congratulations, Wag and Mrs.

Rebate.—The rebate situation is, we are pleased to say, now nearly within our grasp, but there are still a few difficulties in the way, which we are doing our best to overcome.

Gardens.—Gardening is now the order of the day, and judging from the hours being put in, we shall soon see good results. L/Corpl Watson has the blue prints (also most of the blisters); in fact, the Mess has gone hor. . . hor. . . horg. . . back to the soil. (Pumpkin.)

Congratulations.—To Corpl Jigger Lea on being promoted to that rank. Quarter-bloke bardin, Jigger. To W. J. Collins on gaining the first rung on the ladder of promotion. To Liver Sandwich and Gentleman James on being placed on the dog strength. Watch Spider.

Scotsman's Corner.—Corpl Johns, believed to be hiding in Risalpur: The bottle opener is still doing its stuff. Wot abaht a line? Charlie Watson.

Last, But Not Least.—A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all serving and past members of the Corps.

Tailpiece.—My public must wait.

HON.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 16th October.

General.—There is very little news this month, so I haven't a great deal to write about. The Sergeants Mess are now in possession of a WIRE scribe, and I was sweating on his helping me out with a little news of their goings on. However, I regret to state that he has fallen down on his first big assignment: the Sergeants Mess trip to Canton. He got the notes down o.k. but omitted to get them typed out in time for the mail. He's promised to have them ready for next month, so then we'll know just what happened on the trip.

At last we're getting some decent weather, and all sports are in full swing. Hockey, football and cricket leagues have all been started, and the results are in the Sports Notes.

The first Mamak League game, however, deserves special mention. The game was played on the Police Training School ground on the 14th October, our opponents being the St. Andrew's Hockey Club—recognised as one of the strongest teams in the league. The most we hoped for was a draw, and no one was too confident about that.

The game started before a fair crowd, and after the first ten minutes it looked as though our old fault was going to let us down: the forwards just couldn't get the ball into the net. The defence held out, however, and half-time arrived with the score at 0—0.

After the resumption of play, it appeared obvious that if we could only get one goal the game would be "in the bag," and within a few minutes the forwards swept down and May scored with a tricky shot which left Wong (the Saints' goalkeeper) standing. Ten minutes later Fielding became inspired and nipped in with a fast shot which only the umpire saw. From then onwards we played on the defensive and were rather unlucky to let Fincher (the Saints' inside left) get through to score a lovely goal, the ball glancing off Cross's knee into the net. Shortly after Buttery stopped Colledge of the Saints when he was all but in the circle, and that was the last incident in the game.

Martin, Buttery and Whitehead were the stars of the defence, and Higginbottom, Fielding and Hodges did most of the attacking, while May finished off well. It's a nuisance writing these notes: I can't say how well *I* played! The papers and the spectators are all agreed that it was the fastest game of hockey seen on that ground for some time, and everyone enjoyed it.

There are eighteen teams in the Mamak League, and as we play ten of the best before the boat goes in November, we have high hopes of making a name for the Signals—something like they had a couple of seasons ago.

Sigmn Jock Cord has started the season well by representing the Colony in the first Governor's Cup match and playing for the Army in a charity game. He played well on both occasions, and has been forecast as the Interport goalkeeper for this season: but I'm afraid the laugh is on the forecasters, as Jock is due to leave on the 30th November for U.K. and Kirkcaldy. (He says Kirkcaldy is in the U.K., but I can't believe that.)

The following have been provisionally warned to embark on the 30th November (but according to divers rumours which are about, only the first six are likely to go): Sergt Farley, Signalmen Cord, Stanley, Whitehead, Neale, Brown, Erridge, Austen, Taylor, Higginbottom, Chapman and Williams, and Cpl Fletcher. I've forgotten one of the first six: L/Corpl Cross.

In the Area swimming sports L/Corpl Rousseau and Sigmn Cord swam in the small units team which came third in the inter-unit relay. L/Corpl Rousseau won the Army 25 yards dash, for which he received a "braw wee cup."

VS6AX is on the air again, and Chubby has dark rings under his eyes through staying up late o' nights. The sports storeman also has dark rings under his eyes, caused by worry in finding bits of wire, etc., mixed up in his sports gear. The sports store is also the "shack"—or maybe I should put it the other way round.

'Arry Sugg, the star of "We're not messing," is now a full blown corporal. We offer him our congratulations, but wish that he hadn't dipped his new tapes in the gravy to take the newness off them. Owing, no doubt, to a lot of innuendo about the food being so bad that he had to mess with the sergeants, he resigned from the messing appointment and is now preparing to take over from Ropey at H.Q. Needless to say, with two of them over there the signal office staff is rapidly going bald or grey—and broke. Bzzzz! there's one chap they can't sting: he's ex-Tidworth and has a name like Horace. I believe there was quite a stir when the C.S.O. asked the new superintendent something about signal office routine and was instantly referred to Mrs. Beeton's!

After many years of false rumours, the No. 6 set has actually arrived. No one believed it until they actually saw the set, but this is no false rumour: it's here and is now packed away, nice and dry, for a few more months or even years. I'll ask the Editor to publish a special gala number when the set *does* actually oscillate.

Now let's be miserable. Dollar at close 1/8. Roll on, thát stabilisation scheme.

Promotion.—L/Corpl Sugg to be Corporal w.e.f. 1/7/34.

Agony.—Tommy Denholm, India: Letter from Cox. All the best. Drop me a line. Squibs.

Till next time.

MATA HARI.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Tifeng Road Camp, 22nd September.

Shanghai Taels.—We must apologise for the absence of notes from this Section for the past few months. We can offer no excuse, but we promise that it won't occur again.

The event of most import to the majority of this Section is the arrival of the troopship. Everywhere one sees an almanac announcing "so many days to go"; in fact, it forms the only topic of conversation these days and is the root of all arguments.

During the forthcoming trooping season we say good-bye to Lieut. Ewbank (our O.C.), Sergt Griffith, L/Corpl Binge and Signalmen Ayres T., Becker E., Billinghurst W., Castle H., Coleman D., Cook M., Ekin T., Heath J., Jones H., Oliphant J., Paris C., Perkins F., Riggs F. and Spencer C. We wish them all the very best, and sincerely hope they will settle down to a quiet and peaceful existence in dear old England.

We congratulate Corpl Whalley, L/Corpl Stevens and Signalmen Cavill and Taylor on electing to stay for a further year in Shanghai—known as "the Paris of the Orient"—although we fancy that there is some attraction other than the fact of liking the place.

To those who are to join us in the near future, we extend the usual glad mitt—at the same time giving three banzais, a Shanghai "tiger" and a deep-throated razzberry.

We think it is unnecessary to give any information on what to expect here, although newcomers would do well to bring along several sharp-pointed pencils, and also have plenty of loose change about, as it comes in very handy at times when a signature is looked upon with suspicion.

Matelots.—Several men of the Section were the guests of the senior Service for a few weeks during the summer months at that well-known seaside resort of the China coast, Wei-Hai-Wei. They all apparently enjoyed themselves immensely, and most of them became adepts at rolling shag fags with one hand: a trick, they tell me, learned from the stokers. Sadie Thompson came back with a pronounced roll as he walked, and a collection of nautical phrases which he uses on every possible occasion. It is no uncommon thing, when in the mess-room, to hear a very "queenie" voice pipe up with "Excuse my yard-arm across your forecastle."

True Story.—A certain signalman, on being requested by a military policeman to give his name, replied "Signalman Dillinger." We wonder if he really considers himself to be Public Enemy No. 1. If so, we suggest that "Quaker" would be more appropriate than "Titus" Oates.

General.—The clerk of the weather has been exerting himself again. Not satisfied with having broken the highest temperature record for the last sixty years, he decided to end the drought we have been experiencing with a steady downpour of rain for seven days, five inches odd during twenty-four hours being recorded on one occasion.

Unfortunately, even with all this rain knocking about, it did not interfere with the early morning musketry parades we have been enjoying for the past three weeks. It always stopped raining for the three quarters of an hour we were on parade. David has certainly been treating us rough.

We Would Like To Know.—What happend to the sixteen bottles of beer that were " exhibit A " in a recent case ? Who is the signalman who wishes to get on 'Uncle Sam's pay roll? If the same fellow is contemplating a transfer to the United States Marine Corps ?

News Item.—Professor Richard Unger, F.R.G.S., has unfortunately been indisposed for some time now, suffering from corns across the chest which he attributes to being called to the bar (German) too frequently. The Professor, before his present illness, was perfecting a cure for that insidious complaint Ripsey—the symptoms of which are spots before the eyes, blushing in company, and an intense desire to wear plus fours, and in some cases the mouth being like the bottom of a parrot's cage. At the moment the Professor recommends a mouth wash of Harpic or Old Dutch Cleanser as being most suitable for slight cases, but hopes in the near future to publish the report on his experiments and to announce that he has found a permanent cure.

Cumshaw Column.—To Greenstreet: Will be home 15th January. Will be seeing you. Tich Perkins.

Brooks, Singapore: Still waiting for letter from you. Venn.

To Jazz: Get my skates ready. Gunboat.

Finale.—" Never do to-day what you can possibly put off until to-morrow." Old Chinese proverb. UNGER.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, 12th November.

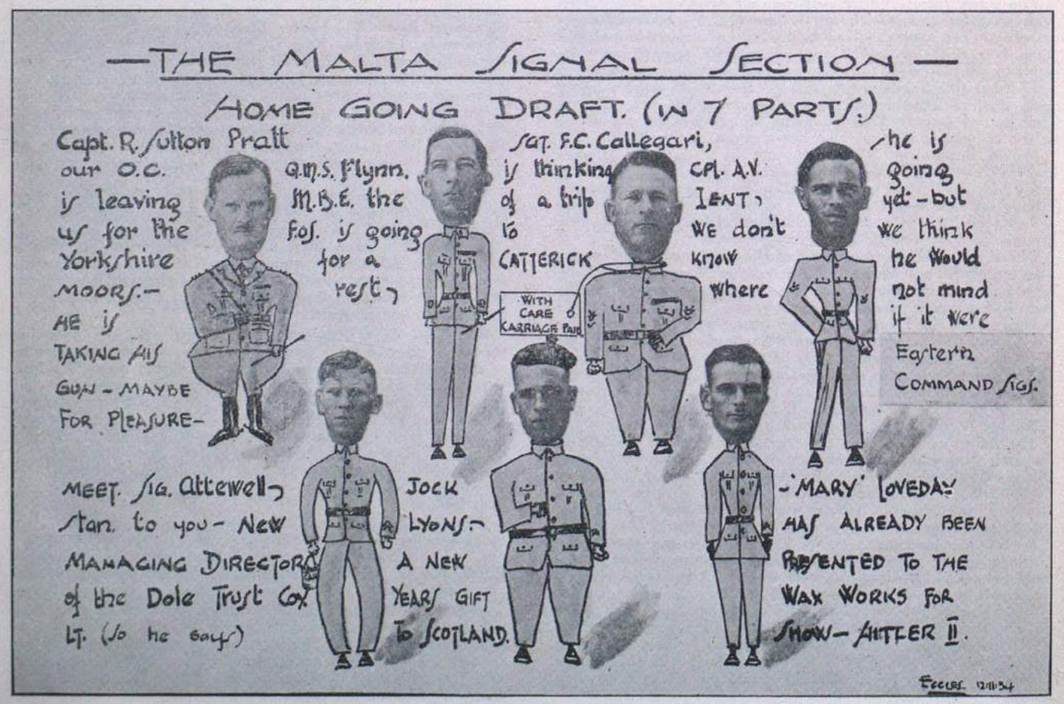
Greetings.—To all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad and to all members of the Royal Signals (T.A.) we extend our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

General.—I suppose that one must start with the same old phrase, i.e. " We regret that no notes appeared last month " or " Notes for THE WIRE must be done," etc., so I presume my followers, if any, are not to be mizzled after all. The notes under this heading are usually very misleading in most contributions, and one is often wondering what to say. Sometimes they include births, H.R.R.A. and sometimes sport. The last time our notes appeared, I said I would try to say something about Malta. This would be a little help to those who have been warned for Malta, and those who may be next trooper. As I have been unable to scrounge from the local tourist agencies, I must try to give them from my own experience! Ahem!

A Few Tips.—No. 1: ENTERTAINMENTS. These are fairly numerous. Valletta itself boasts of four talkie cinemas, Floriana one, and Sliema two. Apart from these, there are numerous others in various parts of the Island. Dances are very popular ; dance fiends can be assured of this kind of entertainment on any evening of the week. There are various other kinds of amusement, but these are gained only by looking for them.

No. 2: DRESS. Civilian clothes can be worn by all who are privileged, and at present the Section is 100 per cent. So don't leave or flog your civvies if you are a good lad.

No. 3: SPORTS. This paragraph could be split up into several but I will give only an outline of what we do in sport. At football we are one of the units that help to make up the Staff and Departments team. At this game we have not done extraordinarily well, yet not too badly. Among those who have already represented the S. and D. at football are L/Corpl Russell (late of Bulford), Sigmn Attewell (late of Dover), Sigmn Williams (late of Scarborough), Sigmn Grace (late of A Corps), Sigmn Thornhill (late of Depot), and Corpl Ient when required. But anyway, if you can play football, don't forget your boots. At hockey we are much about the same, and the two representatives from the Section are Signalmen Williams and Thornhill. Much space



could be devoted to the Malta Command Small Arms Meeting, but as to-day and to-morrow are the days of the meeting, well—The selected ones from the Section to shoot in the S. and D. team include Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R., Q.M.S. Goodridge C. W., L/Corporals Russell and Drake. and Captain D. R. Paterson, the future O.C. of this unit. At practice they have done very well, and we have high hopes of winning back the cup we lost last year. So if you can shoot, say so. Swimming is another sport and pastime in the summer. Malta naturally provides many beautiful bathing places, and these are very highly recommended by those who have served here. So if you swim, don't come without your costume. Altogether there are few sports that Malta does not cater for, and those who have been earmarked have been warned.

No. 4: TRAVEL. Outside of the Island (except to Gozo) one seldom gets unless proceeding on leave. But in Malta itself there are many beautiful sights and pleasant walks. Very historical and boasting of many fine old buildings, those who are interested can spend many pleasant afternoons in visiting these places.

Departures.—Sigmn Loveday left us on the 15th September in the *Shropshire* for the U.K. and transfer to the Army Reserve. We all wish him the best of luck, and hope that by now he has settled down comfortably in civil life. Sigmn Humphreys also left us last month for his discharge.

Departures to Come.—So far we have no reliefs, and the following are leaving Malta this trooping season. Captain R. Sutton-Pratt, Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R. M.B.E., Sergt Callegari F. C., Corpl Ient, Signalmen Attewell, Lyons and Revill. The trio in the rear are for civvy life and expect to sail in January. So do I! This is a big change, so come on, the reliefs. Our draughtsman has been at it again, and I hope that our dreams come true, although I think Catterick is not inviting. I don't know. Ask Calle!

Nuts and Wine.—(Algy's heading.) Sigmn Smith is now getting his dripping money. L/Corpl Drake's after it.

Sigmn Eccles is still drawing (his pay). Somebody said Nutty is coming back to Malta. Well, I am afraid that the arch is still at Hamrun, Nutty. Somebody thought of sending Sax a bottle of " blue," but Publio is out of bounds.

The writer would like a word from Bert Stretch. Victor at Scarborough still owes me one, too. I wrote last, Vic.

Tail End.—Often seen: A trooper's hull passing out into the " blue." FANNY.

Gibraltar Signal Section Notes at foot of page 548





Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

A feature of importance to be reported this month is the lecture given by Major-General H. F. Salt, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., at headquarters on the 17th October, when he addressed us on "Air Exercises and Air Defence Training, 1934." Many guests were present to hear the lecture, including the Brigade commanders of the 26th and 28th Air Defence Brigades, His Worship the Mayor of Westminster, the officers commanding Air Defence units of London, and representatives of many other London T.A. units. An invitation had also been extended to warrant officers, n.c.o.s and men, and a large meeting welcomed the lecturer.

In view of the active part played by the Air Defence units in this year's exercises, the lecture was particularly interesting, and Major-General Salt explained several features which had not previously been clearly understood. We are grateful to him for his lecture, and delighted that he was able to visit us. The film of T.A. anti-aircraft work taken this year was shown.

The meeting afforded an opportunity for members of the London Air Defence and other Territorial units to discuss training and other T.A. questions. It is hoped that it may be possible to repeat this successful social function next year. Colonel O. W. Nicholson (our hon. colonel) was in the chair, and the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins) moved a vote of thanks to Major-General Salt.

The annual bounty night (the popular name for the annual meeting of the unit) when the proficiency grants are paid, took place on Wednesday evening, 7th November. Our commanding officer's address on this occasion was an official introduction to the coming training season, and also provided an opportunity for a review of the past year's work. Reports were also received at this meeting from the social and sports secretaries, and the committees for the coming season were elected. The proficiency grants for the Thursday morning n.c.o.s and men were paid on the 8th November.

In accordance with time-honoured custom, the evening concluded with a jolly smoking concert, when we were entertained by many of our old friends, including Bob Darnley's dance band. Our two famous comedians, Roper and Blood, were on the top of their form and were as popular as ever.

A new quartet was featured on the programme but unfortunately failed to materialise. Captain Hemsley was determined to fill the breach, and at rather short notice he ordered a performance from our quartet of subalterns, who turned out some quite new stories.

The second dance of the season proved as successful as the first, and it is evident that the new hall has made it possible to increase the popularity of these and other social events. Two members of the unit so enjoyed the evening that they did not arrive home until six o'clock on Sunday morning.

At the invitation of the 27th (London) Searchlight Battalion Royal Engineers (T.A.) the commanding officer and a detachment of officers and other ranks of our unit joined their parade and attended an Armistice Day service at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, on Sunday 11th November. An impressive ceremony took place at the church war memorial, and this was followed by a special service in the church. The band of the Searchlight Battalion led the parade to and from church and also provided music for the services. The support given to this parade was very gratifying, and it is hoped that a similar parade may be held on future Armistice Sundays. H.S.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals.

(Middlesex Yeomanry)

Duke of York's H.Q., Chelsea, S.W.

Hello, C.Q! Scarnose calling. Once again I have been persuaded to re-open this station and broadcast the unit's activities; but whether to apologise for our long silence, or to commiserate with present readers, I don't really know. However, with the help of Phil and Jacrob, I'll endeavour to entertain you for a few minutes.

Annual Training.—For the second year in succession, we carried out our annual training in the neighbourhood of Worthing. Our tents were pitched, by permission of Colonel U. Thynne, in a pleasant meadow surrounded by woods on his estate at Muntham Court, Findon; and the personnel in camp numbered ten officers and 180 other ranks under the command of Major G. S. Sale, M.C., with Captain H. R. V. Cooke, R.Signals, as adjutant. There were 71 recruits in camp. (We believe we are the only T.A. unit in London up to strength.)

Towards the end of 1933 the unit acquired four light motor vans, which were rather ingeniously fitted up as mobile wireless stations and were used regularly at week-ends by voluntary teams from that time until camp. The value of this work was strikingly shown in the second week in a wireless exercise which ran continuously for nearly thirty hours. The object was to practise the maintenance of continuous communication as between Cavalry Brigade and Regimental signal stations by day and by night; and with all modesty we can say that the object was in the main achieved. The Regiment also in that week carried out a scheme representing the battle of Karm, in which the Middlesex Yeomanry played a distinguished part on the 27th October, 1917, in the Palestine campaign. One of the objects was to study the possible effects of modern means of communication on the conduct of the affair at Karm.

The camp training included the usual wireless, technical and horse riding instruction, the Regiment much appreciating the ever-ready help given by an officer and four n.c.o.s of the 2nd Divl Signals from Aldershot with two of their mobile gin palaces, and by a corporal-of-horse of the Royal Horse Guards. Among the distinguished visitors to the camp were Lieut.-General G. J. C. Grant (G.O.C. London District), Colonel R. Chenevix Trench (from the War Office), Major R. H. R. Neale (Chief Signal Officer, London District) and Colonel T. W. Vigers.

On the recreational side there were bathing parades, voluntary riding, and of course the usual regimental mounted sports. As a whole, the camp was probably the most successful, technically, that the Regiment has carried out since its re-constitution as a Signal unit.

Individual Training.—This commenced in November, and the drill hall now shows great activity. Various classes such as recruits, Group E and operators are taken by competent senior n.c.o.s under the supervision of the P.S., and over the week-ends the four wireless vans may be seen in various parts of the country undergoing such tests as rapid erection and communication, screening, long distance and different types of aerials, as well as the training of junior n.c.o.s and operators.

Bisley.—For the first time since the Regiment was re-formed, A Squadron entered a team to fire in the Yeomanry challenge cup at Bisley. They put up a very creditable performance, obtaining 365 points out of a possible 480. (The cup has been won with a lower score: 349.)

Armistice Day.—As in previous years, an officer and twelve other ranks took part in the British Legion ceremony of remembrance at the Albert Hall.

Society Note.—Prize distribution, Wednesday 17th January, 1935.

Riding School.—Since annual training the riding school has been open twice a week, the attendance has been excellent, and on the whole a definite improvement has been shown. Many would-be riders have bitten the dust but, I am pleased to say, have always come up smiling again. There have been two passing out tests, with 100 per cent. successes; and five n.c.o.s and one signalman are at present undergoing a riding course for instructors, under the very able tuition of Sergt Warner of F (Sphinx) Battery R.H.A., at St. John's Wood Barracks. So far, they have undergone no "rough stuff." This is anticipated, we presume, with mixed feelings, but I think with no feeling of alarm.

The riding school is of the square type, and from its appearance the floor should prove better to the taste than our own, but of this, probably more anon.

Regimental Magazine.—This is in process of formation, and we hope to go to press with No. 1 in the very near future.

SCARNOSE.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester 16.

Our training year has now commenced, so until next Whitsuntide we shall be busy with classes, lectures, demonstrations and all matters which are necessary to transform recruits into trained men, trained men into really efficient men, and the more promising of those into n.c.o.s. Each Company has its own training night, which we consider will be advantageous, as it will enable Section officers and sergeants to train their own Sections, so that by the time camp training comes round they should know perfectly the capabilities of every man under their command.

Armistice Day.—On Sunday 11th November about two hundred members of the unit and S.R. units paraded under Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley for the service in Albert Square, Manchester. Members of the Old Comrades Association joined us there, and as one body we marched past the Lord Mayor and then continued to the Cenotaph in St. Peter's Square.

Sergeants Mess.—The first social function of the season took place in the mess on Saturday 10th November. This was a whist drive followed by a hot-pot supper, and was a huge success, about sixty members and friends being present.

An addition to the Mess property is a radiogram which has just been purchased. Alas! it is an electric model, so we shall still have to depend on the human element for entertaining at camp.

War Memorial.—A memorable event in our history took place on Sunday afternoon 21st October, when an oaken panel to the memory of the officers, n.c.o.s and men of the 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signal Company R.E. who lost their lives in the Great War was unveiled.

This handsome memorial, which has been fixed on a wall in the drill hall, records the names of thirty-six officers and other ranks. It has been provided by the members of the 42nd Divl Signals Old Comrades Association, and was designed by Mr. S. H. Tiltman, L.R.I.B.A. (of Brighton), an old member of the Signal Company R.E.

To commemorate the occasion, the unit paraded in review order and our band turned out in scarlet under Bandmaster E. T. Grundey. An unexpected, though welcome, addition to our strength was the parade of over seventy old war comrades of all ranks, many of whom had travelled long distances to be present; and these war veterans, under the command of Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., accompanied the unit in the march to St. John's Church, Old Trafford, where a short service was held.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. A. D. Johnson, M.C., M.A., S.C.F. (T.A.) Western Command, who based his remarks on the text "This is the message" and on the motto of the Corps "Swift and sure." The lesson was read by Colonel Newton, and the band accompanied the hymns.

On the return to headquarters, in a crowded drill hall the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley) asked Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., A.M.I.E.E. (our former C.O., and the president of the Old Comrades Association) to unveil the memorial. Before doing so, Colonel Newton described how the East Lancashire Divisional Signal Company R.E. was the first Territorial Army Signal Company to serve abroad in the war, how it carried on for four and a half years: in Egypt in 1914, on the Gallipoli Peninsula, the Suez Canal, across the Sinai Desert, and in France and Belgium—always on duty, always maintaining communications.



He pointed out that the present Royal Signals in Manchester were descended from that Company, and he hoped that this simple memorial would be treasured for generations to come as a tradition of noble service and a record of "Our Comrades in Signals" who did the greatest thing that any man can do: they laid down their lives for their friends.

The Ven. A. Selwyn Bean, M.A., Archdeacon of Manchester, S.C.F. (T.A.) 42nd Division, dedicated the memorial, after which the trumpeters sounded the Regimental Call, the Last Post and Reveille.

The laying of wreaths by the commanding officer and by Mr. H. Willcock, D.C.M. (chairman of the Old Comrades Association) brought a most impressive ceremony to an end.

The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess undertook the kindly duty of entertaining all the old members before they left. KYM.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—During the past month, we have had to say au revoir to Bt.-Colonel The Lord Basing on his handing over the command of this unit to Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C. to whom we extend a most hearty "Wessex" welcome. We can assure him of a very pleasant tour of duty.

We are also delighted to realise that Lord Basing is not severing his official connection with us. His appointment as successor to Col. R. G. Earle as our hon. colonel came as a welcome surprise.

We heartily congratulate our worthy R.Q.M.S., Mr. F. F. West, M.M., on his promotion to Lieutenant-Quartermaster with us.

The annual training programme is now in operation, and as its predecessors produced the desired results in a general way, the same policy is being pursued—it is to be hoped, with even greater success. The carrying out of such a programme depends upon the co-operation of all ranks, and if everyone recognises that team work is an enormous help, then its object will be attained with ease.

The continued absence of notes from No. 2 Company is probably due to the change in scribes. The new " penman " is perhaps a little shy at the thought of appearing in print for the first time. We assure him that we have all experienced that feeling, and we are waiting to greet him. Now then, No. 2!

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Exeter) Company.

The chief item of interest this month is our annual dinner. This was held on Armistice Eve, and we spent a very enjoyable evening. It was our pleasure to entertain our new commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., and we were very glad to have the honour of his company so soon after taking over the unit. We were told that we were not to expect any changes, but on the contrary that training was to proceed as in the past.

We were also delighted to have with us Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., Captain R. A. P. Gray, Dr. Scott, E. C. Lee-Wright, Esq., Mr. F. F. West, M.M., and Mr. R. Hutchings, together with a very large number of old comrades and friends.

Speeches were kept to a minimum, it being intended to turn the evening into a smoking concert. We were unfortunately let down by the non-appearance of two entertainers who had been engaged. However, C.Q.M.S. Colman (4th Battn Devons) who was with us, most admirably filled the breach ; his rendering of " The Adjutant " being particularly popular. We are indeed very grateful to him and also to the pianist. The whole company joined most heartily in community singing, and Major Western obliged with a few old favourites.

May we say how sorry we were that Nos. 2 and 3 Companies could not send any representatives, although Sergeants Field and Conabeer were with us. We normally count these as being " ours," as they are attached to us for drills.

On the following day we had our annual Armistice parade, and many were the " thick heads." We had a very good number on parade, and what was most pleasing was the excellent turn out of the men and also the marching, since we have had no parade of this type since annual camp.

Winter training is now in full swing, and operators are getting their ears tuned in again. We hope to see good numbers turn up and pull their full weight. The bar is now open in the men's recreation room (up, Dodo!) and by the time these notes are in print, we hope to be well on the way to finding out who is the billiard champion.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. F. F. West on his well-deserved promotion to Lieut.-Quartermaster. We are now sure of " good things " in camp.

No. 3 (Plymouth) Company.

It was indeed a pleasant surprise to hear that Colonel The Lord Basing is to continue his association with the unit as our hon. colonel. This Company hopes to give him and Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh a real welcome at our dinner next month.

We were very disappointed that the invitation to No. 1 Company's dinner could not be accepted. Many of us have vivid recollections of previous functions, and it was a great pity that circumstances prevented everyone from attending.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.

Here we are again, as the old " lag " said to the warder on his ninety-first appearance at the "home from home." It's funny how we pop into the news at bounty time.

Arrivals and Departures.—We would wish our old friend C.S.M. Pearce the best of luck on his return to Corps duty, and express the hope that we shall see him often: he is as welcome as the flowers in May. C.S.M. Wales has taken over his duties at Brighton, and Sergt Bob Tanner has joined the unit from the 4th Divl Signals. Bob is a real old pal, and we offer him a hearty welcome to the unit. One word of warning, Bob: remember the old refrain " I wish I were single again."

Congratulations to C.S.M. and Mrs. Freemantle on the birth of a beauty—all doing as well as can be expected.

It is with much regret that we say good-bye to C.S.M. Geere, who has been discharged from the unit at his own request. He served throughout the war and had been with the unit since July 1921: a fine record. All will join us in hoping that he will be a regular visitor to Stamford Brook and that he will come along to camp on " Old Comrades Day " for many a year.

Training.—The new training year commenced on the 1st November and is now in full swing. The instructors are keen as mustard, and all that is required to make the coming year the most successful to date is that every man should turn up—and keep on turning up. The incentive this month is bounty pay.

Armistice Day.—The annual Armistice parade, consisting of sixty-two of all ranks, assembled with the band at the drill hall on Armistice Day and marched to St. James's Church, Gunnersbury. After the service they returned to H.Q. and en route laid a wreath with all the appropriate compliments at the Chiswick War Memorial. We offer our hearty congratulations to all ranks who attended ; they were a credit to the Corps.

Rifle Club.—The unit shots are much in evidence again. Many promising young shots have appeared, and given just that wee bit of luck the shield is a " snip " for next year. Mr. Williams has presented a trophy for the best shot of the year, to be competed for annually.

Social.—The weekly dances are proving a success, and the special Armistice dance, held on Saturday 10th November, was an even greater success. In spite of the bad weather, some two hundred and fifty people attended and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The Sergeants Miss dinner is booked for Saturday 17th November, but more next month—that is, if we are ourselves by then.

Things We Want to Know.—Do quarterblokes appreciate Sunday work?

Does he speak Portuguese ?

Are the two-seaters stayers ? and if so, should they stay longer in the stables ?

Christmas Greetings.—To all past and present members of the unit, and to all units at home and abroad, we extend our hearty greetings for a happy Christmas and a bright New Year.

NOTBYWIT.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—First, we take this opportunity to wish all members of the Corps a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

It is amazing how soon this great event seems to come round. Almost before we have got over the effects of one festive season, the next is nearly due to commence—owing, no doubt, to the frantic rush of modern times!

Well, the very best of health to you all. We shall be delighted to see any of you who can attend our New Year's Eve ball.

Work is going on apace in individual training and instructional courses, preparatory to the pre-Christmas Trade Boards, and the attendance is being well maintained.

We held our Armistice church parade on the 4th November. The attendance was not so good as was anticipated, but it was certainly a case of " little and good." The band of the 47th Divisional R.E.s played us on our march round the Putney district to church and back to H.Q. We appeared to awaken the whole populace from their Sunday morning " lay-in," judging from the semi-clothed condition of those who gazed, chiefly from the upper windows. We listened to an interesting sermon by a padre who had been " out there," but we could not help being amused by his directions to us poor heathens as to when we were to stand, kneel or sit down, and by his reference to our recruits (which he pronounced " recroo-its "). After the service we were inspected by the D.C.S.O. London District, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.

On the 11th November a party of one officer and eight O.R.s represented the unit at the Armistice service at the London Troops Memorial, Royal Exchange. The Lord Mayor and his sheriffs attended, together with members of the Court of Common Council, naval, military and Air Force representatives, and many city and other notables. The weather was not too bad, but we cannot resist the temptation to wish once again that the war had finished in June instead of November.

The Commander 47th Division will inspect us on the 19th November. It is one of the occasions we appreciate, because we feel proud to let the powers that be see what a good show this unit puts up—and it's not eye-wash, either!

Sergeants Mess.—A certain amount of gloom has settled on the Mess in consequence of the impending departure of our two very popular P.S.I.s, Sergeants Hall and Smith. Sergt Hall joined us nearly three years ago, while Sergt Smith will be leaving three months short of that period. Why are they called permanent ? We were hoping very much that they would be granted the usual year's extension, but—nothin' doin'. They are actually terminating their duty with us on the 15th November. Sergt Smith is going to A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth, and Sergt Hall to A Corps Signals. We wish them every good fortune in the future, and assure them that they will always be very welcome whenever they can pop in and see us.

We extend the hand of welcome and comradeship to Sergt Crouch R. and L/Sergt Haines E. O., who have joined us in place of the above mentioned departures. We sincerely trust their stay with us will be a happy one.

Social.—The first unit dance of the season, held on the 20th October, was an exceptionally good show, and the Armistice carnival dance on the 10th November was a huge success. A most pleasant evening was spent by a large and jolly crowd.

Make a note of the following dance dates: December 8th and 31st—and come along and join the joyous throng. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

The compliments of the season to our comrades near and far.

We humbly apologise for the absence of notes from these columns for several months past. Pressure of time is the only explanation.

This being the close season, there is not really much to report. The only event of note has been the annual unit concert and dance which took place on Saturday 31st October. There was a very large attendance of members, including officers and their ladies, as well as many civilian friends. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent, although when the dancing commenced, it was obvious that we ought to have hired the " Palais." During the evening trophies and cups won during the year were presented by Mrs. M. E. Holdsworth, wife of the commanding officer. The recipients were as follows:—

Officers' technical efficiency cup—Lieut. S. V. Lancaster
Officers' shooting cup—2/Lieut. D. G. Collins
Sergeants Mess shooting cup—Sergt B. F. Colquhoun
Attendance cup—B Section (Lieut. E. A. S. Ledsam)
Cleanest tent prize—Don H Section (Captain A. G. Simpson)
Football cup—D Section (Captain A. G. Simpson)
Danielsen cup—Lieut. G. R. Waters
Chiseldon sports cup—A Section (2/Lieut. D. G. Collins)

Sergeants Mess.

The Annual Dinner.—This took place on the 20th October. There was a good attendance of members and guests—among the latter, a number of old comrades.

R.S.M. Rowe was in the chair, and C.Q.M.S. Galpin officiated for the first time in his capacity as P.M.C. After the loyal toast, the chairman addressed a few words of welcome to the guests, and added by way of explanation that, unfortunately, it was not possible to send out the invitations earlier owing to the illness of several members of the committee, and the shortness of notice must have prevented a good many from attending.

Following the excellent repast (which was in the hands of Mr. Sandri, a local caterer) the assembly retired to the mess lounge, where an entertainment was provided, the artists taking part being Messrs. Clifton and Glenville (with piano) and Mr. Frank Rolfe (comedian) ; and if one is to judge from the vociferous applause, their efforts were thoroughly enjoyed. Sergt Sanforth (R.A.) obliged with a good rendering of " The Trumpeter."

Poor old Fred Bromhall was at this function the unhappy recipient of a " presentation " of a bow and set of arrows, to commemorate his persistence in making the lowest score in the shooting competition two years running. He did not respond to the urgent calls for a speech, but what he had to say to some of us in private left little to the imagination. Better luck next time, Cooky!

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—For a period that is generally regarded as being mid-close season, the past month has seen unusual activity, culminating in the Armistice Day parade on the 11th November. Little has been done in the way of training, which will be practically at a standstill until January, when classes will re-commence.

Death of Colonel Jayne.—The lamented death of Colonel A. A. Jayne, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., which took place at Birmingham on the 26th October, came as a great shock to this unit, for although he left us a couple of years ago, we hold many happy memories of him as C.O. of the S.R. During the three years he spent with the unit he was exceptionally popular with all ranks and made a large number of friends, and his departure from Leeds was a matter of great regret. He did much to stimulate recruiting for both the S.R. and T.A., and no one could have taken a greater or more kindly interest in the welfare of the units than he did. His unexpected passing is mourned by all ranks. Captain Sutcliffe represented the unit at the funeral.

Arrivals and Departures.—The units have suffered another loss, too, during the month in the departure of C.S.M.s Minion and Clark. The former, who spent his tour of duty with the S.R., left us for E Troop, Tidworth, and C.S.M. Clark (more affectionately known as Nobby) has gone by the seaside with the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. Their places have been filled by C.S.M. Hobby (from A Corps Signals) and C.S.M. Gatford (lately with D Troop Signals), and to them we extend the hand of welcome. May their stay be long and pleasant.

There was a happy little ceremony in the sergeants mess following the annual meeting on Monday 12th November, when C.S.M. Minion was presented with a clock and C.S.M. Clark with a canteen of cutlery, to mark their association with the unit.

Armistice Day Parade.—As ever, the parade attracted pretty well every member of the unit. Whether this is due to a desire that the unit shall be well represented among the other Territorial organisations of the city, or because of the subsequent distribution of several hundred pounds in the shape of annual bounty, is not clear ; but be that as it may, the unit well maintained its high standard in a fine turn out. There was a grand muster of old comrades of the R.E. and Royal Signals ; and the two serving units, under the command of Colonel Walter Boyle, O.B.E. (hon. colonel of the 49th Divl Signals) created the impression in the minds of many that they were the smartest on the parade, despite the handicap of having no band. Major-General G. H. N. Jackson, C.B., C.M.G., took the salute. Back in barracks, Colonel Boyle congratulated all ranks on the splendid turn out and made a number of medal presentations. Outstanding among these was that of the second clasp to the Territorial efficiency medal of C.S.M. Allen (of No. 1 Company) for thirty-six years unbroken service. Other presentations were made to the following:—Militia medal (S.R.), Sgt Morgan S., L/Sgt Morris W. and Sigmn Rooke ; T.A. efficiency medal, Sergt Upton, L/Sergeants Webb and Chappell.

Sergeants Mess.—At the annual meeting of the Sergeants Mess on the 12th November, the committee was elected as follows: R.Q.M.S. Tebbs, C.S.M. Allen, C.Q.M.S. Dobson, and Sergeants Speight and Fleming. It was decided to carry out the much needed decoration of the staircase and cloakrooms in the mess, and the old vexed question of the provision of a dart board was finally settled by the decision that one *shall* be provided. The financial statement showed a very satisfactory state of affairs, and the secretary (C.S.M. Joynes) was heartily congratulated on the manner in which he had carried out his duties.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—Great changes are taking place at Aberdeen just now, and apologies are offered for the brevity, etc., of this month's notes. My motto is " No news is good news," and as our scribe has left us for duty with the 1st Div. you may understand my groans at having to perform the task—especially if you have " had some."

Arrivals and Departures.—Best wishes are extended from all ranks to Captain J. H. Brown, M.M., and his wife and family, on their departure from this station. By the time these notes are in print Capt. Brown will have got that sunburnt feeling, and Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland (his relief) will be hard at work with his duties as adjutant to the unit. We are sorry to lose Captain Brown—but exigencies of the Service, etc. We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. Dryland and hope that his stay will be a happy one.

Many handshakings were witnessed at Fonthill Barracks on the night of the 9th November, when best wishes were extended to Sergt and Mrs. Shreeves on their arrival to take up duty with this unit, and on the following morning, when we said good-bye to C.S.M. Thomas and his wife and daughter, who have departed to 1st Div. after many happy years in this clime. Never mind, Dick ; you have lots with you to remind you of bonny Scotland and Aberdeen. C.S.M. and Mrs. Thomas were such popular figures at Fonthill, both on the military and social sides, that they will be sadly missed, and I have been asked by those who could not be present at the handshaking ceremony to offer their hearty wishes for the future. Of course, this goes for the remainder of us whom he may not have remembered in the vast throng surging around him on the 9th. I am thinking the land of joy has a strong calling for them both, and shall not be surprised if they are seen often in Aberdeen. Hurry up, Dick! I am always ready for an excuse.

Armistice Parade.—This was attended by detachments from all units, etc., at the Aberdeen Memorial on the 11th November, and was a very impressive ceremony. A detachment from H.Q. and No. 1 Company represented the unit, and their smartness is to be commended. Although the weather was very unkind to start with, it seemed fitting for the occasion, but the rain (which had been falling heavily during the whole morning) lifted just before the ceremony commenced and it remained fine throughout.

Sergeants Mess.—The first two monthly dances have been such popular events that the function is eagerly looked forward to, and it will continue monthly throughout the season.

To date, no tournaments have taken place, but I understand that Billiard Allan and Domino Rollo are in strict training. Apparently shadows do not agree with Billiard Allan, as one quiet Wednesday evening he was seen lurking in a shadow, very thoughtful, with a cue in his hand—and by the look of the scores, that's all he did that evening.

All Ranks Dance.—The first of the unit all ranks dances was held on the 9th November, and was a huge success. Who was the Englishman who asked for the " Highland Scottische " ? and did his partner really enjoy it, or was she merely polite ? He says that she was a brave one!

Badminton.—This has gained such a popular hold lately with the officers and other ranks and their wives, that even the ladies are beginning to fancy themselves and have reached the match challenging stage. They are not so bad, but who could be cruel when opposed to a fair one ? (I know what's coming, but can stand it.)

Training.—Winter courses are now in full swing. It is pleasing to see so many eager faces present, but we can do with more yet, especially n.c.o.s. What about it ? Don't think—act. We shall be pleased to see you. HIGHDIV.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

Armistice Parade.—All units of the Kirkcaldy T.A. sent detachments to the Armistice parade and service arranged by the local branch of the British Legion. Our O.C. (Captain A. T. Wood) commanded the uniformed part of the parade, and everything went off smoothly. The number of officers, n.c.o.s and men of the Company who turned out for the parade was very gratifying, and Captain Wood wishes to thank all ranks for their co-operation.

Training.—A paid winter course commences on Monday 19th November. We shall be pleased to see members of the Company on any Monday or Thursday evening. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Glasgow Greets You.—To our comrades at home and abroad, we send our sincerest good wishes for a very merry Christmas.

Comrade Colin.—The subject of our little biographical sketch this month is R.Q.M.S. Colin Sinclair of our S.R. units. Well worthy of note is our respected R.Q.M.S. There is little about the signalling game that Colin does not know. He has an intimate knowledge of communications from G.H.Q. to the firing line: Colin was in his element when he served with an Infantry Brigade Signal Section on the Gallipoli Peninsula, where he did splendid work. R.Q.M.S. Sinclair has also had much experience of cable and air line work. He is a man of considerable technical ability, and in civil life he holds a responsible position in the Post Office Engineering Department. He has been most successful as our R.Q.M.S., and he has retained the confidence and respect of all ranks. It is with great pleasure that we add R.Q.M.S. Sinclair's name to our list of Lowland Signal notables.

Proceeding Prosperously.—Our notes relating to the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess must appear almost prolific. There is always news from that quarter. The balance sheet presented at the annual general meeting revealed an era of prosperity. The Mess is financially sound and well organised. There was every reason for satisfaction after the year's work had been fully reviewed. Sergt Livingstone (president), Sergt Bodys (treasurer) and the energetic secretary (Sergt McDonald) are well worthy of commendation, and the members should be especially grateful to those three office bearers for their unselfish and splendid work.

Welcoming Watch.—Our billiard match with the w.o.s and sergeants of the Black Watch at Maryhill Barracks was a most enjoyable affair. The hospitality extended by our Regular comrades was much appreciated. We look forward with pleasure to future meetings with our Black Watch neighbours.

Healthy Harrison.—We are pleased to learn that S.M. Harrison of our permanent staff is fully restored to health and strength after a rather serious illness.

Men's Club Musings.—All quiet, but very merry and bright, is the order of the day. The principal topics are football, classes and next year's camp. Lieutenant Gee has now assumed the rôle of adviser and friend. Things should go merrily on. This has been a splendid year for the Club.

League Leaders.—We are at the head of the table of the Glasgow Amateur Football League. The league arrangements are definitely established for the season, and our position is a very strong one. We cannot refrain from blowing our own horn! To occupy the position of honour in this important league in Glasgow —the football Mecca of Scotland—is a noteworthy achievement, and 1934 bids fair to being the most successful year in the history of the Lowland Signals Football Club.

Another Arrival.—Sgt Gould has joined us from Scarborough. We shake him by the hand. He will be happy at Jardine Street, the sanctuary of the Sassenach.

Our Old Selves.—The officers' arrangements are now completed for the celebration of our seventy-fifth anniversary. We understand that the festivities will be on a scale befitting this most auspicious anniversary, which we hope to report fully in a future number of THE WIRE.

An Appeal.—We are not at all satisfied with our local circulation of THE WIRE. It is felt that the number of subscribers should be greatly augmented. While that number is on the increase, we are certain that there are many within our units who would find it a splendid investment to purchase a copy monthly. It is difficult to understand why our excellent Service Journal is not more greatly appreciated. To those who peruse copies of THE WIRE provided for messes, we especially appeal. While we are most grateful to those who have unfailingly supported us, we would ask their further help in increasing the circulation of our Journal, which is undoubtedly one of the best publications of its kind.

Armistice Day.—We added our quota to the great parade at the Cenotaph in George Square, Glasgow. Those of us who were present as spectators were much impressed by the effective turn out of the Lowland Signals. Our bemedalled veterans and our young and enthusiastic Territorials were a most admirable combination. Lieutenant Forsyth and Sergt Parker played their parts well. Bareheaded we stood as we listened to the strains of " The Flowers of the Forest." We gazed on our young lads on parade with admiration—almost with envy. They are our successors!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

Greetings.—To all units at home and abroad, a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Routine.—Training starts in earnest next month, when individual training classes will be held from the 1st December to the end of March. A large attendance is expected, and the results at the end of the training should be a great improvement on previous years.

2/Lieut. G. B. Lloyd has just completed his promotion examination, and we all hope that his efforts will have been rewarded when the final result is known.

Congratulations.—To our adjutant, Captain R. T. H. Gelston, who passed his promotion examination at Shrewsbury with flying colours on the 13th/14th October.

We all heartily congratulate R.S.M. and Mrs. McCormick on their latest arrival—a son (Roy) born at Cardiff on 21/9/34.

Social.—The w.o.s and n.c.o.s held their thirteenth annual dinner in the drill hall on the 3rd November, and all agreed that it was a great success.

The toast to the unit was given by our adjutant, Captain Gelston, who said the work during the year reflected great credit on the unit. He also mentioned the shooting abilities of the unit—especially of No. 2 Company in winning the Victory shield at Porthcawl on the open ranges and the Webber cup on the miniature range.

The response was given by our commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., who also said some very nice things about us.

Our guests of the evening included Lieut.-Colonel A. Hier-Davies, D.S.O., T.D. (secretary of the Glamorgan T.A.A.) and Sergt Micky Fawl from Bulford.

The next function of the Mess was the Armistice ball held on Friday 9th November. This proved a great success, and our entertainments committee are to be congratulated on their fine efforts. We were honoured with the presence of our commanding officer and officers, who appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Extensions.—Sgt Brundell A. has extended to complete another year with this unit. THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Social.—The first dance of the season was held here on Saturday evening, 3rd November. Although no fireworks were let off, it went with a big bang, and the social committee are to be highly congratulated upon their efforts. The next one will be held on Saturday evening, 1st December.

Our annual Company dinner is to be held this year on a date yet to be fixed, but everyone will be notified at the earliest possible moment.

A unit billiards tournament of 25 up (exact) is in progress. At first there was just a little doubt regarding the success of this sort of game, but after the entry list had been open for only a few days, no less than forty-two entries were obtained. A cup (reminiscent of Bill's Bomonti days) was put up by the P.R.I., and there are additional prizes for the winner, runner-up and third.

Owing to many enquiries and requests from those too late to enter, Sergeant Simons (better known as Bill) wishes it to be announced that another tournament of a similar nature will follow on the heels of the one now in progress.

Training.—The lectures and demonstrations are still being carried out. A wireless receiving set, constructed solely by the class under the able guidance of C.Q.M.S. Fleming, is (to the surprise of only a few) actually in working order. So elated are these highbrow enthusiasts that they intend to go on and on, and they speak now of such things as amplification stages and reaction circuits (and I think I heard something about moving coils) as to the manner born. Different to the " not so long ago " when every part of a wireless set was referred to as a gadget.

C.S.M. Simpson, in trying to prove to his class how a set could be made for the huge sum of ninepence (that is, of course, if your name happens to begin with " S ") found to his chagrin that the total sum to be expended would have to be tenpence! This somewhat altered the original idea of the set, as for instance, instead of the posh sugar crystal, one made of common or garden coal would have to suffice. Still, the comparison between the 1918—19 type and the present-day set was ably pointed out. Listening in to the discussion after this lecture, one could not determine which type of set would be the best for home use!

In the large drill hall (now called the beauty parlour) many men are slowly but surely being made into strong and physically fit (silent) he-men.

Departures and Arrivals.—We are sorry to have lost one of our P.S. who has gone to have a taste of civvy street, but we offer to Mr. P. Johnson our best wishes for the success he deserves in his new sphere, and hope that we have not seen the last of him (Johnny, please note).

Our esteemed P.S.I., C.S.M. Collins H. (of Bedford fame) will now have left us for the land of Shotit, and our best wishes go with him, his wife and family.

At the same time we hold out the glad mit to Sergt Tom Sayers, and sincerely hope he, Mrs. Sayers and family find the Bedford air to their liking. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—The wireless and P.T. classes are still going strong. C.S.M. Simpson astounded the wireless fans with his " tenpenny receiver," and great were the rejoicings of Marconi's henchmen when the B.B.C. announcer was clearly heard. C.S.M. Simpson was bombarded with questions from all sides, and after everybody's queries were cleared up, the class showed their appreciation by having a whip round to patent the tenpenny marvel.

The large drill hall is taking on the appearance of Fred Dwyer's gym nowadays. Replicas of Sandow and Strongbow are to be seen in action, ill treating developers, punch balls, dumbbells, etc. The gym class is fast approaching perfection, and last Thursday night the rumour got around that Mr. Bertram Mills had been seen in the vicinity of the lecture room. No, sir: these artists are not for public exhibition.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose C.S.M. Collins H., of sausage and mash supper fame. We wish him all the best with No. 2 Company 2nd Indian Divl Signals. Drop us a line from Quetta, Harry, and inform us if they have enlarged Kuchlak station and Pellier's.

Arrivals.—We extend a glad mitt to Sergt Tommy Sayers, of S.T.C. India and Tidworth dance band fame. If there is a high class dance band in Bedford, well! here's the man you have been looking for—an expert pianist.

Billiards.—The billiard tournament in the canteen is causing many a " Fancy that!" All the heads are out with the exception of our P.S.I., who is too small and apparently has not yet been " spotted." TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—Now that the dark winter nights are upon us, our activities must perforce be indoors, and we bless the soul who invented hot water pipes and radiators.

The learners are now under the able tutelage of Corpl Dennison, who makes sparks fly in more ways than one. The highbrow class, with foreheads corrugated in deep wrinkles, wrestle bravely with curves (no, *not* feminine ones, Harry) under the supervision of C.S.M. Cooley and Sigmn Buller.

Getting down to the lowbrows, we find a scantily clad group keeping themselves very busy in the gymnasium, with the stern eye of Bombardier Holland (our Regular P.T. instructor) upon them. The lads seem to like it and are gradually getting proficient in the many tricks they are shown. Among them are our embryo boxing team, who are going to bring something away from Stratford one day (so we hope). Anyway, they are getting hardened to *anything*, so we should produce some good contests.

Social.—The Company concert party, directed by Sergt Bradbury and Corpl Dennison, gave a show in the drill hall on Saturday 20th October. The artistes, some of whom were first timers, did very well and with a little more stage experience should be able to put over a really good variety bill.

W/T.—Our *little* W/T set has at last made itself heard at Bedford. The congratulations go to the aerial pole (long may it stay where it is). . . .That's what comes of squeezing the valves!

THREECOY.

[Mr. P. Johnson (late P.S.I. of No. 3 Company) would like to thank very much both the permanent and office staffs of the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals for their kind presentation gift, which both he and his wife greatly appreciate.]

Bedford Detachment.

Social.—The unit held a sausage and mash supper on Saturday 20th October. There was quite a good attendance, and it was very well supported by members of the Corps. Supper was billed for 7.30 p.m., but owing to a series of unforeseen circumstances it did not arrive near the tables until nearly nine o'clock. Needless to say, when it did appear it was well and truly devoured by the assembly.

After the supper, songs rendered by Mr. Alf Rump were very much appreciated. Dart competitions were started and some dark horses were discovered. The whole evening was a great success, and we hope to hold other such functions in the near future. Thanks are due to Sergt Thurley and his willing helpers for the very great supper, and to Mr. Alf Rump for his songs.

Reliefs: Permanent Staff.—By the time these notes appear in print, we shall have welcomed Sergt Tom Sayers from E Troop and said "Cheerio!" to T/C.S.M. Collins. The best of luck in your new surroundings, Tom. We hope you will enjoy your stay with the Bedford Detachment.

BEDFORDIAN.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

Cordial Christmas greetings to all WIRE readers.

Does 56th London Divisional Signals (T.A.) still function? Of course it does! and every effort will be made in future to chronicle our doings in the Corps Magazine.

We are just recovering from our annual training at Shorncliffe, where the unit put in some first-class work and was warmly praised by the instructors who were loaned from the 2nd Divl Signals, Mons Barracks, Aldershot, for the occasion. Sports day was a huge success, and No. 1 Company collected most of the honours.

Arrangements for winter training have been completed, and judging by attendances to date, we look like having a very successful season.

The warrant officers and sergeants of the T.A. and Supplementary Reserve gave a smoking concert on Thursday 1st November, to bid farewell to those of the permanent staff who were leaving the unit: Captain Goddard, C.S.M. Storey and Sergt Silk on rejoining their respective Regular units, and R.S.M. (Nellie) Grant on his return to civilian life. They were all very popular, and their departure was much regretted.

Our congratulations are extended to Mr. J. Barnes, D.C.M., on his appointment as Lieutenant-Quartermaster, and we extend a hearty welcome to Captain Firth, C.S.M. Hales and Sergt Sykes. May they all be happy in their new surroundings.

BALHAM.

Lines of Communication Signals (S.R.)

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that all ranks of the unit learned of the death of Colonel A. A. Jayne, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C. The following extract from *The Times* is republished. "Colonel Arthur Alfred Jayne, Postmaster-Surveyor of Birmingham, died on Friday after having been ill for three weeks. Colonel Jayne was born in 1878 and entered the Post Office service at Gravesend. Later he joined the Central Telegraph Office in London, and in 1902 was appointed to the Controller's staff as second-class clerk. In August 1914 he was appointed to a post in the Headquarters Telegraph Section of the G.P.O., and soon afterwards was transferred to the Signal Section of the Royal Engineers, in which he received a commission in October 1914. He went to France, was mentioned in despatches, and received the D.S.O., M.C. and O.B.E. (Military Division). In 1919 he resumed his civilian duties, and in 1921 became Controller at Edinburgh. In consequence of the amalgamation of the postal and telegraphic establishments there, he became the Controller of the joint services, taking over his duties in 1925. Four years later he was appointed Postmaster-Surveyor of Leeds, and in March last year Postmaster-Surveyor of Birmingham."

There is but little to add to the above résumé of this distinguished officer's service. In 1928 various Companies of the Supplementary Reserve were amalgamated and formed into a definite unit: Lines of Communication Signals. Colonel Jayne came from his retirement to be the first commanding officer of the new unit. The work of organisation was great, Companies being located in London, Leeds and Preston. Colonel Jayne completed his tour of command in 1933. He was promoted Brevet-Colonel in 1932, and Colonel on his retirement.

By the death of Colonel Jayne, Royal Signals lose one of their most distinguished officers.

Units Abroad—*(continued from page 541).*

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, Wellington Front, 1st November.

The event of the month was the annual supper of the Section, which took place in the unit canteen and billiard room on the evening of the 12th October. This annual supper was inaugurated by our present commanding officer some three years ago, and to judge from its popularity in the unit, all ranks trust it has came to stay.

Opportunity is taken on this occasion to present the trophies and suitably engraved medals to the winners of the various competitions carried out throughout the year. As these individuals have all been named as the competitions were completed, it is perhaps unnecessary to enlarge further upon their successes. The commanding officer, in presenting the prizes, congratulated each individual in turn and the unit in general upon our high standard of sport in the Command, and expressed his desire that we should emulate our past efforts during the coming year.

The following officers from other units in the Garrison were present, and we trust they enjoyed a pleasant evening: Lieut.-Commander F. G. L. Bullock, Royal Navy; Major P. L. Vining, R.A.; Captain D. C. E. Grose, Royal Engineers; and Captain A. E. Kimm, M.C., 2nd Battalion D.C.L.I.

In view of the impending departure of Lieut.-Commander Bullock from this station, we were very pleased that he was able to be with us during the evening. During the past three years we have been very much indebted to him for valuable and personal instruction in all our rowing events. His keenness for our success has been an incentive to our men to give of their best. By setting the pace in 1935 we hope to let him see that his advice is still bearing fruit, and in the meantime we wish him every success in his new command.

Saturday 20th October marked the arrival of the *Somersetshire* with the 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders on board. They relieved the 2nd Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, who embarked on the following day for Hong Kong. This exchange caused great excitement locally. We wonder if it was the spell of the kilts or the shrill of the bagpipes which attracted the large number of local inhabitants who witnessed the disembarkation.

The following officers of the Corps visited us during the month. Captain Tozer and Lieutenant Holmes, en route from Aldershot and Catterick to Tientsin and Hong Kong respectively, came ashore from the *Somersetshire* and incidentally gave us their vocal support in our football match against H.M.S. *Shamrock*. We were also visited by Lieutenant Dryland, who we understand is shortly leaving Aldershot for Aberdeen and is at present on a Mediterranean cruise on the *Arandora Star*.

Agony.—What's what in Belfast or neighbourhood.

- - SPORTS NOTES - -

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Sport.—Not a very impressive record this month, I'm afraid. We lost to the 2nd Battn East Yorks by 1—3 in the first round of the Army Cup (soccer) and to the 2nd Battn South Wales Borderers by 1—5 in the first round of the Army Cup (hockey). In the first round of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup we had a very close tussle with the Training Battalion and, in a match that was not distinguished by a high standard of play, lost by 3—5 points.

However, the football team is still in the McEwan Cup (Garrison), having defeated the Scots Fusiliers in the first round by 4—3 goals after extra time. Signalman Aldritch, a newly joined recruit, scored the winning goal.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Football.—On Friday 19th October a team composed of men chosen from various squads had the pleasure, and for them the unique experience, of visiting the Green Howards at Richmond for the purpose of giving or receiving tips on the way that football should be played.

The game was one of numerous thrills, and many exhibitions of play of a most scintillating nature were given. Signals opened the scoring rather early in the game, and at half time the points were 2—0 in our favour, this score being a true criterion of the standard of play. The second half provided additional thrills, and one minute from the close of play Signals were leading by 3—2. The Howards then, by means of some definitely fine play, managed to place the sphere in our net before the referee could get his lungs charged to a sufficient potential to sound the conclusion of the game.

After a change of clothing the teams proceeded to the canteen, where a "slap-up" feed awaited them. The word "Through" should still be the motto of this Corps, for it was positively amazing how our lads got through the victuals available.

The meal was followed by the production of "Wild Woodbines," and then commenced an interesting discussion on the merits of the two units. Naturally, individual experiences, pleasant or otherwise, were vividly related. After making sure that there was very little chance of getting caught for a cleaning parade, we decided to depart and so we said farewell to our newly made friends.

A suggestion that a similar match should be played weekly was passed without opposition.

Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—In the middle of September, interest turned to rugby and other winter sports. The task of selecting a Training Battalion side was made more difficult than usual because it was always raining when a trial game was arranged.

In spite of the rain, however, a team was produced to play against the 20th Field Brigade Royal Artillery on the 3rd October as the first fixture.

Before the team had had sufficient time to settle down and practise as a team (after the Garrison side had taken away some useful players) it was playing in the first round of the Army Rugby Cup with the 2nd Battn The Gloucestershire Regiment as opponents. The game was played on the 17th October on Hipswell ground. Although the Training Battalion put up a very good game, the Gloucesters were too good for them and defeated them fairly easily.

Before the weak points in the team could be rectified, the first round of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup was played on Scotton ground on the 20th October between the Depot and the Training Battalion. The latter were fortunate to win a very even game.

In the second round of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup the Training Battalion were fortunate in scoring an early try by 2/Lieut. W. H. L. Gordon and converting the goal by Sigmn West. Conditions were not at their best, as the ground was covered with snow and was very slippery. Their opponents (5th Divl Signals) were pressing hard the whole time and particularly towards the latter end of the second half, but were unable to score. The Training Battalion won and met the 4th Divisional Signals on Monday 5th November.

The following matches have been played to date.

3/10/34 v. 20th Field Brigade R.A. won by 5—0
10/10/34 v. 2nd S.W.B. "B" team, won by 14—3
17/10/34 v. 2nd Battn Gloucesters (first round Army Cup) lost by 3—63
20/10/34 v. Depot Battalion, R.Signals (Cobb-Nicholls Cup) won by 5—0
31/10/34 v. 5th Divl Signals (Cobb-Nicholls Cup) won by 5—0

Boxing.—Training started about the 10th September, but owing to the various calls made on the possible boxers very few men were able to take advantage of it. E Company provided a good list of entries for the Company novices competition.

The following novices competitions have been held: 8th October, E Company preliminary rounds. 9th October, finals E Company and D Company novices.

The following won their weights:—Feather weight, Signalman Davidson (E Company) and Sigmn Disley (D). Light weight, Sigmn Waugh C. (E) and Sigmn Durkin (D). Welter weight, Sigmn Robson (E) and Sigmn Shillito (D). Middle weight, Sigmn Bell (E) and Sigmn Vitale (D). Light-heavy, Sigmn Round (E) and Sigmn Poole (D).

This tournament provided some excellent boxing, from which it was possible to select some promising boxers for the Training Battalion novices boxing competition held on the 15th and 16th October in the Blood Tub.

The following were the winners and runners-up:—Feather weight, Sigmn Disley (D); Sigmn Edwards (F). Light weight, Sigmn McGregor (D); Sigmn Nichols (E). Welter weight, Sigmn Openshaw (D); Sigmn Shillito (D). Middle weight, Sigmn Vitale (D). Light-heavy, Sigmn Round (E); Sigmn Locky (E). The best loser's prize was awarded to Sigmn Beard (E Company).

Future Events.—The Catterick Garrison competitions will be taking place on the following dates:—

Nov. 13th, 14th, 15th—Garrison individual novices
Nov. 27th, 28th, 29th—Garrison inter-unit team novices
Feb. 19th, 20th, 21st—Garrison boys inter-unit team novices

The S.T.C. championships and inter-Company boxing for the senior and junior shields will be held during February or March.

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—In the Catterick Garrison individual novices boxing competition, the Training Battalion was represented by E Company with four entries. The competition was held in No. 1 Le Cateau Gymnasium on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th November. The entrants for E Company were Signalmen Waugh C., Nicoll, Newsham and Barlow. Here is a detailed account of the fights up to date.

Feather weight—First round: Sigmn Waugh C. beat Pte Kerr (K.O.S.B.) on points. Second round: Sigmn Waugh C. beat Sigmn Keighley (Depot Battalion) on points; a very good clean fight. Signalman Nicoll beat Gunner Harrison (20th Brigade R.A.) on points; Nicoll drew a bye in the first round.

Welter weight—First round: Sigmn Barlow beat Pte McKay (K.O.S.B.) on points.

Middle weight—First round: Sigmn Newsham lost to Fusilier Brown (R.S.F.) on points; a very good fight.

The Company congratulates the entrants, and wishes them the best of luck for the future when they are posted to their respective field units.

Rugby.—Sport in this line has not been very prominent in the Company since the opening of the season. To date we have played three matches and lost them all, but with a good understanding and idea. By the time the Mackworth matches are played, we hope to have a team that will prove our losses were beneficial to us.

Hockey.—Two friendly games have been played to date by the first team: versus H.Q. Wing S.W. Borderers and Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion. Both resulted in a draw of two goals each after very good play by both teams.

In the Mackworth Trophy games we are drawn against F Company, and the result is yet undecided. Four games have been played and all have been drawn—the first three at one goal each and the latest with no score. Apparently there is no limit to the number of games to play for a decision, so we are having another try to see who gets the coveted two points.

The " B " team is solely for training the younger soldiers, and in each game either two or three who have never played hockey before are included. The results are therefore satisfactory from our point of view. We are not grumbling at seeing the goals against us piling up. By the end of the season, perhaps, we shall have trained enough men to reverse the scores. The games played against F Company " B " team have resulted in one draw at 2—2 and three losses at 1—2, 0—3 and 1—3.

Billiards.—One game has been played in the Mackworth Trophy, resulting in a win for the Company by 4—2 games over the Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Football.—On Saturday 6th October a team representing the Band and Cadre journeyed to Snape, about twelve miles from camp, to play the local team. Unfortunately the rain, with true Catterick precision, followed us and continued to fall throughout the match. It was very evident from the start that our team were considerably handicapped by the rough pitch, and they took some time to settle down. Snape realised this and pressed us hard during the first twenty minutes, eventually scoring their first goal after a jumble in front of our goalmouth. Our own team, although still in difficulties with the ground, were playing remarkably well and gradually assuming a slight mastery of the game. Our opponents, though, still made full use of their knowledge of the ground and consequently put up a very stern fight. At half time the score was 2—0 for Snape.

Owing to the drizzle there was no breather, the game being carried on immediately. This was, perhaps, the undoing of Snape. Within ten minutes of changing over we had equalised, only to again fall into arrears after a good goal by our opponents' inside right. For the next quarter of an hour the game became a ding-dong struggle, each side pressing hard and fast. All along, the game had been very fast, and about twenty minutes from the final whistle Snape began to feel the loss of their half-time rest, while the proverbial fitness of the Army was gradually making itself manifest. We again scored, to be followed after a few minutes with a fourth for Snape. After this, the game was decidedly in our favour, as our opponents had tired completely, and we had no difficulty in equalising about five minutes from the end.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boys' Rugby.—The Boys have started the rugby season with a fairly full and interesting fixture list, and as there has only been one change in the first fifteen since last year, they have soon settled down to the game. The following matches have been played to date:—

13/10/34—First XV. v. Richmond School, won by 53—0
17/10/34—Colts v. Richmond School Colts, drew at 6—6
23/10/34—First XV. v. 2nd Battn Gloucester Regiment (Young Soldiers) lost by 0—14
27/10/34—First XV. v. Ampleforth College, lost by 0—11
8/11/34—First XV. v. 2nd Battn Gloucester Regiment (Young Soldiers) drew at 0—0
8/11/34—Colts v. Ampleforth College Colts, lost by 5—17

Boys First XV. v. Ampleforth College Second XV.—This match was played at Ampleforth on the 27th October and resulted in a win for Ampleforth by 11—0 points. The score, however, gives no indication of the game, as the boys pressed the whole time and kept play in the School half. Only bad luck and a rather slippery ground prevented the Boys from scoring several times.

The game opened with the Boys defending the school building end, and play started with good hard forward work on both sides. Ampleforth were pressing, and in a scrum on the Boys' 25 the ball hung up in the School's back row and a free kick, right under the posts, was given for off-side. Ampleforth made sure of this kick and were three up.

The Boys then " got down to it " in every sense, and some fine rugby was seen. The forwards were holding the School in the scrum and showing superiority in the loose. Good " corner flagging " by Luscombe and Terry countered several ugly movements by the School outsides, and it was not until a good passing movement by the School found our defence out of place that the left wing three-quarter, running well, got over in the corner. The try was not converted. Score: 6—0.

The Boys pressed again and the ball was held on the School line for some time. Two difficult passes were given to Smith, who just failed to gather them. The forwards took the ball over the line twice, but Ampleforth stuck grimly to it and scrums were given. A free kick against the School was taken, but Piddington failed to convert a difficult kick. The Boys were getting the ball in the scrum and the line-out, and things looked promising, Alcock especially putting in good work in the line-out. Several passing movements were stopped by the School defence, which was very good. Some long range kicking between the backs showed Verlander as a safe catch and accurate kick, some very good clearances being made. Half-time found the Boys still pressing and the score 6—0 for Ampleforth.

Ampleforth kicked off, and the Boys retrieved and found touch. The forwards took the ball on from the line-out and pressed over the School line, but the ball was touched down. Ampleforth then pressed in return, but the Boys' defence rose to the occasion, some splendid falling and tackling being seen. An opening movement by the School gave the ball to their right wing, but Piddington, with a magnificent flying tackle, saved a certain try. The Boys then pressed again, and good backing up by the forwards gave the ball to Harrison close to the line—a difficult pass which he, unfortunately, failed to gather. Ampleforth then made a great effort, and a good run put their right wing over to score a try which was converted. Score: 11—0.

From this point to the end of the game the Boys pressed hard, the forwards working " all out" and the outsides bottling and falling well. The whistle went with Ampleforth well in their own 25 and obviously feeling the strain.

The Boys must be congratulated on a very fine show. This is the first time they have played as a full Boys side against the School, and their defeat was a very honourable one. The outsides were handicapped by the loss of Willis through an injury earlier in the week, although Gamble played a good game. Harrison, too, was injured early in the game, but stuck to his guns and did some fine running and tackling. The standard of falling and tackling was far better in this than in any previous game. Great praise is due to the forwards, who worked like Trojans and shoved and wheeled like a county side. They all pulled together and showed pluck and determination. The halves did their job well in a difficult game, as they were closely marked. We shall look forward with confidence to a win for the Boys in the return match in February.

Team—Verlander; Piddington, Gamble, Offord and Smith; Harrison and Shergold; Luscombe, Terrey, Parker, Latter, King, Alcock, Sullivan and Moore.

Cross-Country.—We congratulate the Company cross-country team on a very successful season.

They again won the inter-Company championships, being first in all three runs. The first was won with a record low score for this competition, the scoring twelve finishing inside the first twenty-two places with a total of 134 points—the previous best being 164 points in 1932, also created by this Company. The second and third runs were comfortably won with 173 and 189 points respectively. The team for these runs consisted entirely of boys with the exception of one n.c.o.

The S.T.C. individual championship was decided on the third Mackworth run, and in this, besides winning the team competition, we also provided the first four home in the following order: L/Cpl Blades, Boy Terrey, Boy Butler and L/Cpl Boy Verlander.

On Saturday 10th November we sent a Boys team to compete in the annual triangular contest with Barnard Castle School and Darlington Grammar School, the race being held over the Darlington Grammar School course. The Boys were in great form and filled the first four places, our other two scorers being sixth and seventh. F Company 23 points, Barnard Castle 65, Darlington School 113. The individual order of finishing was: 1st, Boy Butler; 2nd, Boy Terrey; 3rd, Boy Clover. Butler ran a good race to knock nearly 1½ minutes off the School time for this course.

The team have done extremely well throughout the whole season, but while tendering our sincere congratulations to these young runners, may we be permitted to offer a little advice. A distance runner should not race seriously over the full championship distance until he is twenty-one years of age; he does not reach his maximum efficiency until he is in the region of twenty-five years, so that the journey from the novice stage is a long and hard one. During this period, the young runner must be content with keeping himself fit and racing as seldom as possible for the first few years, so that he may ultimately develop into a good athlete and a real asset to the Corps. Perhaps, working on these lines, we will eventually find someone who can carry on the good work started so long ago by the incomparable Joe.

Boys' Boxing.—There was a very good entry for the Boys novices boxing tournament held on the 18th and 22nd October, which provided some excellent bouts. The following were the winners and runners up.

Gnat weight—Boy Barr T.; Boy Waterfield
Midge weight—Boy Halford; Boy Marshall
Mosquito weight—Boy Hockings; Boy Camp
Fly weight—Boy Rowe; Boy Price
Bantam weight—Boy Connell; Boy Brewster
Feather weight—Boy Moore P.; Boy Campion
Light weight—Boy Roberts; Boy Devine
Moth weight (unofficial)—L/Cpl Boy Smith J.; Boy Smith E.
Welter weight—Boy Connor; Boy Sheppard.

The best loser's prize was awarded to Boy Price. After the last bout the prizes were presented by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C.

Boys' Association Football.—The First Eleven met Barnard Castle School on Scotton ground on the 1st November and won by 5—1. We outplayed our opponents throughout the game, the team showing great promise and combining well together. Team: McEvoy; Smith R. and Willis (captain); Terrey, O'Brien and McDonald; Verlander, Offord, Harrison, Lander and Cornish.

Section Football.—No. 3 Section (I.M.s) show good promise for this season and are our hope for the Army Cup. Nos. 2 and 3 Sections have been entered, but both teams have drawn byes in the first two rounds.

A Boys team, chiefly consisting of I.M.s, played Catterick Village Young Men on the 14th November and succeeded in routing them by 12—1.

This year there is a Garrison Boys League divided into North and South Divisions. We have entered five teams in the South Division, the only outside team being the Royal Scots Fusiliers. The matches played so far are:—

A (Operators) v. B (Operators) drawn at 2—2.
B (Operators) beat C (Operators)
A (Operators) beat C (Operators) by 2—1.

Company Football.—Great difficulty has been experienced in getting trial games owing to the claims of other sports and the Training Battalion matches. This has been rather discouraging, as we are due to play the School in the Mackworth Trophy at an early date.

The Company played Richmond Y.M.C.A. (away) on the 3rd November, winning by 9—0, but this was no test for the team, as our opponents were so weak.

Hockey.—Non-stop variety may be a bit of a hit in London, but we have something in the Training Battalion equally as attractive and far more thrilling: non-stop hockey between F and E Companies in the Mackworth Trophy.

The match commenced on the 10th October, and replays take place each week. I think we are justified in saying that F Company have surprised the whole of the Signal Training Centre in these matches. Although on paper we are outclassed, it is a totally different matter on the field of play. At times we have literally penned E Company in their own half, but have been unable to force home our advantage. So far, we have played four hours and twenty minutes with no definite result, but we are hoping to clinch matters on Tuesday 20th November, when we next meet.

One important fact has been demonstrated in the course of these matches: that hockey is a far more thrilling game on a hard ground than on grass.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

General.—My special representative getting stranded with some of his " half-sections " at Crookham cross-roads, seven miles from Mons Barracks, I've had to sack him. This contretemps happened when the unit novices fought those of the R.A.M.C., and as I was indisposed (I forget exactly the cause) he deputised for me. But never will it happen again! Apparently his party got a lift in a gentleman's car out to Crookham, and after the boxing could have returned by the same conveyance, but there was a building of some sort near the R.A.M.C. Barracks which offered far more than an ordinary car ride, and there they adjourned to imbibe. Whether this is authentic or not, I cannot say, nor can I state whether they were or were not discreet in the manner of lifting their elbows. There is one thing, however, of which I *am* certain; and that is, at midnight or some time in the "wee sma' oors "—after cooling themselves in the frost and nip of a cold October night—they were only too pleased to accept a lift in the car of the selfsame gentleman who had previously taken them out to Crookham. Why did you return to Aldershot that way, sir? The devil certainly looks after his own!

I've said that I have sacked my representative, but the punishment he suffered because of the cold, etc., merits re-instatement; and on second thoughts I'll give him another chance. Perhaps he was led astray!

Army Rugby Cup.—We have had quite a busy time in the rugby world during the last month and have been doing extremely well, although we had a rather black day on Wednesday 7th November. However, we cannot keep on winning always. On that day we made our exit from the Army rugger contest at the hands of the Railway Training Centre R.E. This match was in the second round, but we did not give in without a struggle, as after extra time a week previously we made a draw with them. The replay ended in a victory for the Sappers by 29—0 points. Far be it from me to minimise such a defeat, but the display of our side was dull and lifeless in comparison with those they had put up in previous games. On the Monday they had played a hard game in the semi-final of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup against the 3rd Divl Signals, and it was only to be expected that they would be rather tired. However, they were far from disgracing themselves against the Sappers. They tried their utmost but could never get really into their stride, and the Sappers, by exceptionally fine team work, won brilliantly by the score already mentioned.

The first round match for the Rugger Cup, with the 1st Battalion R.E. as our opponents, was played away from home—and what a struggle it was! Seventy minutes of sheer excitement on an afternoon which was so windy that proper rugby was impossible. And that was not all, for at the end of those seventy minutes the score sheet was still blank, and this necessitated extra time being played. Our lads and the Sappers went at it again, sparing no efforts in their deadly struggle. At last Sigmn Ryder gave us the game with a penalty goal, and although the Sappers' efforts did not weaken, they were unable to equalise and we returned home victorious and happy. But weren't our throats sore next morning! The C.S.M. could hardly talk, let alone shout at us.

Cobb-Nicholls Cup.—In the first round of this competition we drew the 1st Divl Signals, and a rousing game ended in a win for us by 3—0 points.

A 4—0 victory was gained by us in the next round, in which we met A Corps Signals. This was also a keenly contested game, our score coming late in the second half through Sigmn Robertson, our scrum half, who dropped a beautiful goal with perfect accuracy. By this victory we entered the semi-final, in which we had to meet the 3rd Divl Signals.

2ND DIVL SIGNALS v. 3RD DIVL SIGNALS.

On Monday 5th November both semi-finals of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup were played at Aldershot, the Training Battalion playing and losing to the 4th Divl Signals in the morning, and the above match taking place during the afternoon.

Our team played exceptionally well all round against the 3rd Div., and they thoroughly merited their victory by 8—5 points after a hard struggle throughout which the class of rugby on view was very keen. Our plaudits and admiration went most wholeheartedly to our visitors from Bulford—and didn't they earn them! We led throughout the game, firstly by three points to nil and then by eight clear points. The latter state of affairs lasted until one minute from the end, and then, by an heroic

effort, 3rd Div. gained a try which was converted. However, they left this great come-back just a little too late, for no sooner had the try been converted than the referee blew his whistle to denote the end of the game. Both sides have to be heartily congratulated on their sound show.

[Correspondent's note: I wish I had taken that bet with you, Porky.]

2ND DIVL SIGNALS v. 4TH DIVL SIGNALS.

This match—the final of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup—was played on Friday 9th November on a ground which more nearly resembled a quagmire than anything else. It had been raining all the morning—to say nothing about all the night—and there was some doubt at times as to whether or not the match would have to be postponed. However, the severity of the weather clerk (it rained incessantly throughout the match) was received with abandon, as from the start of the game all thoughts of rain, etc., were dispelled in both players and spectators. It was a rousing tussle from start to finish, extra time being necessary ere it was decided where the trophy is to rest for the next year. Yes, the 2nd Div. won it, but not until a severe test of eighty minutes duration had been gone through.

In the first half there was little to choose between the sides, each team holding its own. About three minutes from the cross over, we got a try which was unconverted owing to the condition of the ball. However, 4th Div. did not let this set-back deter them in the least, and with our side caught very badly out of position they had equalised—the kick for the extra two points being unsuccessful. A brief rest, and they were at it again—both sides striving their utmost, and towards the end 4th Div. had a decided advantage; and once, in particular, everyone thought they were going over, but L/Corpl Mills (our full back) made a beautiful tackle in the nick of time. After this, there were several line outs about five yards from the 2nd Div. line, but our forwards prevailed until the long whistle sounded.

The pace of the first sixty minutes was maintained throughout the extra time, and our pack seemed to have found a new lease of life, as they were definitely superior to that of the 4th Div. After a thrilling scramble 2nd Div. got over, but with the ball lost to sight amidst a crowd of players of both sides, it was impossible to see who actually touched down: I am told it was Groom. Anyway, it was a brilliant effort and right between the sticks, too. Ryder was most unfortunate in not converting, the muddy and slippery ball again eluding his usually sure foot. Bad luck, Pop! That was the end; but before I stop, both sides have to be heartily congratulated on their wholehearted display on a day which should have made any outdoor sport practically impossible.

Boxing.—In the first round of the Command novices we drew an Artillery unit which had to scratch at the last moment, being unable to find the required team.

2ND DIVL SIGNALS v. R.A.M.C.

In the second round the Suffolk Regiment were our opponents, and for a try out a friendly was arranged with the R.A.M.C. at Crookham. We met with a splendid reception there and, after a fine evening's boxing, victory came to us by the narrow margin of two points, the results being 20—18. By virtue of this victory we became the proud possessors of a cup presented to the winning side by Captain Griffin, R.A.M.C. The following is a brief description of the fights, 2nd Divl Signals representatives being mentioned first in each case.

Feather weight—Sigmn Sharkey lost on disqualification to Pte Gibson in the second round. From the start there was every promise of a good fight, but the end came early for the reason already mentioned. Sigmn Thirkell lost to Pte Smith on points after a very close fight, during which plenty of hard knocks were given and taken.

Light weight—Sigmn O'Rourke lost on points to Pte Bromhall—the latter being a little too strong for O'Rourke, who, however, stuck to his guns very well. Sigmn Brookes beat Pte Stratulis, the latter retiring in the second round of a quiet affair. It was made known afterwards that Stratulis had dislocated his clavicle.

Welter weight—Sigmn Rosbotham lost the verdict on points after a real hard hitting bout with Pte Evans. Sigmn Drane knocked out Pte Masters in the first round. Drane got in with telling blows at the outset and the fight was soon over. Sigmn Norton lost to Pte Hares. Hares proved a useful exponent of the noble art and won on points, but not until Norton had made him earn them.

Middle weight—Sigmn Spencer beat Pte Read on points. He piled them up from the start and was a comfortable winner at the end. Sigmn Holmes beat Pte Milne on points. This was a good fight from start to finish, neither man giving much away. In the end Holmes got the verdict. Sigmn Steward knocked out Pte Coates in the first round, in which there were practically no exchanges.

Light heavy weight—Sigmn Redgrave beat Pte Buckfield on points. He piled up the score with his left during a very good bout and in the end won comfortably.

Welter weight: first string—Sigmn Barker beat Pte Pasquale on points. The Medical started off strongly and Barker had his work cut out to stave off his aggression. He weathered the storm in the first round and then evened matters up in the second by some forceful fighting. Barker made his victory clear cut in the last round, during which he was on top throughout.

After the last fight Lieut.-Colonel Laing, R.A.M.C. (officiating Commandant of the R.A.M.C. Depot) presented the cup to our side and wished them the best of luck in the novices competition.

2ND DIVL SIGNALS v. 1ST BATTN SUFFOLK REGIMENT.

Command novices: second round.—This match was fought in the Marlborough Lines theatre on the 7th November before a fairly large and interested crowd. We were defeated by 22—17 points, but by no means disgraced, as the Infantrymen had an extremely useful side on the programme and one that will go far, unless I am mistaken, in the competition. The results were as follows, the Suffolk Regiment boxers being mentioned first in each instance.

Feather weight—Pte Strong was knocked out in the first round by Sigmn Sharkey. Drummer Byrne lost on points to Sigmn Thirkell after a good scrap, during which the latter was always the more aggressive.

Light weight—Pte Edgely beat Sigmn Goldfinch on points. He believed in hard hitting, which eventually won him the decision. Goldfinch boxed extremely well, but he lacked the forcefulness that would have made him the victor; a good stylist. L/Corpl Smith beat Sigmn O'Rourke on points in a fight during which the former attacked throughout.

Welter weight—Pte Weavers, scoring repeatedly with his left, beat Sigmn Stannard on points. The latter, although he covered up well, could not get in many telling blows. Pte Chapman in his contest with Driver Hassell, which he won on points, showed himself to be a clever boxer. The Driver took a lot of punishment, and was inclined to be a little slow in attacking when an opportunity presented itself. Pte Meek beat Sigmn Drane on points. The latter started off very well, but Meek soon got his measure, and when the final assessment came he was well ahead.

Middle weight—Pte Peek lost on a technical knock-out in the second round to Sigmn Spencer, who was on top from the start, utilising his left to great advantage. Peek had too much of the "pro" grimace, etc. Pte Edwards beat Sigmn Holmes on points in what was one of the best fights of the evening. He was more aggressive in the opening round, but with Holmes recovering well in round two matters were nearly level. Edwards again got the advantage with some lefts, and finally was declared the winner. Pte Gagen was knocked out by Sigmn Steward—the best knock-out of the evening.

Light heavy weight—L/Corpl Ellis beat Sigmn Redgrave on points. Redgrave appeared to be on top throughout the fight, but the decision eventually went to the Infantryman.

Welter weight: first string—Pte Fitch knocked out Signalman Barker in the first round whilst they were mixing it in some hard in-fighting.

Light weight—Pte Collins beat Sigmn Brooks on points. He did most of the attacking and was adjudicated the winner, but Brooks at the end was as fresh as he had been when he entered the ring. He remained on the defensive throughout the fight, but had he opened out, the result might have been different.

Football: First round, Army Cup.—2nd Divl Signals v. The Queen's Own Regiment. Vastly superior, both in defence and attack, the 2nd Divl Signals were far too good for the 2nd Battn The Queen's Own Regiment, whom they trounced to the tune of 7—1 goals. The game was played at Mons Barracks, before a large crowd, on Friday 26th October. Prolific as the scoring was, it really flatters the Infantrymen; had they been defeated by a bigger margin, it would have been but fitting on the run of the play.

When the sides appeared on the field there was little comparison between them except that the visitors were slightly more robust than Signals, but this advantage did not benefit them in the slightest; except for a short spasm when the score stood at one all, just before their doom was sealed by three quick goals by the Division, they were completely outplayed. They have only themselves to blame for their weaknesses; had they thought more of what they were going to do with the ball, the score against them might not have been nearly so big. It was evident from the start that their extreme left winger was the most dangerous man in their side, and it became an established fact when that player scored as pretty a goal as has been seen at Mons Barracks for many a day. Previously to this he had put in a couple of beautiful shots which missed by inches from extremely difficult angles; and after that, why he was so starved throughout the remainder of the game was indeed a mystery. It is doubtful if he touched the ball more than once in the second half.

The Signal side played up splendidly: every section pulled its weight throughout the game. I was more pleased with the working of the forward line than with anything else. They were ably backed up by the halves, it is true, but the manner in which they attacked and shot when the opportunity occurred made a rather scrappy game a real pleasure to watch. If they should repeat this performance in future games, it will take an exceptionally good side to beat them.

The Div. were early on the move after winning the toss, and for a spell of eight minutes they kept up the aggression. Two corners came their way during this period, but both were abortive, and then in the ninth minute—during the Queen's first visit to the Signal goal—disaster came. Their outside left, taking in his stride a partially cleared ball, slammed it hard from an oblique angle into the back of the net, leaving Thorpe helpless. It was a beautiful effort, even though it was against the run of the game. However, the visitors' success was short-lived, as practically straight from the kick off the teams were on level terms: a free kick for a foul by an Infantryman was taken by Nicholson, he dropped the ball in front of goal to Hills, and McGowan netted easily from the latter's pass.

End to end play followed for a time, with the Div. still having all the territorial advantage, although on one occasion their opponents nearly took the lead. The Queen's outside right made a sparkling run down his wing to send in a cross which hit the cross-bar with Thorpe beaten. It seemed as if a goal was imminent from the rebound, as two of the inside men were racing to shoot, but Kneller relieved by getting his foot to the sphere in time to put it away for a corner from which nothing resulted. The Div. then had a hectic five minutes, and at the end of that time the score was four goals to one in their favour—Groom scoring twice and Bennett once. There was no further scoring during this half, although the Signals were still much superior to their opponents, who just before half-time failed to score from a penalty.

The Infantrymen improved greatly in the opening moments of the second half, but this state of affairs did not last long and, once the Signals got into their stride, Hills made the total five. Shortly after this Harris raced away on the outside right, but his shot hit the upright and rolled from one end of the goal to the other along the line, and it seemed as if the danger would be averted. Hills, however—like the chance taker he is—beat the ball and netted easily. The seventh goal was perhaps the best of the Signal total. Groom, after a clever run during which he beat two defenders, lobbed the ball over to Hills, and with perfect timing the centre forward, from an awkward angle, nodded the ball into the back of the net. This completed the scoring, although from then until the end the Queen's goal had several narrow escapes.

To discriminate in the Signal side would be rather unfair. They all played to the best of their ability, but the backs ought to clear the ball a little more effectively. France, the right half, is inclined to stick to the ball much too long, and should get out of this habit.

The Queen's were all hard triers, but they just could not cope with the brilliance of their opponents. As has already been said, they have themselves to blame for sustaining such a heavy defeat. Their left half, centre forward and extreme left winger were the best of their side, but it was indeed a pity to see the last-mentioned player get so little to do when he had early proved himself a nasty thorn for the Signal defence.

The 2nd Divl Signals side included Sigmn Thorpe; Signalmen Nicholson and Whitelaw; Sigmn France, Cpl Kneller and Sigmn Hough; Signalmen Harris and Bennett P., L/Corpl Hills, Sigmn McGowan and Driver Groom.

Aldershot Senior Football Cup.—In the first round of the Aldershot Senior Cup the unit drew the Royal Engineers, Aldershot. This game was much looked forward to, and we only went under after a hard battle by the odd goal in five, after being down 1—2 at the cross over. We are still interested in the Army Cup, and at present I'm just praying that I will be able to write in these columns next month that we overcame the R.A.S.C. Training College in the second round. This team is one of the finest military sides in England, and perhaps I am looking for rather a lot; but I can assure you that I am in no way biassed, and if the team plays as it should, there is no reason at all why victory should not be theirs.

Here is a brief review of the Senior League games played to date. I may add that the only match lost was the one I have just mentioned (in the Senior Cup) so at present we are undefeated in the League race.

26/9/34—Drew with A Corps Signals at 3—3
20/10/34—Beat Royal West Kent Regiment by 5—1
3/11/34—Beat 2nd R.T.C. (away) by 5—1

Referring to the match with the 2nd Battn R.T.C., I may state that that side reached the semi-final of the Army Cup last year. This is not for "load-bumming" purposes, but merely to show you far-away people exactly what sort of a side we have got together this year.

The results of the Junior League matches to date are:—

10/10/34—Beat Somerset L.I. (home) by 2—1
22/10/34—Lost to 10th Field Brigade (away) by 1—2
7/11/34—Lost to No. 5 Section R.A.O.C. (home) by 0—5

FINALE.—I hope never to go through another month of sport such as this last has been. My fingers are sore through banging this old "Oliver," and there were times when I thought she (the "Olly," I mean) was going to seize up. However, she stuck to it gamely. I think I have earned a rest for a month! I'll be able to have a half-day on Wednesday, anyhow.

S.O.N. Egypt Signals: How's the Cairo Military League and the Roberts-Hughes Charity Cup competition progressing? Let's have some notes from you next month, and be sure that you show you have once again won the cross-country championship. Here's to that success!

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

Hockey Results—

v. 9th Lancers, lost by 2—4
v. D.C.R.E. won by 9—1
v. Bristol Civil Service, won by 5—1
v. R.W.F. H.Q. Wing, won by 1—0
v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards, drew at 4—4
v. 3rd Hussars, won by 3—1
v. R.W.F. H.Q. Wing, lost by 3—5

Soccer Results—

v. 5th Battn R.T.C. (League) lost by 0—2
v. R.A.M.C. (League) lost by 2—3
v. R.W.F. (League) lost by 0—2
v. 3rd Divl Signals (friendly) won by 3—0
v. Devizes (friendly) lost by 1—2
v. R.A.O.C. (League) won by 4—2

Rugby Results—

v. R.W.F. H.Q. Wing, lost by 0—20
v. K.O.Y.L.I. drew at 0—0
v. R.A.O.C. lost by 0—5

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Sports.—Nothing much to speak of. We are called upon to help form a Signal team in the Garrison Football League.

At football, v. the Band of the 4/7th Dragoon Guards we won by 4—2, and v. F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals by 4—2, 3—0 and 5—4.

In two meetings with F Troop, at hockey, we won by 2—1 and drew at 2—2.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Soccer.—We do not seem to be able to get going as a team, in spite of much hard work both by players and the selection committee. We were rather severely beaten by the 1st Battn R.W.F. in the first round of the Army Cup, but this was played before we really had time to get a team together. We hope next month to be able to send more cheerful reports. Results up to date are as follows:—

3/10/34 v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards, away, lost by 2—7
10/10/34 v. R.A.S.C., away, drew at 4—4
17/10/34 v. R.W.F., away, lost by 1—2
22/10/34 v. 1st Survey Company R.A., lost by 2—4
1/11/34 v. 4/7th Dragoon Guards, won by 2—1
7/11/34 v. 9th Field Brigade R.A. drew at 2—2
14/11/34 v. 7th Field Brigade R.A., lost by 0—5

Hockey.—Our hockey team is gradually getting into shape under the able coaching of Captain Watts, and the results of matches played are shown below. The best games have been those played against the Loyals, our old rivals in the Army Cup last year. The first round of the Army Cup is to be played v. 5th Battn R.T.C. on the 16th January. Results up to date are as follows:—

10/10/34 v. R.A.F. (Boscombe) home, drew at 2—2
17/10/34 v. R.A.F. (Old Sarum) home, lost by 2—3
24/10/34 v. R.T.C., home, won by 3—0
26/10/34 v. 9th Field Brigade R.A., away, won by 8—3
31/10/34 v. 3rd Div. R.E., home, lost by 2—3
3/11/34 v. Loyal Regiment, home, lost by 0—1
7/11/34 v. S.A. School, Netheravon, away, won by 5—2
14/11/34 v. Loyal Regiment, away, lost by 1—2

Rugger.—In winning the first round of the Army Cup against the 9th Field Brigade R.A. we have beaten them for the first time, and considering that they are the holders of the Inter-R.A. Brigade Cup, we are well pleased with ourselves.

In the first found of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup we were a little unlucky in having Lieuenants White and Read and Cpl McKenzie crocked and unable to play, and Sigmn Hastings injured early in the game. However, on the play the better side certainly won, and we heartily congratulate the 2nd Divl Signals on winning the cup this year.

We play the 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps (last year's Army Cup finalists) to-morrow, 16th November, in the second round of the Army Cup, and are impertinent enough to hope that we may beat them.

We can only base these hopes on the results of matches played by the Tanks against Swindon and the 9th Field Brigade. The former is a pretty strong club, and we have had two excellent games with them this season.

FIRST ROUND ARMY CUP MATCH.—We turned out a somewhat depleted team to meet the 9th Field Brigade R.A. on a cold and windy day. Although we were lighter in the scrum, play was generally in our opponents' half, but we were unable to cross the line until Lieut. Blum intercepted a pass on the half-way line and after a brilliant run scored between the posts. Lieut. Harrison converted. The 9th Field Brigade replied a few minutes later with a very fine dropped goal. Score: 5—4 in our favour at half time.

In the second half, with a favourable wind, it was only a matter of time before we increased our lead. Lieut. Blum fielded the ball smartly from a punt ahead and scored again. Shortly afterwards the 9th Field Brigade (being awarded a free kick) scored with a place kick. Score 8—7. A fine forward rush resulted in a try by Lieut. Harrison. Score 11—7. We increased our lead a few minutes later by getting the ball over from a penalty kick. Almost immediately afterwards Lieut. Crawford broke away and passed to Corporal McKenzie, who scored in the corner. Score 17—7. Soon afterwards the whistle went for "no side."

Lieut. White had to leave the field with an injured ankle early in the game, but pluckily resumed play in the second half and put in a lot of useful work in the scrum. The whole side played well, and it is difficult to single out any particular player.

Cobb-Nicholls Cup.—After our battle with the 9th Field Brigade, we were in high hopes of winning the Cobb-Nicholls Cup for the second year. Unfortunately, the day after that match we discovered we had three crocks, and therefore we went up to Aldershot with a somewhat depleted team. Nevertheless, we hoped to give a good account of ourselves. It was a good day for the match, and with a dry ball and a chilly touch in the air we expected to see a good open game.

After about four minutes play it was evident that the 2nd Div. had a superior pack, and they were getting the ball out to their threes from every scrummage. A rush by their forwards and a short kick across put the ball into the hands of their left wing, who passed Lieut. Blum to score their first try. From then onward we were mainly on the defensive, and only good work by our threes and the wing forwards prevented the 2nd Div. from getting over again. After a quarter of an hour's play our full back (Sigmn Hastings) cracked his ankle, and we were forced to take out our hook man and put him at full back; so we faced up against the 2nd Div. with only fourteen men. Up to half time they pressed very hard, but we held them up.

Like the first half, the second half started with the 2nd Div. scoring another try through their scrum half, who broke through. This was converted and the score was now 8—0. Nothing daunted, our team played up very hard indeed, and on five separate occasions battled their way up to the 2nd Div.'s line, only to be foiled by excellent marking. About six minutes before the end the ball came out from our scrum in the approved fashion, and L/Cpl Goodman was able for the first time to give McKenzie a clear pass. The ball went on to Hipcraft, who broke through; he passed it to Lieut. Charlton, who ran up the left wing and scored behind the posts. Excitement was now running high. Lieut. Harrison converted, and we thought we would still pull the fat out of the fire. Alas! as the ball sailed between the posts, the whistle blew for full time and the 2nd Div. had won by 8—5. We would like to congratulate them on winning the cup. They certainly had a good team.

Rugby Results—

3/10/34 v. R.W.F., home, won by 6—3
6/10/34 v. Swindon, home, lost by 5—8
10/10/34 v. R.A.F. (Boscombe) away, lost by 9—16
15/10/34 v. Y.O.S. Larkhill, away, won by 9—0
20/10/34 v. R.E., home, won by 12—0
24/10/34 v. R.A.F. (Old Sarum) away, won by 20—7
27/10/34 v. Survey Company R.A., home, won by 15—0
31/10/34 v. 9th Field Brigade (first round Army Cup) away, won by 17—7
7/11/34 v. 2nd Divl Signals (Cobb-Nicholls Cup), away, lost by 5—8
10/11/34 v. Swindon, away, lost by 0—3

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Football.—We have at last started our East Kent League programme, and up to date have only lost one match. Results:—v. R.M. Deal, won by 1—0; v. Faversham Invicta, won by 2—0; v. Chartham M.H. lost by 2—6.

In the first round of the Army Cup we were successful at home against the R.A. Shoeburyness by 6—3 goals, but met our masters in the second round—the Training Battalion R.E. trouncing us to the tune of 5—1.

In the first round of the Kent Benevolent Cup we beat Herne Invicta by 8—1.

Rugby.—The 4th Divl Signals rugby side which entered the final of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup after getting through the first two rounds of the Army Cup included Sigmn Smith, back; L/Corpl Haynes, Sigmn Delaney, Lieut. N. M. Hay and Lieut. D. J. Goldsmith, three-quarters; Lieut. P. A. Duke and Sigmn Larkin, halves; L/Corpl Hall, L/Corpl Park, 2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead, L/Corpl Galbraith, Sigmn Roake, Sigmn Webb, Sigmn Evans and 2/Lieut. C. T. Honeybourne, forwards. Reserves: L/Corporal Walton, Signalmen Hetteridge and Tyers.

Other matches played and results—

20/10/34 v. 22nd Field Brigade R.A., away, won by 6—3
27/10/34 v. 9th Field Company R.E., away, lost by 3—6
29/10/34 v. 1st Battalion Royal Scots, away, lost by 0—11
1/11/34—"A" Team v. Canterbury, away, lost by 0—6

Owing to the move of the unit from Colchester to Canterbury, the task of getting the team together was by no means easy—bearing in mind the fact that last year's side was bad. We played no rugger until the 20th October, spending our afternoons doing genuine physical training, the results of which were obvious a little later.

The first three matches were not promising: the forwards lacked fire, and the tackling and passing of the backs was painful. To remedy this a little seven-a-side was played, and we found that, if nothing else, the side was fit.

On the 31st October we played the Depot Battalion R.E. in the first round of the Army Cup and won by 6—0. Duke kicked an excellent penalty drop goal, and Delaney went over for a clever "snal" try. Playing forty minutes each way, with a very greasy ball, the pack did extremely well and gained much self-confidence.

On Monday 5th November the team travelled to Aldershot and contested the first round of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup against the Training Battalion, Catterick. Played in the morning, the weather was ideal for rugby and a close game resulted in a win for us by 13—11. Bad tackling very nearly cost us the game, but the forwards again did well. Tries were scored by Hall and Stead, the first named player getting the ball from a line-out on their 25 and going over completely on his own. The rest of the scoring was done by Delaney, who kicked an invaluable drop goal, and Larkin with a penalty. Smith, a newcomer from Catterick, at full back confirmed the good impression he made against the Depot Battalion R.E., and played another good game, his gathering of the ball being really good.

The final of the Cobb-Nicholls Cup on Friday 9th November was a genuine disappointment. Presented with a very greasy ball, with our strong pack we very nearly brought it off. At "no side" the score was three all. Five minutes extra time brought one try to the 2nd Div., and the remaining nine minutes were spent on their goal line. Larkin brought down the corner flag on the blind side, being tackled while off his feet in one good try. Our one try was scored by Evans immediately following the kick-off from their first try, demonstrating the value of following up. And so we lost the Cobb-Nicholls Cup by 3—6.

With the exception of Honeybourne, Larkin, Galbraith, Evans, Webb, Stead and Goldsmith, who were wanted for Corps trials, the side returned to Canterbury. Stead, Honeybourne and Galbraith were in the Corps side which beat the Shop by 6—5 on the 14th November; Evans and Goldsmith were reserves. Larkin, who for once played indifferently in the Corps trials, was most unlucky to be dropped from the Corps side, which has regarded him as wellnigh indispensable for some years. We hope to see him back again.

This afternoon we played and won the second round of the Army Cup against the Royal Scots by 3—0. The three points came from a penalty goal by Galbraith, so it was a fortunate win, especially as the Royal Scots missed no less than four penalties and ran over once but failed to touch down. Apart from this, it was a very close game; but had the threes taken many easy chances, we should have won decisively. Their handling in mid-field was not exemplary. Still, we won; and now we have to play the winners of the Training Battalion R.E. v. West Kents in the third round. Yes, we are a much better side than last year.

Hockey.—Our start in the hockey world this season has not been up to the standard we set last year.

On the 16th November we returned to Colchester and played the 2nd Battn The Beds and Herts in the first round of the Eastern Command Hockey Tournament, losing by 0—2. In this game we held a slight territorial superiority over our opponents, but could not supply the finishing touches, and the Beds always looked the more dangerous side when they got away. Our bad luck commenced before the game started, as we had to take the field without Corpl Coton, our centre half, and this necessitated two positional changes in defence and quite naturally weakened the side. The Beds had a side considerably improved on the one we constantly beat last season, and we wish them the best of luck in subsequent rounds.

The unit team in this match was:—Goal, L/Corpl Nother; backs, C.Q.M.S. Newman and Corpl Cooke; half backs, Sigmn Brett, Sigmn Lundie and L/Cpl Moody; forwards, Corpl Smith, Sigmn Shewring, Sigmn Semmence, L/Cpl McAuliffe and Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson.

Other reverses were received at the hands of the 59th Field Company R.E. and the 2nd Battn The Seaforths, but on both occasions we were short of a full eleven.

Detailed results so far this season are as follows:—

20/10/34 v. Westgate-on-Sea, home, won by 12—0
25/10/34 v. 59th Field Company R.E., home, lost by 2—3
1/11/34 v. Canterbury, home, won by 7—0
3/11/34 v. R.A.S.C. Shorncliffe, away, won by 7—0
7/11/34 v. 2nd Battalion The Dorsets, home, won by 6—0
8/11/34 v. Canterbury, away, won by 6—2
10/11/34 v. Old Stanleyians, Margate, away, won by 8—0
12/11/34 v. 2nd Battalion The Seaforths, home, lost by 2—4
16/11/34 v. 2nd Beds and Herts Regiment, away, lost by 0—2

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Hockey.—Owing to the calls of other sports, we have not yet fielded a fully representative side. It is hoped to do so in the first round of the Army Cup. We have temporarily lost the services of L/Corpl Dillon, who is attending a G.P.O. course at Leeds. To him we tender our congratulations on being chosen to play in the final trial of the Yorkshire County team.

The results to date of the first team matches are :—v. Hull Y.P.I. at Hull, lost by 1—4; v. Bradfordians, at home won by 3—0 and away won by 4—1.

Owing to a misunderstanding the first team had two fixtures for one day. The second team took on one of them, and set off with light hearts to face the redoubtable Scarborough team on the County cricket ground. Scarborough, with three County players, showed value for money and beat us by 9—1 goals, in spite of an outstanding display of goalkeeping by Sigmn Powell.

Other second team results are:—v. East Yorks at Beverley, won by 4—2; v. Pickering at Pickering, won by 4—0.

Rugby.—Luck seems to have entirely deserted us this season. So far we have only won one game (away) and drawn one at home. Since writing the last notes, the First XV. have played four games away and one at home, the latter being a draw with York Nomads. The Second XV. have been a little more fortunate, winning two out of the three games played.

Sigmn Cooper A. has been selected for the Corps trial games, and I am sure that if he shows anything like the form he displays at home, he will get his place in the Corps side. There are two other players here who should get their places next season.

The Second XV. is blending well under the captaincy of Sigmn Russell, who is to be commended for the conscientious manner in which he carries out his job. It is not often that a first team player scarcely past his best is content to drop back and coach the junior team.

First XV. v. 4th Battn Royal Tank Corps (Army Cup) on the 17th October (away). With seven reserves in the team, we were not very hopeful of victory. The reserves, however, rose magnificently to the occasion and at one period looked like pulling the game out of the fire. Sigmn Hodgson at full back and Sigmn Cockcroft at left centre, both from the second team, played extremely well. Result: 5th Divl Signals nil, 4th Battn Royal Tank Corps 9 points.

First XV. v. Ionians (County Cup) at Hull on the 20th October. In this game, we held ground advantage for at least three-quarters of the time and yet lost by a substantial margin. We crossed the Ionians line on several occasions, only to have the points disallowed. In the last half of the game the Ionians were seldom out of their own twenty-five, but no score resulted, and (in sheer desperation) we spent the last five minutes of the game trying to drop goals. In this we were fortunate to have two allowed. Result: 5th Divl Signals 8 points, Ionians 21.

Second XV. v. York Railway Institute "A," at home. The Railwaymen arrived three men short, borrowing three from us to complete their team. A very hard played game resulted in a win for us by 13—8 points.

First XV. v. Bridlington (away) on the 27th October. Kicking off with the wind, our men failed to take the full advantage of it and crossed over with no score. A brilliant try by Anthony in the second half was converted by Cooper to put us ahead, but Bridlington, taking full advantage of the wind, scored two tries, one of which was converted. We therefore lost by 5—8 points.

Second XV. v. Bridlington "A," at home. A good hard fought game, in which our forwards were always in command, resulted in a win for us by 8—0 points.

First XV. v. Training Battalion, Royal Signals, on the 31st October. This match, played at Catterick in the Cobb-Nicholls

Cup competition, was most disappointing. After the first five minutes, during which the Training Battalion scored a try which was converted, our men took charge and were seldom out of the Catterick side's territory to the end of the game. We lost by 0—5 points.

Second XV. v. Scarborough " A," on the 3rd November. This very hard fought game resulted in a win for the Town side by 9—6 points. We are hoping for our revenge when we meet them again on the 17th November.

First XV. v. York Nomads, at home on the 17th November. This game proved the best of the season. The Nomads are a clever side who, as a Wednesday team, command a very large following of good class players. They arrived minus their hooker, and our second team hooker (Sigmn Todd) completed their side. The game was very fast and, following a clever solo dribble by Todd for the Nomads, Williams touched down for the only score of the first half. Soon after the resumption Cooper cut through to put us level. Result: a draw of 3—3.

Up to the 10th November the First XV. have played 9 games, won 1, drawn 1 and lost 7, with a score of 51—80 points. The Second XV. have played 7 games, winning 4 and losing 3, with a score of 58—25 points.

Association Football.—Not so good : not so bad!—that is my brief summary of events for the past month. Battles have been won, lost and drawn—honours even, with perhaps the odds slightly in favour of the First Eleven.

I will deal with the premier eleven first. A short life was the fate of the unit team in the first round of the Army Association Challenge Cup. Worthy victors were our opponents, the Essex Regiment. This tie, played at Catterick with typical local weather conditions in attendance, rather pointed to defeat for the Signals before the game commenced. A light team, experts in pattern weaving and individualism, soon came to grief on a rain-soaked arena. Misfortune came to them within five minutes of the commencement, the ball being swung back into the net by the goalkeeper in an attempt to clear when pressed: a gift goal to the Essex, and just the required tonic to increase the advantage held. Increased it was. Further goals followed monotonously until the final whistle terminated our interests in another Army Cup tie. The result was 6—0 against us.

Signals were not unlucky ; apart from the misfortune early on, it was obvious to all that goals from the Essex were bound to come. They were beaten by a far superior team, who lacked nothing in the forward line ; the ground conditions did not suit the Signal style of play. Favoured by the luck of the draw in subsequent rounds, I am bold enough to nominate the Essex Regiment as the team from the Northern Command to travel to Aldershot in April next year.

Our interests in soccer are now confined to local civilian league games and cup competitions. Although honours are even in league games, we have more than held our own in cup competitions. The results of the league matches played are as follows:—v. Hunmanby F.C. lost by 2—3 (away) ; v. Pickering Town F.C. won by 3—1 (home).

Scarborough and District League Cup, first round v. Junior Imps F.C. drew at 3—3 (home). Match abandoned at end of first half of extra time owing to bad light.

Scarborough Challenge Bowl, second round v. Scalby F.C. won by 4—3 (home).

During October the Reserves have carried on with their league fixtures, resulting as follows:—v. Filey Town F.C. lost by 1—2 (away) ; v. Junior Imps F.C. won by 2—1 (home) ; v. Forge Valley F.C. drew at 3—3 (away).

The League tables up to and including 3rd November are as follows:—

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Division I.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts
Whitby	4	2	0	2	12— 7	6
Junior Imps	5	2	1	2	14—12	6
Filey	3	2	0	1	9— 4	5
Scarborough J.	4	1	1	2	10— 9	4
Pickering	6	1	3	2	13—18	4
Hunmanby	3	1	1	1	11—13	3
Signals	2	1	1	0	5— 4	2
Kirbymoorside	3	0	3	0	6—13	0

Division II.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Signals II.	7	4	2	1	30—11	9
Scalby	4	4	0	0	24— 6	8
Corporation	6	4	2	0	18—10	8
Filey II.	5	4	1	0	20—12	8
Snainton	7	3	2	2	25—19	8
Y.M.C.A.	5	3	1	1	19—11	7
Imps II.	6	2	2	2	25—18	6
Ayton	6	2	2	2	15—19	6
Cayton	5	1	4	0	7—24	2
Sherburn	4	1	3	0	5—20	2
Gristhorpe	4	0	4	0	8—20	0
Electric	5	0	5	0	5—32	0

Inter-Section League.—The Colts, eager to kill or be killed, are performing regularly each Wednesday afternoon, and here are the results of their activities. B Cable Section v. A Section, won by 4—3 ; v. D Section, won by 11—0. J Section v. R.A. Sections, won by 1—0. M Section v. D Section, won by 4—0.

League Table.

	Played	W.	D.	L.	Goals	Pts.
B Section	2	2	0	0	15— 3	4
M Section	1	1	0	0	4— 0	2
J Section	1	1	0	0	1— 0	2
A Section	1	0	0	1	3— 4	0
D Section	2	0	0	2	0—15	0

K and L Sections have not yet played any matches.

Congratulations to B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, on winning the Durand football tournament for the first time ever. (Applications for " Cameos of Scarborough " will be gratefully received from B Corps footballers due for repatriation.)

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company.

General.—Now that the monsoons are over and the sports grounds are more or less fit to be played on, renewed activities are taking place with a view to discovering fresh talent for the various spheres of sport. Cricket, hockey and football are being very well supported.

Football.—A series of interesting trials during the past fortnight have revealed that we have a fairly strong string of reserves to fall back on. Only three fixtures have been played with outside units, and the results of these are a little disappointing ; but it is some time since we have had our team playing together, so that may account for our defeats.

Results—v. 15th Field Brigade R.A. lost by 2—3 ; v. H.Q. Field Brigade R.A. won by 6—0 ; v. 1st Battn The King's Regiment, lost by 0—3.

Golf.—The handicap bogey competition, which attracted thirty-two entries, was won by Sigmn Bourton, who (with a handicap of 21) handed in a card showing 8 up on bogey. None of the cracks could compete against such marvellous golf. W.O. Instructor McGregor (A.E.C.) was runner-up with 5 up on bogey.

The handicap stroke competition again produced a shock, for a 25 this time lifted the cup with 92 — 25 = 67. Sigmn Mitchell, who has had only three months experience of golf, is to be congratulated on his wonderful play. Our sympathy goes to Quig, who was runner-up with 89 — 16 = 73. The entries totalled thirty. Bogey is 74.

The Club had a return encounter with the Gun Carriage Factory Golf Club and registered their second win by 6—3 matches, one match being halved. Results were as follows.

G.C.F.G.C.		S.T.C.G.C.	
Mr. Winter (5 and 4)	1	L/Corpl Lewis	0
Mr. Jenkins (halves)	0	Bandmaster Potter	0
Mr. Paintry	0	W.O.I. McGregor (3 and 2)	1
Mr. Williamson (8 and 6)	1	Sigmn Bourton	0
Mr. Williams	0	S/Sergt Maguire (3 and 1)	1
Mr. Burnett (4 and 3)	1	Sergt Nokes	0
Mr. Rowell	0	Sigmn Mitchell (2 and 1)	1
Mr. Templeton	0	Corpl Wright (3 and 2)	1
Mr. Chilton	0	Sergt Whittington (9 and 8)	1
Mr. Lowe	0	Sigmn Bonds (4 and 3)	1
	3		6

Against a team of officers from the 15th Lancers we were not so successful. Our team lost by 1—3 matches. The S.T.C. team included Captain L. C. Boyd, C.S.M. Price G., and Sergeants Nokes and Baker.

The founders of the Club have presented a cup for annual competition, and it has been designated for the S.T.C. all ranks handicap stroke competition.

A further cup presented by the 1933/34 Club captain has been allocated to the Maguire open singles championship. Our thanks are given to S/Sergt Maguire for kindly presenting this cup, and we are glad to hear that he is now well on the way to restored health after his recent serious operation.

Sergt Baker L., our energetic and capable secretary, has left us for Quetta. Before leaving, he was the recipient of a silver cigarette case subscribed for by his fellow members in appreciation of his valuable services. Thanks, Loo! may Quetta keep you in touch with the ancient game which, without your assistance, would not now be played on the S.T.C. (I.) course.

Hockey.—Signalmen beat Corporals by 3—0. Corporals beat I.S.C. Records by 6—1.

Cricket.—S.T.C. (I.) 122 for eight wickets ; Gun Carriage Factory C.C. 38. S.T.C. (I.) 88 ; G.I.P. Railway C.C. 105. S.T.C. (I.) 56 ; Gun Carriage Factory C.C. 60. S.T.C. (I.) 127 ; G.I.P. Railway 109.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football Results—

1/10/34 v. Garrison Military Police, away, won by 2—0
5/10/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, drew at 3—3
10/10/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 3—2
12/10/34 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, lost by 0—1
19/10/34 v. G Battery R.H.A. home, lost by 0—1
22/10/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, home, lost by 2—3
3/11/34 v. H.Q. 1st Battn Dorset Regt. home, drew at 3—3

Hockey Results—

4/10/34 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, won by 2—1
6/10/34 v. Staff and Departments, away, lost by 1—4
9/10/34 v. 1st Battn The Dorset Regiment, away, won by 1—0
13/10/34 v. Hodson's Horse, away, won by 2—0
14/10/34 v. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 3—1
18/10/34 v. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 3—1
21/10/34 v. Staff and Departments, away, lost by 0—3

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Football.—Heartiest congratulations to B Corps Signals on winning the Durand football tournament—no mean achievement for a team from a unit that does not compare with a battalion for strength.

Our football fixtures are not very exciting. So far this season, up to the time of writing, we have not yet lost a match out of roughly twenty played against the British units in the Garrison. This year we should go far in the District knock-out tournament unless the 2nd Battn The Welch Regiment from Rawalpindi, who are relieving the 2nd Battn The Border Regiment at Landi Kotal, upset our apple cart. Still, we'll see.

Hockey.—For the third time in six years we managed to win the Peshawar District Hot Weather League cup. It was touch and go, though, owing to our teams being unavoidably altered from time to time through courses and hospital cases. Herewith I reproduce a report of the last deciding match as printed in *The Civil and Military Gazette*.

HOCKEY HONOUR FOR SIGNALS: PESHAWAR LEAGUE WINNERS.

The result of the championship of the Peshawar Hot Weather Hockey League depended on the last fixture between Peshawar District Signals and the 8th Armoured Car Company, Royal Tank Corps, which was played on Saturday and resulted in a win for the former by two goals to nil.

On the run of play the Signals were decidedly lucky to win by two clear goals, but they took full advantage of their opportunities and so managed to finish at the head of the league, one point ahead of District Headquarters.

For the first five minutes the R.T.C. monopolised play, but they lost a glorious opportunity of scoring when their inside left took the ball from the goalkeeper and, though only a few yards from an empty goal, put the ball outside. The Signals then took up the attack, but their forwards could make little headway against a sound defence. In the first half the R.T.C. proved themselves the better team, but the interval arrived without a goal to either side.

The second half opened with the R.T.C. attacking, and another great opportunity of scoring was lost when the Signal goalkeeper came out of the circle and mishit, leaving the R.T.C. centre forward with a clear run through and an empty goal in front of him. He got within a couple of yards of goal and then in some unaccountable manner put the ball outside.



Peshawar District Signals Hockey Team.

Standing (left to right)—Signalmen Lambert C., Wilson T. and Varnell R., L/Corpl Whitefield C., Signalmen Roberts A. and Moseley E. *Seated*—Sigmn Barry T., Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Sigmn Gladwin J., Major W. M. Miller, M.C., and Sigmn Blaikie R. *In front*—L/Corpl Mitchell W. and Sigmn Horsman H. (with the Hot Weather League trophy and individual cups)

The moral effect of these two costly mistakes must have been great, for the R.T.C. team seemed as if they could not score with the easiest of opportunities. The Signals' first goal was a glorious exhibition of tricky stick work. Lambert obtained the ball in his own half and, outwitting two opponents, went on to beat both backs and then passed the goalkeeper to put the ball into an empty net.

Their second goal, which came a few minutes later, was also the outcome of a brilliant individual effort by Lambert. He took the ball to the edge of the circle and put his shot well out of the reach of the goalkeeper. The R.T.C. were still enjoying as much of the game as their opponents, and though unable to score before the final whistle sounded, they would not have been flattered if the result had been a draw.

. . . . . .

The team which did much of the spade work in winning against the stronger teams in the District comprised L/Corpl Mitchell; Signalmen Yarnell and Moseley; L/Corpl Whitefield, Signalmen Roberts and Nunn; Signalmen Ireland, Barry, Lambert C., Gladwin and Gigg.

The Brigade Commander presented the cup and the individual miniatures to the players, and added his congratulations.

Every year, when some star goes home, we hear the old old saying that "We shall not stand a chance next year in the Hot Weather Cup," but somehow or other we always manage to pull it off or become runners-up. I am still wondering how F Company (S.T.C. Catterick) managed to beat Lieutenant T. Boileau's N.W.F. team by three clear goals.

At the time of writing our hockey fixtures are not so entertaining, as no one wants to play the first team. It is the same cry: "Turn out your second team!"

Still, roll on, the conclusion of the Hot Weather League.

Cricket.—On the 18th/19th October we entertained the 1st Indian Divl Signals, of Rawalpindi, on the Peshawar Club ground, and won by an innings and 74 runs after an excellent match.

Peshawar batted first and, thanks largely to a century from Captain T. A. R. Scott, obtained the nice total of 268 runs. The Div. Signals found run-getting very difficult against the bowling of Captain Scott and Lieut. Nepean, and were dismissed for 35 runs. Lieut. Nepean bowled throughout and took eight wickets for 14 runs, hitting the stumps on six occasions. Following on, the 'Pindi team lost four more wickets for 47 runs before stumps were drawn.

On resuming on the 19th, despite determined efforts by Sigmn Macdougall, L/Corpl Swinson and L/Sergt Askew to avoid an innings defeat, the remaining six wickets fell by lunch time, leaving us winners by a comfortable margin as stated above. Many thanks, 1st Indian Divl Signals, for an excellent and most entertaining match.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS.

Sergt Ryan b Askew	0
L/Corpl Melmore lbw b Askew	3
C.Q.M.S. Cooper b Askew	8
Captain T. A. R. Scott c Swinson b Chappell	170
R.S.M. McGregor lbw b Ward	31
Corpl Fraser b Simcox	23
Lieut. Nepean b Chappell	5
Sergt Cheesman b Chappell	1
Sigmn Moseley c Askew b Chappell	3
Sigmn Griffiths H. not out	1
Sigmn Seager c Chappell b Askew	1
Extras	22
	268

1ST INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.

First innings.		*Second innings.*	
L/Sergt Bygrave b Scott	8	c Scott b Melmore	13
Lieut. Steward c Scott b Nepean	0	c Ryan b Nepean	7
Sigmn Simcox b Scott	6	b Cooper	4
L/Sergt Askew b Nepean	7	c Melmore b Nepean	41
Sigmn Macdougall c Scott b Nepean	3	c MelmorebCheesman	43
L/Corpl Swinson b Nepean	1	c Ryan b Nepean	32
Sigmn Chappell b Nepean	2	c Fraser b McGregor	3
Sigmn Charlton not out	5	b McGregor	2
Sigmn Phillips b Nepean	0	not out	0
Sigmn Briggs b Nepean	0	b Nepean	5
Sigmn Ward b Nepean	1	b McGregor	0
Extras	2	Extras	9
	35		159

On Sunday 20th October we played the Noble Cricket Club, Peshawar, on the Shahi Bagh ground, and were defeated by 44 runs. Signals batted first and found a matting pitch rather difficult, only Sergt Ryan showing any prolonged resistance to the bowlers. It may be noticed that throughout the innings of the Noble Club the stumps were not disturbed!

PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS.

F/S/Sergt Agar b Mohd Ayub	2
Sergt Ryan b Ifthikar	48
Corpl Fraser b Ahmad Gul	0
Sigmn Moseley lbw b Ifthikar	2
R.S.M. McGregor c Rabbanni b A. Hamid	7
Sigmn Griffiths H. not out	11
Sigmn Yarnell b A. Hamid	0
Sigmn Blaikie b Ahmad Gul	1
Sigmn Seager c Sher Ahmad b Mohd Ayub	16
Sigmn Jenkins b Mohd Ayub	8
Sigmn Fallows b Qutab Alam	1
Extras	24
	120

NOBLE CRICKET CLUB.

Ahmad Gul c Agar b Fraser	12
A. Hamid lbw b Fraser	1
Ghulam Rabbanni c McGregor b Fallows	44
Mohd Danish c Jenkins b Seager	11
Taj Mohd c Fallows b Yarnell	4
Ifthikar c Fraser b Yarnell	9
Qutab Alam c Griffiths b Yarnell	6
Ahmad Bux c Fallows b McGregor	11
Sher Ahmad c Ryan b Yarnell	8
Mohd Ayub c Agar b McGregor	12
Dost Mohd not out	6
Extras	40
	164

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters, Dera Ismail Khan.

Prior to our departure from Razmak, the following games were played:—

H.Q. Section Hockey—

24/7/34 v. A Company, 4/15th Punjabs, won by 2—1
14/8/34 v. H.Q. No. 6 A.C. Company, won by 4—0

H.Q. Section Football—

28/7/34 v. 2/3rd Gurkhas, lost by 2—4
29/7/34 v. Second XI. Waz. Med. Section R.A. won by 2—0
2/8/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. won by 2—0
3/8/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. won by 3—1

Combined Signals Hockey—

3/7/34 v. 1st Battn Devon Regiment, won by 2—1
5/7/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. lost by 1—2
14/7/34 v. 4/15th Punjab Regiment, won by 2—0
17/7/34 v. C Company Devons (first round Brigade tourney), won by 6—0
19/7/34 v. H.Q. Devon Regiment (second round), drew at 2—2
21/7/34 v. H.Q. Devon Regiment (replay), won by 1—0
23/7/34 v. 11th Light Battery R.A. (semi-final), lost by 1—2
3/8/34 v. 5/6th Rajputs, lost by 1—3
6/8/34 v. 4/15th Punjabs, lost by 1—3
9/8/34 v. 5/6th Rajputs, drew at 2—2
13/8/34 v. 12th Field Company, S. and M. won by 2—0

Combined Signals Football—

15/7/34 v. Waziristan Medium Section R.A. lost by 1—4
11/8/34 v. 2/3rd Gurkhas, drew at 1—1

Wana Signal Section.

Sport.—On the 17th August we held a joint swimming gala with No. 2 Section 6th Armoured Car Company R.T.C., but we were distinctly unfortunate, for we only won one event—the plate diving, and that only by a margin of two plates. There were, however, some very good displays of diving and plunging.

In the Wana Brigade hockey tournament, after getting a bye in the first round, we were knocked out in the second by "B" team of No. 9 Company Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners to the tune of 5—1, after a very hard game. Our goal was scored by Sigmn Healy.

Bannu Signal Section.

Hockey.—With the arrival of seven new sportsmen in the Section, we are able to field a fairly strong hockey team. Although they have only been playing together for a week, they are shaping very well and with a little more practice we hope to be able to hold our own with battalion sides. Our efforts so far have been confined to smaller fry, with results as follows:—

15/10/34 v. Detachment Armoured Car Company R.T.C. won by 4—1
17/10/34 v. Brigade Headquarters, drew at 1—1
19/10/34 v. Combined R.T.C. and Rest Camp, won by 2—1
23/10/34 v. Combined B.O.R.s of Brigade H.Q. won by 6—2

Football.—Only one game has been played—against Brigade Headquarters. We were unfortunate to lose by the only goal scored. This match proved a very fast and interesting game, the ball hardly leaving the ground from start to finish. Both teams played clever football and delighted the spectators (Beck and Co.) with quite a number of thrills. Next month, we hope to have more and better results for publication.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Football.—The following friendly matches, played during the past couple of months, have resulted in our finding a fairly good team:—v. 1/8th Gurkha Rifles, lost by 1—2; v. Young Muslims, lost by 1—2; v. Young Afghans, won by 4—1; v. Young Islams, won by 2—1; v. A Company West Yorks, won by 1—0; v. Young Muslims, lost by 1—4; v. H.Q. Western Command, won by 4—0; v. 11th Battery R.A. won by 4—3.

One competition match has been played up to date—against the 7th Royal Tank Corps in the second round of the Baluchistan Cup, the result being a draw of 1—1 after extra time.

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Last month, I promised results of the unit hockey tournaments. Here they are.

In the third round of the inter-Company hockey tournament, our unit team drew with N Battery R.H.A., the score being 2—2, but in the replay we won by 3—0.

In the semi-finals, the H.Q. team of the Royal West Kents were given a run for their money. Signals drew without any scoring. In the replay we again drew: this time at 2—2. Eventually, the Royal West Kents won by 5—2 goals. A really good show: this unit having played five cup matches in eight days. Not bad going, but very tiring.

In the inter-unit event we were again to the fore. This time, we were once more in the semi-finals v. R.A. (three combined Batteries). Drawing with the score at 1—1, we lost in the replay by 0—1. The Royal West Kents finally walked off with the honours, just beating R.A. by 1—0.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 1 Company.

Rugby.—By the time these notes are printed, we shall have played the first round of the Command championship. We have a good side this year and hope to do well.

We played our first game against the 8th K.R.I. and beat them by 5—0 points.

Afterwards, we played the Grenadier Guards, and a hard game finished all square, neither side scoring.

Our next game was against the Cairo Rugby Club, our old rivals. This turned out a great game. We were leading up to four minutes from time, but then the Club scored and the game ended in a draw of 3—3. Jones scored our try near the corner flag.

The last game played to date was against the R.A.O.C. on the new Garrison ground, which is next to the unit football ground. All our matches are now played at home. In this match v. the Ordnance, for the first period most of the play was in our half, and they scored a try just before half-time but failed to convert. We settled down in the second half, and a try was soon scored. We kept playing well to win a splendid match by 11—7. Lieut. Tucker and Signalmen Moore and Jones scored our tries, one of which Riley converted.

That is all for this month, but watch THE WIRE for Command championship reports.

A Section.

Our share of points for cricket, tennis and swimming in the inter-unit competitions is quite good. With an effort, the Pritchard Cup should remain ours for another year, notwithstanding some tough opposition.

Football and hockey have blown in with a bang, as usual. The first Corps football encounter produced a 1—0 victory over the R.A.S.C., but we failed against the Northumberland Fusiliers to the tune of 1—2. There's bags of time yet. (Foot-note: Who owns the £1000 leg?)

Billiards.—J Section once advertised to give lessons at a nominal fee of P.T.25. Since then, the Command Signal Section and A Section desire to make it known that J are at present in debt at double that fee.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Football Results—

24/9/34 v. Lincolns Signals Section (friendly) drew at 2—2 (Whitehead, Roberts)
2/10/34 v. No. 9 A.A. Battery R.A. (League) lost by 2—5 (Lomax, Buttery)
8/10/34—Henshaw's XI. v. The College (friendly), won by 3—2 (Erridge 2, Higginbottom)

Hockey Results—

4/9/34 v. St. Andrew's (friendly), lost by 1—2 (Larking)
12/9/34 v. Punjabs Signals (friendly), won by 2—1 (May 2)
26/9/34 v. B Company Punjabs (friendly), lost by 1—2 (Erridge)
29/9/34 v. Y.M.C.A. (friendly), drew at 2—2 (Fielding, May)
4/10/34 v. Police (friendly), lost by 0—3
9/10/34 v. Combined Hospitals, won by 1—0 (May)
11/10/34 v. H.K. Mule Corps (friendly), won by 2—1 (Fielding, May)
12/10/34 v. Club de Recreio, lost by 1—2 (May)
14/10/34 v. St. Andrew's (League), won by 2—1 (Fielding, May)

Cricket Results—

3/10/34 v. R.A.O.C. lost by 12 runs
10/10/34 v. R.E. lost by 139 runs

Shanghai Signal Section.

It would be impossible to give in detail everything that has occurred in the sporting line out here throughout the past summer. I will except pony racing, dogs and Hai Alai, all of which have their adherents. Heavy rain has been the only deterrent against sports on seven days a week: that is, when one is not taken away for work.

As many are aware, this Section assists Area Details in every form, and it is pleasing to say that Signals are always represented. Those who are due for Shanghai, whether they play or not, are inveigled by someone into the way to shake dice, pat a ball on the tennis court, or attempt to emulate Bradman, and after three years it is surprising what skill is acquired.

As a Section of thirty odd, we reckon to hold our own in any branch of sport against the same number. Challenges by the 1st January 1935.

Cricket.—Lack of grounds has prevented us from having the usual three or four matches a week. Still, on the whole the season has been enjoyed by all; sometimes *everyone* turns out to have a knock.

Royal Signals have played only three matches, which were won easily.